

weather  
report

29°

noon Monday

Today

•Sunset, 4:51 p.m.

Wednesday

•Sunrise, 7:03 a.m.

•Sunset, 4:52 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 28 degrees
- Humidity 85 percent
- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds southwest 6 mph.
- Barometer 30.40 inches and falling

- Record High today 69° (1999)
- Record Low today -20° (1984)

Last 24 Hours\*

High Sunday	29°
Low Sunday	5°
Precipitation	none
This month	.08
Year to date	.08
Normal	.23

The Topside Forecast

Today: mostly sunny, high around 54, low near 25, winds west-southwest 10 mph. Wednesday: partly cloudy, high near 58, low around 24, winds west-northwest 10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: mostly sunny, high around 57, low around 25. Friday: mostly sunny, high near 54, low near 23. Saturday: partly cloudy, high around 51, low around 21. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. \* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

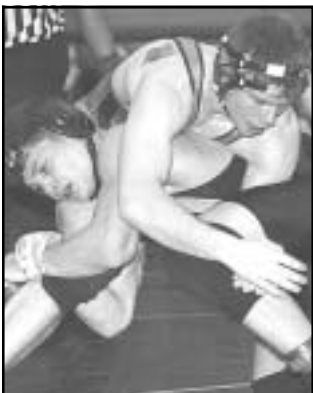
local  
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.10 bushel  
Posted county price — \$3.31  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Corn — \$1.76 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.76  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 19¢  
Milo — \$1.44 bushel  
Soybeans — \$4.56 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.68  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Millet — \$6 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$12 cwt.  
NuSun — \$12.10 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  
place fourth

Goodland's Jon Cook faced Abilene's Ross Taplin in the quarter finals at the Basehor-Linwood tournament last weekend, losing a 16-7 decision. Goodland placed fourth in the 26-team field. Story, photos on Page 12.

# Goodland girl dies in accident

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

A joyride turned bad Saturday night as two teen-agers rolled a car east of town on a county road, killing one and injuring the other.

Sheriff's deputies reported that Jenny Lynn Koehler, 16, a freshman at Goodland High School, was ejected from the passenger side of a 1989 white Chevrolet Astro Van when it rolled about 7:15 p.m. Saturday about 2.5 miles east of Goodland on County Road 64. She was taken to Goodland Regional Medical Center, where she was pronounced dead.

Funeral services for Koehler will be at 9 a.m. today, Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2005, at the Bateman Funeral

## Six injured on I-70

An accident at 2:30 Saturday on I-70 about 13 miles east of Goodland sent an Oklahoma family to the hospital.

Trooper Troy Smith reported that Mary E. Miller, 17, Tulsa, was driving a 2000 Dodge van westbound when she ran off the highway, lost control and the ve-

hicle rolled, landing in the median facing north.

Miller, along with passengers Avis Miller, 46, Sam, 15, Paige C., 11, James A., 46, and Jack C., 13, were taken to Goodland Regional Medical Center for injuries. Everyone was wearing a seat belt.

Colo. Burial will follow in the Roselawn Cemetery in Fort Collins. The driver, M'Quetta Yvone Brazle, 16, was taken to the hospital and treated for her injuries.

Brazle was not wearing a seat belt and Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts said although she was ejected deputies said all indications were that Koehler was fastened up.

"It just shows," he said, "I guess how hard that vehicle rolled." Brazle and Koehler were out driving the van without permission from their foster parents, Damon and Shanann Belshe.

He said the van did not have insurance or tags and the Belshes had not given the girls permission to use it. "They were not supposed to have the van," he said. "They were not even to be in it."

The report, filed by Deputy Brad Parker, said Brazle lost control on the road and went into the north

ditch, rolling the car.

Sheriff Butts said the girls were heading back toward the Belshe home, 2502 Road 58, after a visit to town.

"They were in town, headed home ..." he said, "at a high rate of speed."

The accident, he said, was most likely caused by speed on the gravel road, which is about a half mile south of Old U.S. 24.

"I'm sure a lot of it had to do with inexperience," he said adding that neither girl had a driver's license.

The road, Butts said, was the scene of another accident in October killing a high school freshman

See WRECK, Page 10

## Few file as election deadline nears

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

With a week to the election filing deadline, only a few people have filed for three positions on the Goodland School Board, three on the Goodland City Commission and three on the Kanorado Council, plus the job of mayor there.

Filing deadline is noon on Tuesday, Jan. 25, and the election will be on Tuesday, April 5.

Sherman County Clerk Janet Rumpel, who serves as the county election officer, said the school board candidates can file at her office. Kanorado candidates can file there or at the city clerk's office in

Kanorado. Goodland City Clerk Mary Volk has the filing papers for the city commission.

Rumpel said Monday that no one has filed for any of the school board positions, and she expects them to wait until the last day.

School board members up for re-election are Dick Short, Ron Schilling and Mike Campbell. Of those, only Short has said he plans to run. Campbell has said he thinks 12 years is long enough, and Schilling said last week he is not running.

Rumpel said Monday her office had received a total of three candidate filings from Kanorado. Bob Handle has filed for mayor and Deb

Fahey and Linda Handle, Bob Handle's wife, for the council. Fahey is running for re-election and is an emergency medical technician who mans the Kanorado ambulance. Bob Handle is self-employed, and his wife works at Wal-Mart.

Volk said Josh Dechant of Bankwest has filed for the Goodland commission, and that applications have been taken out by Dave Walker who works at the Kit Carson Correctional facility and Conrad Pettijohn, who owns PJ's Home Improvement.

Commissioners Jim Mull and Dean Blume have announced they are not running, and John Garcia said he has not made up his mind yet.

## Chamber sets banquet Feb. 17

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Once a year businesses throughout the community get together to support the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce, look back at the old year and look forward to the next.

"This should be the Goodland event of the year," said Kenneth Clouse, Chamber board member and president of the Northwest Kansas Technical College, at a board meeting Monday.

The annual meeting and banquet has been moved to Thursday, Feb. 17, at the Northwest Kansas Technical College Student Union.

Chamber Manager Courtney Warden said they changed the date from Jan 13, because their originally

booked speaker was not available that week.

Warden said social hour will start at 6 p.m. and the meal of roast beef and potatoes will be served at 6:30 p.m.

To make the event special this year, Clouse said, they might invite a speaker. He noted that the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce booked former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani to speak at its banquet.

"I think it's absolutely essential that we have a presentation," he said.

Board members discussed inviting Chamber managers from other towns to speak. Themes should include Chamber and community promotions, the board agreed.

The Hays Chamber, said board member Dan Rasure, uses the annual banquet as its main fund raiser for the year. Chamber president Donna Swager said the Chamber in Philipsburg holds a black-tie banquet.

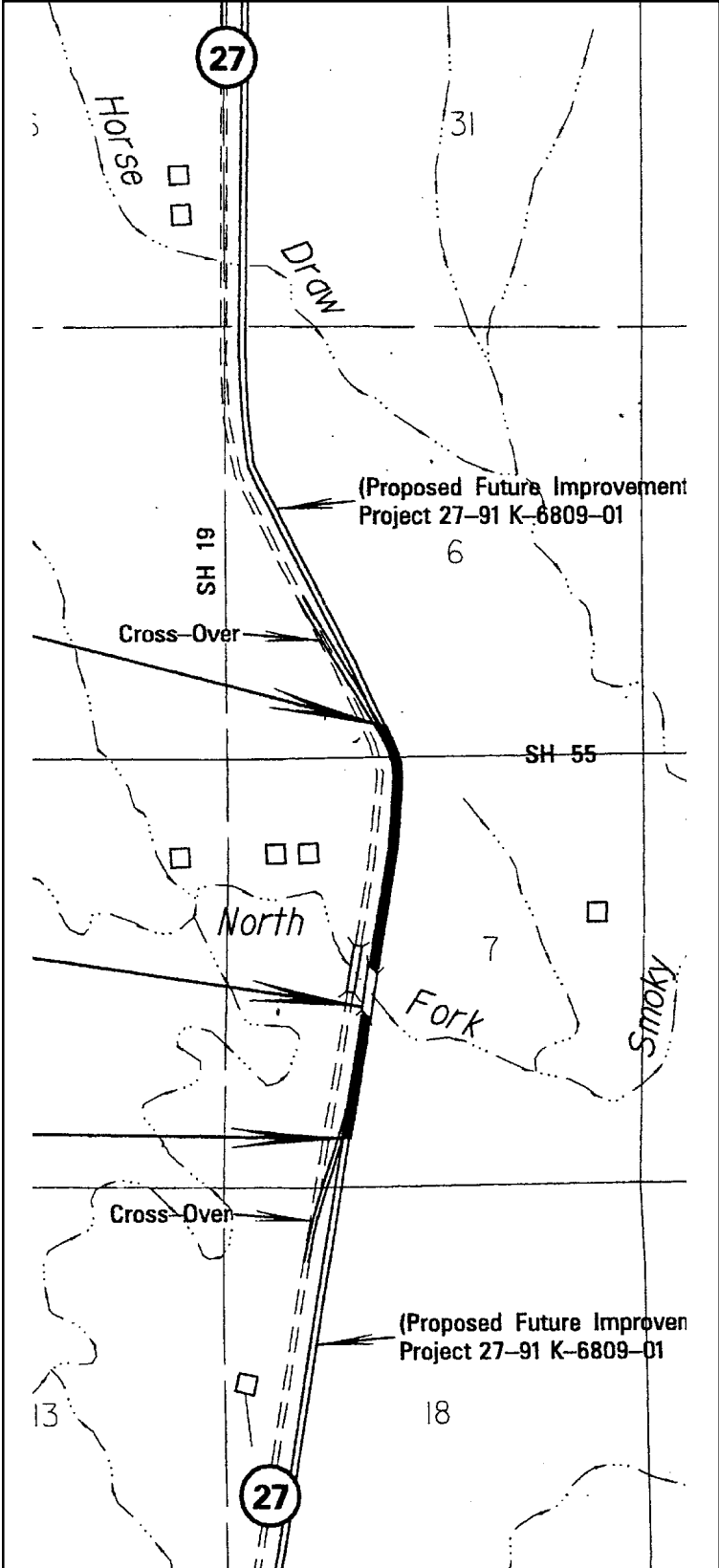
Clouse said believes every business in town should buy tickets to the event.

"The banks, the college, the school, the county..." he said, "every one of those businesses ought to buy a table of eight."

Seats at the tables, he said, could be given as recognition for outstanding employees.

Board members agreed the banquet is not only a time for businesses

See CHAMBER, Page 10



The bridge on K-27 about 8.5 miles south of Goodland is the first phase of a realignment project that will move the highway about 100 feet to the east from south of Goodland to the Wallace County line.

## Smoky Hill bridge project awarded

The state has chosen a contractor and work has started on replacement of the K-27 bridge over the North Fork of the Smoky Hill River about 8.5 miles south of Goodland.

Workers already are building new fences and moving the power lines from the east to west side of the highway.

The contract was awarded by the Kansas Department of Transportation on Dec. 15 to L and M Contractors of Great Bend for \$2,924,274.

Chriss McDiffett, district engineer for the department in Norton, said Friday the bridge will be the first phase of a project to rebuild K-27 from I-70 to the Wallace County line.

He said the bridge was moved up the schedule because of a cracking problem which showed up a couple of years ago. At that time, the highway department used steel beams to reinforce the underside of the deck.

McDiffett said the project will move the highway to the east about

100 feet, and the road will be open until the very end, when the new bridge and approaches are tied back into the existing highway.

The rebuilding of K-27 is scheduled to go to bid next year, McDiffett said, and he expects it to take two years to finish the full 13-mile project.

When completed, the new K-27 will shift to the east from the south edge of Goodland to the Wallace County line.

The engineers said workers will reduce the hills and curves where possible. By building the road just east of the old pavement, he said, they can allow the contractor to take longer without disrupting the flow of traffic on the highway.

When K-27 was rebuilt north of town a couple of years ago, the road was closed for a season, prompting many complaints from drivers and businesses. The official detour ran through Colby.

## All-star performance



Whiteshirt Ariel Dunker of Atwood hit a shot over the outstretched hands of the Blackshirts during the All-Star Volleyball match Sunday afternoon at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Story, Photo on Page 11.