

weather
report

58°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:25 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:01 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:25 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 31 degrees

• Humidity 23 percent

• Sky mostly sunny

• Winds north 17 mph

• Barometer 29.94 inches
and falling

• Record High 74° (1962)

• Record Low -04° (1964)

Last 24 Hours*

High 47°

Low 14°

Precipitation —

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy; low 20;
winds west 5-15 mph Tomorrow:
mostly sunny; dry; high 45-50; winds
west 5-15 mph, becoming north 10-
20 mph; low 20.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Monday. Satur-
day: dry; high 50; low 20. Sunday:
chance of snow; high 40; low 15-20.
Monday: dry, high 35; low 15-20.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.04 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.88

Loan deficiency payment — 57¢

Corn — \$1.58 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.64

Loan deficiency prmt. — 35¢

Milo — \$2.25 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.81 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.80

Loan deficiency payment — \$1.09

Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.65 cwt.

Loan deficiency prmt. — \$3.89

Confection current — \$11/\$7 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$13 (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.

Monica takes
stand in case

ELLCOTT CITY, Md — Mon-
ica Lewinsky testified today that
she was frightened when her tele-
phone conversations about Presi-
dent Clinton, taped surreptitiously
by Linda Tripp, appeared in a
magazine.

"It terrified me," Ms. Lewinsky
said at a pretrial hearing for Mrs.
Tripp. "I was concerned about the
privacy of my relationship being
revealed."

Taking the stand at a hearing that
will determine whether Mrs. Tripp
stands trial on state wiretapping
charges, Ms. Lewinsky was poised
and assured. Although the tapes
that revealed her relationship with
Clinton and led to his impeach-
ment were at the heart of her testi-
mony, Ms. Lewinsky never men-
tioned the president.

"It was very clear to me that it
was from previous conversations
I had with Linda Tripp," she said.



Preparing
gift boxes
for needy

J.R. and Mavis McDaniel (top)
put bags of oranges and apples
from a cart into holiday food
boxes Wednesday evening at
the United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall.

They were among volunteers
helping to put food into wrapped
boxes to be given to needy fami-
lies for Christmas. Genesis,
Goodland's food bank, helps
families in need throughout the
year. Genesis will give away
more than 100 boxes this Christ-
mas.

Kerek Mason (right) put can-
ned food in a box for a needy
family. Parker and Katie John-
son (bottom) moved canned
food from one area of the hall to
another with a cart.

Photos by Janet Craft/The
Goodland Daily News



Farmers tell tale
of low prices:
'We're whipped'

HOLTON (AP) — Pottawatomie
County farmer Paul Henningsen sum-
med up the state's troubled farm
economy in a phrase.

"I think we're whipped," he said of
the diminishing number of family
farmers. "I think the corporations are
controlling everything. If you farm,
you're going to lose money."

Henningsen spoke Wednesday night
at one of four meetings scheduled
around the state by a maverick bipar-
isan group of Kansas legislators. The
meeting in Holton attracted more than
200 people. The tour was to move on
to Dodge City and Hays today.

Earlier Wednesday in Parsons, cattle
feeder Mike Callicrate urged farmers to
lead a grassroots revolt to run so-called
factory farms out of Kansas.

"We need to go to Topeka and do
everything except kick the windows
in," Callicrate said, insisting states
must push the federal government into
ending the concentration of big firms
in the marketplace which he blames for
the low prices.

Farmers' share of the consumer food
dollar fell to 44 percent in 1998 from
68 percent in 1950, said Callicrate, of
St. Francis. At the same time, the share
for packers, distributors and retailers
rose to 56 percent from 32 percent.

He said packer monopolies — such
as IBP, Cargill, and even farmer-owned
Farmland — exploit farmers.

Farmers at the Holton meeting heard
a similar message from William Heff-
ernan, a professor of rural sociology at
the University of Missouri. Heffernan
said the world's agricultural markets
are being controlled by a handful of
massive corporations.

"When these large firms come in and
replace the family farm, it makes a
major difference in our rural commu-
nities," Heffernan said, comparing the
emerging farm economy here to the
coal mining economy of Appalachia.

Many legislative leaders refused to
sanction the listening tour.

House Speaker Robin Jennison, R-
Healy, said the tour sends a false mes-
sage to farmers about the power of state
government to improve the farm
economy.

"The state of Kansas can't give them
any relief," he said.

The man picked by Jennison to lead
the House Agriculture Committee,
Rep. Dan Johnson, R-Hays, called the
tour an election-year attempt to embar-
rass the Republican legislative leader-
ship.

"We don't need to hear 10 more times
that prices are the lowest they've ever

been," Johnson said. "What does that
accomplish?"

But Rep. Bruce Larkin, D-Bailey-
ville, one of the organizers of the tour's
organizers, rejected the argument that
the state is helpless in the face of na-
tional and global economic forces that
have seemingly conspired against Kan-
sas farmers.

"The argument that we can't do any-
thing doesn't hold water with me," said
Larkin, a grain farmer. "If we sit back
and say we can't do anything about it,
then we damn sure won't do anything
about it."

Larkin and other tour organizers
want to see the Kansas attorney gen-
eral's office do more to stem the tide of
consolidation in agriculture through
more aggressive enforcement of anti-
trust laws.

In addition, Larkin wants the Legis-
lature to follow the lead of Nebraska
and South Dakota by passing a law to
prohibit corporate ownership of live-
stock by packers.

Callicrate urged farmers to fight for
themselves because farm groups like
the national Farm Bureau organization,
and even the Kansas Livestock Asso-
ciation represent packers — not farm-
ers — on such issues as mandatory
price reporting and the proposed mor-
atorium on mergers.

Jennifer Mathes, who farms 500
acres near Parsons with her husband,
told legislators that their farm income
dropped 50 percent this year.

"For a lot of us, it is going to be too
late," she said.

She said she cannot pay her farm
equipment loans. The one thing that
helped her farm survive this year was a
loan from the state Department of Com-
merce to start a food-grade processing
facility to market directly.

That allowed the family to sell its
wheat directly to consumers stocking
up in fear of Y2K computer problems.
So far they have sold 4,000 5-gallon
buckets of wheat, at \$18 each, to people
stocking up on foodstuffs.

With two back-to-back years of low
crop prices, and with little relief in sight
soon, she fears the banks which were
pretty forgiving this last year wouldn't
be so forgiving this year — and the state
will see more farm foreclosures.

But seeing the state legislators in
Parsons has given her some hope.

"For a meeting to have happened in
southeastern Kansas is extremely rare,
and the fact the legislators came on their
own money has made an impact on
me," she said. "I have put my faith and
trust on the people we've elected."

Graves still wants ban
on 'partial-birth' issue

TOPEKA (AP) — Gov. Bill Graves
has made it clear to two key legislators
that he wants to ban what state law calls
"partial-birth" abortions, but feels a
mental health exception is needed for
another late-term procedure.

"His position is clear and unchanged
from his bill introduced last year. There
may be more than one way to accom-
plish his goal," spokesman Don Brown
said after the hour-long meeting Wed-
nesday with Rep. Tony Powell and
House Speaker Robin Jennison.

Last session, Graves offered a bill to
clarify his intent that a mental health
exception be included for late-term
abortions. The measure also would ban
all partial-birth abortions.

Brown said the governor didn't want
to release specific details about what
was discussed at the meeting, but
added, "The door was left open. It was
designed as an informational meeting
and it served that purpose."

Powell, R-Wichita, is a leader among
anti-abortion legislators and chairman
of the House committee that handles
abortion legislation.

"We had a frank airing of our views.
It was a meeting where we outlined
where we saw the problems coming

from. Our meeting was designed to
identify what the problem was," Powell
said.

While Powell also declined to dis-
cuss specifics of the meeting, he said
neither he nor Graves changed posi-
tions on the mental health exception.

"He stated his position that he wanted
a mental health exception, and I stated
my position that I didn't want a mental
health exception," Powell said.

Jennison, R-Healy, called it a "good
meeting," adding, "I think a low key
approach is what's needed. I just think
we ought to be able to pass something."

Graves and lawmakers opposed to
abortion want to fix what some call a
loophole in a 1998 law that resulted in
partial-birth abortions being performed
in Kansas. Lawmakers begin their ses-
sion on Jan. 10.

The partial-birth procedure involves
partially extracting a fetus through the
birth canal, cutting an incision in the
skull base, then draining the contents of
the skull.

Previously, Kansas abortion clinics
didn't use the procedure, but in the last
six months of 1998, clinics reported 58
partial-birth abortions to the Depart-
ment of Health and Environment.