

## weather report

80°

at noon



### Today

• Sunset, 8:08 p.m.

### Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:22 a.m.  
• Sunset, 8:08 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 61 degrees  
• Humidity 46 percent  
• Sky mostly sunny  
• Winds south 26-35 mph  
• Barometer 29.98 inches  
and falling  
• Record High 94° (1956)  
• Record Low 34° (1951)

### Last 24 Hours\*

High 75°  
Low 46°  
Precipitation —

### Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy with 60 percent chance of severe thunderstorms. Low 55 with south winds 20-30 mph. Thursday: 20 percent chance for rain. High 80-85. South winds 10-20 mph.

### Extended Forecast

Friday through Sunday: Thunderstorms Friday, high 75-80, low 50-55. Chance of thunderstorms Saturday and Sunday, highs 75-80, lows 50-55. (National Weather Service)  
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## local markets



### Noon

Wheat — \$2.23 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.14  
Loan deficiency payment — 31¢  
Corn — \$1.69 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.83  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 16¢  
Milo — \$2.55 hundredweight  
Soybeans — \$3.94 bushel  
Posted county price — \$3.84  
Loan deficiency payment — 1.05¢  
Millet — \$4.00 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$7.70 cwt.  
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$2.01  
Oil new crop — \$7.95 cwt.  
Confection current — \$17/10 cwt.  
Pinto beans — \$12 (new crop)  
(Markets provided by Mueller Grain,  
Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op  
and Prairie Pea and Bean.)

## afternoon wire

Late news  
from the  
Associated  
Press



1 p.m.

## Truck drivers agree to pact

ARLINGTON, Va. — After all-night negotiations, the Teamsters union and companies that haul new cars to dealerships nationwide announced agreement today on a four-year contract.

The tentative agreement, which Teamsters officials said they expect will be ratified by union members, averted a strike.

Under the terms, drivers who choose to retire after 25 years of work would get better pension benefits, including health insurance for those age 55 and older, union officials said. Also, retirees over age 65 would get new prescription drug benefits to supplement government Medicare coverage.

Union President James P. Hoffa said the union had not yielded to the trucking companies' major demands to pay newly hired drivers less and hire some part time.

# All but nine escape as jet slams into pole

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — An American Airlines flight with 145 people aboard skidded off a runway while landing during a gusty hail storm, broke apart and burst into flames. Three sources familiar with the investigation said nine people were known to have been killed.

The deaths in the crash just before midnight Tuesday were the first on a major U.S. airline in nearly 1 1/2 years. After sliding down the rain-slickened runway in winds gusting to nearly 90 mph, the twin-engine Super MD-80 slammed into a steel light tower, split into pieces, caught fire and wound up on the edge of the Arkansas River.

As flames spread through the plane, some passengers squeezed one by one

through an emergency exit while others escaped through openings created when the plane's fuselage fractured. They scrambled away from the plane across lowlands near the river in darkness, rain and hail.

"We grabbed each other and ran away," said Missy Lewis, traveling with her husband and teen-age daughter.

Sources familiar with the investigation said authorities could account for nine deaths in the crash of Flight 1420 from Dallas.

The plane's captain was among those who died and its first officer had a broken leg, said Bob Baker, the airline's executive vice president of flight operations. One flight attendant had a broken leg and another had hip or pelvic prob-

lems. Two others were not injured.

At least 83 people were injured and taken to hospitals. Fifty-one others did not require hospital treatment. Two people were not immediately accounted for.

"You don't know if anyone on impact was thrown into the swamp," American Airlines spokesman John Hotard said.

Barrett Baber, a student at Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia, said the plane made a fast approach to the airport as lightning raged. Hail pelted him once he got out, he said.

"The plane was going so fast, when we hit the ground, we went off the end of the runway," Baber said at a theater-aerospace museum near the airport

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# Wheat crop looking good as big storms pass by area

By Keith Lippoldt

*The Goodland Daily News*

The 1999 wheat crop, despite a few challenges from the weather, appears to have high yield potential and should be ready for harvest within three weeks.

Above average moisture levels, cool temperatures and damaging winds and hail throughout the region have added to the stress levels of farmers, but have not affected the wheat too severely.

"This appears to be another typical harvest year," said Dale Hazuka, crop production manager for Frontier Equity in Goodland. "This harvest has outstanding yield potential. We have seen a little freeze damage in low spots and some hail damage in the area, but there is not a lot of disease."

Hazuka added that his staff has sprayed some fields that were affected by Russian wheat aphids, but on a very limited basis.

Across the state, the wheat crop was rated 18 percent excellent, 53 percent good, 22 percent fair, 5 percent poor and 2 percent very poor, according to the latest numbers from Kansas Agricultural Statistics.

The same report stated that 18 percent of the wheat crop has started to change color as opposed to 35 percent last year at this time.

In south central Kansas, combines will be in the fields around the 20th of June, just slightly ahead of this area.

"At this point it would be hard to put a yield on this crop," said Bob Parker, an agronomist and farm manager in Iuka. "Some years, you are pleasantly surprised and other years you wonder where it went. I would say that in our sandy ground around here, we should get between 40 and 60 bushels."

Parker has toured western Kansas this past week and he expects that the whole western half of the state will cut about the same time.

Larry McDaniel of Frontier Equity



The wheat has begun to change colors in Northwest Kansas from the bright green to where it is now showing shades of gold. The 1999 harvest is expected to get underway in this region in about three weeks.

Photos by Keith Lippoldt/The Goodland Daily News

explains that the climate in southern Kansas generally puts the growing conditions in that region of the state two to three weeks ahead of the northwest.

"The higher heat and humidity in the southern and eastern sections of the state produce more heat units," McDaniel said. "The heat units warm the soil temperature, and with the additional moisture, the plants are ahead of those in this area. By having less heat units, our growing cycle is slowed."

Although this has been a cooler and wetter spring than normal, it is not all bad for the crop.

"The limiting factor for this wheat crop will be Mother Nature," Hazuka said. "We have received adequate moisture and we have good wheat pollination temperatures. Now we just have to wait and see what happens."



This recently completed grain bunker will be used to store wheat by Frontier Equity Co-op in Goodland.

# Mayor flexes her legs for statewide bike ride

By Charlie Baker

*The Goodland Daily News*

Kanorado Mayor Hazel Estes wants to get a different perspective of her home state, so Saturday she is going to join about a thousand others in the annual Bike Across Kansas.

Estes, in her early 60s, has lived in Kanorado most of her life, and for the last eight years has been the mayor. She said she hadn't ridden a bike in years, but decided to buy one last year.

"It's great," she said. "I have 24 speeds. I don't have to work that hard, and I don't worry about hills at all."

The mayor said she has been conditioning all year, working on a stationary bike most of the winter. Now that the weather is getting nice, she does 10 to 15 miles a day, and about 35 to 40 on weekends.

Just to get a taste of what it will be like to do the almost 500 miles, Estes did the first leg of the trip last weekend, from the state line west of Tribune to Scott City.

"I did great," she said. "It wasn't bad at all, but no amount of conditioning can prepare you for sitting on that seat for 60 miles."

The scenery, camaraderie and challenge are what she says prompted her to want to do the trip.

"There are some riders older than me," she said, "and there are a lot of riders younger than me."

"But there are a lot of younger people who couldn't come close to doing the trip."

The event is eight days, June 5-12. It ends in Louisburg, near the Missouri boarder, with stops in Scott City, Ness City, Great Bend, Lindsborg, Abilene, Council Grove and Ottawa.

The organizers provide a place to put

a sleeping bag each night, usually a gymnasium. There is support along the way, including medical and mechanical help for those that need it. Fruit and water are always available.

There are two other routes, all about the same distance, and all come together in Ottawa for the last leg of the journey, with an estimated 300 bikers on each.

So if you see a hearty group of bikers on the back Kansas highways next week, share the road with them, and the sense of adventure that drives them.



Dolly Irvin (left) stood next to her surfboard on La Jolla Beach in California with Isabelle Tihanyl (right), Surfdiva surfing school owner, after her first lesson. They are giving the symbol for "hang loose," a surfing term.

# Surfin' Dolly finds she can 'hang loose' with young beach set

By Janet Craft

*The Goodland Daily News*

Surfing. Riding the crest of a huge ocean wave, balancing on a tiny wooden board. Wiping out. Drenched. Sunburned. Exuberant.

Most of us flatlanders might be scared to try, especially those of us over 60, but not Goodland's Dolly Irvin.

Irvin, 68, flew out to Los Angeles in early May to visit her daughter and son-in-law, Lori and Terry Connerton. She was accompanied by another daughter and son-in-law, Sonia and Charlie Stallard from Colorado Springs.

After arriving, Lori asked her mother if she wanted to go surfing and Irvin replied, "I'd love to." So the next day, the five of them headed for La Jolla Beach, near San Diego, for lessons.

The school that Irvin's daughter, Surfdiva (surf goddess), teaches only women. The owner, Isabelle "Izzy" Tihanyl, doesn't teach much anymore, as she has several instructors and is involved in competition.

However, when she heard about Irvin, wanted to teach her herself, as she is the oldest person ever to come to the school.

Irvin said that the waves were very aggressive that day. The first thing the instructor told the group was to shuffle their feet.

When they asked why, Irvin said, she told them that there were baby stingrays on the bottom. The movement would scare the stingrays and they would scatter, she said.

Irvin said that she started out by laying on her stomach and hanging her toes over the back of the board. She positioned her arms so she could swim in the water.

The instructor took Irvin out to where the water was up to her neck. She was told to start out facing the waves and let the first one go by. Then she watched for a big wave, and when she saw one coming, she

turned around quickly and lay down on her board. She started swimming to stay ahead of it.

As soon as the wave caught the board, it just carried her all the way in. The instructor thought that the reason she was able to do that the first time was because of her weight.

"It's just kind of like floating," was Irvin's description of what surfing felt like. "You could see the wave and you're on top of the wave. It's not rough, not bumpy."

After going a few times on her stomach, she got up on her knees, with her arms straight out. The instructor said that no one is able to stand on their board the first time they go out.

"I can't wait to get back," Irvin said, saying she wants to learn to surf standing up.

Irvin was knocked off the board one time when she didn't see a wave that was coming from the side and caught her off guard. She said the instructor taught her to put her hand up above her head to push the board away from her.

They had to wear wet suits that covered their entire bodies in the cold water. A wide piece of Velcro was fastened to the ankle of their weaker leg, which had a string attached that was connected to the board. That way, when they were knocked off their board, they wouldn't have to go a long way to get it.

Irvin said she had no sore muscles the day after surfing, unlike her daughters and son-in-law. She feels her job at Wal-Mart keeps her in good shape, as she lifts heavy boxes and climbs ladders. Also, Irvin has walked five miles every day for about four years.

Her instructor, said Irvin was an inspiration Irvin to other people and asked permission to put her picture on the Surfdiva web site as the oldest person that they have ever given lessons to. It should appear on the site sometime in June or July.



Mayor of Kanorado Hazel Estes preparing for Bike Across Kansas