

weather report

23°

noon Thursday

Today

• Sunset, 4:40 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 7:07 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:41 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 28 degrees
- Humidity 77 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds south 10 mph
- Barometer 29.78 inches and falling
- Record High today 72° (1965)
- Record Low today -13° (1988)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 7°

Low Wednesday -3°

Precipitation .02

This month .08

Year to date .08

Normal .05

The Topside Forecast

Today: mostly sunny, high around 31, low near 15, winds north northwest 6-11 mph. Saturday: partly cloudy, high around 45, low around 20, winds southwest 10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: partly cloudy, high near 55, low around 19. Monday: partly cloudy, high near 44, low near 20. Tuesday: mostly cloudy, high near 42, low around 20. Wednesday: partly cloudy, high around 39.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.09 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.21

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$1.82 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.72

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Milo — \$1.50 bushel

Soybeans — \$4.72 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.81

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Millet — \$6 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$12.65 cwt.

NuSun — \$12.75 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Confection — \$19/\$13 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$25

(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



Cowboys face Eagles

Cowboy coach Jon McLean described to his team what he wanted done during practice Wednesday afternoon. Goodland plays host to Colby tonight. See story, photo on Page 12.

Three-day ice storm socks area

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Scarves, long underwear, gloves, hats and heavy coats were pulled out of storage as a winter storm moved into Goodland Monday.

The storm lasted three days, encrusting cars, sidewalks and roadways in a 0.05 of an inch of frozen precipitation and dusting the ground with 1 inch of snow over the ice.

Goodland schools closed Tuesday and Wednesday and opened almost two hours late on Thursday to bunker in and ride out the winter storm while the ambulance crews, Kansas Highway Patrol and the Sherman County Sheriff's Department chased accidents all along I-70.

Wednesday afternoon, motorists had only two opaque tire tracks over the black top road to follow along the highway. Skirting the road, the shoulder and ditch were white with snow. Tractor trailer trucks, moving vans and other bulky vehicles were scattered like abandoned shells with lights blinking on entrance and exit ramps and the side of the road.

Road problems started on Sunday night, with accidents crowding the roadway in Thomas county and east. Tuesday, the highway patrol on-line crash log reported two fatality accidents, one in Thomas and one in Sedgwick County.

The Thomas County accident happened at 8:02 a.m. Tuesday when David Donaldson, 63, Silver City, N.M., was driving a 1998 Dodge pickup south about 4.1 miles north of US 24 on County Road 11. The report said the pickup's passenger side wheels left the roadway because of the ice when he overcorrected and rolled the car one and one-half time into the east ditch. The car came to rest injuring Donaldson and fatally injuring and trapping passenger Karren R. Donaldson, 61, Silver City, N.M. Neither occupant was wearing a seat belt.

The first injury accident reported in Sherman County was at 7:35 a.m. Monday when a Denver man rolled his car after sliding on the ice.

Trooper Joseph Green said, Jose A. Torres, 30, Denver, was driving a 1996 Jeep west on I-70 near mile marker 22 when it slid on the ice and rolled multiple times landing on its wheels. Torres, passenger Nadia Torres, 9, and Xochitl Torres, 34, were taken to Goodland Regional Medical Center for possible injuries. All three were wearing seat belts.

The Sherman County Sheriff's



An unlucky mover lost his load in icy conditions at the eastbound rest area on I-70 Wednesday. The driver and only occupant, Boris Matsanov, 40, New Jersey, was moving from Boulder, Colo., back to New Jersey when he hit an ice covered road and rolled the moving truck around 2:30 p.m. Wednesday. Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts said the truck lost it's roof and side in the rollover and

Office Deputy Jason Showalter reported on a rollover accident at 8:04 a.m. Monday one mile east of Goodland in the eastbound lane on I-70.

Kelly J. Krattenmaker, 50, Greenwood Village, Colo., was driving a 2002 white Infinity sports utility vehicle when it slipped on the ice and rolled landing on it's side. Krattenmaker was wearing a seat belt and escaped uninjured.

A fender-bender accident reported by deputy Showalter was reported in the eastbound lane near the west Goodland exit on I-70 at 8:33 a.m. Monday. James J. Bryan, 42, Loveland, Colo., was driving a 1987 Chevrolet pickup when he slid on the ice and hit a post on the shoulder. Loveland and his 12-year-old passenger Tyler Bryan were both wearing seatbelts and were not injured.

Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts worked an accident in the westbound lane of I-70 at milepost 25 at 10:18 a.m. Tuesday involving a head-on collision. The report said Lee R. Swarthout, 54, Tulsa, Okla., lost control of a 1998 Dodge Durango on the ice and spun around to face traffic. The report said the

Dodge was struck by Thomas B. Hinsey, 50, St. Benld, Ill., in a 2002 trailer tractor truck. Swarthout, his passenger, Carol and Hinsey were all wearing seat belts and escaped without injuries.

Another injury accident involving a Jeep was reported at 10:29 a.m. Tuesday when Sebastien Okun, 20, Boulder, Colo., was involved in a rollover accident about six miles west of town.

Trooper Green said Sebastien was trapped in a 1989 Jeep and had to be removed by the Emergency Medical Service who then took him to Goodland Regional Medical Center.

At 1:12 p.m. Tuesday, Sheriff Butts reported a rollover accident in the eastbound lane of I-70 three miles east of the Colorado boarder. Steven C. Montgomery, 56, Boulder, Colo., was passing another vehicle in a 1986 Nissan when he lost control, hit the south ditch and flipped onto the driver's side. Montgomery was wearing a seat belt and was uninjured.

A Toyota pulling a U-Haul truck

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then spilled it's contents on the side of the road. "Everything he had was pretty much in that truck," said Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts, who helped work the accident. Matsanov suffered cuts on his hand, but refused medical treatment. Butts said he helped Matsanov wash the wound that was covered in dried blood in the rest area bathroom.

Photos by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News



Alex's Radiator and Repair and McB's Motor Company had a busy week as icy roads sent motorists into each other and off the road. Both companies worked an accident just east of the Colorado boarder involving three tractor trailer trucks. Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts said the accident happened when an eastbound truck slid on the ice and crossed the median. He said the truck jack-knifed into the north ditch and caused two other tractor trailers to collide.

Schools may benefit from court ruling

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

More money for Kansas public schools is what the Kansas Supreme Court ruled Monday will be necessary to meet the requirements of the state Constitution, not a complete change in the funding formula.

"I was real pleased," said Marvin Selby, superintendent of Goodland schools, "that the formula itself was not unconstitutional."

As it is, the state uses a formula to distribute funding to schools. This formula gives more weight to small schools which sparked a lawsuit that eventually went on to the recent supreme court ruling.

Selby said the low enrollment weighting is for schools with fewer than 1,725 students, like Goodland with around 1,000 students.

He said every school in the state gets \$3,683 per student, and the low enrollment allows Goodland to add to their number of students. For example, the 1,000 students in town gets bumped up by the formula to 1,300 and that number is then multiplied by \$3,683.

Selby said that does give students here more money per students, a concept larger schools,

like the Salina school district that was involved as a plaintiff in the original lawsuit, see as unfair.

He said, however, the formula is fair since smaller schools have to provide the same education as the larger ones which, costs us more.

"What I think they need to do is

justify the weighting," he said.

Selby used Chemistry as an example, saying if he has 10 kids taking the course, he has to pay for one teacher. The smaller schools need nearly the same size staff, but have fewer students to fund the extra salaries.

"If I'm going to provide our kids with the same opportunities as a big school," he said, "it's a lot more expensive."

The larger schools involved in the lawsuit were fighting for more weight applied to bilingual education and programs for poor and minority children.

The ruling by the supreme court upheld the formula in favor of pumping more funding into schools.

The court did add in a unanimous, unsigned opinion that, "increased funding may not in and of itself make the financing formula

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New mom Kathleen Lange posed with her son this year's first baby of the year Nicholas Ian (right), and her daughter and last year's first baby of the year, Hannah Marie (left). The family welcomed the baby boy at 6:05 p.m., Monday, Jan. 3.

Photo by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

The first baby of the year, Nicholas Ian Lange, was born at the Goodland Regional Medical Center to repeat parents James and Kathleen Lange, 804 Syracuse, at 6:05 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 5, 2005.

The happy family made the papers last year when they welcomed in the first baby, Hannah Marie, and they came back this January to greet their newest addition, Nicholas Ian.

The baby boy weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Travis Daise was the attending physician and was assisted by Michelle Luther, registered nurse, and Carolyn Brazda, nursing assistant.

Hannah was born at 10:58 p.m. on Jan. 11, 2004, weighing a little more than Nicholas at 8 pounds but measuring one-half an inch shorter.

Nicholas was received by two older brothers, Dalton, 11, Zachary, 4, and Hannah, almost 1. The proud maternal grandparents are Don and Edith Blume, Goodland and Ross Durr, Dodge City. Mr. and Mrs. Otto Franzen, Gothenburg, Neb., and Jerry Lange, Oregon, are the baby's paternal grandparents.

The family was showered with gifts starting with a \$25 gift card to Jacque's Hallmark and a "mommie makeover," a free haircut and style, from The Total Look.

First National Bank and Bankwest of Kansas each gave the baby a \$50 savings bond and the family

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