

weather
report

27°

noon Monday



Today

- Sunset, 7:21 p.m.
- Wednesday**
- Sunrise, 6:12 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:22 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 45 degrees
- Humidity 68 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds northwest 15 mph
- Barometer 30.23 inches and steady
- Record High today 86° (2003)
- Record Low today 12° (1997)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	53°
Low Sunday	27°
Precipitation	.24
This month	.86
Year to date	2.23

The Topside Forecast

Today: mostly sunny, high around 65, low near 36, winds west 5-9 mph changing to the south 7-28 mph. Wednesday: mostly sunny, high around 76, low around 44, winds southwest 10-28 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: mostly sunny, high near 77, low around 42. Friday: partly cloudy, high near 80, low near 43.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

- Wheat — \$3.84 bushel
- New crop — \$3.80 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.78
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Corn — \$3.09 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.06
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Milo — \$2.91 bushel
- Soybeans — \$9.29 bushel
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Millet — \$6.50 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$12.55 cwt.
- NuSun — \$12.80 cwt.
- Confection — \$16/\$9 cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$15
- (Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside
today

More local
news and
views from
your
Goodland
Star-News



Easter hunts
move inside

Ethan Rice, son of Randy and Sara Rice of Goodland, hugged his new friend Friday afternoon at the Good Samaritan Center. There were three Easter egg hunts over the weekend. See photos on Page 3.

Mystery van slides off I-70 in snow

Police searched all morning for the people who had been in a Ford van abandoned along a slippery, snow covered I-70 early Monday morning, and for a second van believed to be traveling with the one found in the median.

The occupants of both vans fled before anyone could get to the wreck, and officials said from the contents of backpacks they left behind, they probably were illegal aliens. Officers stopped a vehicle near WaKeeney, but said the occupants denied all knowledge of the wreck.

About 5 a.m. Monday, Sherman County dispatch received a couple of 911 calls about an apparent accident 11 miles west of Goodland on I-70. The dispatcher sent the Kanorado ambulance and a state trooper.

The emergency medical technicians with the Kanorado ambulance arrived about 20 minutes later and reported there was no one in the van. They went to check for injured people at the eastbound rest area, about a mile west of the accident, but found no one.

The trooper arrived a few minutes later and confirmed there was no one in the van, a 1995 Ford with California plates.

As the sun came up, the trooper determined the van had been heading east when it slid off the icy highway and into the median. He said there was damage to the front and the airbags had exploded.

The keys were in the van, and he found evidence of blood on the passenger seat behind the driver. Searching the van, he found six backpacks with full of personal belongings.

The Kanorado ambulance crew later found a back seat that may have been from the second van which had been thrown out about six miles east



J.B. McClure, owner of McClure Plumbing and Heating, cleared snow off the sidewalk in front of his business Monday morning. The area got 3.7 inches of snow and nearly an inch of moisture over the weekend.

Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

of the accident site.

Trooper Troy Smith said he believed the two vans were traveling together with at least six to eight people in each. After the one was disabled, he said, it looked like the passengers piled into the second van and continued east. He told the dispatcher it appeared the passengers might be illegal aliens based on the personal effects in the backpacks.

A call was put out to cities to the east to watch for a van crowded with people, and that one of the passengers might have been injured, and the wrecked van was towed to Goodland.

The state dispatcher in Salina said a crowded van was stopped near WaKenney and there were nine people inside. They denied any knowledge of the accident. There was no evidence of any injury, and

the van was allowed to continue. Troopers did note that it was missing a back seat.

Elsewhere during the storm, there were reports of a few slide offs on the slick roads, but the patrol dispatcher said there were no rollovers, no bent fenders and no injuries, just some red faces. Snowplow drivers were called out about 1:30 a.m. to start clearing the highways.

Olympiad team earns highest score ever

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News

Goodland High School's 2004 team earned more medals and scored more points at the Kansas Science Olympiad State Tournament April 3 at Wichita State University than any team in school history.

"The kids had another outstanding year in Science Olympiad," said Coach Dennis Friedrichs, "they received more medals than ever before and scored more team points than in years past.

"I am especially pleased with the Dynamic Planet team, Trista Lalicker and Matt Heiter, they are the first first-place overall I have coached."

Goodland finished 13th overall with 177 points and was fourth among small schools. Goodland's previous best point total was 125 a year ago.

Friedrichs said 30 teams took part, with separate competitions for the 15 smaller and 15 larger schools, as well as an overall ranking.

Goodland won eight medals: two golds, including its first-ever overall first-place finish, two silver and four bronze.

Heiter and Lalicker, both seniors, were the overall winners in Dynamic Planet, which tested the students' problem-solving skills in earth science.

The event required them to go from station to station working with



Freshman Jared Hall (left) and sophomore Matt Rohr watched as their catapult launched a projectile at one of the targets down range for the Storm the Castle event at the state Science Olympiad event. The pair placed second and won silver medals in the small-school competition. They placed fifth overall.

Photo by Dennis Friedrichs/Goodland High School

earth science materials and answering questions about them.

The other gold medal was earned by senior Michael Mangus and sophomore Matt Rohr in Sounds of Music, which required the students to construct two musical instruments without using any electronic components or commercially man-

ufactured music instrument parts. They had to perform a melody and play a musical scale, which was judged by an electronic tuner.

Scoring was based on creativity, workmanship, quality of sound, knowledge of the theoretical basis of instruments and the students' performance. Goodland placed fifth overall.

Silver medals were awarded for the second-place finishes of Rohr and freshman Jared Hall for Storm the Castle, and to sophomores May Davis and Kali Rietcheck for Write It-Do It.

Storm the Castle required the team to build a mechanism to throw a projectile as far and as accurately as possible using counterweights

only. Each team had to make three launches using different counterweights, requiring the students to calculate how far the projectile will travel.

Scoring was based on distance and accuracy. Rohr and Hall placed fifth overall.

Write It-Do It required students to write a description of a contraption from which other students will try to construct it using only the written description. Davis and Rietcheck also placed fifth overall.

Bronze medals for third place went to Rohr and sophomore Mark Starr for Polymer Detective, fourth overall; Heiter and senior Amy Anderson for Disease Detective, sixth overall; Heiter and Starr for Remote Sensing, sixth overall; and Rietcheck and sophomore Aaron Duell for Tower Building, eighth overall.

All 14 members of Goodland's team placed fifth or better in at least one event.

Kapaun-Mount Carmel High School of Wichita won the small school and overall title for the second year in a row. Collegiate Upper School of Wichita was second for both small schools and overall. Olathe South High School was the top large school, finishing third overall.

Friedrichs said there will be a Science Olympiad Night at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 22, in the high school's technology building.

City approves airport-height zoning details

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

City commissioners adopted an airport height zoning ordinance Monday designed to protect the approaches to Renner Field by limiting structures in most of Goodland and the surrounding area to 75 feet without a special permit.

Darin Neufeld, an engineer with Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates who works with the city, told the commission the zoning regulations set up a "cone" around the airport to protect the approaches.

He said the cone rises from the point closest to the runways out to a distance of 14,000 feet, and to 50,000 feet on the south approach to

the main runway, which is the instrument landing approach.

The regulations say that nothing over 75 feet high can be built within the restricted area without a review by the city planning commission.

"If the planned building is under 75 feet high, there are no restrictions," Neufeld said, "but if the building exceeds that height it has to be reviewed by the city.

"This area is outside the city limits, but the regulations require anyone within the area to get permission. We will rely on the pilots and citizens to help keep an eye on things being built within the approaches, but it would be a lot easier if anyone who is planning a building project that will be

anywhere close to 75 feet high should contact the city before proceeding.

"With the regulations in place, anyone who builds anything that is not approved will be legally responsible for tearing it down and moving it out of the zone."

He said the 50,000-foot area to the south protects a precision instrument landing approach for nearly 10 miles.

Neufeld was asked about existing buildings that may be higher than 75 feet. He said there are six existing structures, but all of them are lighted, and are not directly in any of the approach areas. He said these are grandfathered in to the current zoning regulations.

"We are responding to the urging

of the Federal Aviation Administration," Neufeld said. "They are pushing to have cities and counties around the country adopt height restrictions to protect airports.

"We are seeing a lot of new building because of the new technology which brings things like tall towers.

There was one planned south of Colby that is to be 2,000 feet tall, and they had to get it moved because it was directly on the approach to their airport."

The commission unanimously approved the ordinance. The complete text and a map were printed on Pages 12 and 13 of Friday's paper.

*Taste of Home Cooking School
tonight, 6 p.m. at Max Jones.
Doors open at 4 p.m.
Tickets available at the door.*