

weather
report

50°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:51 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:03 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:52 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 35 degrees

• Humidity 47 percent

• Sky mostly sunny

• Winds northeast 5 mph

• Barometer 30.18 inches

and falling

• Record High 65° (1976)

• Record Low -20° (1984)

Last 24 Hours*

High 64°

Low 23°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy; 20 percent chance of showers; low 30; winds west 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Partly cloudy and breezy; dry; high 45-50; winds north 15-25 mph; low 10-15.

Extended Forecast

Thursday through Sunday. Thursday: dry, high 40s; low 10-15. Friday: dry, high 50; low 15-25. Saturday: dry; high 40s; low 10-20.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Pool bids killed;
project sent
back to boards

Bid \$350,000
higher than
the estimate

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

After 50 minutes of discussion about the fact the pool bids came in higher than expected Monday, the Goodland City Commission voted 4-1 to reject all bids and to go back to the architect for a redesign to cut the costs and bring the total down at least to the estimated \$2,150,000.

There were two bids on the proposed water park, and the lowest, from Goodland's Rhoads Construction was \$350,000 over the architects' estimate. Rhoads bid \$2,499,500, while the bid from Associated Pools was \$2,640,000.

City Commissioner Curtis Hurd voted against the motion to reject the bids because he said the city should consider negotiating with Rhoads to get the price down to the budget.

Associated Pools was the subcontractor on the Rhoads bid for the basic pool portion, which was bid at \$1,279,000 by Rhoads, and \$1,260,000 on the separate Associated bid.

When presenting the bid report, City Manager Ron Pickman told the commission that Darwin McClung of Rhoads Construction had made several suggestions of ways to cut the cost, and those had been forwarded to the architect, who agreed that some of the suggestions could be adopted.

"The architect agrees that some of the suggestions would save about \$150,000, but that still leaves the project \$200,000 off the budget," Pickman said.

Another wrinkle was added when Pickman reported that he had been visited by a group representing handicapped citizens. He said that after re-

viewing the proposed water park plans Monday, the group suggested there were additional areas which might need to be made accessible for the handicapped.

They asked that the water slide area be made accessible with either a ramp or an elevator, and suggested that there needed to be a second access to the main pool on the side, where the diving well is planned.

Pickman said the City of Hays has just been faced with the same situation, and that they are adding handicap access to their water slide area at a cost of \$150,000.

McClung said he had made more suggestions, and that they added up to much more than the \$150,000 which the architect had agreed could be done. He suggested the commission give him and the architect at least two weeks to see if the project costs could be brought closer to the budget.

Pickman said the options the commission could choose were to negotiate with Rhoads, as the low bidder, or to reject all bids and either go straight to a rebid with the same specification or go back to the architect for a redesign and then new bids.

"We would not want it rebid because our information is known," McClung said.

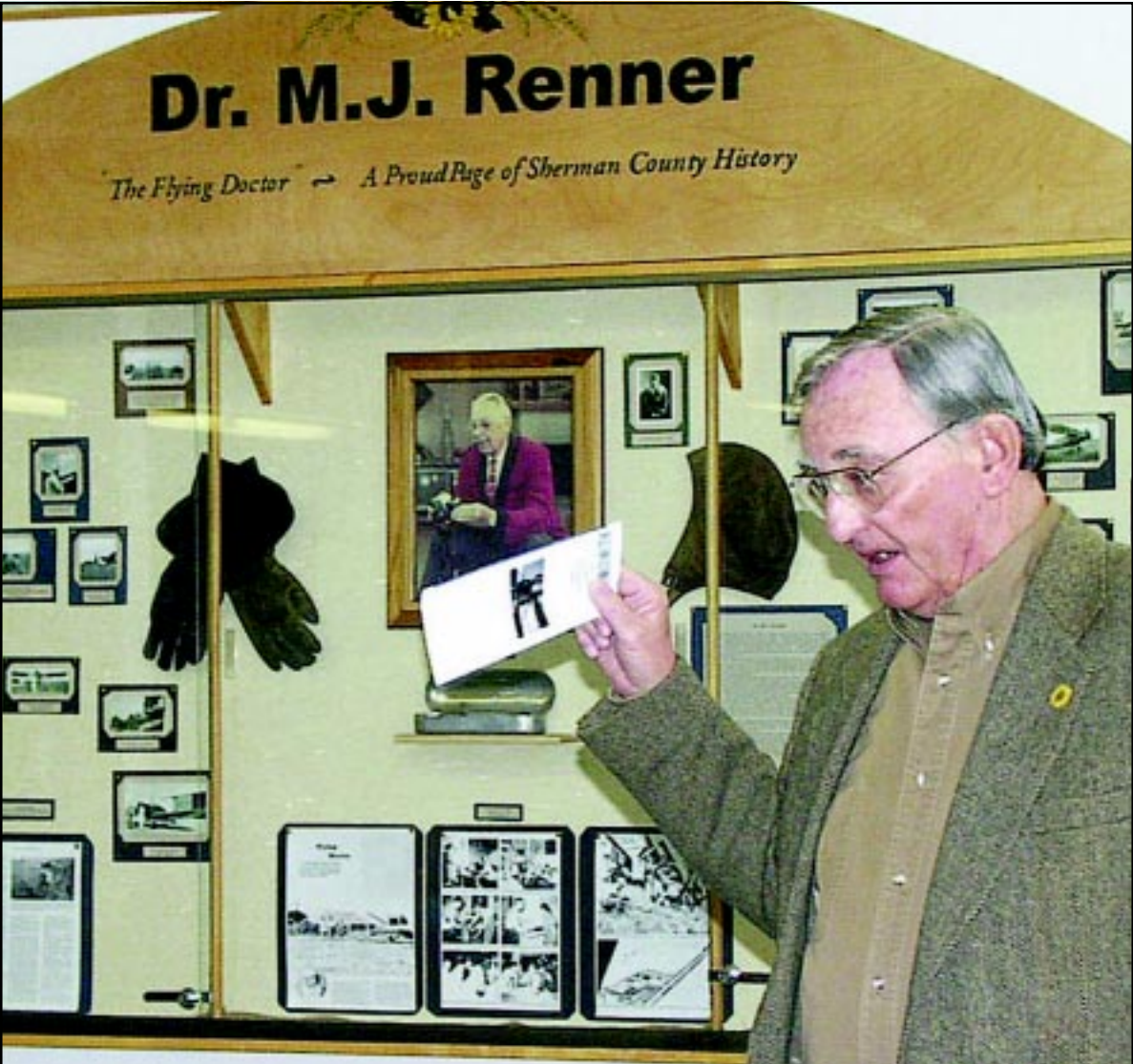
Pickman said he had a letter from the other bidder, Associated Pools, which also suggested that it would be unfair to rebid the same specifications as their bid would be known. Pickman said there is a possibility there could be more bidders on a rebid as there were at least two other contractors who expressed interest, and one of those had planned to bid, but was unable to meet the deadline.

"I don't see an alternative except to redesign and rebid," Hurd said. "I don't think it can be built the way it is designed. I think we need to go back to the table and redesign it."

McClung suggested that, while

See POOL, Page 6

Rededicating the airfield



Former Mayor John Golden told some interesting facts about Dr. Marion J. Renner, also known as "the flying doctor," at Goodland's Renner Field this Sunday afternoon. A renovated display in his honor was dedicated because of changes made to it by Millie Wright, Connie Hatcher and Gennifer House, all members of the Sherman County Historical Society. Pictures were changed and rearranged and captions were added to the display.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Man kills himself after I-70 stop

By Patty Decker

The Colby Free Press

What started out as a routine traffic stop in Colby on Friday night ended when a 43-year-old man shot himself in the head and later died from the injury.

Robert Golding, a passenger in a vehicle driven by Justin DeBusk, 26, of Texas, was the victim of the self-inflicted gun shot wound, police officials said. No details were available on where he was from, but Colby officials later discovered that Golding was wanted by the U.S. Marshal's Service.

Colby Police Chief Randy Jones said one of his officers, Scott Sitton, stopped

the vehicle for making an illegal U-turn on the eastbound on-ramp to Interstate 70.

After a brief conversation with the driver, Jones said, Sitton received consent from the driver to search the vehicle and as he started a search, he asked what was in a blue duffel bag.

The driver, DeBusk, indicated that the bag belonged to the passenger. Sitton then asked the driver to leave the vehicle and stand next to the police car and asked the passenger, Golding, to step out of the car.

As Sitton approached the passenger, according to the report, the passenger swung around away from Sitton and

made a quick move towards his waist. Sitton then pushed Golding up against the vehicle, officials said, and as the officer was attempting to control the man, he heard a shot and Golding went limp—he had shot himself in the head.

After the incident, Sitton called for backup, and within minutes other officers arrived on the scene. Jones said the Kansas Bureau of Investigation was called to investigate the case. The driver, DeBusk, was being held today in the Thomas County Jail on charges of aiding a felon and unlawful acts.

A spokesman for the U.S. Marshal Service in Kansas City said today that he was not familiar with the case.

Protestors challenge 'killers'
at St. Francis coyote contest

By Karen Krien

The St. Francis Herald

Eight to 10 protesters, mostly from the Denver area, showed up over the weekend to condemn the third annual Midwestern Coyote Calling Championships in St. Francis.

While shouted at the hunters, calling them "killers," there was no violence. "Scum of the earth killers," yelled Stephanie Tidwell of Nederland, Colo., as she sat with her sign on top of a vehicle parked along the highway west of town. As hunters left their vehicles or drove up to enter Riverside Recreation, her voice could be plainly heard.

Cheyenne County sheriff's officers were on the scene early Friday afternoon as hunters began arriving at the country club for a rules meeting at 4:30 p.m.. Officers allowed hunters and others with permission to enter the private grounds. Protesters were kept to the outside but were allowed to express their feelings to hunters stopped waiting to enter.

Sponsored by the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce, the competition brought in almost 100 hunters. After the rules meeting, they scattered to their favorite hunting grounds to call the wily critters and later bring back the pelts of those they killed. The competition is well worth the winners' time, expense and many hours in the cold temperatures, as the prize money is as good as those given at national contests.

The rules meeting laid out the regulations. Two officers from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks were on hand to answer any questions and also tell the hunters about Kansas hunting regulations. However, most of

those entering the contest are well aware of the rules.

"The contest was good. The guys made the rules and laws and they were followed" said Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary, noting that, as in years past, hunters remarked favorably on the event.

The law officers on duty at the gate probably received more of the vocal abuse than the hunters. Sheriff Ben Smull reported that he had informed the protesters that officers were neutral on the subject of coyote hunting, but some were unhappy with the whole situation. At one point, one of the protesters urged him to go in and check out some of the hunters. She said she was sure there were felons at the meeting. Sheriff Smull told her that would be a violation of the Fourth Amendment guarantees of personal freedom, just as making her leave the scene would be a violation of her First Amendment rights to protest.

Other protesters said they were glad to see law officers at the site. Sheriff Smull said that there were state troopers close by in case more officers were needed, pointing to a nearby hill where a Highway Patrol vehicle sat waiting. There were also three other troopers working nearby, he said.

The protesters handed out literature and were willing to talk to anyone who would listen or even argue. They were especially indignant that anyone would chase a coyote down on an all-train vehicle or four-wheeler.

Nicole Rosmarino, a University of Colorado student and a main spokesman for the group, said that coyote populations are under constant pressure from lethal predator control programs

and contests such as the event held in St. Francis. She claimed that the pressure is counterproductive, since it can actually make coyote numbers increase. She said an "alpha pair" produces the offspring in a pack, while other members, even though they are capable of breeding, remain "behaviorally sterile."

When the alpha pair is killed, she said, subordinate pack members often begin breeding and bearing larger litters of pups with higher birth weight and survival of pups also increases.

Ms. Rosmarino was asked if she thought that the protest would do any good.

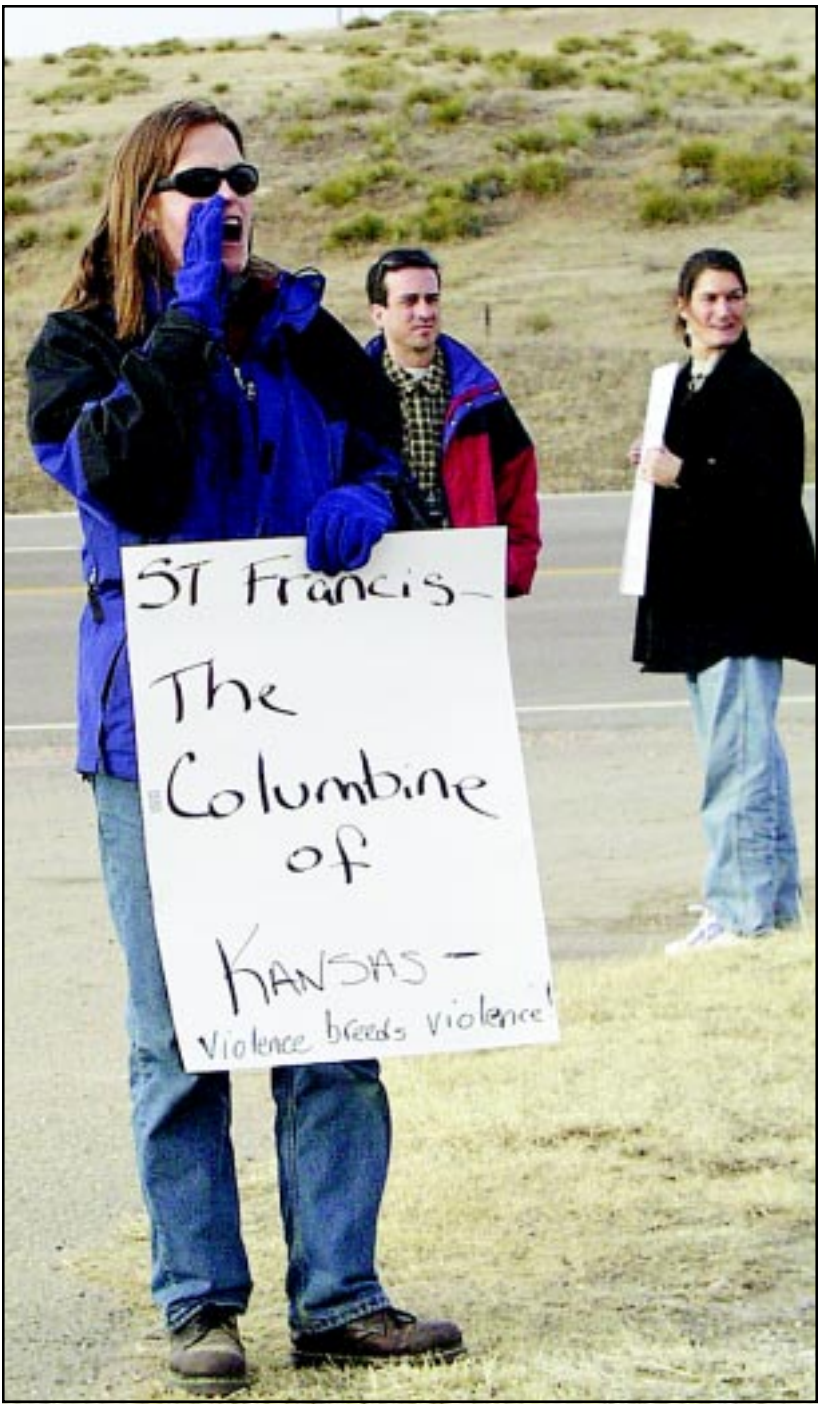
"It won't stop this (the St. Francis event), but we are confident that we will plant seeds," she said.

She told of a man who came through with his son. The man was not receptive to what they were saying, she said, but the son appeared to be listening. "Our grandfathers thought slavery was OK and today we know that it wasn't," she added. "They were wrong there, so maybe people will realize that the slaughter of coyotes is wrong, regardless of what our grandfathers say."

The majority of farmers and ranchers in Cheyenne County and northwest Kansas, however, are more than happy to have the coyote population cut, especially now that it is calving and lambing season.

Sheriff Smull said that he feels that protesters came to this year's contest to see the procedures.

"They'll be back next year with more people and better organized," he predicted.



A protester from Colorado yells at hunters entering the country club grounds in St. Francis for the opening of a coyote calling (and killing) contest this weekend. Sheriff's officers stood by, but there were no incidents with hunters.

Photo by Karen Krien/The St. Francis Herald

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.29 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.12
Loan deficiency payment — 33¢
Corn — \$1.72 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.80
Loan deficiency payment — 19¢
Milo — \$2.68 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.41 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.21
Loan deficiency payment — 68¢
Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.20 cwt.
Loan deficiency prmt. — \$3.80
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.

Cleanup tax
being sought

TOPEKA — A conservation group is proposing that legislators increase the state's sales tax one quarter of 1 percent to finance water cleanup projects.

The Kansas Association of Conservation Districts would like to put its proposal to a statewide vote, though the group acknowledges its idea may be a tough sell because it is an election year.

"I don't feel it will be easy, but I do feel it is a need," Richard Jones, the group's executive director, said in Monday's edition of the Lawrence Journal-World.

Jones noted that Missouri has a water conservation and recreation tax that citizens have approved twice.

A quarter-percent sales tax would generate about \$70 million a year and would increase the state's overall tax on retail sales from 4.9 percent to 5.15 percent.