

weather report

30°
at noon



Today

•Sunset, 7:16 p.m.

Tomorrow

•Sunrise, 6:19 a.m.
•Sunset, 7:17 p.m.

Midday Conditions

•Soil Temperature 36 degrees
•Humidity 78 percent
•Sky cloudy with few flurries
•Winds north northeast 20
•Barometer 30.22 inches and rising

•Record High 82° (1930)
•Record Low 12° (1973)

Last 24 Hours*

High 31°
Low 25
Precipitation .25
2.1 inches of snow

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: mostly sunny and warmer, high lower 50s, low upper 20s, winds north 5-15 m.p.h.
Wednesday: mostly sunny and warmer, high lower 70s, low mid 30s.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: mostly clear, high upper 70s. Friday: mostly clear, high upper 70s, low near 40. Saturday: partly cloudy, high upper 70s, low upper 30s. Sunday: partly cloudy, high upper 70s, low lower 40s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.10 bushel
new crop — \$2.81
Corn — \$2.48 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.22
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$2.25 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.53 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.34
Millet — \$7 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.75 cwt.
Oil new crop — \$10.25 cwt.
NuSun — \$10.35 cwt.
NuSun new crop — \$10.95 cwt.
Confection — \$17/\$7 cwt.
Confection new crop — \$17/\$10
Pinto beans — withdrawn
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

More local
news and
views from
your
Goodland
Star-News



Derby tests Scouts' cars

The builders of Pinewood Derby cars waited at the finish line Saturday morning as the Cub Scout Pack 142 held their annual contest at the Knights of Columbus Hall. There were 28 cars in four divisions. See Page 3.

Principal may sleep on school roof

Boxtop collecting to help North Elementary

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Collecting boxtops from General Mills products could put North Elementary Principal Steve Raymer on the roof for a night.

He hopes the weather warms up. Yvonne Koehler, North secretary, said the Boxtops for Education program sponsored by General Mills provides 10 cents for each special boxtop the school collects, and the goal is to pile up 5,000.

To encourage the students, Raymer has promised that if they reach the goal, he would spend a night on the roof of the school.

Koehler has created a mini-Raymer which is next to the collection box in the school office and a "Ladder of Success" to keep track of how the collection is going.

"So far, we have 1,750 boxtops," she said. "For every step on the ladder, the cutout of Raymer has a new saying."

The goal at the top of the ladder is the 5,000 boxtops, and it will take a ladder to get Raymer onto the roof.

"They will never get me to the top," Raymer says. "I feel pretty safe."

The students have until May 15 to reach the goal, and if by chance they are able to exceed the goal and stack up 10,000 boxtops, Raymer has said he would shave his head.

Collection boxes for the special boxtops are at the school, the city library and the First Christian Church. Anyone can help by donating

General Mills boxtops that have a special Boxtops for Education symbol.

General Mills has had the program for several years, and it has been expanded to include an on-line shopping program that gives a design-

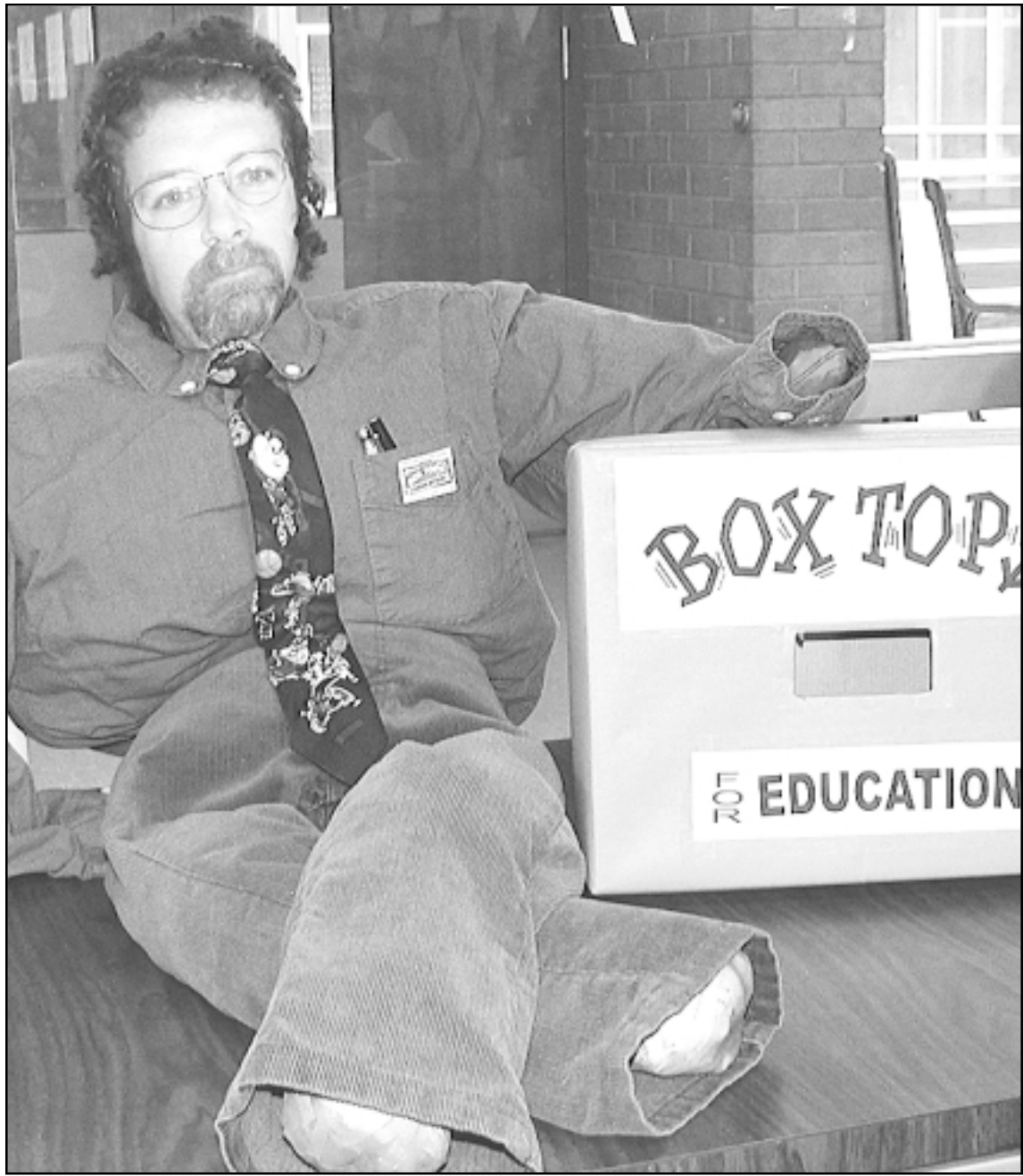


Raymer



ated school 10 percent off of any purchase from the Boxtops for Education Marketplace. A third option is to have a special Boxtops for Education credit card which pays the designated school 1 percent of all purchases from over 20 million participating locations.

The money can be used for anything the school needs and each school can earn up to \$20,000 from the boxtop program. A school could receive a maximum of \$20,000 from the sales on the marketplace and from the use of the credit card, which means at a maximum a school could get \$60,000 per year from General Mills.



Mini-Raymer rested his arm on the collection box at North Elementary on Friday. The school is collecting special General Mills boxtops to raise money, and if the collection reaches 5,000 by May 15, Principal Steve Raymer has said he would spend a night on the roof.

Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Star-News

Dog doesn't find much in second visit

By Steve Haynes

The Goodland Star-News

The first time the drug dog sniffed it's way through Goodland High School, Principal Harvey Swager was less than pleased when the search turned up two guns, marijuana, a knife and some shotguns shells.

If not an "F," it was a "D+" performance.

Thursday, the dog and its handler turned up just a few prescription pain pills in an unmarked bag, illegal, and probably worth a suspension from school for the owner, but not the kind of problems the first search found.

"A 'B+', maybe an 'A,'" Swager said. "Compared to the first time, overall, I'm very satisfied."

He said he was relieved nothing worse had come to light in the second unannounced search of the school. It looked as if students had gotten the message.

"Basically, that was it," he said. "We are pleased that our kids had

responded."

Not even the principal knows when the dog team will show up. The school board contracted, last November, with an Oklahoma City firm, Interquest Detection Canine, to inspect the high school four times per year. The first visit was Jan. 15, when three students were arrested and one was sent home for the day.

There were complaints from parents and others who thought the students were being treated harshly for having hunting or target weapons in their cars, though that's clearly against school policy.

"Things are different than when we went to school," Swager said. "Unfortunately, our society has changed so much over the years."

When the dog team showed up, he said, they first checked the parking lot, going randomly past the cars. The dog, a golden retriever, is trained to detect alcohol, firearms and all sorts of drugs, he said. While the firm uses German shepherds and other "police" breeds for some

work, it like to use gentle animals at schools.

He said the kids come up and pet the dog.

"It doesn't get excited at all," he said. "It just walks around and then sets down."

And that means that the particular car or locker, or the person sitting in a particular chair, it subject to search.

Swager said that while they have a legal right to search anywhere on school property, the procedure they follow is to find the owner of a car or locker and have that person present. They ask for permission to search.

That's how the pain pills turned up, in a plastic bag in the glove box of a student's car.

"It really is amazing," Swager said. "I'm amazed every time I watch it work."

The dogs go through six months of intensive training, he said, and only 20 percent make the grade. Those that pass, though, have an

amazing sense of smell.

"They said that if you have just a beer cap in the car," he said, "for the dog, that's just like a keg of beer smells to us."

After checking the parking lot, he said, they took the dog into several classrooms at random.

"Everything has to be random," he said. "There is no set pattern. I ask the kids and teacher to go out in the hall. If you have even the scent of a drug on your clothing, the dog can smell that. It will sit down by that seat."

The team also checks the restrooms but, while the dog passed quite a few lockers, the inspection didn't focus on them. Not much was turned up, Swager said, other than the pain pills. Just a bottle of No Doze, a legal non-prescription "pep pill."

The student with the prescription pain pills could face a long-term suspension under school policy, he said, but that's decided case by case. More likely, it'll mean missing a

week of class and maybe one school event for a first offense.

The No Doze, while legal, should have been left at the school nurse's office under school policy. It was confiscated, and the student's parents were called.

After finishing up at the high school, Swager took the team to Grant Junior High, where the handler gave a demonstration for the students at a special assembly. That took some doing, because the notice was short, but the junior high managed to get it together, he said. There was no search at Grant, just a little education.

Swager said he was relieved that no weapons turned up this time.

"Our purpose is trying to prevent rather than trying to catch kids," he said. "I feel a lot more relaxed this time."

And the kids?

"The kids want a safe place to come to school," he said. "They're really pleased at having the dog here."

Spring storm drops deep, wet snow across area

The snow over the weekend dropped up to eight inches around northwest Kansas and northeast Colorado, bringing some much-needed moisture.

For Goodland, the National Weather Service recorded 2.1 inches of snow with .25 of an inch of moisture.

The forecast is for scattered flurries ending today. Temperatures should begin to warm up, with the

highs expected to be in the upper 70s by Friday.

Reports from around the area show deeper snow fell to the west, north and south, with the deepest being between Stratton, Colo., and Idalia, Colo., with over eight inches. Burlington reported six inches of snow. Benkelman had 7.1 inches, Atwood six and St. Francis three.

South of Sharon Springs, there was a report of seven inches,

Wallace reported 6.4 and Russell Springs had five.

To the east Colby, had two inches, Quinter reported 1.5 inches and Oakley reported 1.2 inches.

Moisture content of the snow was varied, but there were reports of from nearly an inch to the west and south.

"It looks like the bullseye was south of Yuma, extending to the Stratton area, with the deepest snow

and about .8 of an inch," said Mick McGuire at the National Weather Service office in Goodland.

He said the storm line for the deepest snow was from Joes, Colo., northeast to Oberlin. There was a narrow band of deep snow to the south, he said, and a decrease as the storm went east.

"Total moisture for this year is 2.25 inches and the normal is 2.31," McGuire said, "so we are .06 behind

at this time. Last year at this time, we had a total of .95 moisture."

He said the forecast for the next seven to 10 days is a similar pattern to last week, which generally leads to dry weather with warm temperatures.

"Way down the horizon there may be another storm," he said, "but we're not sure at this time."

Despite the welcome moisture the area remains several inches below normal for moisture.

Colby hospital purges board; administrator resigns

By Patty Decker

Colby Free Press

Members of the corporation which runs Citizens Medical Center in Colby last week purged two board members who supported a controversial physician, then accepted the resignation of the hospital's chief executive.

Administrator Michael Boyles, who resigned Friday as the hospital's chief executive officer,

said he was at the corporation's annual meeting. He said Monday that board member Judith Sears was not voted off the board of trustees by a unanimous vote, as had been reported, but rather by a majority of the entire membership consisting of all 20 members of the corporation.

The action was taken Thursday night and, according to one of the people on the membership board, the vote was 12-6 in favor of removing

Sears with one person abstaining and one person not voting on the issue.

Following the removal of Sears, the next motion would have been to remove Terry Cousins from the board, but Cousins quit before that could happen.

Friday, the Colby Free Press reported that the vote was "unanimous" by the trustees to remove Sears. Even if the vote would have

been by the trustees, it would not have been unanimous because both Sears and Cousins were still trustees at that time.

At the meeting, the entire membership voted to add Rich Epp to its general membership.

The remaining five trustees, including Vern Schwanke, Terry Wendall, Sheila Frahm, Bob Standage and Curt Stephens, met at noon on Friday, Boyles said, and

after some discussion everyone decided it would be best if he resigned. Boyles has led the hospital's fight against Dr. Victor Hildyard, who was ousted from the staff, then reinstated by a district court order. The case is on appeal.

"I believe there's a lot of healing that has to happen," Boils said today. "The primary reason I resigned is