

weather report

68°



noon Tuesday

Today

Sunset, 4:36 p.m.
Wednesday
Sunrise, 7:07 a.m.
Sunset, 4:36 p.m.

Midday Conditions

Soil temperature 42 degrees
Humidity 16 percent
Sky clear
Winds west at 32 mph
Barometer 29.70 inches and falling
Record High today 63° (2006)
Record Low today -26° (1959)

Last 24 Hours*

High Monday 56°
Low Monday 25°
Precipitation .04
This month .04
Year to date .04

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, high near 65 and low near 28. Windy with a west wind at 20 to 30 mph and gusts as high as 45 mph.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, high around 53 and low near 21.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, windy, high near 47 and a low around 22.
Friday: Mostly sunny, high near 58 and a low near 22.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, high around 62 and a low of 23.
Sunday: Partly cloudy, high around 58 and a low near 20.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.



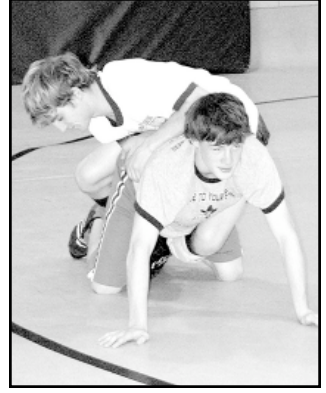
local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.57 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.44
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
Corn — \$1.88 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.85
Loan deficiency pmt. — 9c
Milo — \$1.53 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.30 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.38
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
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 news and views from your Goodland Star-News



Cowboys face Colby

Senior Brandon Zelfer (top) practiced a takedown move on sophomore Jordan Albers during the Cowboys' practice Monday at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Soldier's death leads top story list

The death of a 24-year old Goodland man in a bomb explosion in Iraq was Goodland's top story of 2005. Goodland mourned the death of Sgt. Derrick Lutters, who was killed May 1 south of Baghdad, when a suicide bomber attacked his unit.

The top story went to the death of Lutters, who was awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Hear. He was buried on May 13 following a packed funeral at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

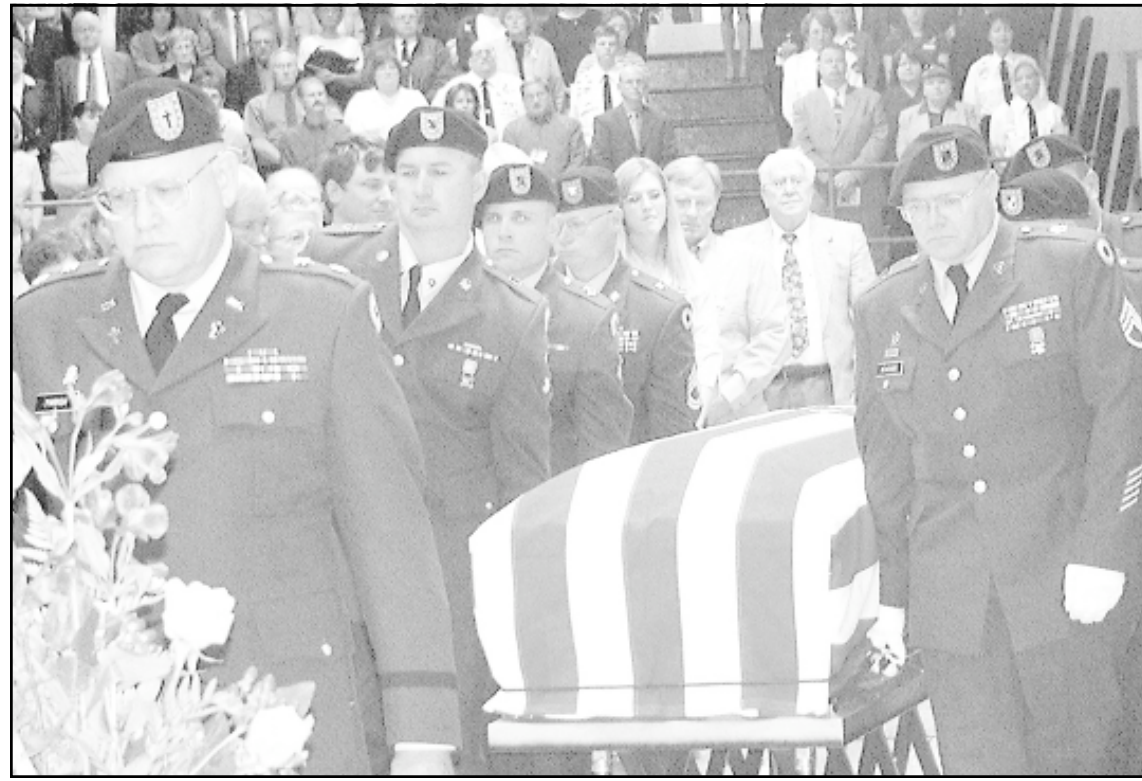
Area investors put the project together, and the plants are expected to be in operation later this year. Third was the blizzard over Thanksgiving weekend that left sections of the city without power, and stranded over 1,000 people at shelters in town.

city of Jimmy McClelland, 44, who had been missing for 16 months. Fifth on the list was the opening here of Elrob/Adronics, an automobile radio antenna manufacturing company from Hays, that moved into the Ed Wolak building in May.

failed to produce the money to get them out of financial trouble. The Chamber approached the Sherman County Economic Development Council asking for \$8,000 to help bail the organization out, and asking to move the Chamber office space rented by the council.

Town mourns loss of hero fallen in Iraq

1 Army officers caught Chuck Lutters, then city public works manager, as he was heading to work that Monday morning. When he saw them, he recalled, he knew what was coming.



Members of the Kansas National Guard (above) escorted the casket of Sgt. Derrick Lutters in Max Jones Fieldhouse Thursday morning.

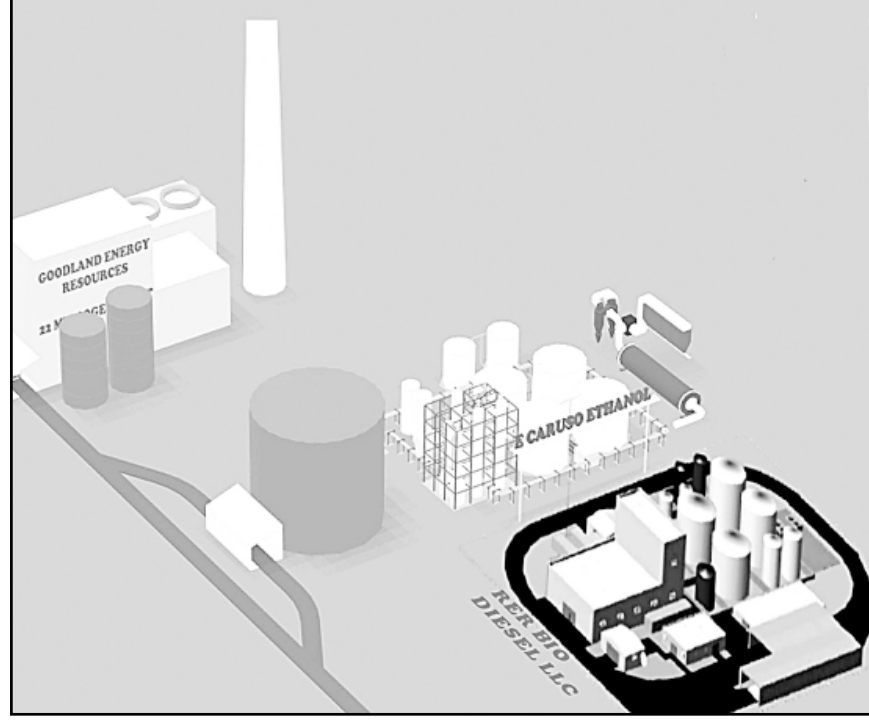
“I saw the car coming down the street,” Lutters said, “and when the two Army guys got out, I knew why they were here. My heart sank when they said Derrick had been killed.”

Lutters was a member of Detachment 1, 170th Maintenance Company, of Goodland, and was assigned to the Kansas National Guard's 891st Engineer Battalion as a crane operator.

Expressions of sympathy poured in at the home of Sgt. Lutters' father, and his mother Marion of Burlington, a second-grade teacher. Both towns were stunned by the news of the young man's death.

Energy center may bring diversity to economy

2 A new power complex planned west Goodland should be up and running later this year, brining roughly 100 new jobs and providing new markets for farmers. The complex will include a coal-fired power plant, plus plants to produce ethanol and “biodiesel” for motor fuel.



Artist conception of three plants being built north of Caruso.

A group of local investors announced the project on July 5. The three-plant complex will be called the Goodland Energy Center. Mark Justus, owner of ReNewable Energy Resources, said they are looking at a startup date in the summer of 2006. ReNewable, which had been designing a wind farm to help supply power to the city, has a complex of offices on Main Street.

Justus said, uses some of the products from the ethanol plant. Although the processes are not new, Justus said, the plants here will be unique, combining all three.

July 21. Sixty hours earlier, the motion failed on a 2-2 vote. Then, at the special meeting, the commission reconsidered the contract and it passed unanimously with Mayor Rick Billinger abstaining because of a conflict of interest as a stockholder in the new company.

The Goodland City commission reached out five miles to annex about 90 acres north of Caruso on July 5 at the request of John Golden as president of Kemp Sugar Co., which has owned the property since 1985 when it was bought from Great Western Sugar. The annexation later had to be rescinded when the developers discovered the city had no proper heavy industrial zoning. “Once the land has been purchased and the project is proceeding,” Pickman said, “we will be back with a plan to work with the city in a partnership.”

There were about 20 people in the audience, and there was a round of applause when the vote was taken and the contract approved. David and Denise Floyd, who live about a mile from the sunflower oil plant at Caruso, appeared at a city commission meeting on Aug. 1, and questioned whether the plants will be all good for the area and its economy.

The plants will have what Justus called a “symbiotic” relationship. Each plant will use products from the others in its production, lowering overall costs. Justus said the ethanol and biodiesel plants will be powered by waste steam already used in the power plant. He said the steam alone will save the ethanol plant \$3 million per year. Normally, he said, they would need to use natural gas to cook grain to ferment the alcohol. The production of biodiesel fuel, Justus said, uses some of the products from the ethanol plant.

and south of Road 65 (Eighth Street), north of the sunflower plant at Caruso. The plants will have what Justus called a “symbiotic” relationship. Each plant will use products from the others in its production, lowering overall costs. Justus said the ethanol and biodiesel plants will be powered by waste steam already used in the power plant.

Goodland will purchase all the city's power from the new coal-fired plant when it goes on-line year after the commission voted 4-0 to approve an electric purchase agreement at a special meeting Thursday,

to bring in their pets, including dogs, cats and a bird. Volunteers rounded up blankets and fed the refugees. Help came from the Fire Department, Salvation Army, and the Red Cross. The stranded travelers were patient and good to work with, workers said. The town got a lot of positive feedback. Another winter storm hit right after the beginning of 2005. This storm started on Sunday, Jan. 2, with rain, which froze and was covered by an

A 75-foot-by-100-foot warehouse was the first building being put up by Townsend Construction at the site. “We are moving along,” Pickman said on Tuesday, Nov. 8. “We are getting our permit applications in order and have started the warehouse. “We are moving dirt, which is allowed under the existing permits.” The city commission helped push the development. Mayor Billinger, a stockholder in the proposed power

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Thanksgiving blizzard strands over 1,000 for two days

3 Goodland's third biggest story was the weather, especially the blizzard on Monday, Nov. 28, that trapped more than 1,000 holiday travelers here. Four inches of snow with winds up to 79 miles per hour shaped drifts four to eight feet high, closing I-70 from Russell to Denver. Since there was a thin layer of ice underneath the snow, travel was tough and dangerous. Police reported surprisingly few accidents. Wind chills made being out in the

weather a have-to situation. The wind slapped power lines together and took out switches and breakers, leaving parts of Goodland without power from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The areas without power included the north, south and central loops, all fed by Sunflower Electric Power. The main loop from the power plant did not go down after the two hours on Sunday, Nov. 27. Golden West, the National Weather Service, the City Administration Building, sheriff's office, the armory and the

hospital ran off of generators. Around 1,000 travelers spent Sunday night and all of Monday in emergency shelters. The Goodland Activities Center, Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, Max Jones Fieldhouse and the National Guard Army all housed people. With the power outages, people were moved from the Activities Center and church to the Goodland High School. People occupied their time sleeping, reading or talking with each other. The shelters allowed people

inch of snow. The winter storm lasted through Tuesday. By Wednesday, the roads were still icy and wind chills called for caution. There were at least 12 accidents when drivers hit the ice and lost control. Another storm on Sunday, April 10 closed I-70 from Limon to Colby. This storm started with rain and then turned into heavy, wet snow. There were no reported accidents. The area got nine-tenths of an inch of moisture, and there was minor damage to trees and power lines.

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