

weather  
report

43°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:46 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:05 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:47 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 35 degrees

• Humidity 35 percent

• Sky mostly sunny

• Winds southwest 15 mph

• Barometer 30.52 inches

and rising

• Record High 70° (1928)

• Record Low -17° (1997)

Last 24 Hours\*

High 57°

Low 26°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy; low mid 20s; winds southwest 15-25 mph. Tomorrow: Partly sunny; dry; high mid 60s; winds southwest 15-25 mph; low 25.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Monday. Saturday, Sunday, and Monday: dry; highs 60-65; lows 25.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local  
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.27 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.03

Loan deficiency payment — 42¢

Corn — \$1.77 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.77

Loan deficiency payment — 22¢

Milo — \$2.69 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.12 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.05

Loan deficiency payment — 84¢

Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$6.10 cwt.

Loan deficiency prmt. — \$3.95

Confection current — \$13/\$8 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.

Koch fined

\$35 million

WASHINGTON — The Environmental Protection Agency today slapped Koch Industries with \$35 million in fines and penalties as part of a settlement over alleged contamination of lakes and streams in six states from Missouri to Texas.

Based in Wichita, Kan., the company operates more than 35,000 miles of pipeline in the United States and Canada, and has refineries in Texas and Minnesota through its Koch Petroleum Group subsidiary.

The settlement stems from allegations that the company had more than 300 oil spills from its pipelines and other oil operations, resulting in 3 million gallons of crude oil pouring into lakes and streams in violation of the Clean Water Act.

The spills polluted waterways in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Alabama, Louisiana and Missouri, according to the EPA.

Hanging out at school...



Morning kindergartners hung out on the play equipment during their recess today at North Elementary. Students will have half a day of school on Friday as the second quarter of school comes to a close. There will be no school on Monday due to a scheduled teacher in-service day.

Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News



Holiday  
will close  
few doors

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The first federal holiday of the year is Martin Luther King Day scheduled for Monday, and most offices and businesses will not be observing the holiday.

Sherman County and City of Goodland offices will not close on Monday for the holiday, and will be open at their regular times.

Banks in Goodland and the United States Post Office will observe the federal holiday and will be closed.

There will not be any mail delivery from the Post Office and the window will be closed, but there will be a dispatch of outgoing mail in the afternoon.

Goodland schools will release students at Noon Friday, and will be closed on Monday for a teacher in-service.

Other businesses are expected to be open their regular hours.

The Martin Luther King holiday was established to honor the slain civil rights leader who was a symbol of the upheaval in the 60s which brought attention to the racial discrimination within the country.

Eagle Court  
Sunday for  
three Scouts

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

It's the first time in just over 10 years that there has been a Boy Scout to reach the Eagle Scout rank in Goodland and now there are three young men who have reached that goal.

Goodland High School seniors, Casey Campbell, Alex Evert, and Bryan Russell, all members of Troop #142, will be honored for attaining this rank in an Eagle Court of Honor ceremony to be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at the United Methodist Church in Goodland. The ceremony will be open to the public.

To earn this rank the scouts had to come up with an idea for a project to benefit their community, church or school. They had to do the planning and figure out how the project would be paid for. They also were to involve their troop in the project.

Russell put up a welcome sign on the east entrance to Goodland on Business U.S. 24 for his project. The sign reads "Goodland - Home of the Cowboys & Cowgirls. It was made by Leon Volk of Commercial Sign Co. in Colby and put up Labor Day weekend.

"I'm glad to have it over with. It's a long process to achieve your Eagle rank," Russell said. "It's feels great to have accomplished something that high in Scouts."

Campbell's project involved designing and hanging eight sports banners in the Max Jones Fieldhouse, showing the years that Goodland High School was either state champions or runners-up for girls' basketball, boys' cross country, boys' basketball, boys' track, volleyball, football, wrestling, and golf. They were put up in October.

"I'm pretty happy with myself," said Campbell. "It was a lot of hard work, and took a lot of time. It's a goal that I reached."

Evert put in a handicapped accessible ramp at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church as his project. Concrete was torn out and replaced as part of the work. The ramp is on the east side of the church. It was finished in August.

Evert said he was excited about the ceremony. Since there were three scouts working on this award all close to the same time, it was decided to have a combined ceremony for them.

"It's finally here and I'm ready to receive my award," Evert said.

Troop #142 Scoutmaster Dennis Saint and troop members will have a part in the ceremony along with former Eagle Scouts. Ed Evans, district executive at headquarters in Salina, will give the Eagle charter.

Russell's parents are Curt and Kathy Russell, Evert's parents are Steve and Marcia Evert, and Campbell's parents are Mike and Nancy Campbell.

House rejects cutting legislative travel

TOPEKA (AP) — The House today rejected a Democratic proposal to save money by decreasing legislators' travel, as Republicans attempted to win passage of the revised state budget that GOP leaders want.

Rep. Henry Helgersen, D-Wichita, offered an amendment to ban out-of-state travel by legislators until July 1. The amendment would have saved the state between \$385,000 and \$500,000.

Helgersen was upset that the House was considering budget cuts so early, on the session's fourth day. He contends Republicans who are pushing the spending reductions have little idea of how they will affect ordinary Kansans.

"I think it's appropriate for the Legislature to share in the pain," Helgersen said.

But the vote on Helgersen's amendment was 55-68, with strong opposition

coming from Republicans.

Rep. David Adkins, R-Leawood, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said the Legislature already would have its operating budget decreased by about \$500,000. He said its staff faces additional reductions.

Adkins said of Helgersen: "He panders to the most reprehensible sound-bite politics."

Early in the debate, Helgersen criticized Republicans for what he said was their lack of knowledge about the proposed cuts.

"Where is the outrage?" Helgersen said, his voice raised. "We are compounding mistakes we made last year by making even more mistakes this year."

From the outset, Democrats expected Republicans to roll over their opposition to the spending cuts.

Democrats weren't even planning to

force the House to delay a final vote on the budget until Friday, something they easily could do under the chamber's rules.

"There's nothing to be gained by that," said Minority Leader Jim Garner, D-Coffeyville.

Representatives debated a bill that would make dozens of changes in the current state budget.

The overall effect of the changes would be to cut nearly \$61 million, or 1.4 percent, from general fund spending approved last year for the state's 2000 budget year, which ends June 30.

Gov. Bill Graves proposed cutting \$67.4 million from general fund spending because state revenues are not living up to expectations. The general fund is the largest source of money for Kansas government programs and where the state deposits most of its tax revenues.

The School Finance Coalition through the superintendent's association, and said Monday the group was developing a unified position with other school districts and the state teacher association to present to the state legislature.

The coalition first announced its proposals in December.

Members want the Legislature to keep its promise to increase school budgets by \$50 per student for the 2000-01 academic year, something that would cost \$28.6 million.

Coalition pushes for school spending

TOPEKA (AP) — Education groups and officials staged a show of unity Wednesday in support of proposals to increase spending on public schools by \$121 million.

Members of the School Finance Coalition said legislators should approve a tax increase if one is necessary to provide the extra money to the state's 304 school districts.

"There is a financial crisis for educational quality unless Gov. Bill Graves and the Legislature act to improve

school funding," Brilla Scott, executive director of the United School Administrators, said during a news conference.

The coalition includes Scott's group, as well as the Kansas Association of School Boards and the Kansas-National Education Association, the state's largest teachers union. School superintendents and individual districts also belong.

Goodland School District Superintendent Marvin Selby is a member of