

weather report

75°
at noon

Today

Sunset, 4:38 p.m.

Tomorrow

Sunrise, 6:24 a.m.

Sunset, 4:37 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 52 degrees

• Humidity 19 percent

• Sky mostly sunny

• Winds southwest at 14 mph

• Barometer 29.93 inches and steady

• Record High 83° (1934)

• Record Low 16° (1955)

Last 24 Hours*

High 78°

Low 34°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, low near 40, southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tuesday: partly cloudy, high near 70, north winds 10 to 20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday through Friday: dry, lows near 30, highs near 75.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.19 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.13

Loan deficiency payment — 32¢

Corn — \$1.55 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.64

Loan deficiency pmt. — 35¢

Milo — \$2.26 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.98 bushel

Posted county price — \$4

Loan deficiency payment — 89¢

Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.75 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$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.

Prices plunge on Microsoft

WASHINGTON — Microsoft Corp. stock plunged, then rebounded today, as government officials and the software giant talked of a possible settlement after a judge ruled Microsoft misused its power.

Microsoft shares fell as low as \$83.50 before recovering to almost \$89, compared to Friday's close of \$91.56 1/4.

Investors were watching to see what becomes of the talk of a negotiated settlement in the government's antitrust suit against Microsoft.

The top federal antitrust official says the government is preparing arguments that cover "a full range of remedies," including a breakup of the company, to recommend in the next phase of the lawsuit.

An out-of-court settlement was the talk of Sunday's news interview shows. Neither side would suggest just what an agreement might entail.

Grant students puffing like adults

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Mustangs are keeping up with the rest of Kansas in one category that is troubling to teachers and parents, puffing away at a pace that nearly equals adults.

A study done in May by the state Department of Health and Environment found that more than one out of five middle school students smokes.

Grant Junior High Principal Jim Mull said he has done his own survey for the last several years, and his school is staying even with the state average.

"It has been around 20 percent for a few years now," he said. "We see smoking starting as early as fifth grade.

"Not everyone is a serious, addicted smoker, but there are a lot of kids doing it."

According to the statewide survey, adult smoking is at an all-time low of 22.7 percent in Kansas. That figure has been dropping, while the number of teenagers smoking is rising.

"It boggles my mind," said Mull, "that with all the education these kids receive about the dangers of smoking, they still do it."

Mull said the most common answer that he hears for lighting up is peer pressure. He said he believes the excitement of tasting a forbidden fruit is a big attraction.

Barbara Fernandez, project director for the Community Prevention Board, said she has encountered some interesting comments in her counseling of young smokers.

"I have had about four girls say that they smoke to either keep from gaining weight or to lose weight," she said. "They say instead of eating, they just light up."

She said students also say they think it looks cool to smoke.

"I had one boy say, 'all the cool kids do it,'" she said.

Fernandez said when she asked the kids if they were concerned about the health risks, they all said, "Everything is killing us, the air, the water, our food, everything is bad for you."

She said that all the kids had either a parent or adult that they looked up to who smoked.

An interesting fact that Fernandez said she doesn't think is a coincidence is that the two brands that kids smoke the most are Marlboro and Camel.

"These are the two brands that spend the most money on advertising," she said.

Fernandez said that even if the advertisements are not directed specifically toward young people, they are still drawing them in.

Goodland has a city ordinance that makes it unlawful for anyone under 18

to purchase or possess tobacco products. If a minor is caught trying to purchase or in the possession of tobacco, they are issued a citation that carries a \$25 fine, and court costs of \$36, for a total of \$61. The young smoker may have to appear in court with a parent or guardian.

Mull said if a student is caught smoking, or with tobacco products, in school, they face several penalties.

"If the student is involved in any sports or band or any extra curricular activities," he said, "they are suspended for one week, and one event."

The school also contacts the Goodland Police and a citation is issued to the student.

Police Chief Ray Smee said his department has issued about 15 citations so far this school year, including both high school and junior high students.

Nationally, according to a study done by the federal Centers for Disease Control, 24.7 percent of adults smoke. The same study reported smoking among high school seniors at a 19-year high of 36.5 percent.

The study also reported that since 1991, past-month smoking among eighth to 10th graders has increased by 33 percent.

Principal Mull said one of the things that is troubling to him is that many of the students starting to smoke are from families where the parents do not smoke.

Another trend that he has noticed is that girls are lighting up more than boys.

"I don't understand what the attraction is," he said, "but it doesn't seem to have the negative stigmatism to it that it did a few years ago."

Mull said that he has not done the survey yet this year, but, he hopes that there are fewer smokers this year than last.

He said that his survey does not ask the names of the students, and he believes it is accurate.

All students have to take health class, and a part of the course is Project Alert, a designed to teach students about the dangers of smoking.

The Regional Prevention Center has several programs directed against smoking, such as "Protecting Kansas Youth Against Tobacco." They also offer confidential counseling to anyone wanting it.

At the Prevention Center, Fernandez says she thinks part of the problem is that teen smoking is looked at as acceptable, at least by some in Goodland.

"I have had parents say, 'at least they're not smoking pot or drinking,'" she said.

"Sometimes we forget (nicotine) is a drug that is highly addictive."

For that long reach



Stretching skyward near the Collingwood elevator last week was one of Rod Wilkinson's four cranes. The 180 foot boom was being used to help Borton Inc. of Hutchinson install a 98-foot long chain conveyor atop the new storage bin, which holds 480,000 bushels. Wilkinson said the 90-ton crane has a maximum extension of 270 feet. He said the 180 foot of boom on the crane was about 30 feet higher than the top of the Collingwood elevator. When not in use, the cranes are stored at Ruleton.

Photo by Charlie Baker / The Goodland Daily News

Veterans Day service honors all who have served

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

A service to honor all veterans, living and dead, who served the United States in times of war and peace will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Goodland Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall.

The joint Veterans Day service will be led by members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and Disabled American Veterans, and the public is invited.

Veterans Day began as "Armistice Day." In 1921, an unknown World War I soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington.

Similar ceremonies had been held earlier in England and France.

These memorial gestures all took place on Nov. 11, recognizing the signing of the Armistice which ended World War I at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, 1918, "the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month."

In 1938, Congress made Armistice Day a federal holiday. In 1954, lawmakers were asked to expand the purpose to honor American soldiers who had served in all wars. That year, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming Nov. 11 as Veterans Day.

County to purchase fire truck

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Sherman County commissioners will formally accept a state grant to purchase a used fire truck for Kanorado at Tuesday's regular meeting, which begins at 8 a.m.

The county is to receive \$30,000 in a Community Development Block Grant for the fire truck, which will be assigned to handle fires in the town of Kanorado.

In other business, commissioners: • Will consider a final draft proposal from the employee committee on the Emergency Sick Leave Pool policy.

A recent case where such a need arose is the reason the policy is being proposed. However, the commissioners will probably have to decide that case separately, as the new policy is not expected to be retroactive.

• Consider contracting with VonFeldt, Bauer and VonFeldt for the 1999 audit and 2001 budget.

• Consider a request to lease the county fairgrounds for a public sale from an out-of-state company.

The commissioners meet 8 a.m. most Tuesdays in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County Courthouse.

The Goodland service will begin with the placing of the colors by the Veterans of Foreign Wars color guard. The invocation will follow, by Don Fiegel, American Legion chaplain. Then the Pledge of Allegiance will be led by Bill Selby, Veterans of Foreign Wars post commander, who also will give the welcome.

Veterans Auxiliary President Deb Snethen will give highlights of the women's activities for the year. Music will be provided by Tom Harrison. Wal-Mart Manager Scott Schroller will present a grant to go towards the building of a memorial for World War II veterans in Washington.

The three Veterans of Foreign Wars

erans in Washington.

Following will be a scripture reading by American Legion Commander Mark Heckman. A Veterans Day prayer will be said by Dennis Musil, Disabled American Veterans junior vice commander. The main address will be given by Dick Weston, a Veterans of Foreign Wars past state commander.

The retiring of the flag will be done by the color guard and Veterans of Foreign Wars Chaplain Harold Karspeck will say the closing prayer. A reception will follow, hosted by the Veterans Auxiliary.

The three Veterans of Foreign Wars

Voice of Democracy scholarship contest winners will be presented with their checks and certificates during the program.

Bud Luckert, Veterans of Foreign Wars trustee and color guard member, said he would like to encourage Goodland businesses to fly their flags, not only on national holidays, but every business day except when the weather is bad. He said the group would like people to fly their flags at home every day the weather is good. Literature on how to present the flag is available at the Goodland Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall.

Poll says evolution should be taught

WICHITA (AP)—A strong majority of Kansans do not doubt God's hand in the creation of humans, but a majority also believes the state's schoolchildren should study evolution and be tested on it, according to a new poll.

The poll, conducted by *The Wichita Eagle* and *The Kansas City Star*, surveyed 604 respondents Oct. 22-26. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percent.

The survey found far more people disagree than agree with the Kansas Board of Education's decision in August to eliminate state testing on the theory of evolution.

The margins narrow when state resi-

dents are asked about how God accomplished human creation and whether the theory of evolution should be taught.

Fifty-two percent said they disagree with the state board's decision to omit questions on the broad theory of evolution on state assessment tests.

Thirty-two percent said they strongly or somewhat agreed with the board's decision. The rest were neutral or unsure.

The poll forecasts a contentious board election next fall, when five seats are up for grabs—including four of the six who voted to de-emphasize evolution.

More than half of poll respondents—52 percent—said they would be more likely to vote in the next board election

because of the evolution decision. And of those who disagreed with the board, 64 percent were more likely to vote.

More than 80 percent of those polled believe dinosaurs existed millions of years ago, and 65 percent believe sea creatures developed into land animals. But many do not agree that humans evolved.

Forty-five percent of poll respondents believe God created human beings pretty much as they are today and that creation occurred within the past 10,000 years.

Victor Calcote, pastor of Epworth United Methodist Church in Wichita, sees no conflict between religion and evolution.