

weather
report

65°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 5:58 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:05 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:57 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 56 degrees

• Humidity 27 percent

• Sky sunny

• Winds variable at 3 mph

• Barometer 30.31 inches
and falling

• Record High 84° (1975)

• Record Low 19° (1936)

Last 24 Hours*

High 77°

Low 35°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly clear, low near 30,
light winds.

Saturday: mostly sunny, high near
70, south winds 5 to 15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday through Tuesday: dry,
lows near 30, highs near 70.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.09 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.05

Loan deficiency payment — 40¢

Corn — \$1.49 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.58

Loan deficiency prmt. — 41¢

Milo — \$2.17 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.97 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.92

Loan deficiency payment — 97¢

Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.85 cwt.

Loan deficiency prmt. — \$3.79

Oil new crop — \$5.85 cwt.

Confection current — \$9 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$15 (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.

Man indicted
in girl's death

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Keith D. Nelson has been indicted on two federal counts that allege he kidnapped and sexually abused 10-year-old Pamela Butler of Kansas City, Kan., in a way that caused her death.

U.S. Attorney Steve Hill asked Attorney General Janet Reno to approve seeking the death penalty.

A federal grand jury charged Nelson, 24, of Kansas City, Mo., with aggravated kidnapping resulting in death and interstate travel to commit aggravated sexual abuse of a child resulting in death.

Nelson is not technically charged with murder but Hill said "for all practical purposes, this is a kidnapping and homicide case."

Nelson appeared in federal court shortly after the indictments were announced. The judge found enough evidence to detain him, and agreed to appoint two defense attorneys for him.

Mrs. Dole's decision
no surprise to Kansans

TOPEKA (AP) — Elizabeth Dole's decision to abandon her campaign for the Republican presidential nomination disappointed some Kansans but generally didn't surprise them.

Supporters and two political scientists say the wife of former U.S. Sen. Bob Dole just wasn't able to raise enough money to compete with Texas Gov. George W. Bush, the perceived front-runner for the Republican nomination.

"People are going to give to the person they think can win, and they obviously think George Bush can win," said Shirley Haines, a Wichita resident who gave Mrs. Dole's campaign \$1,000. "I think she'd make a wonderful president, but that's just the breaks."

Some of Mrs. Dole's supporters also hope that she will be considered seriously as a potential running mate for Bush.

Nestor Weigand Jr., a Wichita real estate executive who contributed \$1,000 to Mrs. Dole's campaign, said she positioned herself nicely for a shot at the vice presidency.

Weigand ran for the 1990 GOP gubernatorial nomination, losing narrowly to incumbent Gov. Mike Hayden.

"She was smart enough not to beat up on Mr. Bush at any point during the campaign," Weigand said. "She never once

hit him in the nose, in my opinion, saying he has 42 shortcomings or whatnot."

Joseph Unekis, a political science professor at Kansas State University, said he suspects Mrs. Dole lacked the "fire in the belly" that drives other politicians such as the Clintons or Vice President Al Gore.

"Money is kind of a cover for all of the other problems that she's having," Unekis said.

Although Dole finished as high as second in some polls, she still had raised only \$5 million to Bush's \$57 million.

Burdett Loomis, a political science professor at the University of Kansas and acting director of a public policy institute named for Bob Dole, said her candidacy had potential.

But he said that wasn't enough to bring her support. He said Republicans, after not holding the White House for eight years want a winner.

"She has never run for anything," Loomis said of Mrs. Dole.

But all the talk about how little money Mrs. Dole raised compared to Bush bothers Robert Billings, a Lawrence real estate executive who donated \$250 to Mrs. Dole.

"I'm just sorry it costs so darn much for campaigning," he said. "Politics has deteriorated to the level of a joke."

School board being asked
to add girls fast pitch softball

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

The idea of introducing fast pitch softball into Goodland's girls athletic program is one of the topics that will be discussed at Monday's school board meeting.

Jerry Fairbanks, a sponsor of the Girls Fast pitch Association, and a coach of 14 and under Goodland team last year, will ask the board to consider starting a team.

"I think the district needs more girls sports," Fairbanks said.

He said that Scott City and Ulysses already such teams, and Colby is starting a team this year.

Fairbanks said there are several girls that have played in the Fast pitch Association that are interested in compet-

ing in a scholastic league.

The school board meeting will be at 6:20 this week, in the band room of the high school. The jazz band will perform for the board.

After the band performance, the board will move to the fieldhouse addition to tour the weight room and dressing rooms.

School Superintendent Marvin Selby will update the board on the progress of the building project.

The board will also hear from Certified Public Accountant Brian Staats, who will discuss the 1998-1999 audit report.

The meeting will be at 6:20, at the band room of the high school, and then move to the Max Jones Fieldhouse addition.

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

The rest of the state is catching up to Goodland and the Northwest Kansas Technical School, as the Kansas Board of Regents signed an agreement in September that provides for students at Kansas technical schools to transfer credits from their studies to state community colleges.

The agreement covers all Kansas vocational schools, vocational technical schools, technical colleges, and community colleges.

The agreement allows students of vocational and technical schools, who have completed their prescribed programs with a grade of C or better, to transfer 42 credit hours into a community college.

The students will then have to successfully complete 16 hours at the community college, including at least three classes in communications, mathematics and science, social science, arts and humanities, and health and/or physical education.

After completing the required classes, the student will be eligible for either an Associate in General Studies or Associate in Applied Science degree.

The Northwest Kansas Technical School has had such an agreement with Colby Community College since 1978.

Larry Keirns, director of the school, said currently, about 25 percent of their graduates earn a degree through Colby.

"70 of our 283 graduates in 1999 earned their associates degree," he said.

A student can take all the classes they need for their degree right on the technical school grounds, because of an arrangement made with Colby Community College.

The college sends instructors to the technical school three days a week. The technical school has arranged class schedules so students in each two year

program can complete the required classes and earn their degree at the same time they earn their certificate.

"The tuition and fees are paid to Colby Community College," said Keirns.

Keirns said students graduating with the associates degree in the Communications Technology program are guaranteed \$1,500 a year increase in their starting salaries.

Blood drive reaches goal



Wally Neill, Goodland, took time through the noon hour on Wednesday to donate blood at the American Red Cross Blood Drive held at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. She was worked on by Carmen Belling, Hays, who is a Tech II. Dolly Irvin, local blood drive chairperson, said their goal was 100 units, which they met with a total of 102 units collected. "We made our goal, so we were very pleased," she said. Irvin said they had a lot of first time donors and walk-ins. People heard about the blood drive on the radio or read about it in the paper and came in. They even had a man from Atwood who saw the blood mobile and came to give blood. Once people give, they learn it isn't so bad and that it helps save lives, and they usually return, Irvin said. The blood mobile will be returning to Goodland on Jan. 25.

Photo by Janet Craft / The Goodland Daily News

Technical students can jointly attend Colby



Erika Craghead, an instructor from Colby Community College, teaches Northwest Kansas Technical School students fundamentals of math, a

course offered by the college to allow students to earn their associates degrees while attending the technical school.

Photo by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News

The Northwest Kansas Technical School, like many other Kansas technical schools, has more students applying than they can serve.

"We have the demands from the employers for the students," said Keirns, "and we have the demand from the students."

"But the school doesn't have the funds or ability to meet those demands."

"To double the com-tech program," he said, "it would cost \$250,000 just to pay the faculty, staff, and expenses for the building."

The school now has pre-enrolled students in the communications technology program through September of 2002, for a total of 308 students..

Communications network technology, a similar but different program, has

53 students pre-enrolled.

Electronics technology has 27 students pre-enrolled.

Keirns said the school needs increased funding from the state to meet the demands of the prospective students.

"We are the most viable training there is," he said. "We are training the workforce of Kansas, our people are getting the jobs."