

weather
report

56°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:41 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:20 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:40 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 51 degrees

• Humidity 31 percent

• Sky mostly sunny

• Winds east at 14 mph

• Barometer 30.29 inches
and falling

• Record High 79° (1921)

• Record Low 8° (1967)

Last 24 Hours*

High 79°

Low 39°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly clear, low near 25,
east winds 5 to 15 mph.

Saturday: mostly sunny, high near
75, southwest winds 5 to 15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: dry, low near 35, high
near 80.

Monday: dry, low near 35, high
near 75.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.15 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.15

Loan deficiency payment — 30¢

Corn — \$1.53 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.64

Loan deficiency prmt. — 35¢

Milo — \$2.23 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.97 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.04

Loan deficiency payment — 85¢

Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.75 cwt.

Loan deficiency prmt. — \$3.95

Oil new crop — \$5.75 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.

Capital murder
charges filed

MCPHERSON — A man ac-
cused of killing his three children
could face the death penalty after an
amended complaint alleging capi-
tal murder was filed, prosecutors
said Thursday.

Prosecutors did not say they
would seek the death penalty for
Christopher Jones, although the
new charge opens the possibility.

Jones, 46, is accused of killing his
three children in their Lindsborg
home last month.

The new complaint charges him
with one count of capital murder,
two counts of first-degree murder
and one count of attempted first-
degree murder, said Mary Tritsch,
a spokeswoman for Attorney Gen-
eral Carla Stovall.

The complaint alleged Jones
killed his sons Joshua, 5, and Chris-
topher, 7, by slashing their throats.
Two-year-old Sarah also died, but
the complaint didn't say how.

City, county receive grants

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The City of Goodland has been
awarded a community development
grant to continue demolishing aban-
doned buildings and Sherman County
has been awarded money to purchase
a used fire truck for Kanorado.

Tuesday Gov. Bill Graves an-
nounced the communities that will re-
ceive Community Development Block
Grants and Goodland will receive
\$57,500 for the demolition project.
Sherman County will receive \$30,000
for the fire truck purchase.

Sherman County and Goodland are
sharing in a \$5,050,848 pool which is
administered and awarded by the state
Department of Commerce and Hous-
ing.

For the city, the \$57,500 will be
matched by \$51,360 in local money to
continue the program of demolishing
substandard houses, and this time will
also allow the demolition of some aban-
doned commercial structures. City
Manager Ron Pickman told the city
commission in August, when the grant
application was approved, the money
should allow the city to demolish at
least 16 houses or buildings.

Pickman said the city has applica-
tions for demolition of several homes
and a few commercial buildings which
may qualify for this program.

Sherman County Rural Fire Chief
Kenny Griffith told the county commis-

sioners when the grant application was
approved that stationing a fire truck in
Kanorado should reduce fire insurance
rates for property owners in the town.

Griffith said he has been looking at
information on used pumpers and
thinks a good one from the mid-1980s
can be purchased for about \$30,000. He
said the rural fire district will put about
\$6,000 in to help pay the administrative
costs of the grant.

Griffith said the Western Sherman
County fire district provides all the fire
coverage for Kanorado, with citizens of
that city paying special district taxes.
They have two trucks stationed at the
firehouse in Kanorado, but many times,
both are needed for rural fires, leaving
the town unprotected.

The chief said there were enough
volunteer firemen to cover both the
existing trucks and the new one, and
that there also are mutual aid agree-
ments with both Goodland and Bur-
lington in case help is needed.

The used fire truck being sought
would have a 750-gallon-per-minute
pump, and be certified by the National
Fire Protection Agency, Griffith said.
The truck would only be used in the
town of Kanorado, but would be
housed in the current rural fire district
garage.

It will be several months before the
truck is actually purchased, but with the
approval of the grant, they can begin
looking for one.

Financial 'supermarkets' next

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress
is paving the way to a blossoming of
financial "supermarkets" that sell
loans, investments and insurance poli-
cies by passing a far-reaching overhaul
of laws more than a half-century old.

President Clinton says he is eager to
sign the bipartisan legislation, which
tears down Depression-era legal bar-
riers separating banks, investment firms
and insurance companies.

The Senate vote on Thursday after-

noon was an overwhelming 90-8, with
seven Democrats and one Republican
saying no. The House vote several
hours later was 362-57, with Republi-
cans in solid support and Democrats
split.

Clinton's support for the legisla-
tion comes despite warnings from Demo-
cratic critics that it could lead to price-
gouging of consumers and the forma-
tion of financial conglomerates that are
simply too big and powerful.

Even after cuts, officials cold to tax increase

By John Hanna

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — Legislators worry about
the spending cuts they'll have to make
next year, but few of them appear ready
to embrace Senate President Dick
Bond's proposal to increase taxes.

Bond, R-Overland Park, contends the
state faces budget problems because
Gov. Bill Graves and legislators cut taxes
too much in recent years.

However, other legislators have
quickly dismissed Bond's proposal that
sales or school property taxes should be
increased.

"Dick's just wrong," House Speaker

Robin Jennison, R-Healy, said Thursday.
"We did not cut taxes too much."

Bond, who is not running for re-elec-
tion next year, proposed a tax increase
Wednesday, the same day the Consensus
Estimating Group issued new projec-
tions for state revenue collections for the
current and next budget years. The group
includes state officials and economists,
and by law, Graves and legislators must
use its numbers.

The new estimates will require the
state to cut its spending by \$108 million
over the next 20 months. During Graves'
tenure, sales, income and property taxes
have been cut \$1.8 billion.

Making the task more difficult are
promises that Graves and the Legislature
already have made.

During the 1999 session, legislators
approved an increase in public schools'
base budgets of \$50 per pupil for the
2000-01 academic year, at a cost of \$30
million. They also committed to spend
\$21 million more on higher education.

Graves has promised to spend \$14.7
million more on social services to elimi-
nate waiting lists for in-home services for
the frail elderly, developmentally dis-
abled and physically disabled.

"The emperor has no clothes," Bond
said Thursday. "No one wants to admit

that we miscalculated on our tax cutting
estimates, but we have met the enemy,
and he is us."

His proposal for increasing sales and
school property taxes drew immediate
criticism from Democratic legislative
leaders. Bond didn't offer specific details
on his proposal.

Senate Minority Leader Anthony
Hensley wondered whether Bond's true
agenda was repealing tax relief measures
designed to help working families, such
as an income tax rebate designed to com-
pensate them for the sales tax they pay
on groceries.

"Senator Bond knows that the chance

of legislative approval of a tax increase
in an election year is zero," said Hensley,
D-Topeka. All 40 Senate and 125 House
seats will be filled in next year's elec-
tions.

Like Hensley, House Minority Leader
Jim Garner, D-Coffeyville, took issue
with what he said was Bond's blaming
the state's budget problems on tax relief
for the poor. In his Overland Park speech,
Bond listed a series of initiatives, includ-
ing ones championed by Democrats.

"I think raising taxes is an overreac-
tion," Garner said. "You've got to make
value judgments and set priorities on
where we're going to make cuts."

Cuts will delay prison repairs

TOPEKA (AP) — The Department
of Corrections plans to delay some
prison repair projects to save money,
and two Democratic legislators worry
that budget cuts could have more seri-
ous effects.

The department outlined specific
proposals for cutting its central office
budget in its monthly newsletter,
mailed this week to legislators, other
state officials and reporters. The news-
letter also listed how much each prison
will have to cut from its current spend-
ing.

The list is a response to Gov. Bill
Graves' proposal for \$43 million in
cuts in the current state budget.

Graves proposed cutting all general
fund spending 1 percent, except for
payments on bonds and teacher pen-
sions, and the prison system's share is
\$1.92 million. The general fund is the
largest source of money for govern-
ment programs and where the state de-
posits most of its tax revenues.

Under new revenue estimates, the
state will have to cut \$108 million in
general fund spending during the cur-
rent and next budget years.

"It was stuff at the bottom of the list,"
Corrections spokesman Bill Miskell

said of the delayed projects. "You take
the stuff that is the lowest priority."

Democrats have criticized Graves'
proposed cuts, describing them as in-
discriminate and lazy. They argue any
list should attempt to spare important
programs.

"Public safety and crime prevention
should be a priority," said Rep. Marti
Crow, D-Leavenworth. "We cannot
compromise the cause of public safety
with indiscriminate, across-the-board
cuts."

Crow and Rep. L. Candy Ruff, D-
Leavenworth, expressed concern that
prisons will have to reduce their staffs
to deal with the budget cuts. The de-
partment is asking its prisons to trim
their current budgets by nearly
\$821,000.

The state's prison in Lansing, adja-
cent to Leavenworth, would take the
largest cut, both in terms of percentage
and dollars. It has been asked to de-
crease its current budget by \$395,000,
or 1.3 percent.

But Miskell said the department has
no plans to cut its staff or hold vacant
positions open longer.

"The idea that it's indiscriminate is
not true," Miskell said.

Young sales people appeal to sweet tooth



Richard Bauman stacked candy while Megan Leonard unboxed it Wednesday in the Grant Junior High cafeteria, getting ready to pass them out to junior high students for their annual fund raiser. The students began selling several varieties of the chocolate candy on Thursday and will continue through Nov. 24.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

The cone zone season is ending



The construction season in the Goodland area is coming to an end for this year, and one of the finishing touches is spreading fertilizer along the section of eastbound I-70 which is which opened Thursday. Project Engineer Donna Binning of the Kansas Department of Transportation in Atwood, said this will complete all the highway construction projects in the area until next spring, when construction will resume on the remaining six miles of eastbound lanes on I-70 between Goodland and Edson.

Photo by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News