

weather report



39°

10:30 a.m.
Thursday

Today

• Sunset, 5:25 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 6:36 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:27 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 32 degrees
- Humidity 42 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds southwest 12 mph
- Barometer 30.22 inches and steady
- Record High today 81° (1970)
- Record Low today -15° (1993)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday	43°
Low Wednesday	20°
Precipitation	none
This month	.38
Year to date	.47
Below Normal	.14 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny with a high near 43, winds out of the north at 5 to 10 mph and a low around 17. Saturday: Sunny with a high near 42, winds out of the southeast at 5 mph and a low around 25.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of rain and snow at night, a high near 48 and a low around 32. Monday: Partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of rain and snow, a high around 32 and a low near 43.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

Schools moving to new curriculum

By Pat Schiefen

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As the state of Kansas gets closer to opting out of the No Child Left Behind and Annual Yearly Progress the state will be moving to Common Core State Standards which emphasize the growth of an individual student rather than target goals for all students, said Goodland Superintendent Bill Biermann.

When a state opts out of No Child Left Behind the state must have a plan of what students are expected to learn, says the website, www.corestandards.org. The Common Core Standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world with students receiving the knowledge and skills that are needed for college and careers. The standards were created with input from teachers, postsecondary educators, civil rights groups, English language learners, students with disabilities can use models from around the country and world.

There will be a lot less right or wrong thinking and more emphasis on reflection, critical thinking and problem solving, Biermann said. Teaching will cross different curriculums such as language arts or math.

The Goodland School District started using the Common Core Standards this school year with students younger than third grade because they are not tested in the current state proficiency tests, he said. The rest of the district will begin to use the Common Core Standards next fall. The name of their testing program is Smarter Balanced Testing.

Bierman said there would be no impact on special education students, but the change may shift when some things are taught to students. For example, beginning algebra may be started at a different grade than is currently.

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Museum entertains kids for Valentines Day

The High Plains Museum offered fun activities for children on the evening of Valentine's Day so the parents could go out. Museum Director Karen Anderson (right) shows her group how to make flowers using a sucker to start with. The museum entertained 25 kids with a scavenger hunt, a meal and various craft activities. There were volunteer helpers to help with the activities (above) such as making Valentine people out of hearts.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News



local markets



10:30 a.m.

Wheat — \$6.29 bushel	Posted county price — \$6.02
Corn — \$6.14 bushel	Posted county price — \$6.20
Milo — \$5.86 bushel	
Soybeans — \$11.28 bushel	Posted county price — \$11.68
Millet — \$11.50 hundredweight	
Sunflowers	
Oil current crop — \$25.45 cwt.	Confection — no bid
Pinto beans — \$28	

(Markets by Scouler Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

Some offices, banks to close for Presidents Day

Some local offices have a three-day weekend coming up with a day off Monday for Presidents Day.

City and county offices will be closed. The city and county commission meetings that would normally be scheduled for Monday have been rescheduled for Tuesday.

The Goodland Social and Rehabilitative

Services office will be open.

The Farm Service Agency and Natural Resource and Conservation Services offices will both be closed. Post offices will also be closed and there will be no mail delivery.

Banks will be closed.

Although it is usually known as Presidents Day, the official holiday is actually Wash-

ington's Birthday, in honor of America's first president, George Washington.

The federal holiday began in 1880, established by an act of Congress as a day off for government offices in Washington D.C. It was expanded to cover all government offices in 1885.

It was originally celebrated on Washing-

ton's actual birthday, Feb. 22, but was shifted to the third Monday in February in 1971. This change put the date between Feb 15 and 21 each year, so after 1971, the holiday never falls on Washington's birthday. Many now consider the holiday to include Abraham Lincoln's birthday on Feb. 12.

Looks worse than it is



The brief snowstorm Monday morning looked worse than it turned out to be, with less than an inch accumulating and most of it melted by mid-afternoon. The National Weather Service is predicting a slight chance of rain or snow Sunday evening and Monday, just in time for Presidents Day.

Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

Wasting disease cases found here

The number of cases of chronic wasting disease detected in Kansas deer continues to be low and is currently isolated to the northwest part of the state, according to the Shane Hesting, wildlife disease coordinator for the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. Samples from three white-tailed bucks taken during this year's hunting season were confirmed positive for the disease in tests completed last week. Counties where the deer were taken include Wallace (new county of detection), Decatur and Rawlins. The Kansas Department of Wildlife will continue testing some vehicle-killed and sick or suspect-looking deer, as well as deer taken with depredation permits, through July 31.

"This season's testing results bring the total number of confirmed chronic wasting disease cases in Kansas to 43 since testing began in 1996," said Hesting. "About 2,400 samples were collected during the

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inside today



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Local teams post wins

Both the Mustang seventh graders and the Cowboys varsity team got wins this week. The Mustangs beat Colby at home while the Cowboys beat Rawlins County in Atwood.

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