

weather report

46°
at noon



Today

Sunset, 7:30 p.m.
Tomorrow
Sunrise, 5:59 a.m.
Sunset, 7:31 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temp. 55 degrees
- Humidity 93 percent
- Sky Cloudy with drizzle
- Winds NE 13
- Barometer 29.71 inches and rising
- Record High 96° (1989)
- Record Low 22° (1982)

Yesterday's Data

High 68°
Low 43°
Precipitation .25

Northwest Kansas

Tonight: Cloudy 70 percent chance of rain turning to snow; low 30-35; winds NE 10-20. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy 50 percent chance of rain; high 45-50; NE 15-25.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Monday: Rain Saturday; high 50-55; low 40. Chance of showers Sunday; high 60; low 40. Dry Monday; high 65-70; low 35-40.

24-hour weather information is broadcast at 162.400 MHz.

local markets



Noon

- Wheat — \$2.28 bu.
 - Posted county price — \$2.23
 - Loan deficiency payment — 22¢
 - Corn — \$1.83 bu.
 - Posted county price — \$1.92
 - Loan deficiency payment — 5¢
 - Milo — \$2.73 cwt.
 - Soybeans — \$2.90 bu.
 - Posted county price — \$4.20
 - Loan deficiency payment — 69¢
 - Millet — \$4.15 cwt.
 - Sunflowers
 - oil current — \$8.70 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency payment — \$1.71
 - oil 1999 crop — \$9 cwt.
 - conf. current — \$17/\$10 cwt.
 - Pintos - \$12 (new crop)
- Local markets courtesy of Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun and Frontier Equity
Local bean market courtesy of Prairie Pea and Bean

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press
1 p.m.

Missiles gut leader's house

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — NATO brought its firepower closer to President Slobodan Milosevic today, destroying one of his Belgrade homes in a daring attack that gutted the mansion and littered its yard with debris. Milosevic and his family were not inside the white, two-story house in Belgrade's wealthy Dedinje district at 4 a.m. (10 p.m. EDT Wednesday) when the missiles struck, the state-run news agency Tanjug reported. NATO says Milosevic spends each night in different bunkers. Tree limbs, pieces of concrete, shards of glass and other debris carpeted the columned mansion's grounds. Streaks of black soot dirtied the white arches where elegant windows once stood, and one side had a gaping hole. Yugoslav officials expressed outrage over what they said was an attempt to kill their leader.

Man shot by police turns himself in

By Tom Betz

Goodland Daily News

Instead of waiting for extradition proceedings in Nebraska, a Goodland man shot by police in January turned himself in to the Sherman County sheriff's office last week.

Tony Desaire, 25, was being sought on two charges of aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer involving an incident in Goodland the evening of Jan. 13. A sheriff's officer had gone to a house in Goodland to serve a warrant and Desaire allegedly fled into the backyard. He was shot when he came out

from under a bus in the darkened yard.

County Attorney Mike Irvin had been preparing to extradite Desaire from Grand Island, Neb., where he had been arrested on the Sherman County warrants on March 13.

Desaire was scheduled to be in Sherman District Court April 12 on a previous case, and appeared in front of District Court Judge Jack Burr. At that time, Irvin and Bonnie Selby, Desaire's attorney on one of the cases, agreed to allow Desaire to plead guilty to a class 9 non-person felony for aggravated assault in the case which dated back to

Feb. 3, 1998. Irvin said this agreement had been reached earlier and was scheduled to settle in December.

In the second case, dating from Aug. 30, Desaire plead to a level 6 person felony, aggravated assault against a law enforcement officer. The agreement was reached between Irvin and Jeff Mason, Desaire's attorney in the second case.

Judge Burr delayed sentencing on the two cases pending the outcome of the January cases.

Desaire's next appearance in District Court is scheduled for 9 a.m. May 4 on

the newest cases involving the alleged assault on law enforcement officers that occurred Jan. 13, when he was shot in the face and arm while resisting arrest on a failure to appear warrant from Thomas County. Irvin said the county did not request any additional bond because he had made bond in Nebraska.

Desaire was held in the Sherman County Bastille on two warrants from the City of Goodland, but Friday he posted a \$636 cash bond.

The two city warrants stem from a failure to appear on an alleged domestic battery charge filed Sept. 14, and

charges of disorderly conduct and damage to property. That case was scheduled for trial Jan. 13, but Desaire failed to appear and a warrant was issued.

The second warrant was for a failure to comply which stems from a case tried July 8 where Desaire was found guilty of battery and disorderly conduct. He was ordered to pay \$536 in fines and court costs. The warrant was issued because he had an outstanding balance of \$276 owing to the court.

He is scheduled to appear in municipal court for trial on the second case at 9 a.m. Wednesday.



Students celebrate Earth Day with work and fun

West Elementary first and second graders cleaned all city parks Wednesday for Earth Day. After picking up several bags at Gulick Park, these students got to take a break. Katie Clancey (above) did a somersault on the slide while John Vargas, Quinten Ragels and Jessica Lake waited their turn. Ben Waugh swung across on the bar (left) while Jay Cotter went even higher.

Photos by Nell Frohlich / Goodland Daily News

Police discover 'huge' bombs in school

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — Two large bombs were found today in Columbine High School, and investigators said the discovery added evidence to the possibility that others helped the two outcasts who massacred their schoolmates.

"We are seriously looking into the possibility that there were more than two involved because of the amount of bombs, ammunitions and the complexity," Sheriff John Stone said today.

Each of the bombs, hidden in the kitchen area, weighed at least 35 pounds, authorities said.

The bombs used propane tanks like the kind found on backyard barbecues.

"These subjects were not only on a killing rampage, but they were going to destroy the school," Stone said. The bombs were removed from the school, police said.

The sheriff made the announcement following a meeting with Attorney General Janet Reno at a church near the school.

Police and bomb-sniffing dogs continued their search of the school today, as investigators also turned their attention to the community, interview-

One victim's family from Colby

One of the victims of the Littleton, Colo., school shootings on Tuesday was the great-great-grandson of Velma Rohrbough of Colby. Daniel Lee Rohrbough died Wednesday at Columbine High School in Littleton as he was

holding a door open, relatives said. Daniel's father is Brian Rohrbough, and Brian's parents are Claude and Maxine Rohrbough. Funeral services are pending.

ing acquaintances, classmates and relatives of the gunmen.

"There were a large number of (explosive) devices and it wasn't done in a couple of hours," said District Attorney Dave Thomas. "It is possible other people were involved in constructing those devices."

Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, armed with sawed-off shotguns, a semiautomatic rifle, pistol and homemade bombs stuffed with nails and shotgun shells, killed 12 students and one teacher Tuesday. Then they killed themselves.

They left behind such a pile of ammunition and explosives that authorities were looking into whether they had help.

"That's a lot for two boys to carry," Stone said. "It was at least a conspiracy between two people. How much broader than that I do not know," Thomas said.

School officials today said Columbine will be closed indefinitely as damage is assessed. Other schools in the district reopened today, and officials said proms and graduations would go on as planned.

Columbine's prom took place earlier this month, and graduation is scheduled for early May, though officials did not say whether that would go on as scheduled. Students will finish out the school year at other schools.

The removal of the victims' bodies more than a day after the shootings allowed investigators to begin cataloging evidence and turn their attention to other issues.

"We're retracing the weapons and individual purchases to determine how these young adults obtained these illegal weapons," Rich Marianos of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said today.

Authorities said the bombs were made from materials that could have been bought at most hardware stores.

U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno arrived in Denver on Wednesday to talk about how to avert the next school shooting.

"We've got to get the guns out of the hands of

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State delay cuts county's tax check

By Tom Betz

Goodland Daily News

The additional quarter cent of countywide sales tax for repair of old U.S. 24 has brought in \$80,000 in the first few months of collection, says County Treasurer Shelby Miller.

Collection of the tax began in October, with the first check for \$11,756, from the state received in December for that month. The county received \$15,265 for November, \$21,513 for December, \$21,008 for January and \$10,706 for February, totalling \$80,248.

Miller says she was concerned when the total sales tax revenue for February brought in about \$20,412 for the county. She said that was a decrease of about 40 percent below the collections for the past years. Collections for February were \$34,000 in 1998 and \$25,000 in 1997.

Figures from the Kansas Department of Revenue for February also showed a 32 percent decrease for Sherman County, and raised red flags at both the county and city level.

A call to Steve Brunkan at in Topeka revealed that the February figures were underreported.

"We had problems getting all the returns processed," he said, adding that on the last day of the reporting period, the processing had been delayed by a bomb threat which kept the staff away from their tasks for several hours.

"We distributed about \$26 million in February, which is below the average of \$35 million, and we will be distributing about \$47 million in the March checks," he said.

A similar processing situation in April 1998 caused alarm bells to go off across the state when the checks received in May were well below expected levels. It was a bit more crucial at that time with the end of the fiscal year coming in June, and the counties trying to be sure they had enough money to finish the year.

Ron Harding, Goodland Chamber of Commerce executive director, said he was somewhat concerned by the February report, but said one month did not indicate a trend.

"Even with the February figures, the sales tax trend remains positive," Harding said.

When told about the problem in Topeka, Harding said it was good to have an explanation because the local business indications could not account for such a large drop in one month.

Through February, the county sales tax collections show a 10 percent increase, but Harding believes it is actually closer to the nearly 16 percent reported by the state in January.

"We could not believe the figures because of all the activity going on in our area," Harding said. "That is why we always compare these figures on a long-term basis rather than on an individual month. However, the monthly figures are watched by many people who might be making decisions based on these reports, and it is good to be able to explain why there is such a dramatic difference."

Based on an average of sales tax collections from July through January the February figure was down \$40,000. Sherman County showed slightly

more than a 10 percent increase in state sales tax collection through December 1998, and Thomas County had barely a three-quarter percent increase according to figures from the Kansas Department of Revenue.

However, Wallace County showed nearly a 19 percent increase in state sales tax collections over the six months of July through December 1998 for the largest increase in northwest Kansas. The actual increase in dollars is \$34,764 in state sales tax collections growing from \$183,845 in 1997 to \$218,609 in 1998.

While the percentage is lower for Sherman County, the increase in sales tax dollars collected is much larger at \$177,615, growing from \$1,736,799 in 1997 to \$1,914,414 in 1998.

For the same period, Thomas County shows an increase of .76 of 1 percent from \$2,184,242 in 1997 to \$2,200,896 for 1998.

Cheyenne County for the six months showed a decline of 6.27 percent, dropping from \$359,168 in 1997 to \$336,544 in 1998.

Co-op gives wheat boost

WICHITA (AP) — Farmland Industries is offering Kansas farmers an incentive to switch to hard white winter wheat, promising a production contract and guaranteed minimum premium to meet global demand for the crop.

The plan announced Wednesday would give growers at least 10 cents per bushel more than the posted wheat price, plus premiums based on crop quality, said Brett Myers of the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers. The joint announcement by Farmland and AGvantage IP Inc., a cooperative of seed growers, comes as the foundation seed for the newly released Henye and Betty varieties matures out in Kansas fields.

Just how much hard white wheat will be planted depends on how much seed is harvested this summer.