


weather report



73°
10:30 a.m.
Thursday

Today
• Sunset, 7:44 p.m.

Saturday
• Sunrise, 5:43 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:45 p.m.

Midday Conditions
• Soil temperature 61 degrees
• Humidity 35 percent
• Sky mostly sunny
• Winds north 11 mph
• Barometer 29.95 inches and steady

• Record High today 91° (1986)
• Record Low today 23° (1907)

Last 24 Hours*
High Wednesday 83°
Low Wednesday 44°
Precipitation none
This month none
Year to date 3.97
Above normal 0.29 inches

The Topside Forecast
Today: Sunny with a high near 88, winds out of north at 5 mph and a low around 55. Saturday: Sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms at night, a high near 86, winds out of the northwest at 10 to 15 mph and a low around 55.

Extended Forecast
Sunday: Mostly sunny and breezy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 72 and a low around 48. Monday: Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 63 and a low around 45.
(National Weather Service)

40th District loses mapping fight

By Steve Haynes
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State Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer lost what may have been his last chance Tuesday at getting a compact district for northwest Kansas out of the state redistricting process and says he thinks the fight will wind up in court.

"We lost the battle," the Grinnell Republican said Tuesday after coming off the floor. "I think one positive thing that came out of this last map that Steve, Sen. Abrams, and I worked on is that we got close to .04 (percent) on all the districts. I think the courts would look favorably on that."

The battle lines were drawn Tuesday between conservative Republicans on one side, and the more liberal leadership, aligned with the chamber's few Democrats. The redistricting has become part of a larger battle for control of the Senate, with both the Republican caucus and the Senate in control of the "moderate" Republican faction.

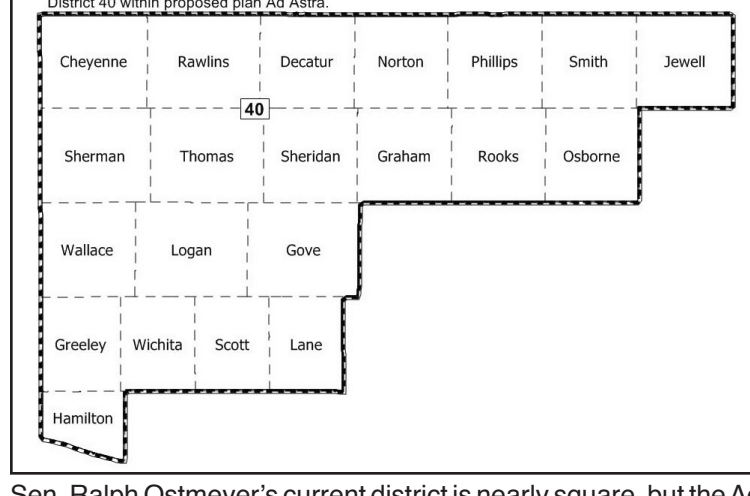
Ostmeyer said that group was entrenched Tuesday as opponents of the leadership's map took the floor.

"They had their line drawn in the sand," he said. "They had their 21 votes, and they just sat there and waited on us. We finally voted, and then went home. "I was ashamed to be in the chamber today."

The senator's 18-county 40th District, now mostly square, would stretch to 20 counties along the state's west and north borders under the leadership's map, from Syracuse in the southwest to St. Francis and all the way to Mankato in Jewell County.

That's a drive of more than 325 miles, or more than six hours. And as the senator points out, Jewell County is in eastern Kansas, one county east of the center of the state.

If you think he sounds a little upset, irritated, maybe even angry, about that map, you could be right. It's difficult enough to represent the huge 40th District as



Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer's current district is nearly square, but the Ad Astra map would take away territory in the southeast and add Smith, Jewell, Osborne and Hamilton counties.

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Police nab suspects quick after BB drive-by

Patrons at China Garden on Monday got a nasty surprise when the front window was shot by a BB from a passing truck, but a suspect was taken into custody almost immediately.

Monday evening the Goodland Police Department received a call that the window of the China Garden Restaurant had been shot out. The caller also said a truck window had been shot out.

Goodland Police Officer Jeff Riedesel responded to the scene and was met by a group of people outside the restaurant. The witnesses advised that they were inside the restaurant when they heard several pops and saw flying glass from the window.

One patron, who was seated in a booth near the window, told Riedesel his arm was struck with glass fragments from the window. There was also a small child in the booth that was narrowly missed by the glass. Another patron advised that the window to his truck, which was parked in front of the restaurant, had also been shattered.

While Officer Riedesel was on scene, witnesses pointed to a passing truck and indicated that it was

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Dating production a hit



Serial speed dater Linda Rummel told Marty Melia just how "special" he was during a segment of Collective Dating, the dinner theater production put on by the Goodland Arts Council last weekend. The production included four segments covering creative dating, speed dating, blind dating and internet dating. Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

Governor suspends motor carrier rules for drought relief

TOPEKA — Gov. Sam Brownback has extended an order that temporarily suspends certain motor carrier rules and regulations in order expedite efforts to transport hay to livestock in drought-stricken areas.

This order applies to individuals hauling hay to livestock in drought-stricken areas of Kansas and to those driving through Kansas to make deliveries in Oklahoma and Texas.

Executive Order 12-06 temporarily suspends the requirements to receive oversized permits from the Kansas Department of Transportation, registration and fuel tax permits from the Kansas Department of Revenue and permits from the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Motor carriers participating in the relief efforts are not permitted to travel during nighttime hours or during inclement weather conditions.

Oversize or overweight loads are not to be transported when visibility is less than one-half mile or when conditions of moderate to heavy rain, sleet, snow, fog or smoke exist, or when highway surfaces are slippery because of ice, packed snow, or rain.

Participating motor carriers are limited to a load that does not exceed 12 feet in width and does not exceed a height of 14 feet, six inches. Under normal circumstances, haulers are required to get a permit for loads exceeding 8 1/2 feet in width and/or 14 feet in height. All other applicable state and federal regulations continue to apply, including the requirement of having a valid driver's license.

Executive Order 12-06 becomes effective upon the expiration of Executive Order 12-04.

Grade school and junior high bands hold end-of-year concert

The Goodland High School auditorium was filled as the families of the fifth, sixth and Grant Junior band students demonstrated their musical skills.

Fifth grade is the first year that band is offered to students. They decide on their instruments, learn how to read music, what the fingerings are as well as pay attention to the director and listen to each other. Each year after that students progress in their musical skills to harder and more complex music.

The band director for the school district is Deanne Langness.

Playing flute in the fifth grade were Sean Sains, Cassandra Scott, Katelynn Frazier, J.J. Xharis and Madi Studer. Playing clarinet were Grace Green, Landon Reicks, Crystal Sharon, Josue Rentera, Leaona Anderson, Kaitlin Thompson, Ella Ihrig and Duncan Kroskey. On alto saxophones were Teresa Schaffer and Peri Sieck. Playing trumpets were Ryan Volk, Bryson West, Ethan Wolf, Colter Klemm, Desmond Purvis and Jayden Vallejo. On horns were Zachary Hunter and Sada Mills. On trombone were Aus-



Three of the flute section of the fifth grade band at their part of the part of the fifth, sixth and junior high band concert Tuesday night at the Goodland High School Auditorium. The flute section for the band includes Sean Sains, Cassandra Scott, Katelynn Frazier, J.J. Xharis and Madi Studer. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

nah Eslinger, Peyton Fenner and Alexis Banks. Gabe Biermann and Levi House played trombone and John P. Armstrong the baritone. On percussion were Katie Brighton, Powell Sieck, Chelsea Phillips and Wence Hendrich.

The junior high band included Mary Schnabel, Amanda Coon, Janie Nemecek and Chalee Luther on flute. On clarinets were Savannah Bassett, Mercedes Garza and Elizabeth Fulcher. Playing alto saxophone were Kinsey Volk, Jacob Gerber, Taylor Thorson, Norelia Ordenez/Castillo, Alinexis Castillo and Carl Mayer. On tenor saxophone was Taitem Jones and on bari saxophone Kelsey White. Playing trumpet was Faith Biermann, Margaux Thompson, Arron Artega, Braxton Redlin, Kaitlyn Daise, Yidam Mendoza and Matthew Wood. Playing trombone was Quynnalynn Meyer, Jacob Stasser and Alex Goodwin. Playing baritone was Sarah Johnson and on tuba was Lacey Hopkins and Ethan Clemons. Erin Floyd, Cade Mayer, Kasey Stramel, Mario Lazo and Dominick Lewis were percussion.

local markets

10:30 a.m.

Wheat — \$5.87 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.97

Corn — \$5.87 bushel
Posted county price — none

Milo — \$5.62 bushel

Soybeans — \$13.40 bushel
Posted county price — none

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.)

inside today

More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



Cowgirls win league

With a win over Colby on Monday, the Cowgirls softball team came out on top of the Great West Athletic Conference.

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