

# The Goodland Star-News

**WEEKEND**

Friday, May 25  
2007

**\$1**

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Goodland, Kansas 67735

**weather report**

**60°**

noon  
Thursday

**Today**

- Sunset, 8:05 p.m.
- Sunrise, 5:23 a.m.
- Sunset, 8:05 p.m.

**Middy Conditions**

- Soil temperature 63 degrees
- Humidity 45 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds calm
- Barometer 30.21 inches and steady
- Record High today 104° (2003)
- Record Low today 30° (1947)

**Last 24 Hours\***

- High Wednesday 70°
- Low Thursday 45°
- Precipitation .31
- This month .38
- Year to date 6.03
- Below normal .07 of an inch

**The Topside Forecast**

Today: Isolated showers and thunderstorms. High near 75, low around 53.

**Extended Forecast**

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high around 77, low around 48.  
Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high around 77, low around 53.  
Monday and Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high around 82, low around 56.

(National Weather Service)  
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$4.38 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$4.24
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
  - Corn — \$3.63 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$3.46
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
  - Milo — \$3.33 bushel
  - Soybeans — \$7.04 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$7
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
  - Millet — \$7 hundredweight
  - Sunflowers
  - NuSun crop — \$16.50 cwt.
  - Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)
- (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



**Cowboys finish 10th**

Cowboys' senior Mikey Doll took his second shot Monday on hole No. 2 at the Wamego Country Club during the state Class 4A golf tournament. Doll tied for 46th, and the Cowboys finished 10th as a team. See story, photo on Page 11.

## Flags, taps honor all who died

The American Legion plans to post flags on the graves of veterans at the Goodland Cemetery starting at 5:30 a.m. Memorial Day.

Post Commander Marshall Squires said the cemetery will be open at 5 a.m. Monday, and volunteers will start placing the flags about 30 minutes later. He estimated that will take about an hour. The flags will be retrieved starting at 4 p.m., adding that the Legionnaires will need some help.

"The assistance of other community groups for this commemorative activity is sought and would be greatly appreciated," said Squires. "Individual helpers are also welcome. About 700 flags will be placed at graveside to honor our fallen veterans."

The Goodland Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliary, along with the American Legion, plan Memorial Day services at the cemetery starting at 10 a.m. The services will begin with posting of the colors by the VFW Color Guard, accompanied by a rifle squad from the Kansas Army National Guard. The Rev. Hal Lycett of St. Paul's Episcopal Church will speak.

A balloon release, sponsored by Koons Funeral Home, will follow taps.

Services at the Brewster Cemetery should begin at 8:30 (Mountain Time) with Mayor Mike Baughn, also the Thomas County sheriff, speaking. Services at the Kanorado Cemetery will start at 11:30 with retired Air Force chaplain Chet Ross as the speaker.

In the event of foul weather, the services will move indoors. In Goodland, that will be held at the VFW Hall, 824 Main Ave.; in Brewster at the school, 127 Kansas Ave; and in Kanorado at the United Methodist Church, 307 Main St.

At an American Legion meeting Monday, post officers for the 2007-2008 year were installed, with their terms starting July 1.

Mary Lycett will be the new post commander after serving a term as vice commander. Mrs. Lycett, a Navy veteran, will replace Squires, who served two terms as commander.

Art Nelson, a retired Navy chief petty officer, will be vice commander. In all the other positions the incumbents will continue to serve: Ken Baum, service officer; Mel Pfau, finance officer; Greg Stover, adjutant; Mazie Sutton, historian; Vernice Leslie, chaplain; Ron Vignery, judge advocate; and Dale Ellison, sergeant at arms.

## School's out, summer fun begins...



Jeremy Brown (above, from left), Hanna Sanderson, Alex Bennett and Sophia Thompson waited in line to go on the water slides at Steever Water Park on Tuesday. The kids from Central Elementary (top photo) spent Tuesday afternoon splashing around at the park as part of their end-of-the-school-year activities. The park will open for the season at 1 p.m. Saturday with Kendra Billinger, daughter of Mayor Rick Billinger, as manager. Admission is \$2 for children 6 to 12 and \$3 for anyone over 13. Younger children are free and on Fridays, admission is just \$1.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News



Lindsay Bauman rode one of the water slides at Steever Water Park on Tuesday.

## Goodland radio stations join Rocking M group

The announcers and music formats at Goodland's KLOE/KKCI/KWGB Radio will stay the same, but a marketing agreement will tie management and ownership of the stations to Rocking M Radio of Manhattan.

Marty Melia, owner of Melia Communications, said Tuesday he has entered into a "local marketing agreement" with Rocking M Radio, owned by Doris and Monte Miller and their son Christopher, effective in June.

Rocking M recently acquired 14 radio stations in Kansas, including KXXX and KQLS in Colby.

"The Melia family is excited with

the opportunity the Miller family has brought us to partner with their other Kansas radio stations," Melia said, noting that his family will retain an ownership interest in the business. "This will bring many new and cutting-edge technologies to our listeners and advertisers in Goodland and all of northwest Kansas."



Marty Melia

"We are looking forward to partnering with Marty and Kathy Melia to continue to support and promote the people and businesses of northwest Kansas," said Doris Miller.

The family is purchasing a part interest in Melia Communications, owned and operated by Marty and

Kathy Melia since September 1995.

Kay Melia, Marty's father, has been involved in broadcasting in northwest Kansas for more than 50 years. He served as vice chairman of the National Association of Broadcasters in 1976 and was inducted into the Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame in 1982.

Andrew Melia, Marty and Kathy's son, the third generation of the family in the radio business, is the sports director for the stations.

Marty Melia said all the family members and current staff will remain. He said sales and marketing will be combined with the sales people out of Colby and from the other stations in the group.

"We will continue to bring people the best in news, sports and weather

information," Melia said.

Doris and Monte Miller have been involved in the newspaper and broadcasting business in Kansas for over 43 years. Monte's grandfather returned from the Colorado gold rush in 1900 to buy *The Belleville Telescope*, a weekly newspaper. A.Q. Miller passed the ownership of the paper to his son, the late Merle Miller, and today Monte's brother Mark is the third-generation publisher.

Kansas State University named its journalism and mass communications school after A.Q. Miller.

Monte and Doris Miller returned from the west coast to Kansas in 1974, publishing newspapers in and around Lawrence. The Millers entered the commercial television

business in 1988 when they built full-power station KMCI-TV, channel 38, in the Kansas City market. They sold the station in 2000 to Scripps-Howard Broadcasting of Cincinnati, which owned KSHB-TV 41, a National Broadcasting Company affiliate in Kansas City.

Christopher Miller, president of Gammon Media Brokers of Paradise Valley, Ariz., handled the deal between Rocking M and Melia.

Other Rocking M Radio stations in Kansas include KGNO AM and KZRD and KOLS FM in Dodge City; KNNS AM and KGTR FM in Larned; KWLS AM Pratt; KYUU AM and KSLs FM Liberal; KSSH FM in Ingalls; KQNS FM in Lindsborg; KZLS FM in Great Bend and KILS in Minneapolis.

## Colorado releases water; Bonny lake won't be drained

By Tom Betz

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Water is draining out of Bonny Reservoir north of Burlington to repay Colorado water debts to Kansas and Nebraska, but the release will not drain the lake as had been rumored.

"As far as draining Bonny, that is not what is happening," said Steve Ronshaugen, acting area manager for the Bureau of Reclamation area office in Grand Island, Neb., on Tuesday.

"We received an order on Monday from the Colorado state engineer to begin releasing up to 2,200 acre feet of water. This is being done in compliance with Colorado water law."

Ronshaugen said the release began on Tuesday at a rate of 50-55 cubic foot per second, and he estimates it will take three weeks to bring the lake level down to about 9,800 acre feet. Before the release, the lake was 19.25 feet below the normal level and after, officials said, it should be 21.25 feet below normal, down about two feet.

He said Bonny Reservoir held about 12,000 acre feet after the winter. It will be brought down to the level it was last year, about 9,800 acre feet.

Howard Paul, Bonny Park Manager, said Thursday the two-foot drop will make it hard to use the boat ramp in about three weeks, but hand launched boats will be allowed. He said shore fishing will be open.

He said fishermen are catching catfish and wall-eye, which have remained stable despite the lower water levels, but the crappie, white bass and wiper numbers have fallen off.

"They are still catching all of those species," he said. "There have been some very nice bass caught this week."

Ken Knox, chief deputy state water engineer for Colorado, said Tuesday the office ordered the discharge partly because of a 1998 lawsuit by Kansas.

"We are taking the action to help meet our Republican River compact compliance with Nebraska and Kansas," Knox said. "It will help ... to draw Bonny Reservoir down to the level it was last year. The compact is a contract, and we intend to meet our obligations."

## School district may buy used computers from Hays

By Pat Schiefen

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The Goodland School Board could buy 150 used laptop computers from the Hays School District to use in elementary schools for \$190 each, more than \$900 below the \$1,100 cost of new computers.

The Apple Computer laptops, coming off a three-year lease, would be serviced before they are sold, said Superintendent Shelly Angelos at a school board meeting Monday, May 14.

The Hays district used them for a program where all students would have a laptop computer, Angelos said, adding that she had checked and the Goodland district still will need to ask for bids on the computers. She said they would get bids from Apple as well.

The cost to buy the laptops would be \$28,500 from the capital outlay fund, Angelos said, adding that it would be

in addition to what was in the budget.

Angelos said she planned to go to Oakley on Thursday to help write the rules for the virtual school that the district will offer through the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center. The virtual school should be a good resource for home-schooled students, she said. Parents would have to enroll students at their school district. The service center would hire a teacher and each district would do its own state assessments.

The district recognized three retiring teachers for their years of service: art teacher Mark Hagerman, English teacher Linda Van Loenen and math teacher Gaylene Shank. Hagerman has taught since 1977, Shank since 1990 and Van Loenen since 1970, School Board President Jane Philbrick said.

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