


weather report

52°
noon
Thursday



Today
• Sunset, 4:32 p.m.
Saturday
• Sunrise, 6:33 a.m.
• Sunset, 4:30 p.m.

Midday Conditions
• Soil temperature 44 degrees
• Humidity 19 percent
• Sky mostly sunny
• Winds southwest 22-30 mph
• Barometer 30.18 inches and falling
• Record High today 80° (1941)
• Record Low today -3° (1955)

Last 24 Hours*
High Wednesday 48°
Low Wednesday 15°
Precipitation none
This month none
Year to date 13.89
Below normal 5.10 inches

The Topside Forecast
Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 71, low around 34 and winds out of the northwest at 10-15 mph.
Saturday: Partly sunny with a high near 64, a low around 32 and winds out of north 5-10 mph.

Extended Forecast
Sunday: Most sunny with a high near 69 and a low around 32.
Monday: Sunny with a high near 65 and a low around 27. Tuesday: A chance of rain or snow.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400.MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Goodland cold case to be on TV

By Sharon Corcoran

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They're calling it a "Real Life Kansas Cold Case."

KBSL-TV out of Wichita planned to recount details of an unsolved Goodland murder that happened in December 1982 on a program Thursday night.

The body of Kirk Denton Hartman, 21, a Northwest Kansas Area Vocational Technical School gradu-

ate, was found Friday, Jan. 7, 1983, northeast of Goodland, said the Jan. 10, 1983, issue of *The Goodland Daily News*.

Hartman died of a single gunshot wound to his heart, the paper said. He had been living near Colorado Springs at the time and was visiting his mother, Patricia O'Brien, in Goodland. She had reported him missing on Dec. 20.

The KBI and the Sherman County

Sheriff's Department investigated the death as a homicide, the paper reported. The gun, which was found at the scene, was sent to the KBI laboratory to check for fingerprints, said then county attorney Mac McGinley.

The 25-year-old murder case has never been solved.

The television station planned to air information about the murder on the news at 9 p.m. Thursday.

Hartman was born June 25, 1961, at Perryton, Texas, the son of Jack and Patricia (Lee) Hartman. He attended several grade schools and spent his freshman and sophomore years at Goodland High School. He received a GED certificate from the technical school, along with a mechanic's certificate.

At the time of his death, the paper reported, he lived at Cañon City, Colo., and had filled out

an application to join the Army Rangers. He was planning to marry soon.

Listed as survivors were his mother of Goodland; two brothers, Michael Breninger of Vancouver, Wash., and Christopher O'Brien of Goodland; two sisters, Mrs. Debra Mercer of Cañon City and Michelle Hartman of Goodland; and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Montgomery of Goodland.

Commissioners fight over extension cords

By Ramona C. Sanders

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The Sherman County Road and Bridge Department has a budget of over \$1.6 million but it was six extension cords for a total cost of \$359 that prompted 45 minutes of discussion Tuesday at the Sherman County Commission meeting.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said he was not satisfied with the response he got from Road and Bridges shop foreman Steve Goodman at the commissioner's meeting last month about why the department bought extension cords from a California company and not in the county.

"I asked Steve, and he said their were not available," Rasure said.

He then placed two yellow extension cords on the table.

"Here's two cords off the shelf of businesses around here," Rasure said. He did not say which businesses they were from.

Rasure then gave Commissioners Chuck Thomas and Mitch Tiede a copy of the purchase order from California Contract Supplies Inc. in Van Nuys, Calif., where the extension cords were purchased.

Rasure said the cords purchased out-of-town cost \$79.90 each and



County Commissioner Kevin Rasure questioned Road and Bridge shop foreman Steve Goodman about extension cords Tuesday

as County Clerk Janet Rumpel watched during a commissioners' meeting. Photo by Ramona C. Sanders/The Goodland Star-News

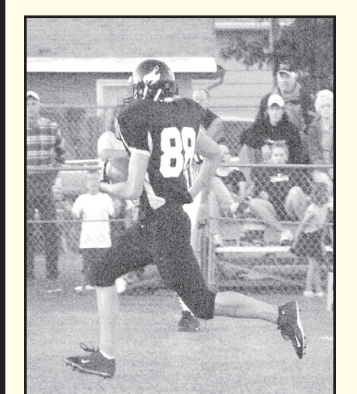
See **CORDS**, Page 8a

local markets

Noon
Wheat — \$7.10 bushel
Posted county price — \$7.03
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$3.38 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.49
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$3.20 bushel
Soybeans — \$9.13 bushel
Posted county price — \$9.71
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$7 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$17.90 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)
(Markets by Scouler Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News

Cowboys take places as all-league

Senior Tanner Smith was named first-team all-league as a wide receiver. See story and photos on Page 9a.



Ashley Garza, a Goodland High School sophomore, put butter on pancakes so Ashley McDonald, a senior, could serve the breakfast. Eric Linnell (back), a freshman, was frying sausage as Superintendent Shelly Angelos put food on the plates. Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Teens get up early, serve breakfast for skate-park fund

By Sharon Corcoran

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Teenagers pushing for a new skate park got up around 4 a.m. to serve breakfast to 150 people, held a garage sale and collected donations, and are now \$1,200 closer to their goal.

Teens were stirring pancake batter, cooking eggs, making coffee and serving meals on Saturday. School Superintendent Shelly Angelos and Kim Bohme, owner of Miller's Home Center, were dishing up food, and Wendy Wellmann, prevention consultant for the Regional Prevention Center, sold tickets.

The Shine On Sherman County youth committee now has \$13,200 of the \$47,000 total needed for the proposed skate park, said Connie Livengood, a

Goodland High School teacher who is helping the committee.

"We served approximately 150 people and had numerous donations," she said. "We raised about \$1,200."

About 19 people helped with the breakfast at Sugar Hills Golf Club, she said, and the kids were fantastic about showing up at 4:45 in the morning. Others at 6 a.m., she said, and they stayed to work.

It was a great day, Livengood said, and it was fun to see so many people come out for breakfast. The group appreciated the food donated for the breakfast, Livengood said. Sugar Hills General Manager Mel Dolezal got the pancake mix, bacon and syrup donated, she said, and Bubba's Meat Block gave the sausage.

County's fire departments may consolidate

By Ramona C. Sanders

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After hearing from three chiefs at a meeting Tuesday, Sherman County commissioners discussed changing the command structure of the three county volunteer fire departments.

"It looks like we're getting to the point where we're going to have to have one full-time person to run the three (fire) departments," said Commissioner Mitch Tiede. "It looks like the day of a volunteer fire department is gone. We're going to need one guy in charge."

Commissioners heard concerns from two chiefs and an assistant chief about increased liability issues, paperwork and training requirements that the volunteer departments face.

Goodland Rural Fire Department Chief Alan David, Assistant Chief Chris Bauman and Brewster Rural Fire Department Chief Willard Crumrine talked about the challenges of meeting increasing state regulations and insurance requirements. The Goodland, Brewster and Kanorado rural departments may consolidate.

Volunteer firefighters are required to fulfill certain hours and levels of training, they said, and fire chiefs have to maintain the paperwork, including medical records, for each volunteer.

"It's not what it used to be," said Bauman. "The volunteer fire department turns into a big liability now."

David said medical records are required so if a firefighter is injured and unable to speak, the chief can provide emergency and hospital workers with documentation on the volunteer's medical status. Each firefighter is now required to get health clearance from a physician for liability purposes, he said.

Fire insurance companies require documentation, including how much water is used to put out a fire and whether damage was caused by the fire or by attempts to put it out.

"It's time killing," Bauman said of the paperwork. "It feels senseless and needless, but it's probably one of the most important things we can do."

David said in addition to the requirements of

more detailed reports, insurance companies are expecting fire departments to photograph fire and accident scenes.

"They're pushing for us to have cameras on every truck," he said, adding that none of his fire trucks has a camera.

The commissioners agreed the requirements were demanding for the fire departments, especially since they are composed of volunteers.

Crumrine said the increased demands make it hard for the rural fire departments to attract volunteers. He said he is down from 10 men to eight and that more than half are over age 50.

Commissioners Chuck Thomas and Kevin Rasure agreed with Tiede that having one full-time person would be a good idea. The new chief would administer training, fill out paperwork and keep up with equipment maintenance, Tiede said.

Thomas said he felt the person would be based in Goodland and Tiede and Rasure said the person would fall under the County Commission.

"A lot of these things would have to be worked out," Tiede said.

Fire engulfs shed north of Goodland

Fire destroyed a large shed at Rex and Sandi Murray's farm 15 miles north of Goodland and a mile east of K-27 about noon Thursday, spreading to a field in Cheyenne County.

Firemen called for a disc was called to help with the field fire. Dispatch called the fire department at 12:30 to tell them they could get more water if needed. No one was injured, and those at the scene reported that all the dogs got out unharmed as well.

About 20 firemen from Cheyenne and Sherman counties were fighting the blaze at deadline Thursday.