


**weather report**

**33°**  
 10:30 a.m.  
 Monday



**Today**  
 • Sunset, 4:57 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
 • Sunrise, 7:00 a.m.  
 • Sunset, 4:59 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**  
 • Soil temperature 32 degrees  
 • Humidity 49 percent  
 • Sky partly sunny  
 • Winds southwest 8 mph  
 • Barometer 29.96 inches and rising

• Record High today 71° (1970)  
 • Record Low today -10° (1897)

**Last 24 Hours\***  
 High Sunday 49°  
 Low Sunday 24°  
 Precipitation .06  
 This month .09  
 Year to date .09  
 Below Normal .17 inches

**The Topside Forecast**  
 Today: Cloudy with a 30 percent chance or rain or snow after 11 a.m., a high near 40, winds out of the east at 5 to 10 mph and a low around 16. Wednesday: Sunny with a high near 51, winds out of the west at 5 mph and a low around 27.

**Extended Forecast**  
 Thursday: Sunny with a high near 55 and a low around 29.  
 Friday: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of rain and snow, a high near 43 and a low around 21.  
 Saturday: Mostly sunny with a high near 42 and a low around 21.  
 (National Weather Service)



Goodland firefighters were called out to a bomb threat enforcement and emergency medical personnel. The and then stood by on Cherry Street. at Goodland High School on Friday along with local law firefighters assisted with the evacuation of the building. Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

## Bomb scare forces school evacuation

By Kevin Bottrell

kbottrell@nwkansan.com

Students at Goodland High School had an unexpected field trip to the Northwest Tech campus as a bomb threat forced an evacuation of the high school building Friday morning.

The first call came into the dispatch office at 7:22 a.m. Police Chief Cliff Couch said a faculty member found writing in a stall in an upstairs bathroom that indicated there was a pipe bomb in the building.

Students and staff were evacuated to the Max Jones Fieldhouse and organized. At 8 a.m. they were taken to Northwest Tech.

Goodland Police, the Sherman County Sheriff's office, the Kansas Highway Patrol and the county attorney's office blocked off traffic around the school and set up a command post at 11th Street and Cherry while waiting for Highway Patrol units with explosive-sniffing dogs from Hays to arrive. Three fire engines



Faculty were let back into the school at 10:45 a.m. as Kansas Highway Patrol Special Operations search teams finished their sweep of the building.

and an ambulance were also called out and placed on standby at the scene.

School stayed in session, with teachers conducting study halls at the college. School board members contacted parents to inform them of the situation.

A Kansas Highway Patrol Special Operations search teams arrived on scene about 10 a.m. The dogs checked the high school building first and then the field-

house, but were unable to find any threatening devices.

At 10:45 a.m., teachers were released back to their classrooms. Superintendent Bill Biermann told them to check their rooms for anything suspicious.

Couch gave the all clear at 11:20 a.m. and students resumed regular classes.

The Goodland Police are conducting an investigation into who left the threatening message.



Teams from the Kansas Highway Patrol swept the high school with bomb-sniffing dogs.

**local markets**

10:30 a.m.

Wheat — \$6.19 bushel  
 Posted county price — \$6.11  
 Corn — \$5.94 bushel  
 Posted county price — \$5.88  
 Milo — \$5.66 bushel  
 Soybeans — \$10.69 bushel  
 Posted county price — \$11.03  
 Millet — \$11.50 hundredweight  
 Sunflowers  
 Oil current crop — \$26.85 cwt.  
 Confection — no bid  
 Pinto beans — \$28  
 (Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

## City planning big water line replacement project

By Kevin Bottrell

kbottrell@nwkansan.com

The Goodland City Commission gave City Manager Doug Gerber the go-ahead on Jan. 16 to start working on a multi-million dollar water line replacement project.

Gerber told the commission that although the rate of water loss is now under 20 percent, that number is still too high. The city has been talking about a water project for some time, and he had his staff identify which areas have the most need. The staff looked at which areas have needed the most work in recent months.

These areas include parts of 16th, 15th, 14th, 10th, Eighth, Seventh, Sixth, Fifth, Third and First Streets along with Clark, Broadway, Sherman and Kansas Avenues.

"Water lines are easy to ignore because you can't see them till they break," Gerber said.

He estimated that replacing all of the lines identified would take about \$3.2 million.

Mayor John Garcia asked how long it would take to finish the project. Gerber said it could be a year and a half to two years. However, he said, the scope of the project

could be as big or as small as the city wants. The city could also do some street repair and revision at the same time.

Gerber said the city does not have the money in the bank anymore to

finance the project, and he has been looking at some rate increases to pay for it.

The commissioners agreed the lines will need to be replaced, and it is better to do it sooner than later.


In other business, the commis-

sion: • Approved the annexation of three lots on 16th Street inside the

See PROJECT, Page 5


**inside today**

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



**Wrestlers have good tourney**

The Goodland High School wrestling team placed second at the Oberlin Invitational. Three Cowboys got first-place finishes. The wrestlers will face Burlington at home at 5:30 p.m. Thursday.



## Health fair planned at college on Saturday

The Sherman County Health Fair is planned for Saturday from 8 to 11:30 a.m. at the Northwest Kansas Technical College Student Union.

Tina Goodwin, Goodland Regional Medical Center director of marketing and volunteer services, said many of the vendors for the Health Fair will back this year including KU to do the free skin cancer and prostate screenings and the Lions mobile vision and hearing unit will be back.

More than 500 people attended the Health Fair last year, and Goodwin said 44 booths have been taken for this year's event.

The Goodland Activities Center is sponsoring the Healthy Snack Food Cooking Contest in conjunction with the health fair. Sarah King, Activities Center director, said the idea is to add a way for people to be involved at the health fair.

She said the contest is being split

into three age groups to encourage young people to enter. The age groups are infant to 11, 12 to 17, and 18 and over.

"If someone's baby puts cereal in a bag and brings it to the health fair we are going to accept it," she said. "We want to get people thinking healthy and feel this is a fun way to add to the event."

People may enter more than one recipe, she said, and the person is responsible to bring a typed or legible copy of the recipe along with the prepared health snack to the health fair at 8 a.m. on Saturday.

The recipes will be judged and prizes awarded in each age group. The prepared snacks will be judged equally on nutritional content, and taste appeal.

After the judge has sampled the entry, the rest will be sold at a bake

See FAIR, Page 5

## Fiery sunset



Goodland residents were treated to a brilliant sunset after a chilly and windy day on Saturday. Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News