

weather report

79°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 6:46 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:35 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:44 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 59 degrees

• Humidity 15 percent

• Sky sunny

• Winds southwest at 7 mph

• Barometer 30.12 inches and steady

• Record High 96° (1939)

• Record Low 30° (1983)

Last 24 Hours*

High 73°

Low 41°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: clear, low near 45, northwest winds 5 to 15 mph.

Thursday: partly cloudy, high near 80, north winds 5 to 15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday through Saturday: dry, lows 45 to 50, highs near 85.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.17 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.06

Loan deficiency payment — .39¢

Corn — \$1.60 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.60

Loan deficiency prnt. — .39¢

Milo — \$2.24 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.04

Loan deficiency payment — .85¢

Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$6.20 cwt.

Loan deficiency prnt. — \$2.85

Oil new crop — \$6.20 cwt.

Confection current — ask

Pinto beans — \$17 (new crop)

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and Prairie Pea and Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Manhunt on for escapee

COUNCIL GROVE—Aman let out of his jail cell to smoke a cigarette climbed a fence topped with razor wire and escaped hours after being sentenced to almost 42 years for shaking a toddler to death.

Scotty Adam remained at large this morning as about 60 law enforcement officers searched a heavily wooded area near the Morris County Jail through the night, said Scott Teeselink, spokesman for the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. The search continued into this morning.

“As far as we know, he was not armed,” said Bill Deppish, sheriff of neighboring Geary County, said Tuesday.

“The information we got is he had a visitation with his girlfriend, then he was in some kind of exercise yard and perhaps went over some barbed wire, or concertina wire, and that’s the last he was seen,” Deppish said.

Handling those natural gas fires



This group of volunteer firemen from Stratton, Colo., learned techniques to control a natural gas fire Tuesday. About 64 firemen from Stratton, Burlington, Hugo and Cheyenne Wells, Colo., and Goodland fire departments, gathered north of Goodland to learn procedures to control gas fires. The event was put on by Peoples Natural Gas Co. The company trained employees earlier in the day, and invited the fire departments to the evening session.

Photo by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News

K-27 project costs skyrocket; city rejects bid

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Plans for rebuilding the four-lane section of K-27 in southwest Goodland may be dead, since a single, high bid received by the state would increase the city’s share from an estimated \$260,000 to more than \$1 million.

Saying the city couldn’t afford the huge increase, city commissioners made a motion Monday to approve the project between Broadcast Plaza south of I-70 and the junction with Business U.S. 24, and then proceeded to vote it down unanimously.

City Manager Ron Pickman said the original agreement with the state Department of Transportation was that the

city would be responsible for 20 percent of the estimated total cost of \$1.3 million. The city had budgeted \$260,000 to cover this match.

“If the project had been let in February as originally scheduled, I am sure there would have been a better price and we would be underway,” Pickman said. “The state delayed this project with redesigns and when the bids were opened last week, there was only one bidder.”

When the bid was opened, the amount was \$1.7 million. In addition, there was \$107,000 for design costs and 18 percent for engineering and administration of the project. With these added, in the project total would be over \$2 million.

Pickman said the state has said the city would be responsible for anything over the original estimate. This would mean the city’s portion of the project would be about \$1 million.

“There is no way we can recommend that the city approve this project,” Pickman told the commissioners. “The only course we have is to reject the project and see if we can find an alternative.”

Commissioner Rick Billinger made the motion to approve the contract with a second by Commissioner Curtis

Hurd. The motion had to be made to approve, but then all four commissioners present voted against approval.

“At this time, the project is dead, but we will try to work with the Topeka office ... to see if there is an alternative way to do this project,” Pickman said this morning. “We will also be interested in seeing the actual bid tabulations to see where the estimates were low, and to compare these with our Cherry Street project, which has not been let yet.

“We feel it would be better to shift our

money to the local street project if needed, rather than pursue the state highway project. We will try to show the state officials the continued deterioration of the area on K-27, and hope to find a way to accomplish this project.”

The commission rescheduled the next regular meeting from Oct. 4 to Monday, Oct. 11.

The commission will hold a special meeting at 12:30 p.m. Friday to address the water and ball park financing and the architectural contract for the water park.

Air tests show no problems

Fertilizer mixing operations at Collingwood Grain’s elevator on West 17th Street apparently are not polluting the air or causing a health hazard, city officials say.

Following a complaint to the Goodland City Commission on Monday by Dave Krayca about the operation, said City Manager Ron Pickman, a state inspector was in town Tuesday and tested the air as the mixing was being done.

“He tested the air both in and near the steam cloud and did not find anything that would be considered a problem,” Pickman said. “We have his report, and believe Collingwood Grain is within the requirements.”

Krayca complained the mixing was causing him breathing problems. He said he had been overcome by fumes from the steam cloud and had made a trip to the hospital emergency room because of breathing problems.

Nation escapes crisis, says Senate Y2K report

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate’s Y2K panel, in its final report before the dawning of the new year 100 days from now, predicts today the nation will escape nationwide crises from computer failures but individual Americans can expect some inconveniences.

“This is sort of a fender-bender, we don’t see any major wrecks here,” Sen. Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, ranking Democrat on the Y2K panel, said at the release of the 228-page report.

Disruptions from computer failures, concurred Sen. Robert Bennett, R-Utah, chairman of the panel, “will not occur across the nation. They will occur across the street.”

The report stressed that while problems will be mostly localized, “disruptions will occur and in some cases, those disruptions will be significant.”

It said doctors’ offices, school systems, local government functions such as 911 services and small businesses are the most vulnerable to computer breakdowns. Dodd said there was concern that some states are not yet ready to handle Medicaid claims that the nation’s poorer citizens depend on.

Overseas, where many countries have

lagged behind in fixing computers, the situation “will certainly be more tumultuous.”

John Koskinen, President Clinton’s chief Y2K adviser, said he and the Senate committee were “pretty much in agreement on where the risks are.”

The bottom line, he said, is that “there will be some glitches, and nobody is guaranteeing perfection even in the sectors” where much money and technical know-how has been employed.

The Senate report emphasized that national preparations have gone well — federal agencies are ready, air traffic control systems are fixed, nationwide power grids will work, banks will have plenty of money and Medicare health claim payments should go out on schedule.

The prospects are less predictable for smaller businesses and public functions that haven’t had the money or technical ability to fix their computers, the report said.

“Y2K could affect individuals, but exactly what manner is unknown,” it said. Problems “will hit sporadically, based on geography, size of organization and level of preparedness, and will cause inconveniences than tragedies.”

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

Sixty years ago come next month, Bill Kelley bought his first motorcycle. Kelley, now 80, will be the grand marshal at the motorcycle show that is part of the 12th annual Flatlander Fall Festival.

The motorcycle he bought in 1939 was a 1936 80-cubic-inch Harley Davidson flathead. That was the beginning of a love affair that would last over six decades.

Kelley lived in Denver at the time, working for the Gates Rubber Co.

Thinking back over the years, he said the worst experience he ever had on a motorcycle happened in 1940. He was traveling to work down Broadway Street in Denver when someone pulled out and hit him.

“You can’t believe how far I skidded from just going 25 miles an hour,” he said, adding that he was skinned up pretty good, but nothing serious.

“We have never had a serious accident,” he said. “I have always felt like we had a guardian angel following us.”

He and his wife Eleanor moved to Goodland in 1948. He was a mechanic for over 30 years, working at Jensen Motors, Handy Chevrolet, and Knudson’s garage, to name a few.

It fit right in with his love for motorcycles.

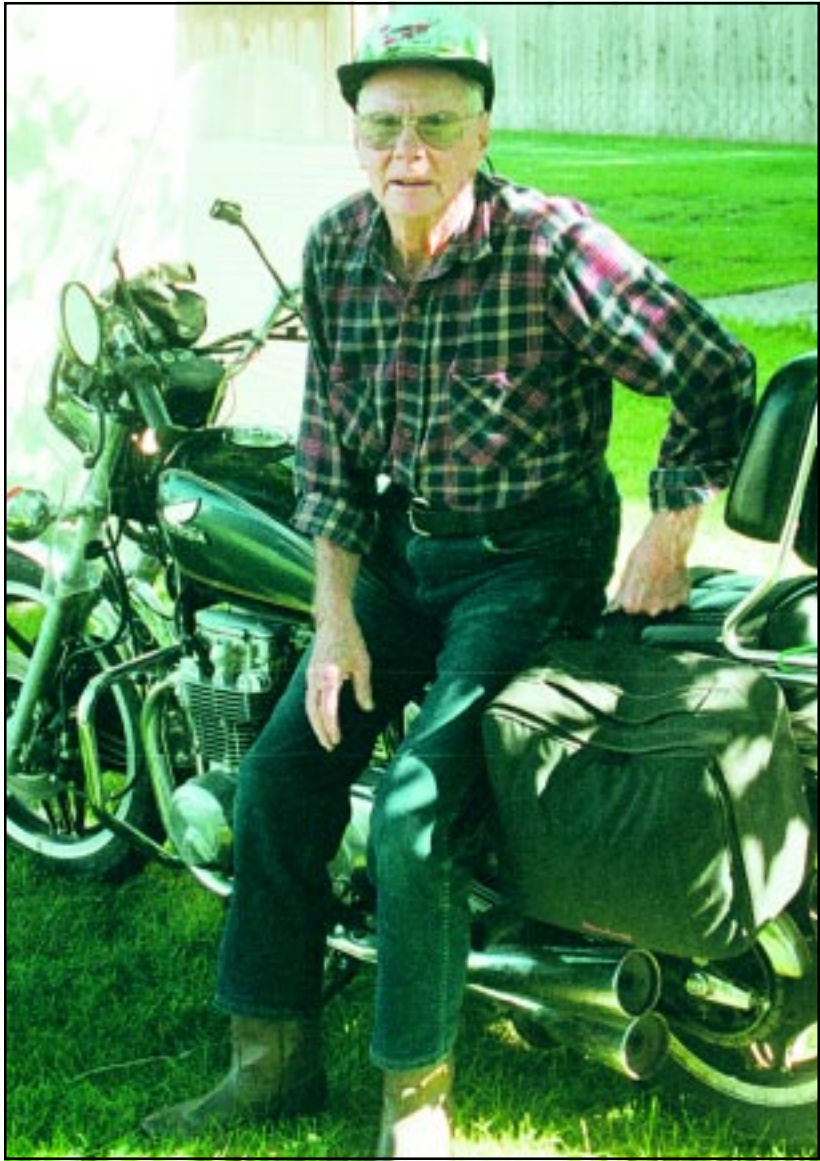
“I would blow ’em up, then tear them down,” he said.

After owning five Harleys, the Kelleys switched to Hondas in the late 1970s.

“In 1979, Eleanor bought me a Gold Wing for my 60th birthday,” he said. “The Harleys just couldn’t match the smooth, nice ride of the Japanese motorcycles.”

He and his wife have traveled just about everywhere on their motorcycle. “I guess we have racked up over 110,000 miles over the years,” he said, adding that they are now on their fifth Honda.

Mrs. Kelley said she is glad her hus-



Bill Kelley

band got her interested in motorcycles.

“I think I loved it more than him,” she said. “I would sit on the back of the motorcycle, my camera on my wrist, and snap pictures of whatever I saw.”

They have pictures of wildlife from Yellowstone National Park and scenery from all over.

“This was something I never expected to do,” she said. “I sure am glad we did get to do and see all the things

we have done.”

The Kelleys still own a motorcycle. “I bought a little 650 Honda,” he said. “The big, heavy motorcycles were too much for the short trips around town.”

He goes for coffee about twice a week on his bike.

“Every once and a while, we take a ride to St. Francis or Sharon Springs,” he said.