

weather report



31°
noon
Monday

Today

Sunset, 5:24 p.m.
Wednesday
Sunrise, 6:37 a.m.
Sunset, 5:25 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 30 degrees
- Humidity 26 percent
- Sky clear and sunny
- Winds northwest 16-26 mph
- Barometer 30.23 inches and falling
- Record High today 72° (1991)
- Record Low today -17° (1993)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	31°
Low Sunday	10°
Precipitation	none
This month	0.15
Year to date	0.33
Below normal	0.24 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny with a high near 40, winds out of the north at 5 to 10 mph and a low around 17.
Wednesday: Partly sunny with a high near 51, winds out of the northwest at 10 to 15 mph and a low around 22.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow and rain, a high near 43 and a low around 20.
Friday: Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of snow, a high near 30 and a low around 17.

(National Weather Service)

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local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.93 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.04
Corn — \$3.06 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.33
Milo — \$2.77 bushel
Soybeans — \$8.45 bushel
Posted county price — \$8.59
Millet — \$5 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$14.35 cwt.
Confection — \$28/\$15 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$32 (new crop)
(Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today



More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News

X-pressos celebrate Valentines

The X-pressos entertained a full house at their Valentine Banquet on Saturday night. The show choir served lasagna, garlic bread, salad, dessert bar and coffee or tea.

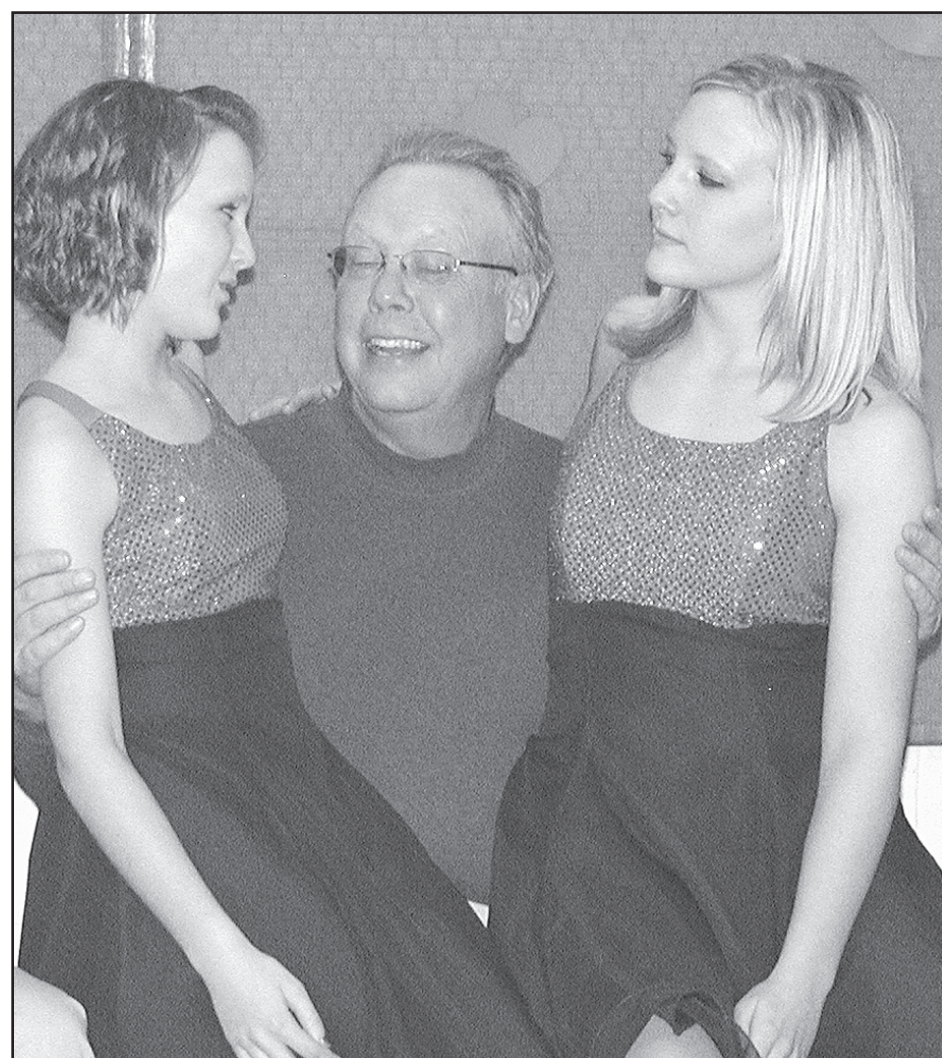
After everyone had eaten the group entertained with singing and dancing (right photo). A duet of Ashley Archer and Brook Redlin sang a duet (bottom right) as well as the X-Presso women and men. The women sang to their fathers (below) including Katlyn and Kirsten Topliff with their father Randy, as well as a special number to Goodland High School science teacher Duane Unger.

The men sang to Peggy Berls and Denise Archer.

Redlin spoke for the men saying high school vocal teacher Randy Berls was hard to live with and to Archer because she was in charge of the food for the banquet. Randy Berls stepped in to help finish the song "Duke of Earl" singing to his wife.

Berls said the majority of choir's members were new this year. Members included Kevin Amthor, Archer, Stephen Buller, Jennifer Fontenot, Caleb Fugleberg, Abby Jolly, Tyler Jones, Kaitlyn Lammers, Heidi Lawson, Riley Oharah, Michael Pettibone, Redlin, Andrew Shores, Katlyn Topliff and Kirsten Topliff and Day Waugh.

Photos by Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News



Weed plan, prairie dog control reviewed

By Tom Betz

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County weed spraying and prairie dog treatment were reviewed with the noxious weed director at the commission meeting on Monday.

Daryl West, noxious weed director, met with the commissioners to review the annual weed report to the state and about the handling of prairie dogs.

West said the report is based on the 12 sections selected by the state to be checked for noxious weeds, and the other part of the report is what he has done to handle and spray noxious weeds.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked for a closed door session for 10 minutes on personnel matters with the three commissioners, Max Linin, Cynthia Strand and himself.

When the meeting reopened Thomas said no action would be taken, but the commissioners agreed to sign the weed report.

Thomas asked West about prairie dogs, and how much bait has been used.

West said the efforts last year and in the fall have made a big difference. He said the prairie dog numbers are down in most of the county areas where they have been treated.

Thomas asked about a specific farmer, and if West had been through all his pastures.

West said he used 116 buckets in the fall and only two buckets this year.

He said the deadline for treating

Commissioners take low mower bid

By Tom Betz

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Sherman County commissioners opened bids from three companies for a lawn mower with the low bid going to Cochran Farm Supply.

William McKnight grounds superintendent presented bids from Goodland Greenline, Yost Farm Supply and Cochran Farm Supply. He said each bid on two different lawn mowers. He said he was asking for a larger motor because the Grasshopper he has been using has a 25 horsepower motor and feels like he is over working the motor.

He said all but one of the mowers has a rear discharge. He said his recommendation was a front deck mower with rear discharge.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked if the money for the lawn mower was in the budget.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said the money was taken out of the budget, and would come out of the equipment reserve.

McKnight said he had given the commissioners a ballpark figure of \$9,000 at budget time.

He said the bids from Yost and Cochran were close to what he expected. The two John Deere prices were over what had been expected. He said he had called

everyone who might have a mower.

Commissioner Cynthia Strnad said she had a John Deere mower and loved it and had a Hustler mower and loved it. She asked McKnight what his preference is as he is the one who does the mowing.

McKnight said he thought the Hustler was a good choice.

Commissioner Max Linin asked McKnight about the Grasshopper engine. He said he was leaning toward the Hustler because of the Kawasaki engine.

Thomas said that is what he was thinking with McKnight's recommendation.

Linin made a motion to have McKnight buy the Hustler. The motion passed unanimously.

The bids from Yost Farm Supply were \$9,450 and \$8,750 for a smaller engine. Cochran Farm Supply bid \$8,949 for the 31 horsepower engine and \$8,788 for a 27 horsepower engine.

In other business the commissioners:

- Discussed what to do about the leases on the building at 17th and Broadway.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby said she had a bundle of money and wanted to know what the

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lace County has done some treating in Colorado.

Thomas asked about Cheyenne County if there had been any treatment of prairie dogs.

West said he talked to the guy in Cheyenne County, and was told not much has been done this year.

Thomas asked if there are prairie dogs along the Sherman County line.

West said there are not as many along there and the situation is pretty good along there.

Thomas asked how the collection was coming on the prairie dog bait.

West said he thought the account was current at the first of the year.

Strnad said she thought the county ought to go to a system where when the bait buckets were delivered West should get a check.

"I just think it would be a better way," she said, "and not have to send bills."

West said he would have to bill the farmers for the treatment he does.

Strnad said the commissioners might look at that for next year and send out a letter saying the county would collect for the buckets when the farmers pick them up.

Thomas asked West how much was out on prairie dog bait.

West said he thought there was one person who has not paid for a while, and need to do something about.

The commissioners thanked West for his report, and encouraged him to keep up with the prairie dogs and get ready for the weeds.

Cowboys lose at Max

Cowboy Robert Cowan shoots over the arm of Oakley's Patrick Loftus to sink two of his season high 24 points against the Plainsmen on Friday at Max Jones Fieldhouse. See photo, story on Page 9

