

weather  
report

55°

noon Monday



Today

- Sunset, 7:28 p.m.
- Wednesday**
- Sunrise, 6:01 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:29 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 61 degrees
- Humidity 51 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds east 7 mph
- Barometer 30.22 inches and falling
- Record High today 89° (1962)
- Record Low today 20° (1953)

Last 24 Hours\*

High Sunday	79°
Low Sunday	41°
Precipitation	none
This month	1.08
Year to date	2.45

The Topside Forecast

Today: mostly sunny, high around 69, low near 36, winds northwest 17-26 mph. Wednesday: partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon, high near 64, low around 40, winds northwest 6-11 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers, high near 56, low around 40. Friday: partly cloudy, high near 62, low near 33.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local  
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$3.72 bushel  
New Crop — \$3.71 bushel  
Posted county price — \$3.54  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Corn — \$2.97 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.95  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Milo — \$2.79 bushel  
Soybeans — \$9.19 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



Cowgirls fall  
to Syracuse

Deanna Thompson wound up a pitch during the second game of Friday's double-header against the Lady Bulldogs of Syracuse. Goodland lost both games. See story on Page 10.

Goodland man  
in I-70 pile-up

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

High winds and blowing dirt Sunday dropped visibility to near zero, causing a pileup with 17 cars and a semi-trailer rig a mile west of the Kansas state line, and two other accidents which closed I-70.

The highway had to be closed for hours while state troopers sorted out the accident and the farmer who owned the adjacent field plowed up some ridges to stop the dust. A Goodland banker among the injured is fighting for his life.

Three people were badly hurt in the 18-vehicle accident, with two flown to Denver and one sent by ambulance to Denver, said Trooper Lloyd Beck of the Colorado State Patrol.

One of the injured was Merlyn Stasser, vice president of the Western State Bank in Goodland, who was flown to Denver. His son Justin, reached at St. Anthony Central Hospital, said his father was in grave condition there.

He said he and his father had been to church in Burlington and were on the way home when the pileup occurred. He called the disaster "a frightening experience."

Trooper Beck, the accident reconstruction specialist in Burlington, said it appeared the accidents began about 11:30 a.m. when cars started slowing down in a brownout, and drivers couldn't see what was in front of them.

"It may take several days to figure out who hit who first," Beck said. "It was quite a mess, and we went through lots of face masks (working in the dust)."

Beck said there were many minor injuries in the cars, and the semi tractor was badly damaged.

"We have not had an update on the condition of those flown to Denver," Beck said. "We will probably hear today, and hopefully they will be all right."

He said several troopers were treated for dust in their eyes. They asked Kansas officials to shut off traffic in the westbound lanes at Goodland because the conditions were bad on that side as well as the eastbound lanes, where the accidents happened. Highway Patrol dispatchers in Salina said the road was closed at 1 p.m. and reopened at 4:46 p.m. Traffic was held at Goodland.

Beck said about the same time as the

larger pileup, three cars hit each other about a mile from the state line. There were no injuries in that accident.

Four miles west of the line, two semis collided in a minor accident and there were no injuries there either.

Beck said all the accidents were in the eastbound lanes. The farmer who owns the land was called and he came out and plowed the field to stop the dust blowing.

"When he began plowing, it really cut down on the dust and we could see the cars," Beck said. "I was trying to draw a diagram at the scene, and with the dust, I missed one the first time. Have you ever tried to draw on a piece of paper when the paper is the only thing you can see? It was that bad."

The Kansas Highway Patrol did not report any injury accidents on Sunday related to the wind, which swept east across the state, and there were no reports of accidents on I-70.

The National Weather Service office in Goodland reported that wind started around 11 a.m. Sunday and lasted until about 7 p.m., with peak gusts in the 60s. The highest speed reported by the weather service was 68 mph. nine miles north-east of Kit Carson, Colo.

At the Goodland airport, the peak was 58 mph. and in the city, it was 43. A gust of 62 mph was reported three miles west of Goodland.

Bird City reported a gust of 61 mph. Hoxie and the McCook airport in Nebraska reported speeds of 62 mph. St. Francis reported a gust of 59 mph.

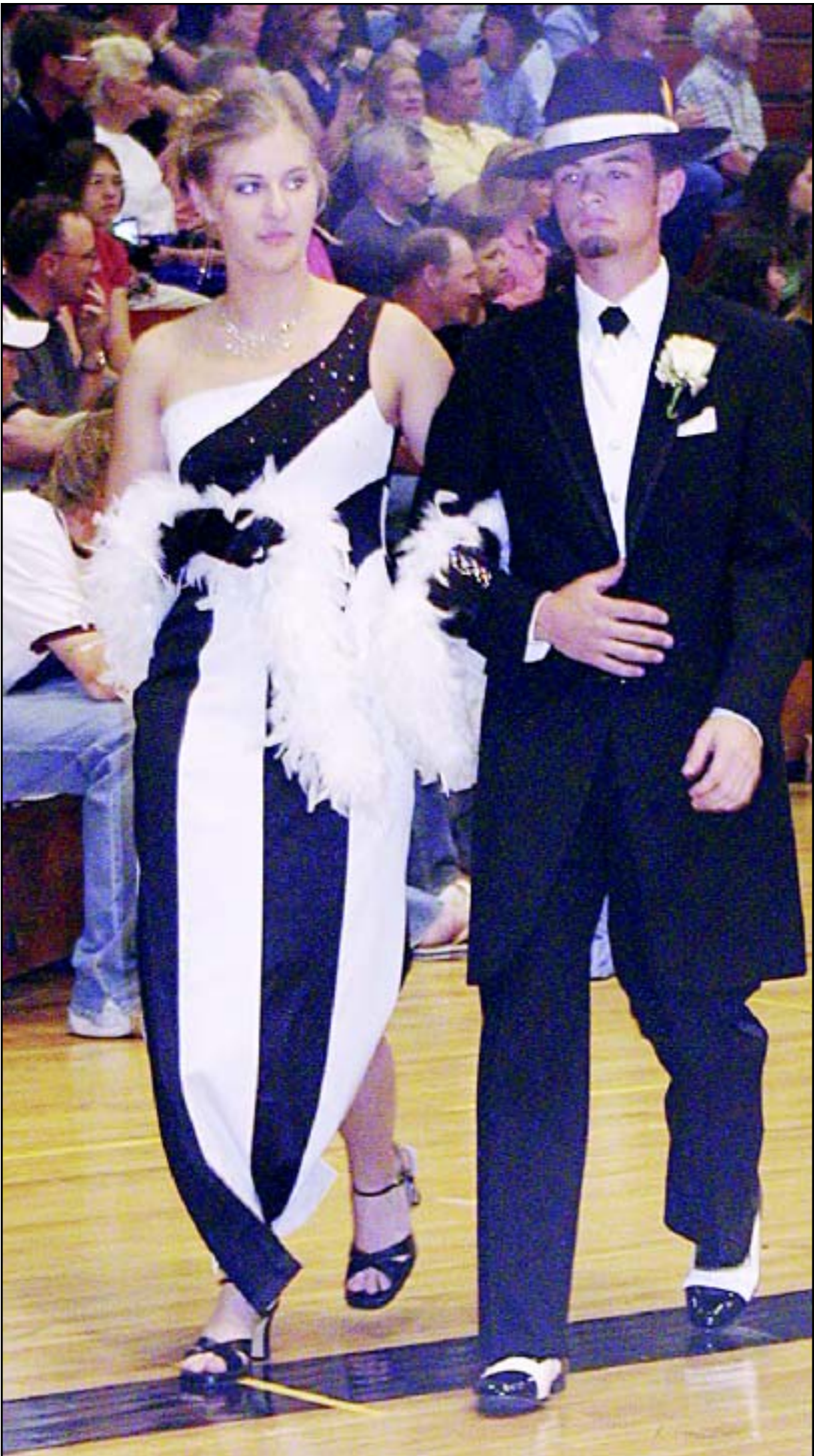
While there were no wind-related accidents, there was a two-car accident near Brewster about 4 a.m. on Monday, with two people taken by ambulance to Goodland Regional Medical Center where they were treated and released.

Trooper Richard Hageman was called to the accident at 4:09 a.m. at milepost 31.5 west of Brewster.

He said both vehicles were west-bound when a 2002 Mustang driven by Nicholas A. Borean, 20, of Columbus, Ohio, went to pass a 2000 International semi driven by Timothy A. Smith, 37, of Jefferson, Ark. The Mustang veered into the trailer of the semi and both vehicles stopped on the westbound side.

Sean T. Leaman, 20, of Bailey, Colo., a passenger in the Mustang, was taken to the hospital with minor injuries.

Alias Bonny and Clyde



Laurie Redlin and Preston Lambrecht, also known as "Bonnie and Clyde," were among the Goodland High School promenaders at the Max Jones Fieldhouse on Saturday.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Thieves find keys in cars, leave vehicles wrecked

For two weekends in a row, it looks like someone had been stealing vehicles from Goodland, taking them out in the country and playing bumper cars.

Three of four cars and trucks taken over the last two weeks had

something in common: The drivers had left the keys in the ignition, making them easy targets for thieves.

Three of the four suffered major damage before they were abandoned in Sherman and Kit Carson counties.

The theft began on Sunday, April 11, when three vehicles were reported stolen within about two hours. About 7:25 a.m. that morning, said Police Chief Ray Smee, Larry Woodard reported a 2001 Ford Ranger had been taken from

1207 Colorado Ave.

Less than two hours later, Billie Knitig reported a 1991 Pontiac stolen from 902 W. 15th St. About 20 minutes after that, Ruben Garcia reported a 1988 Chevrolet pickup had been stolen from 916 Syracuse.

The Ranger and the Pontiac were discovered by sheriff's deputies north of Burlington. The chief said in looked like they might have been run together. Garcia's pickup was

See STOLEN, Page 3

Business displays add to 'Produce for Victory' exhibits

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

For some, they bring back memories. For others, they're a history lesson: vintage clothing, old pictures, military uniforms and medals and other World War II memorabilia, all on display around Goodland.

While the traveling Smithsonian exhibit, "Produce for Victory," is on display at the Carnegie Arts Center, and the Kansas Humanities Council's exhibit, "Kansas Goes to War: Life on the Home Front During World War II," is at the High Plains Museum, Goodland business owners have added arrangements of memorabilia from the era in store fronts and display areas.

Downtown businesses displaying war memorabilia include Klip 'n Kurl Salon, High Plains Office Supply and the Goodland Churches Thrift Shop. Goodland Greenline, 1104 W. U.S. 24, has memorabilia from families of employees displayed in the store.

The Goodland Public Library has pages from an old newspaper in its display and books and videos about



Among the World War II memorabilia on display at Goodland Greenline are items belonging to Richard Nestor, father of Regi Woodard, administrative assistant at the dealership. Nestor served in the Army and spent some time in a medical corps. His wedding photo, a photo of General Douglas MacArthur signing the peace treaty at Japan's surrender and a fork from Nestor's mess kit are included in the display.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

the war out to tempt patrons to check out a history lesson.

The Handy House has a collection from John McDermott, son-in-law of Delores Corke, manager of the Butterfly Cafe, and memorabilia from area families.

The displays viewers to a bygone era, and they tell the personal stories of those who were there.

While perusing the uniforms, photos and ration coupons, Carol Baum, a member of the Sherman County Historical Society board, recalled both difficulties endured and neighbors coming together during the war.

She said people helped each other in any way they could, even loaning their cars, and didn't even consider being selfish. Military secrets were closely guarded. She recalled letters from those in the service being censored before being sent to their families, some letters having passages blacked out with markers, others with pieces cut out.

And she remembered efforts to protect the homefront from the enemy. She said that where she lived

in New Jersey, cars had their headlights blacked to where just a sliver showed, and no light was allowed outside at night. Windows had to be completely covered, she said, to keep any light from escaping.

There was an official out at night to enforce the rules, she said, and he would stop at houses and warn people who had light escaping to cover the windows or they would be fined. The lack of light kept enemy planes from finding the cities, Baum said.

While there were sacrifices on the home front, there were bigger sacrifices made by those who went to war.

Among the stories told through the memorabilia at Goodland Greenline is that of Joseph Dana, father of Debbie Lucas, whose husband Ron owns the John Deere dealership. Dana was a gunner on a B-26 bomber, Ron said, and was shot down on his 36th mission and spent one day short of a year in prison camp in Germany.

See DISPLAYS, Page 3