

Snoball coronation planned Friday



Candidates for Snoball queen are, from left: Whitney Dautel, Jillian Parker, Sandy Johnson, Alicia Stouder, Jena McCall, Ashley Cebula, Kerri Bellamy and Emily Linden. For king: Douglas Eddleman, Sean Cochrane, Cody Engel, Jared Hall, Nathan Thomas, Andrew Pettibone and Michael Smith (not pictured). The top three for queen are Cebula, Linden and McCall. For king are Hall, Pettibone and Thomas. King and queen will be crowned between the boys and girls varsity basketball games tonight in the Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Sunshine breaks cold snap

COLD, from Page 1

The coldest day of the 12-days was Saturday, Jan. 13 with a low of -8 degrees, and the warmest day of the period was Wednesday, Jan. 17 with a high of 29 degrees.

Krause said the cold period was the longest since December of 1983, and the seventh longest on record.

The record for consecutive days below freezing is 14, and that happened in 1978, 1974 and 1972 Krause said.

The high on Thursday, Jan. 11 was 28 and it dropped to 10 on Friday, Jan. 12 when the snow began. The snowstorm lasted through Sunday dropping about 2 inches on Goodland. The high was 8 on Saturday, Jan. 13 and 12 on Sunday, Jan. 14.

Highs through the next week were 15 on Monday, Jan. 15; 28 on Tuesday, Jan. 16; 29 on Wednesday, Jan. 17; 25 on Thursday, Jan. 18; and 26 on Friday, Jan. 19.

Another snowstorm started on Saturday dropping about seven inches on Goodland through Sunday. The high was 24 on Saturday and Sunday, and 28 on Monday. The high was 35 on Tuesday.

The high should be in the 40s today under partly cloudy skies the weather service forecast says. The weekend outlook is for highs about 30 with partly cloudy skies. Highs expected around 33 for Monday and Tuesday under partly cloudy skies.

Prairie dog battle moves to Oakley courtroom

COURT, from Page 1

the prairie dogs on his land, and to prevent the dispersal of the dogs to neighbors.

The program could be success-

ful if the county would approach this objectively and met with Larry, the state, the Audubon Society and other groups.

"It is irresponsible to force Larry and the other landowners to keep

their cattle off the land so the county can poison the prairie dogs and other wildlife. There are other animals that depend on the prairie dogs

"There are a few landowners who are determined to impose their will

on Larry and the other owners who want to make a place for wildlife."

Klataske said his group and some other conservation groups are considering supporting Haverfield and his fellow defendants in the court

action.

Judge Jack Lively, a senior retired judge from Coffeyville has been appointed to hear the injunction motion.

Snowstorms hit embattled Logan County cattlemen

STORMS, from Page 1

said, "but they have been getting some cottontails.

"I have seen a few coyotes, but not much badger or swift fox action.

I think the coyotes are following the rabbits."

Haverfield said he was glad the ferrets didn't come this year because of the storms, but said on Wednesday he talked to an expert on the ferrets who said the weather

would not have hurt the ferrets if they had been introduced before the storms.

"I asked him if the snow might cut down on the number of prairie dogs," Haverfield said, "but he told me the dogs were good at lasting

through such storms and had been doing that for hundreds of years."

Haverfield said he saw a recent column by Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer about the prairie dog and ferret battle in Logan County. Ostmeyer was supporting the efforts of the

Logan County Commissioners to stop the ferrets and eradicate the prairie dogs.

"If things get better down here," Haverfield said, "I might invite him (Ostmeyer) down to see what we are doing."

God's word offers freedom from sin, death, pain and sorrow

I remember in history class, teachers told us our forefathers fought for our freedom and independence. And today I hear patriotic people say the same thing about the men and women fighting in Iraq.

True, we do have freedoms here that people in other countries don't have, but how free are we? Do we truly have independence? Will we ever?

Many find themselves enslaved to debt or at least burdened with bills, taxes and other obligations. The Bible talks about another type of slavery, being enslaved to sin.

Romans 6:16 says, "Do you not know that if you keep presenting yourselves to anyone as slaves to obey him, you are slaves of him because you obey him, either of sin with death in view or of obedience with righteousness in view?"

Since we were born sinners, we don't have the option of being perfect at this time, but we do have choices. Whether or not we are actually enslaved to sin depends on whether we choose to just do whatever feels right at the moment or whether we choose to think about our decisions and listen to what God has told us in the Bible.

Galatians 6:7-9 says, "Do not be misled: God is not one to be mocked. For whatever a man is sowing, this he will also reap; because he who is sowing with a view to the flesh will reap corruption from his flesh, but he who is sowing with a view to the spirit will reap everlasting life from the spirit. So let us not give up in doing what is

fine, for in due season we shall reap if we do not tire out."

There are consequences to our actions. Young people today often talk about "hooking up" as if it is no big deal, fun with no obligations. Is that really true?

1 Corinthians 6:18 says, "Flee from fornication. Every other sin that a man may commit is outside his body, but he that practices fornication is sinning against his own body."

Can casual sex ever be truly guilt-free? And what if it results in a sexually transmitted disease? Or an unwanted pregnancy? There are consequences.

Other choices have consequences as well. 1 Timothy 6:9, 10 says, "However, those who are determined to be rich fall into temptation and a snare and many senseless and hurtful desires, which plunge men into destruction and ruin."

Financial obligations can be a burden, and even more so if we try to afford twice what we actually can.

Expecting the type of independence where we make decisions as if they only affect us and don't think about others or about our Creator goes along with the attitude de-

scribed in Proverbs 16:18: "Pride is before a crash, and a haughty spirit before stumbling."

How can we have the most freedom? By choosing to obey God rather than be independent from him.

Revelation 21:1, 4 says, "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and

the sea is no more. . . . And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away."

John 3:16 says, "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only-begotten Son, in order that everyone exercising faith in him might not be destroyed but have everlasting life."

Psalms 72:16 says, "There will come to be plenty of grain on the

earth; on the top of the mountains there will be an overflow. His fruit will be as in Lebanon, and those who are from the city will blossom like the vegetation of the earth."

Our Creator is extending to us the opportunity for the best freedom we can hope for, freedom from sin and death through His son's sacrifice, freedom from want, freedom from pain and everlasting life with the people we love. Is that not worth presenting ourselves as slaves to Him?



sharon corcoran

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Snow's benefits outweigh potential wheat damage

First and foremost, this snow is an important source of moisture that the wheat needed. When was the last time we had this kind of moisture during December and January?

When all of this snow melts, the moisture conditions will be excellent, giving us a good springboard for this upcoming season.

One concern that I have been hearing is wheat suffocation with the amounts of snow and ice. In reality, this should only be a slight concern. First of all, the wheat went into the winter in pretty good shape with the rains last fall.

Also, the wheat was not actively growing leaps and bounds when the snow and ice hit. If the wheat had been really growing and was then coated with ice and snow, the plant's respiration would have been abruptly shut down.

This could have caused plant stress and might have resulted in problems. However, in reality, I don't think that is too much of a concern. Wheat is an incredibly resilient crop and can take quite a bit of

stress before we see problems down the road.

According to some research in the upper Midwest, wheat can withstand icy conditions for at least three weeks and snow cover for longer.

In addition, the snow cover on the fields is a blessing. It is providing insulation and protection to the crowns of the wheat from the bitter cold temperatures, which could cause winterkill.

Finally, we will not know what is really going on under all of the snow until things start to melt. There is really no need to stress about the wheat. The benefits of the snow outweigh the concerns.

Jeanne Falk is an area crop production and economics specialist for Sherman, Cheyenne and Wallace counties with Kansas State University Research and Extension.



jeanne falk

• agron notes

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