


weather report



43°
 10:30 a.m.
 Monday

Today
 • Sunset, 5:45 p.m.

Saturday
 • Sunrise, 6:10 a.m.
 • Sunset, 5:46 p.m.


Midday Conditions
 • Soil temperature 36 degrees
 • Humidity 51 percent
 • Sky sunny
 • Winds south 23 mph
 • Barometer 30.06 inches and falling
 • Record High today 82° (1972)
 • Record Low today -13° (1948)

Last 24 Hours*
 High Sunday 65°
 Low Sunday 29°
 Precipitation none
 This month trace
 Year to date 0.51
 Below normal 0.46 inches

The Topside Forecast
 Today: Sunny with a high near 78, winds breezy out of the southwest at 10 to 35 mph and a low around 33. Wednesday: Partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of freezing rain and snow at night, a high near 42, winds breezy out of the north at 15 to 30 mph and a low around 26.

Extended Forecast
 Thursday: Partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of snow before 11 a.m. and then a chance of rain and snow, a high near 39 and a low around 27. Friday: Mostly sunny with a high near 47 and a low around 30.
(National Weather Service)
 Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

local markets



10:30 a.m.
 Wheat — \$6.65 bushel
 Posted county price — \$6.35
 Corn — \$6.37 bushel
 Posted county price — \$6.47
 Milo — \$6.07 bushel
 Soybeans — \$11.96 bushel
 Posted county price — \$12.48
 Millet — \$11.50 hundredweight
 Sunflowers
 Oil current crop — \$25.75 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.)

inside today



More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



Cowgirls learn lessons

The Cowgirls varsity basketball team may have had a winless season, but coach Andy Scheopner says his players got good experience and are working hard for next year.

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Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach chatted with a Sherman County resident at the Wild Game Banquet in Brewster on Saturday. Kobach was the guest speaker.
 Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

Secretary of State samples wild game meat at Brewster

By Kevin Bottrell
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It may sound cliché, but alligator really does taste like chicken. That's what about a hundred people had the opportunity to find out on Saturday at the Wild Game Banquet at Brewster Community High School.

The banquet, which was open to the public, included pheasant, buffalo, moose, shark and more. People came from around the area to sample the exotic food and to hear the guest speaker, Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach.

Kobach spoke about several issues the country is facing, focusing on U.S. Supreme Court decisions and differing interpretations of the Constitution.

"I used to be a law professor," Kobach said. "I would teach the original understanding of the Constitution. I know a lot of professors who don't teach that anymore."

The United States wasn't the first democracy in the world, Kobach said, and it wasn't the first form of representative government. However, it was the first where a written Constitution limited the powers of the federal government over that of the states. He quoted James Madison, who said powers left to the states should be "numerous and indefinite," while powers given to the federal government should be limited.

Kobach said there were many at the Constitutional Conventions — held in the 1780s — were worried that the federal government would still be too strong.

The Constitution, Kobach said, could be best described as a cage, and lately the federal government has been getting out of that cage. In 1937, he said, the federal government started to use the Commerce Clause in the Constitution to regulate many different areas.

"Some lawyers had the idea they could insert powers in that which had nothing to do with commerce," he said.

The Supreme Court didn't strike down those laws. Kobach cited the Wickard v. Filburn case of 1942, in which Roscoe Filburn had been prosecuted for defying a federally-imposed quota on crops. Filburn had produced more wheat than was allowed, and even though he had grown it solely for his own uses and didn't intend to sell, he had been fined under the ban, which was put in place under the Commerce Clause.

"For years, the Supreme Court never struck down

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Barbershop chorus planning concert

The Tumbleweed Chorus is gearing up for its 2012 program, "Tumbleweed Roundup," at 2:30 and 6:30 p.m. (Mountain Time) on Saturday, March 31, at the Frahm Theater in the Cultural Arts Building at Colby Community College.

The group of 25 to 30 men specializes in barbershop-style music and has members from a wide area around Colby, as far as Colorado, Goodland, Scott City, Quinter and Dighton.

The chorus is a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society, which supports this uniquely American art form. Education is available for every aspect imaginable, from directing to singing to managing a chorus. Youth competitions and camps offer a way to interest a new generation, said Rod Eisenbise.

The Colby group offers scholarships to young men, he said, and Lucas Baumfaulk and Cam Crocker are involved in that program today.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Advance tickets are available at Eisenbise Insurance Agency, 2780 N. Range, or call Rod Eisenbise at 462-2474.



Area youth get hunting experience

Dozens of area youth participated in the Youth Hunt on Saturday in fields northwest of Goodland. The youths went out bird hunting in groups in the morning. Guides released birds, such as chukars, for the youths to shoot at. The groups met for lunch, and more activities were planned for the afternoon.

Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News



Small towns hit hard by tornadoes

By Kevin Bottrell
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With the death toll from Friday and Saturday's tornado outbreak in the Midwest at 39, tornado safety and recovery is foremost in people's minds.

All together, the storms killed 21 people in Kentucky, 13 in Indiana, three in Ohio, one in Alabama and one in Georgia. National Guard troops have been deployed to areas in those states and Federal Emergency Management Agency began damage assessments Monday.

The damaging tornadoes hit Kansas as well. Last Tuesday, an EF2 tornado killed one person and injured 11 in the small town of Harveyville southwest of Topeka. About 40 percent of the town has been damaged. The Salvation Army and United Way have teams on the ground helping emergency workers.

Kansas has set up a website for donations to relief effort, www.ksready.gov. A link on the page allows anyone to make monetary donations. There is also a link for companies or organizations with access to large volumes of needed material who would like to donate to disaster relief or other humanitarian efforts. This includes clothing; cleaning supplies; construction, electrical or plumbing materials; food; heavy tools; medical supplies; shelter and other items; or services to help in the disaster recovery.

Although tornadoes can occur at any time, given the right conditions, these tornadoes have come earlier than the usual season.

In Kansas, tornado season is generally May through July. Dave Floyd, warning coordination meteorologist with the National Weather Service, said that's why people

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Hospital working to improve clinic

By Pat Schiefen
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Hospital staff told their board of directors at a regular meeting Jan. 27 that the walk-in clinic has been busy, and they are working on taking care of issues like computers, physician access and privacy.

Lynn Hoelting said an independent assessor visited the walk in clinic. He said she left them her thoughts and recommendations. The assessor was from Centura Health and was there for a day and a half. The survey cost the hospital \$7,500.

He said many issues had been taken care of including an upgrade of the computers for the clinic. The scheduling template did not have the nurse visit turned on and that would need to be fixed. Also the computer has an automatic drug interaction warning. The warning is set to be very sensitive and he said they would rather have it that way than with not enough sensitivity. The final decision would be left to the doctors.

The external access for the doctors to check on how their patients are doing by using their computers has been finished, said Kevin Sanderson, the head of information technology for the hospital. It allows a doctor to check on a patient in the middle of the night.

Board member Chet Ross was concerned about patient privacy. He was assured by Chief Executive Officer Jay Jolly that all the necessary safeguards were in place.

Hoelting said at the moment there was no direct interface with the lab by computer. The system used by the clinic and by the lab do not work together so they were doing it by hand.

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