

weather report

28°

noon Monday



Today

• Sunset, 4:25 p.m.

Wednesday

• Sunrise, 6:44 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:25 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 40 degrees
- Humidity 88 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds southwest at 10 mph
- Barometer 29.88 inches and steady
- Record High today 72° (1986)
- Record Low today -12° (1952)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	43°
Low Monday	23°
Precipitation	tr
This month	21.67
Year to date	21.97
Above normal	2.69 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, high near 55, low near 17. Chance of snow 20 percent after 11 p.m.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: Chance of snow 40 percent. Mostly cloudy, high near 17, low around 6, wind chill between -4 and -12. Thursday: Mostly sunny, high near 20, low around 13. Friday: Mostly sunny, high near 41, low near 16. Saturday: Partly cloudy, high near 46, low around 18. Sunday: Partly cloudy, high near 43.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$4.61 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.78
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Corn — \$3.64 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.40
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Milo — \$3.29 bushel
- Soybeans — \$5.99 bushel
- Posted county price — \$6.04
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Millet — \$7 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- NuSun crop — \$12.65
- Pinto beans — \$19 (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



Old carriage taking riders

Jack Eisenbart drove his Percheron, Mindy Bell, pulling a white carriage that was used in New York's Central Park. Eisenbart is giving holiday carriage rides from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. See photo, story on Page 3a.

Square dancers celebrate 50 years

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

The Promenaders Square Dance Club will celebrate 50 years of swinging their partners round and round with a dance at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Marie Edwards Hall.

Two clubs and a square dance class met to form the Promenaders on Oct. 13, 1956, at the Knights of Columbus Hall here, said Mrs. Edwards, square dance caller for the group. Two other area clubs joined a few years later.

The Shirts and Skirts club and the Jeans and Janes, along with a class that Glenn Burk and Lloyd Harden just graduated with, formed the Promenaders, Edwards said. The Boots and Slippers and Dudes and Dames continued on their own a few years before joining the Promenaders.

Square dance classes were held then at the Knights of Columbus then, Edwards said, and the Promenaders still try to have classes each year. The halls were full of square dancers in the '50s, she said; once there were 22 squares (of eight dancers each) at the Knights hall, including some from Colorado and Wyoming.

Club officers elected that first year were president George Edwards (Marie's late husband); vice president, Marion Amos; and secretary and treasurer, Bernadine Amos. Round dance instructors were Glenn and Evelyn Burk. Club members voted to meet the second and fourth Saturdays of every month.

Callers then were Harden, Glenn Burk, Loyal and Vera Fortmeyer, Edwards and her husband, Bob Russell, Lawrence Short, Carl and Florence Murray and Roy Smith. Other callers joined later as some of these quit calling. They call out the steps for the dancers.

In a square dance, four couples form a square, while in a circle dance, several couples form a circle.

The club later moved its dances to the American Legion Hall and other places. They now meet at Marie Edwards Square Dance Hall, a large building next to Edwards' home, 2431 Walnut.

The club was having trouble finding places to meet, Edwards said, and it got expensive to rent places. She said she and her husband bought the place about 20 years ago with the home and the hall so the Promenaders would have a place to meet, and they would have a place to teach square dancing and round dancing. She also uses the building for the TNT Singles club to meet for cards and food and for other events.

Edwards said she has been offering lessons each year, with the classes meeting once a week starting in September, though this year, she



This photo of square dancing at the Goodland Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall was found in *The Goodland Star-News* archives. The note on the back said the caller was University of Kansas Professor Edwards. Marie Edwards, caller for the Promenaders Square Dance Club, said she thought the picture was taken while

state officers were in town, but she wasn't sure of the year. Dancers promenaded (below) in a circle dance during a dance session Friday, Aug. 11, at Marie Edwards Hall. With the all-school reunion in town, there were a lot of visitors from other areas, including Topeka, Grand Junction, Colo., and Arizona.

Photo below by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

expects to start classes in January. Call her at 899-3323 for information.

The meeting dates for the Promenaders changed through the years, Edwards said, and they now meet on first and third Saturdays.

The club is a member of the Tri-State, Northwest Kansas and the Kansas State Square Dance associations and has sponsored some of their dances in this area, Edwards said.

The club has danced several places for entertainment, she said. It is open to anyone wanting to learn to square dance.

Current officers are president, Bob Daise, and secretary and treasurer, Kathryn Wedermyer. Callers are Edwards and Dean Pelton for square dance and Edwards for round dance, but callers sometimes come from other clubs.

Ron Snyder of Colby will be the caller for the 50th anniversary dance, and Edwards will cue the rounds. The club would like all former club members and dancers in the area to come and join the fun, Edwards said.

The Tri-State Square Dance Association was formed in 1950, she

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County, landowners square off on dogs

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

A prairie dog war emborils Logan County, where at least two landowners want to keep some of the squirrels, but the county commissioners vow to eradicate them.

There's more at stake than just a couple of rodent-infested ranches, though. The landowners have invited federal officials to restock the rare black-footed ferret on their pasture.

In the wide-open West, where stockmen view prairie dogs as field-ruining vermin, nearly as welcome as rattlesnakes, others fear having an endangered species that lives with and eats prairie dogs as the end of any attempt to control the pests.

To put it mildly, they're again it. That's why a county-hired exterminator tried to enter land owned by the two renegade ranchers last week to poison the critters. To add insult to injury, county commissioners planned to send the landowners the bill under a state law with allowed the county to kill prairie dogs for landowners who won't.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been working with Larry Haverfield and Gordon Barnhart, who have spreads south of Russell Springs, to see if the black-footed



The black-footed ferret could make a comeback in Logan County under plans proposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

ferret could be reintroduced on their ground.

The Logan County commissioners have been a major roadblock in the effort, turning down prairie-dog management plans from both men. Haverfield has 6,000 acres and Barnhart 1,500.

Last week, Haverfield said, a Wyoming company called Diamond Dot had sent Troy Hausauer

See **DOGS**, Page 5a

Open house will explain ferrets

Federal officials plan an open house today in Oakley on the "experimental reintroduction" of the rare black-footed ferret on one or two private ranches in western Kansas.

The event will run from noon to 6:30 p.m. Mountain Time today at the 4-H Building, 200 Kaler Ave., in Oakley.

The event is sponsored by the Kansas office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and staff from Kansas State University Research and Extension, Fort Hays State University, Prairie Wildlife Research, the Nature Conservancy, Audubon of Kansas and partnering landowners.

Five private ranch landowners have expressed an interest in maintaining prairie-dog colonies for reintroduction of the ferrets, which depend on prairie dogs for prey and habitat.

The meeting comes after more than a year of discussions, site evaluations and planning by a network of conservation agencies and landowners, said Ron Klataske of Manhattan, Audubon of Kansas executive director.

Klataske said the organization would devote \$83,000 in a stewardship grant and other resources to develop a plan to limit expansion of prairie dog colonies from lands where they are wanted to neighboring fields.

This will allow the ranchers who want to maintain prairie dog colonies to accomplish wildlife con-

servaion goals in harmony with neighboring landowners, Klataske said. Vegetative buffers, combined with electric and poultry nefencing, and perimeter control of prairie dogs should reduce expansion of colonies and dispersal off of the research sites, he said. The groups also plan to help neighboring ranchers with control measures.

The management plan says prairie dogs are a native species, play a natural role in short-grass prairie ecosystems, and are regarded as a "keystone" species of significance in the conservation of other wildlife, including burrowing owls, swift foxes, golden eagles, ferruginous hawks, mountain plovers and the ferrets.

Mapping of prairie dog colonies in July determined suitable sites exist for an experimental reintroduction of the endangered species in Logan County, he said. One site south of Russell Springs contains a complex of prairie dog colonies occupying almost 6,000 acres. The heart of this complex is within a ranch owned by Larry Haverfield and includes property of two adjacent landowners equally dedicated to wildlife conservation, he said.

"It is the largest and most suitable site for reintroduction of black-footed ferrets in Kansas and possibly the whole of the central Great Plains," Klataske said. "These private ranch properties are already teaming with wildlife and ecologically equivalent to some national wildlife refuges."