

weather
report

74°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:35 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:28 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:34 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 49 degrees
- Humidity 13 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds southwest at 10 mph
- Barometer 30.26 inches and falling

- Record High 78° (1989)
- Record Low 2° (1940)

Last 24 Hours*

High 72°
Low 25°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: clear, low near 35, west winds at 5 to 15 mph.

Saturday: mostly sunny, high near 75, northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday through Monday: dry, lows near 35, 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 — \$2.07 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.07
Loan deficiency payment — 38¢
Corn — \$1.46 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.58
Loan deficiency pmt. — 41¢
Milo — \$2.11 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$3.80 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.89
Loan deficiency payment — \$1
Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$5.70 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.97
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.

Rockets hit
near embassy

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — In what appeared to be a coordinated attack, six rockets exploded today near the U.S. Embassy, the U.N. building, an American cultural center and downtown government buildings, officials said.

At least six people were injured — including a Pakistani guard at the American center — but no Americans were hurt, a U.S. official said.

The blasts, which happened within a period of two minutes, caused no major damage, officials said. All the explosions struck at some distance from the buildings in relatively uncrowded places, police said.

“These are rockets fired from cars by unidentified people who have managed to flee,” said a senior city official, Deputy Commissioner Mohammed Ali Khan.

There was no claim of responsibility for the attack.

Kansans have different view of hunting

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

Sherman County’s wildlife conservation officer says he has noticed a big change in the way Kansans look at the opening day of pheasant season.

“I remember when people were really excited about opening day,” Jim Robinson said. “They were looking forward to having friends coming in to hunt. Everyone was excited about it.”

Robinson said he sees a different attitude now.

“Many people dread the beginning of the season now,” he said.

He said he gets a lot of calls for trespassing, and a lot of vandalism to property and livestock.

“Considering the number of hunters that come through,” he said, “it is not a high percentage, but it only takes one incident to turn off a landowner.

“Most hunters are sportsmen, and the landowners enjoy meeting and talking with them.

“But, if you get one bad apple, it can really spoil all the rest.”

Robinson said those who do the vandalism are not hunters or sportsman.

“They are criminals,” he said. “They are unethical people that have no respect for the landowner, the game, the laws or themselves.”

Robinson said he has been patrolling, looking for pre-season hunters, and has caught a few. He said the penalties for hunting before the season can range from fines, to seizing equipment to jail time, depending on the situation and location.

He said that anyone caught trespass-

ing is taken to jail and held until they can place bond.

“That can ruin someone’s day,” he added.

The penalties for trespassing also vary according to the situation and location, Robinson said.

Sherman County Sheriff Doug Whitson said he, too, has seen vandalism and destruction of private property.

Whitson said he recalls one situation where a cow was shot, but mostly, his office gets calls on trespassing.

Both Robinson and Whitson said most hunters are responsible sportsmen, and the ones that cause the trouble are a small minority.

Robinson said that often hunters are accused of destruction that may have been done by someone else.

“It could be a disgruntled employee or someone with a grudge,” he said. “The blame falls on the hunters, but it is not proven.”

One farmer said he dreads opening day.

“I have had irrigation equipment shot up,” he said, adding that he always has trespassers, and has never seen anyone patrolling the posted no hunting land other than himself.

He said he was working on a piece of equipment near a metal building one afternoon, when he heard shotgun pellets hit the building. This was on his ground, posted with No Hunting signs.

He said he has found shotgun shells inside a fenced yard, right outside the windows of a farmhouse he owns.

He also told of a time he came upon a



Hunters have been going through the license line at Wal-Mart since 7 a.m., said Assistant Manager Brett McRea. He said there has been a steady stream, with the store selling about 100 licenses so far today. McRea said the store has also been selling quite a bit of merchandise. “We have sold out of ‘no hunting’ signs,” he said. “That is about 270 signs.”

Photo by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News

group of hunters on his property. When he approached them to tell them they were trespassing, they surrounded him.

“I got out of there,” he said. “I wasn’t

going to argue with a group of guys with guns.”

The farmer said the area businesses advertise to bring all the out-of-town

hunters in, and make money off the business.

“All we get are trespassers and problems,” he said.

State reviewing no-bid contracts

TOPEKA (AP) — More than \$55 million in no-bid state contracts were granted during the last fiscal year, and in several cases those contracts went to former state employees, according to published reports.

The Wichita Eagle reported its findings in Thursday’s editions, based on records maintained by the state Division of Purchases and obtained under the Kansas Open Records Act.

Last week, Thelma Hunter Gordon resigned as secretary of the Department on Aging after it was disclosed she had awarded a \$135,000 contract to her former deputy just days after he left the department.

Gordon awarded the contract to Terry Glasscock, the brother of House Majority Leader Kent Glasscock, R-Manhattan, without first taking bids, and without first getting permission to award the contract on a no-bid basis, the Eagle said.

Essentially, state law dictates that all contracts with state agencies be based on competitive bids unless an agency decides it would be better not to solicit bids.

The Purchasing Division is supposed to review and approve all requests for no-bid contracts. Agencies award no-bid contracts for numerous services, including legal representation, consulting, advertising and equipment purchases, a review of the state purchasing records found.

Some agencies argued for no-bid contracts, noting that only one company could provide a specific service or product. Other contractors were picked because either they were willing to do the job in a tight time frame or the agency was familiar with the contractor’s work.

During the past fiscal year, several no-bid contracts were awarded by state agencies to former employees who, like Terry Glasscock, had just left their agencies. In most instances, the agencies said they needed the services of former employees because of their special expertise.

Currently, there is little restriction on the practice of hiring former employees. State law says departing employees must wait two years before getting a state contract only if they were in-

volved in drafting the contract.

Some lawmakers have raised questions about contracts to former state employees. Following reports about the contract, Gordon resigned, Gov. Bill Graves ordered the contract with Terry Glasscock canceled and the state ordered him to return \$90,000.

Rep. Melvin Neufeld, R-Ingalls, plans to push a bill during the 2000 session to prohibit state officers and employees from entering into consulting contracts within three years of leaving state employment.

Secretary of Administration Dan Stanley said the deal was inappropriate because Gordon did not seek permission for the no-bid contract. Requests for such contracts must be reviewed by the Purchasing Division, he said.

Gordon had framed the contract as a “fellowship grant,” meaning it didn’t go through the review process. Graves responded by ordering a review of all grants and fellowships of state agencies. Stanley said his department also will look at all no-bid contracts over the past year to ensure that proper procedures have been followed.

State of Kansas 99.8 percent ready for Y2K

TOPEKA (AP) — Just about all computer programs and equipment at state government agencies are ready for the new millennium, according to the state’s Y2K expert.

Don Heiman, the state’s chief information technology officer for the executive branch, said Thursday that 99.8 percent of all hardware and software is Y2K compliant.

“I’m always apprehensive about crossing the millennium, but the agency reports have been strong,” Heiman said after a meeting of the Legislature’s Joint Committee on Information Technology.

He plans to update the committee next month on any work that still needs to be done.

Of the state’s 100,000 computer-related items, only 50 to 60 still are not Y2K compliant, Heiman said.

“I don’t see any real showstoppers on the list,” he said.

Some people fear that when the new century begins, computer programs that designate years with two digits will read 2000 as 1900 and malfunction.

Sen. Stan Clark, committee vice chairman, said he is satisfied with the state’s preparations.

The state began working on Y2K in 1997 and has spent more than \$20 million since then. More than 180,000 hours have been devoted to the plans, changes, improvements and tests to make sure everything works.

In other matters, the committee discussed delays with a computer project at the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System, which pays benefits to about 50,000 former state workers.

Meredith Williams, executive secretary of the system, told the committee his agency is a year behind in its efforts to convert documents into computer files.

Musical opens tonight



Casey Campbell (left) and Josh Vignery rehearsed a scene from the Goodland High School musical, “Into the Woods,” on Thursday night. The two were singing a song about agony. They play brothers who are princes in the musical. The play will begin at 7 p.m. tonight and Saturday at the high school auditorium. Tickets at the door are \$5 for adults and \$4 for children.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

City looks at adding street lights

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The City Commission expects to hear an estimate on the cost of putting street lights along the newly annexed section of West Eighth Street at its regular meeting at 5 p.m. Monday.

Before the annexation of land where the new Wheat Ridge Acres is being built, the street was not in the city, but with the new construction the city will consider the cost of putting street lights along the stretch, which is one of the main entrances to the downtown area.

Don Bennett is expected to appear before the commission to continue his discussion about the proposed Cherry Street project and the change this would make to the entrance to his property.

At the previous meeting Bennett said he wanted an entrance off of Cherry and did not want his entrance to be moved to 19th Street. With the absence of City Manager Ron Pickman, Mayor Chuck Lutters suggested the issue be delayed until the next meeting.

The Cherry Street project, in the planning stage for over a year, would straighten the street and eliminate the remnant of the old “Y” entrance to the city.

Commissioners will consider permit

for Ranae McCallum, 123 Toelkes Ave., and Paula Smith, 901 Broadway Ave., who have applied to the city to operate daycare’s from their homes.

Consider an new ordinance changing the zoning of the two lots on the northeast corner of 12th Street and Broadway.

New Max Jones weight room open house is Monday

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

Monday night the Goodland School Board is going to show off the weight room and locker rooms of the new Max Jones Fieldhouse addition.

The board will host an open house beginning at 6:20 p.m. Monday in the weight room. The board will then hold its November meeting.

The pep band will play for the board and guests at 6:20. At 6:30, the Goodland Ambassadors will assist in the ribbon cutting for the new building.

School Superintendent Marvin Selby said the construction work is



The weight room in the new addition at Max Jones Fieldhouse is ready for use. The school board will hold an open house in the facility at 6:20 Monday.

Photo by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News

coming along pretty well. The shaft has almost been completed for the elevator at the west end of the fieldhouse.

Selby said the workers will be able to work from the inside of the shaft, and should not be in the way of basketball.

The weight equipment has been moved into the room, and is already being used. Selby said the plumbers have been installing fixtures this week.

The board will have a brief meeting after the open house, Selby said. They will take care of routine business, and consider the appointment of a coach at Grant junior high.