

weather
report

52°

noon Monday



Today

•Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Wednesday

•Sunrise, 6:51 a.m.

•Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 31 degrees
- Humidity 16 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds northwest at 7 mph
- Barometer 30.36 inches and steady

•Record High today 75° (1939)

•Record Low today -8° (1972)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday 37°

Low Monday 20°

Precipitation —

This month —

Year to date 22.02

Above normal 2.6 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, high near 54, low around 21.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: Partly cloudy, high near 42, low around 17. Thursday: Mostly sunny, high near 45, low around 18. Friday: Mostly sunny, high near 53, low around 23. Saturday: Mostly sunny, high near 53, low around 21. Sunday: Mostly sunny, high near 48.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Dogs search buildings for bombs



Sgt. Kevin Cameron from the provost marshal's office at Fort Riley worked his dog around a door before going through in the administration building at Northwest Kansas Technical College on Thursday.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Students at the Northwest Kansas Technical College got the day off Friday after cleaners found a bomb threat scratched on the wall of a bathroom stall.

Bomb dogs — two from the Kansas Highway Patrol and two from Fort Riley — spent about 2 1/2 hours Thursday evening searching all 24 buildings on the campus without finding any bombs or evidence of bomb-making material.

The dogs and their handlers checked every room, closet and bathroom in each building. Troopers or police officers accompanied each dog handler to make sure there was nobody in the rooms being checked.

At the dorms, students were asked to leave their rooms and given the choice of going to a room that had been checked or standing out in the cold. Some chose to stand out in the cold and watch as the dogs went from room to room.

The Highway Patrol dogs quickly checked each of the bedrooms, bathrooms and closets in each section of the dorm complex. The dogs checked the laundry and maintenance buildings to be sure nothing was missed.

President Ken Clouse said Sunday he planned an all-campus meeting at 8 a.m. Monday at the student union to discuss what happened.

"This was an unfortunate event," said Clouse, who was caught in a winter storm in Topeka. "My staff did an outstanding job of handling the situation and kept me informed.

"You can't take anything for granted, and we did not want to treat this as insignificant. We have to be serious and vigilant about a situation like this.

"I appreciate Chief (Ray) Smee's involvement to acquire the assistance of the Highway Patrol and the army from Fort Riley.

"Fortunately they did not turn up anything. We do not want to overreact. We will make the lost day up on Dec. 21. We do not want to make a big deal about this, but we want the students to know we are serious.

"We are fortunate things worked out well."

Chief Smee said he was called about the possible bomb threat on Thursday morning, and the department treated it seriously.

"I think it is a hoax," Smee said Thursday evening while waiting for the bomb dogs to arrive from Topeka and Fort Riley, "but we are taking it seriously. I hope we find out who did this so we can send them the bill for the time and effort to make sure there is not a real bomb."

Smee said the bomb threat was found by the college cleaning crew Wednesday evening in a bathroom stall in the electrical and carpentry building and reported to Paul Chaffin, director of student services, Thursday morning.

The scratched message said "There is a bomb Friday. Bye f*****."

Chaffin said Thursday the college staff searched the buildings, calling police for assistance. He said after talking with Clouse by phone, they decided to close the college early on Thursday and to keep it closed on Friday.

Smee said when he talked to Clouse, the staff and police had searched the buildings and found nothing.

"Clouse asked if we could get a dog to check it out to make sure,"

See BOMBS, Page 8

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.69 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.91

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$3.69 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.43

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Milo — \$3.39 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.92 bushel

Posted county price — \$6

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Millet — \$7 hundredweight

Sunflowers

NuSun crop — \$12.95

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.)

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today

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Cowgirls win game

Junior Kaylee Billinger hit a jumper in the third quarter as the Cowgirls won their opening game against Imperial (Neb.) High on Friday, 64-40. Billinger scored 12 points. See photos and story on Page 9a.

School board tours technology center

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

The Goodland School Board toured the technology center built this year in a warehouse on Broadway during its meeting Monday.

Karla Murray, district technology coordinator, said so far the project has cost less than \$18,000. The estimate for the remodeling was \$25,960. The building at 14th and Broadway was a grocery at one time.

She said the summer work crew did most of the job, including lowering the ceilings, painting, electrical work and a new restroom.

The matter came up because Eagle Cable was laying new fiber-optic lines to carry cable and Internet signals in Goodland and the district needed to let them know where to run the Internet connections.

The building also got a new roof which, would have had to been done anyway, Murray said, and heat and air conditioning.

Finishing touches included carpet, work tables and chairs.

The center houses the district's Internet connections, technology offices and a classroom.

The office space will give Murray and her assistant, Brad Bergsma, room to work on computers.

The classroom is being used for curriculum development in technology for teachers, Murray said.

"This is the third year for the teacher laptop initiative by the district," she said.

"There are 24 participating this year. They learn how to use the digital tools as well as on-line sources"

The teacher gets a laptop computer to use as long as they are in the



Karla Murray, Goodland School District technology coordinator, showed the frame which holds computers that run internal con-

nections for the district the to members of the school board on Monday, Nov. 27.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

district, she said. They give up their desktop computer and have to spend 45 hours of off-school time on the initiative. An advanced group is

learning pod casting, web design and how to create on-line curriculum.

"We will have 64 complete the

course with the current group, which is about 71 percent of the staff," she said.

Looking around the center, she

said it provides a lot more room.

"It's hard to believe we had everything in that office at Central Elementary School," she said.

Survey crews start work on I-70

Two survey crews began work on Monday on I-70 with one from the Colorado state line to the Caruso exit west of town and a second from Edson east to the Thomas County line.

A team from the consultant firm Wilson and Co. will be surveying the I-70 section from the Colorado state line to Caruso over the next six months for the Kansas Department

of Transportation.

Officials said the section of I-70 is in a pool of projects being considered for a light surface rehabilitation.

A survey team from the consultant firm Shafer, Kline and Warren, Inc. will begin surveying today along Interstate-70 in Sherman County, from the Edson Interchange east to the Thomas County Line.

The survey is necessary for the detailed design of the proposed improvement of this section of I-70 — which is being considered for a light surface rehabilitation.

The work would be done, if the budget permits, after the Comprehensive Transportation Program

See I-70, Page 8

Ten numbers in ads

With 10 lucky numbers in the ads for Christmas on Us sponsors on Page 3b of today's Goodland Star-News, Dr. Carl Fieser of Dodge City was the second to claim \$50 in scrip to spend at participating merchants.

Dr. Fieser's wife came to Goodland with him to shop. One

of Feiser's nurses from the Goodland Regional Medical Center claimed his prize on Friday; the winning ticket had been drawn from High Plains Office Supply. Dr. Fieser said he was not sure where he would spend the

See NUMBERS, Page 7