

weather
report

41°

noon
Wednesday

Today

• Sunset, 4:26 p.m.
Saturday

• Sunrise, 6:44 a.m.
Sunset, 4:25 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 35 degrees
- Humidity 41 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds northwest 10 mph
- Barometer 29.99 inches and steady
- Record High today 72° (1998)
- Record Low today -7° (1952)

Last 24 Hours*

High Tuesday 35°
Low Tuesday 25°
Precipitation —
This month 1.89
Year to date 21.15
Normal 19.22

The Topside Forecast

Today: Cloudy, 30 percent chance of snow in afternoon. High mid 40s. Friday night: Low lower 20s. Chance or rain and snow. North winds 10-20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Cloudy, 20 percent chance of snow. High upper 30s. Low lower 20s. Sunday: Cloudy, 30 percent chance of snow. High mid 30s. Sunday night: Mostly cloudy, 20 percent chance of snow. Low around 18.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Moisture
level over
the top

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

The drought in northwestern Kansas may be turning a corner, with the year's rainfall now 1.93 inches above the normal average of 19.22 inches to date.

As of Wednesday, the National Weather Service in Goodland reported total precipitation at 21.15 inches, which is 1.39 inches above the average total of 19.76 inches for a full year.

"It's definitely good news for the drought," Jerry Killingsworth, a meteorologist for the National Weather Service office here.

In 2002, at the height of the drought in northwestern Kansas, he said, rainfall was at 9.89 inches for the entire year, less than half of what the office

Rain wrap-up
for this year

Goodland rainfall for the year,
measured in inches:

January	0.06
February	1.02
March	0.29
April	2.97
May	0.84
June	3.67
July	4.04
August	1.06
September	3.23
October	2.08
Nov. (as of Wednesday)	1.89

has recorded so far this year.

Killingsworth said this year is already the wettest Goodland has seen since 1993. Rainfall totals for that year were 28.02 inches.

He said the most interesting trend for this year has been the amount of rain this fall.

"The fall rainfall has really made a difference this year," said Killingsworth.

He said for September, October and November, 7.20 inches of rain

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A bountiful Thanksgiving for all



Kids re-enact celebration

The story of Thanksgiving was passed on Monday as first graders in Pat Thompson's class dressed up as Indians and Pilgrims to re-enact the first Thanksgiving. Teryn Tompkins (top left) and Mary Schnabel (right) pretended to share Thanksgiving food. Sasha Medrano (bottom left), Kaitlynn Raile (middle) and Jade Petrachich (right) adjusted their costumes after their first performance. The students held a second performance for the school after lunch. Taitem Jones (above) held the baskets of food the class used for the Thanksgiving feast. After presenting the program to their parents, the students went through the "ABCs" of Thanksgiving.

Photos by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

Top seniors will have more time for lunch with gold pass

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News

Goodland High School seniors who are A or B students can look forward to a new golden privilege — a longer mid-day break.

The Goodland School Board voted unanimously at its meeting Monday night to implement "as soon as possible" a Gold Card Pass program proposed by the high school's attitude committee. The program would reward successful students and encourage others to work harder.

The pass allows students to leave the school grounds during seminar time, between 11:15 and 12:33 Tuesdays through Fridays, 40 minutes more than students have now. The students will have to sign out

and back in, and their parents or guardians must give written permission.

To be eligible for the pass, a senior must be an A or B student at the end of each nine-week period, not have any office referrals, have no more than two unexcused tardies and no unexcused absences.

The board left when the program would start up to Principal Harvey Swager, and told him he could drop the program if it does not work. The board will review the plan at its meeting on Monday, Jan. 14.

Science teacher Connie Liven-good, the attitude committee's spokesman, said 31 students would be eligible for the Gold Card Pass right now.

Also at the meeting, Mary Frazier,

a fifth-grade teacher a North Elementary, demonstrated the Classroom Presentation System. The system allows the teacher to present questions to a class using a computer, a screen projector and "clickers." The multiple-choice questions appear on the screen and each student would use his or her "clicker" to indicate the answer.

Once all the students have answered, as indicated by numbered boxes along the bottom of the screen, the correct answer is indicated along with number of students who chose each of the possible answers provided. Graphs can be shown indicating how the class answered.

Frazier handed out "clickers" to the board and most of the guests, who took part in a 18-question quiz about Thanksgiving as part of her demonstration.

The system allows teachers to put pictures and/or artwork on the question screens, she said, and to use a built-in timer. The program can be interrupted and restarted to fit a lesson plan.

Junior high principal Jim Mull next introduced seventh-grader Colton Nelson, who is taking part in program for exceptional students who are allowed to do an independent research project to learn in depth about a subject that interests them. Nelson put together a computer presentation about what he learned.

His project was about clean energy sources, including hydrodynamic, geothermal and solar power. Nelson provided a basic diagram about how each source works, and listed the advantages and disadvantages of each.

In other business, the board:

• Voted unanimously to adopt new

procedures for making entries in the general and expenditure journal. The procedure was developed by the district administrative staff in response to a recommendation made during the annual audit for increased control of entries.

• Voted unanimously to hire Cris Lovington as a teacher's aide at West Elementary and Ponch Avelar as an assistant high school wrestling coach.

• The board spent about an hour reviewing the district's policies and making changes the members agreed were needed. About an hour at each regular meeting will be dedicated to this projects until all the policies have been read and considered.

The meeting adjourned around 9:30 p.m. The next meeting will be at 5:45 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13, at the district office, 1312 Main Ave.

Tech Expo gives students look at future career options

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Business and industry representatives converged on the Northwest Kansas Technical College campus last week to help the college find jobs for students during the annual Tech Expo.

The college had a luncheon for employers Wednesday, and State Rep. Jim Morrison spoke after the meal. Demonstrations were held around the campus Thursday, and the industry representatives met with students and faculty both days.

Representatives from businesses interested in hiring tech college graduates attend the expo each year, said Patti Purvis, the college's publicity officer, and meet with students and with the instructors.

It's part scouting potential employees, she said, and part helping the college to ensure that its graduates are learning what

College announces new program

The Northwest Kansas Technical College is adding a respiratory therapy program this fall, and it was among the programs demonstrated at the annual Tech Expo on Thursday, Nov. 18.

Respiratory therapy is a field that is needed in western Kansas, said college publicity officer Patti Purvis, so the college decided it would be a good program to add to the curriculum.

Representatives from Lincare Inc. and the Goodland Regional Medical Center were on hand Thursday, Purvis said, to demonstrate how the program would work.

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Rep. Jim Morrison

they really need to get and hold a job.

There were 144 planning to attend the luncheon, she said, which is about the same as previous years.

At the luncheon, Morrison praised the college' role in economic development. When people are considering an area to

live, he said, they look at the medical, health care and education systems. If those aren't good, people go elsewhere.

The college will experience growth, Morrison said, because it provides hands-

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local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.13 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.23
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$1.88 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.69
Loan deficiency pmt. — 00¢
Milo — \$1.51 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.92 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.97
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0.00¢
Millet — \$6 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$12.65 cwt.
NuSun — \$12.75
Confection — \$19/\$13 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

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today

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Handy House
now decorated

David Branda hung Christmas decorations on the balcony at the Ennis-Handy House last week, being careful not to damage the new gingerbread trim. Photo on Page 11.