

weather  
report

18°

noon  
Thursday

Today

- Sunset, 5:25 p.m.
- Sunrise, 6:35 a.m.
- Sunset, 5:26 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 32 degrees
- Humidity 72 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds north 25 mph gusts 32
- Barometer 30.05 inches

- and rising
- Record High today 81° (1970)
- Record Low today -15° (1953)

Last 24 Hours\*

- High Wednesday 42°
- Low Thursday 15°
- Precipitation —
- This month .5
- Year to date .56

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy, high near 16, wind chills between -3 to -13. Breezy with a south wind between 10 and 20 mph. Night: Mostly cloudy low near -2. Breezy with east wind between 10 and 20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Mostly cloudy, high around 16 and low around 5. Sunday: Mostly cloudy, high near 24 with a low around 12. Monday: Mostly cloudy, high near 27 with a low near 11.

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

local  
markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$3.87 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.74
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Corn — \$1.97 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.92
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 2¢
- Milo — \$1.59 bushel
- Soybeans — \$5.07 bushel
- Posted county price — \$5.21
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Millet — \$5.55 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



Cowgirls  
win in Colby

Junior Whitney Archer looked for an open teammate around Colby's Ashley Barnes in the second half of the Cowgirls 44-42 win over the Lady Eagles Tuesday at the Colby Community Building. See story, photos on Page 11.

# Armstrong mailboxes could stay

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

A cluster of mailboxes for the Armstrong Addition south of town could stay where they are rather than being relocated out along Caldwell Avenue if the landowner will give Sherman County an easement, commissioners heard Tuesday.

Penny Sheldon, St. Francis postmaster, temporary officer in charge of the Goodland office, said the Postal Service doesn't want the mailboxes on private land, and without the easement, the boxes would have to be relocated along the public right of way.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas said he had talked to Sheldon about an easement.

## City, county to meet jointly Tuesday

The Sherman County commissioners and the Goodland City Commission will meet at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday at the City Administration Building to discuss the road improvement project and the upcoming citywide cleanup program.

The sales tax bill has been approved by the state, and County Commissioner Kevin Rasure said he thought it would be a good opportunity to have both boards discuss plans for a special election.

Governor Kathleen Sebelius' office said Thurs-

day morning the sales tax bill arrived at the office on Tuesday, and expect it to be signed the first part of next week.

The city commission will be meeting at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday instead of Monday night because the city offices will be closed on Monday for President's Day.

The Beautification Committee will present a proc-

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Sheldon said there is an easement from Mary Butler, the landowner, but it is out of date, and apparently

was never filed or approved by the county.

"Do you want to have the county

put a drive in?" Thomas asked.

"We don't need anything except the easement to keep the landowner

from any liability," Sheldon said. "We don't know of any situation where there would be any liability for the mailboxes, but Butler wants the easement for her peace of mind."

"We would not move the boxes with the easement, but if there is no easement, we will have to move them."

Thomas asked if the county could do an easement, which said the county is not responsible for and maintenance.

Sheldon said that would be reasonable, and that the homeowners would be responsible for maintenance of the area around the mailboxes.

See MAILBOXES, Page 9

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Fifth graders from North Elementary School were "Puttin' on the Ritz," had "Disco Fever" and sang to the "Heart of America" in the high school auditorium Monday.

After the vocal concert, the fifth-grade band had their debut performance, playing "Rhythm Etude;" "Aura Lee;" "Frère Jacques," a French folk song; "Ode to Joy" from Symphony No. 9 by Ludwig van Beethoven; and "Hard Rock Blues," by John Higgins.

The choir began with "Sounds All Around Us" and then sang and danced to "I Can, You Can," a song affirming that everyone can improve the world around them. Dancers were Cortney Cowan, Sabra Carver, Brianna Lawrence, Sheyenne Sharon, Naomi Salinas, Kimber Linnell, Sadie Avila, Holly Wilkening, Amy Floyd and Taylor Milke.

For "Down to the Bone," Thern Bagley, Belen Ledesma, Shirea Woodrow and Idalia Martinez donned hats and came to the front of the stage to dance. As they sang, "Somewhere Out There, beneath the pale moonlight, someone's thinking of me and loving me tonight," pairs of singers stepped up to the microphones for parts of the song.

Singers were Carly McCracken, Jed Gray, Jeffrey House, Tania Hernandez, Ashlee Roeder, Chantel Coates, Devan Johnson, Elizabeth Wellmann, Paige Phillips, Lacie Cowan, Trace Waugh and Stephanie Lee.

The students sang about the "Fifty Nifty" United States and sang about the "Heart of America," a land "where dreams can come true" and "there are choices for me and for you."

"The Only World We've Got" featured Robert Gutierrez, Micheal Mosher, Jayme Davis, Aaron Twombly, Mario Flores, Dylan McLemore and Ray West shouting some of the world's problems, followed by the choir shouting "stinks" afterward. They said pollution stinks, drugs stink, etc., and sang that since it's the only world we've got, "we gotta do better ... fix this now ... pull together."

The fifth graders snapped their fingers to the "Addams Family," which they sang is "all together loopy."

For "Puttin' on the Ritz," tap dancers were Chloe Goodwin, Brooke Lockhart, Holly Wilkening, Taylor Milke, Shayley Miller, Sadie Avila, Victoria Hayes and Amy Floyd. Top hat dancers were Elias Flores, Josh Whisnant, Spencer Smith, Jazzmin Weis, Jordan McCombs, Tiffany Charron, Dustin Juleson, Tyler Raby, Rachel Hageman, Sydni Callahan and Michaela Langley.

Before the students sang "Comet," director Char Avila warned the audience that the song would come to a point where they would want to clap, but asked them not to. She said the kids would let the audience know when to clap.

Nonetheless, after the students sang such ominous lyrics as "How could they have known the comet was there? How could they have known what the comet would do? How could they have known that the world was through?" accompanied by appropriate sound effects, the song reached the crescendo into silence, and the audience clapped until Avila motioned to stop.

The students followed up with "Disco Fever," featuring the songs "Boogie Fever," "I Will Survive," "You Should Be Dancin'" and "YMCA."

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Brandon Sissel (above) tried his hand at groveling, offering Kimber Linnell flowers as the choir sang, "I Will Survive" during the fifth-grade music program Monday. Michaela Langley, Jazzmin Weis and Tyler Raby leaned on their canes, waiting for the chance to use their props during "Puttin' on the Ritz." Behind them were Connor Gray, Ray West, Aaron Twombly, Jeffery House, Sissel, Sheldon Nelson, Thern Bagley, C.J. Van Wermer, David Rascon, Sabra Carver, Elizabeth Wellman and Ashlee Roeder.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran  
The Goodland Star-News



# Kanorado man pleads guilty to two more charges

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

A Kanorado garage owner was back in court Wednesday on a plea agreement, pleading guilty to one amended count of possession with intent to sell of methamphetamine and a new count of criminal use of a firearm.

Five other drug counts against Scott Baumfalk, 39, were dismissed.

Baumflak was arrested in district

magistrate court in St. Francis on Dec. 19, 2002, by officers from the Goodland police, Sherman County sheriff's office, Kansas Bureau of Investigation and Quad County Drug Task Force.

He was in court on misdemeanor charges including criminal trespass and disorderly conduct from an incident on Dec. 22, 2001, at the home of Dennis Merklin, St. Francis. He was convicted of disorderly conduct in that case.

The charges in this case came from a raid on Baumfalk's garage, Scotty's Motors, looking for drugs. On Thursday, Dec. 19, 2002, Sherman County Sheriff's officers, KBI, Quad County Drug Task Force, and Goodland police officers went to the garage, 209 Main St., Kanorado, to serve a search warrant. Officers broke into the building and found an active methamphetamine lab in the basement, said Doug Whitson, Sherman County sheriff at the time.

Officers also found several guns.

Part of the plea agreement was that the prison term run at the same time as the conviction in the case stemming from the drug charges from Aug. 1 and a pending case from Adams County, Colo. District Judge Jack Burr also dismissed two other cases, including one for possession of stolen property, as part of the agreement. Bonnie Selby, Sherman County attorney, prosecuted the case and Michael Holland, Russell,

represented Baumfalk.

On the amended count of possession and intent to sell methamphetamine, a level 3 drug felony, the penalty is jail time from 14 to 51 months and possibly a fine. The criminal use of a firearm, a level 9 non person felony, carries five to 17 months jail time and possibly a fine.

"A presentencing report needs to be done before the date for sentencing can be set," Burr said.