

weather report

71°
 noon Monday

Today
 • Sunset, 6:05 p.m.
Wednesday
 • Sunrise, 7:01 a.m.
 • Sunset, 6:04 p.m.

Midday Conditions
 • Soil temperature 56 degrees
 • Humidity 34 percent
 • Sky Sunny
 • Winds North at 10 mph
 • Barometer 30.12 inches and steady
 • Record High today 90° (2003)
 • Record Low today 22° (1996)

Last 24 Hours*
 High Sunday 72°
 Low Sunday 49°
 Precipitation —
 This month 2.4
 Year to date 15.25

The Topside Forecast
 Today: Increasingly cloudy, highs around 80, lows in the 40s, north winds changing to south at 10 mph.

Extended Forecast
 Wednesday: Mostly cloudy, 40 percent chance of rain, highs in the 60s, lows in the 40s, northeast winds 15 to 20 mph. Thursday: Decreasing clouds, 30 percent chance of rain, highs in the 60s, lows in the 30s. Friday: Partly cloudy, highs in the 60s low in the 30s.
(National Weather Service)
 Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
 * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon
 Wheat — \$3.42 bushel
 Posted county price — \$3.41
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 Corn — \$1.81 bushel
 Posted county price — \$1.55
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 39¢
 Milo — \$1.52 bushel
 Soybeans — \$5.15 bushel
 Posted county price — \$4.86
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 Millet — \$6.25 hundredweight
 Sunflowers
 Oil current crop — \$9.50 cwt.
 NuSun crop — \$10.25
 Confection — Call
 Pinto beans — \$17 (new crop)
(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



Tigers win district game

Senior running back Bob Miller scored the game's first touchdown in the first quarter of Goodlands' 53-14 loss to Clay Center Friday night in Cowboy Stadium. See story, photo on Page 10.

League title eludes Cowgirls



Junior Emily Murray returned the ball over the block of a Hoxie Lady Indian during the third game of the pool play in the Northwest Kansas League tournament held Saturday at Quinter. The Cowgirls won the first game against Hoxie, but lost the next two 25-9 and 25-20. The Cowgirls travel to Ulysses on Saturday for the Class 4A Substate volleyball tournament. See story, photos on Page 11.
 Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Courthouse gets updated phones

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

Now that the county has joined the "zeros" with S & T Telephone, the county will be upgrading 26 lines at the courthouse to take advantage of equipment that has been there for over 10 years. The upgrade will cost \$14,781 to replace 26 phones and upgrade the system software. S & T will handle the work. Fritz Doke from S & T told the Sherman County commissioners last Tuesday that court services and sheriff's office are on a newer phone system than the rest of the courthouse. He said the newer system can hold 60 more phones, and that there are 26 in the courthouse that can be added without having to do any additional wiring.

Deputy Clerk Mary Ann Snethen said the upgrade would make it easier to answer other phones within each office. Doke said the upgrade would tie the courthouse together and give the offices intercom capability. He said each office would be a separate group, but it would be easier to transfer calls from office to office. He presented the commissioners with two options for the new phones, using new or refurbished 16-button phones. The commissioners agreed to the upgrade using the refurbished phones. Money for the upgrade will come from the courthouse capital outlay fund, said County Clerk Janet Rumpel. Doke said the upgrade should be easy because the main wiring was put in several years ago.

Moonlight Madness sales, contest Tuesday

Goodland's fourth annual Moonlight Madness celebration and costume contest will bring out spooks and goblins from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday for a night of spirited shopping, entertainment and a costume contest. Some downtown stores will be open until 8 p.m., with specials for shopping, and there will be treats for the kids who visit the stores. At Eldorado Western Wear, 1101 Main, the Goodland Police will hand out candy and there will be a clown from McDonalds handing out special Halloween coupons. The Madd Hatter will provide music beginning about 5 p.m. at

Eldorado and costume contest judging will begin at 5:30 p.m. There will be four age groups, with prizes for first and second in each. The 2- and-under group will be judged at 5:30 p.m., 3-6 at 6 p.m., and 7-10 and 11-15 at 7 p.m.. Prize money has been donated by the Goodland Kiwanis Club. Businesses participating in the event or handing out candy to the kids include Jacques's Hallmark, Eldorado Western Wear, J.C. Penney, KC Video, McDonalds, Cowboy Loop, American Communications, Mr. Jim's His and Hers, Madd Hatter, Custom Tailoring by Marie and *The Goodland Star-News*.

Tests give police information to reconstruct accidents

Wet bricks, oil nearly slick as ice

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

The screech of tires is followed by the sound of crunching metal, and now it is up to the police officer to determine how the accident happened and whether someone should get a ticket. The officer measures the length of any skid marks showing when the driver stomped on the brakes, and from this he can estimate the speed of the car. The big thing people need to remember, though, is streets get slick when it rains, and people need to slow down. Tests by two federal instructors last week show it takes more than twice the distance to stop on wet Goodland streets, either brick or oiled.



Bill Mael (above) checks the readout from the equipment installed in the Goodland Police car while Bill Bloxsum (left in photo at right) gives numbers to Officer Jim Gillespie. Checking measurements are Mael (with tape) Deputy Brad Parker (at car), Corporal Bill Fulcher (extreme right) and Wallace County Sheriff Larry Townsend.
 Photo by Tom Betz
 The Goodland Star-News



"Weather makes a difference, especially if the streets are wet," said Goodland Police Chief Ray Smee. "It is surprising to many people how slippery the bricks are with a light dew." Accident investigation is part of most officers' duties, and two outreach instructors for the U.S. Department of Justice were in Goodland last week working with the officers from the Goodland Police, Deputy Brad Parker of the Sherman County sheriff's office and Wallace County Sheriff Larry Townsend. Bill Mael of Fort Collins, Colo., and Bill Bloxsum of Pueblo, Colo., did skid tests on several city streets to provide the officers examples of skids at different speeds they can use as benchmarks when they are called to investigate an accident.

Bloxsum and Mael said they were part of a program through the National Institute of Justice and the University of Denver. They are the outreach instructors for an 11-state region, but have conducted tests and trained officers all over the country. Bloxsum said they were interested in doing the skid tests in Goodland because of the large number of

brick streets. "We do not see a lot of brick streets in other places," Bloxsum said. "We are interested in whether there is a difference in how cars stop on the bricks in comparison on either concrete or an asphalt road. "We expect there will be a difference, and these skid tests will give us some research data."

To do the skid tests, a patrol car driven by Officer Jim Gillespie was equipped with a special recording device monitored by Mael. Gillespie drove west on 11th Street near Grant Junior High, and turned around to head east. He got the car up to 32 mph, and

See SKIDS, Page 9

School board members hear about their styles of problem solving

By Kathryn Burke
The Goodland Star-News

Goodland School Board members got to know each other better last Monday as a specialist explained the results from a personality test. Dr. Jim Barrett, executive director of the Southwestern Plains Regional Service Center in Sublette, gave a 55-minute presentation on the test. Board members and administrators took the Kolbe test by answering a series of questions online. Barrett told board members the

test measures the way people solve problems, or their conative ability. That's the difference between someone who comes up with a lot of ideas in a short time, he said, and someone who spends a lot of time researching problems. "We are different and we have different talents," Barrett said, "and it's OK." A few of those who took the test were in transition, he said; they could not get true results because something was changing in their lives. Others had charts with lines of

color determining how they work through things. Red, he said, signifies a person who was focused on gathering information and communicating ideas. Blue is for someone who sorts ideas and puts them in order, a list maker and someone who makes sure plans are implemented. Green signifies a person who is used to dealing with risk and goes quickly from one idea to another. Yellow is for someone who demonstrates ideas, handles space and tactile efforts. Yellow people like to build a

model or demonstrate ideas physically. Barrett said the dynamics of a group, like the school board, are affected by how different people approach problems. He said sometimes people can be teamed up for maximum efficiency. He said people who work within their regular mode of operation don't feel like they are working at all. Working against their normal tendencies, he said, will drain people. Barrett went on to describe how administering the Kolbe test to all of

the district's teachers and students could help everyone. If a teacher who worked better in one area was teaching a student with a different way of learning, he said, the lesson could be adjusted. "The more we know about ourselves as teachers," Barrett said, "the better chance we have of reaching our students." He said the mix of people on the board right now is near optimum levels. The board can spend more time, he added, looking at how they fit and where they differ to learn to work better together.