

weather
report

64°

noon
Thursday



Today

• Sunset, 4:28 p.m.
Friday
• Sunrise, 7:04 a.m.
• Sunset, 4:29 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 31 degrees
• Humidity 26 percent
• Sky Cloudy
• Winds southwest at 12 mph
• Barometer 26.12 inches
and rising
• Record High today 83° (1964)
• Record Low today -9° (2004)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 58°
Low Wednesday 34°
Precipitation —
This month .12
Year to date 16.08

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy, high
around 60, windy with gusts of 40
mph, low near 30.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Partly cloudy, high
near 54, gusts of 40 mph. Sunday:
Mostly sunny, high near 60, low
around 28. Monday: Sunny, high
near 58, low near 26. Tuesday:
Mostly sunny, with a high near 54.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Merry Christmas



Third graders gave their holiday program Tuesday night at the high school auditorium. Santas (above, from left) Gabriel Ledesma, George Sun, D.J. Glassman and Silem Lopez rocked during their musical number. Girl dancers Taylor Thomas, Laramie Farris and Carlee Cooper (above left) sang with feather boas. Reindeer Keegan Bowling, Jessica Johnson, and Tanner Helton with Rudolph, Chase Eggert, and backup singer Nicole Sederstrom, sang about working out disagreements among friends.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

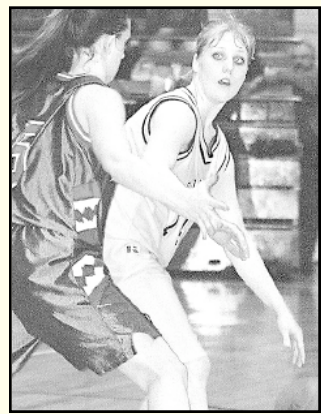
local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.31 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.31
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$1.80 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.79
Loan deficiency pmt. — 15¢
Milo — \$1.44 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.29 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.46
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$5.75 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.75 cwt.
NuSun crop — \$7.75
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
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Girl plays for Dodge

Jessica Osborn (right) played her last basketball game as a Cowgirl on March 1, 2004. She is playing for the Dodge City Lady Conquistadors. See story, photos on Page 11.



Songs, fun skits amuse audience

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Third graders from Central Elementary School entertained family and friends Tuesday night with a holiday program at the high school auditorium.

The first song got the kids up and going. The Santas started out being sleepy and then ended up dancing away.

The director led the singers with hand signals through their numbers, prompting their many expressive movements.

In “Yummy, Yummy,” the girl dancers twirled feather boas while the boys swung their canes.

“Elvis,” complete with rolled up blue jeans, white to shirt and sun

glasses, danced and gyrated in his representation of Elvis. Jerry Lee, the piano player of the band, even used his foot to play the keyboard.

The program started with “Get Up,” featuring Juan Sandoval, Danielle Lee, Lindsay Bauman, Shaina Varney and Xavier Colby as the dancers.

Santas D.J. Glassman, Rogelio Bustillos, Gabriel Ledesma, George Sun, Janathan Stevens, Lee Rust, Silem Lopez, James Dinkel and Ricky Milke led the chorus in a spirited rendition of “Santa Claus Rock.”

The chorus did animated versions of “Rudolph,” Jingle Bells” and

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Commission approves annex, zoning change

Citizen wants special studies added to code

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

City commissioners approved changes in the zoning code Monday after hearing suggestions from a citizen who felt the city should take more time and have more research before approving annexations or zoning changes.

City Manager Wayne Hill said the purpose of the code changes was to update the city’s zoning law to make it more acceptable to potential economic development prospects.

Hill said the ordinance allows land that is being annexed to the city to be brought into the city and zoned commercial or industrial if that is the expected use. This would clean up the code’s language, he said, and make annexation more usable for those who are considering bringing property into the city.

As it is now, he said, all property annexed must be zoned R-1 residential and then owners have to go

City buys skid loader for streets, alleys

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

City commissioners approved purchase of a new skid loader Monday for the city street department.

Rich Simon, public works director, said he recommended the low bid of \$24,722 from Yost Farm Supply for a New Holland loader.

He said the city is not going to buy a new grader now, and he’d rather put the money into the skid loader.

“We will use this at Pioneer Park and put a blade on it,” Simon said. “We will get a grapple fork for

picking up branches. It is a tradeoff for not purchasing the grader, and the money comes out of the existing budget.”

Simon said he would recommend buying the optional wheels for \$275, because they have better tires and the crew will need them for the type of work the loader has to do.

“Yes, we do need it, Rick (Billinger),” Simon said. In the past the first question from Billinger has been “Do you really need this?”

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through a second public hearing to change the zoning to commercial or industrial.

“There is a public hearing in the annexation process,” Hill said, “and having the property go through a second public hearing process does not seem to do anything but slow down the development process.”

Steve Criswell, city building inspector, said the other two changes in the zoning ordinance were to change the word “light” to “heavy” to describe the type of manufacturing industry that is covered by the

zoning regulations.

“The uses already in the regulations are more for heavy industry than light industry,” Criswell said, “and we changed to word to make it clearer about the use. This is something that was probably a typographical error many years ago.”

“When we adopted the airport zoning ordinance two years ago, it has a 150-foot cap within the city area, but if outside that flight zone, an industry would not be held to the 150-foot limit.”

“Height restrictions beyond the

airport flight pattern would be up to the Federal Aviation Administration,” Hill said. “The further out, the higher you can go.”

“You are not changing the height restrictions within the city?” Commissioner John Garcia asked. “They would remain the same?”

“That is correct,” Hill said. “The restrictions within the city would stay the same within the residential areas. If the development is outside the residential area, the height could go up to the 150 foot and beyond.”

Mayor Rick Billinger asked

Criswell and Hill if there had been any objections at the planning commission hearing on the changes. Both said there was no objection at the hearing, held Dec. 13.

From the audience Leonard Kashka, 304 E. 8th, who’s son has a farm at 6380 County Road 14 across from the Northern Sun plant at Caruso, said he would like to comment.

Kashka said he would like the commission to consider adding a requirement to the annexation and zoning ordinance that would require any industry that wants to locate within the city to provide a list of environmental and impact studies and give the public 30 days to review them before a public hearing.

He said the industry should be required to provide a risk management plan, feasibility study, environmental impact study, economic impact analysis and community impact assessment.

“I think these should be on display and open to the public for 30 days before any decision is made,” Kashka said. “I would like you to consider adding this to your zoning ordinance.”

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