

**weather
report**

**45°
at noon**



Today

- Sunset, 5:06 p.m.
- Tomorrow**
- Sunrise, 6:53 a.m.
- Sunset, 5:07 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 30 degrees
- Humidity 23 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds southwest 8 mph
- Barometer 30.28 inches and steady
- Record High 73° (1963)
- Record Low -21° (1951)

Last 24 Hours*

- High 49°
- Low 11°
- Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly clear; low 10-15; winds west 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny; dry; high mid 50s; winds southwest 10-20 mph; low 20-25.

Extended Forecast

Thursday through Sunday. Thursday: dry; high 60-65; low 20-25. Friday: dry; high 50; low 20-25. Saturday: dry; high mid 30s; low 10-15. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400.MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local
markets**



Noon

- Wheat — \$2.22 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$2.03
 - Loan deficiency payment — 42¢
 - Corn — \$1.76 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$1.81
 - Loan deficiency payment — 18¢
 - Milo — \$2.71 hundredweight
 - Soybeans — \$4.30 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$4.30
 - Loan deficiency payment — 59¢
 - Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$6.20 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency prmt. — \$3.61
 - Confection current — \$13/\$8 cwt.
 - Pinto beans — \$12 (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.

**Primary race
down to wire**

CONCORD, N.H. — Seeking a last-minute edge, presidential candidates headed to factory gates and polling places today as notoriously cantankerous New Hampshire voters began having their say. George W. Bush predicted "I'm going to win," while rival John McCain joked about a landslide victory in the tight GOP race. Bush appeared at the Webster School in Manchester at 6:25 a.m. with morning coffee in hand, greeting voters. "The key is to convince the people on our team to vote and the undecideds to come our way, and that's what I'm going to spend the day doing," Bush said. "We feel we've done just about everything we possibly could," Al Gore's wife, Tipper, said on ABC's "Good Morning America." "We feel like the energy is moving definitely to our campaign."

County orders road torn out starting today

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

About 15 people showed up Monday to try to save the hardtop Nemechek Road, but county commissioners, saying they couldn't afford to maintain it, ordered crews to start ripping up the oil surface today.

Commissioners decided that the road would be torn up as originally planned and said county workers would begin ripping up the pavement today.

Neighbors pleaded with the commissioners to save the hardtop.

Allen Quenzer, who lives on the Brewster Road which was recently torn up, said that a part of him wanted to see the commissioners follow through with their decision to tear up the Nemechek Road, along with the other oiled roads in the county, while another part of him would like to see the people involved be able to keep their road.

He said when he and his wife built their home 30 years ago, he told his wife that he thought it would be a good location because of being on a blacktop road and the same when they built KGCR radio station 10 years ago.

Todd Quenzer, a member of the county's Road Advisory Committee, said when the commissioners presented the choice to them three years ago, it came down to either maintain the oil roads in the county or maintain Old U.S. 24. The committee felt it was more important to keep Old U.S. 24.

"We want to be consistent," said Commission Chairman Kenny Davis, noting that three blacktop roads have been torn out already. The county just doesn't have the money to repave the oiled roads, commissioners said.

"We haven't got any written plan," countered Larry Ihrig, who lives in Goodland and farms near the Nemechek Road. "Why couldn't we have a plan?"

Ihrig said he felt one of the problems with the commission was that there was no continuity.

"We don't have any continuity in our government," agreed Commissioner Chuck Frankenfeld. "We don't need to sit around and throw stones."

Davis said the commissioners asked for a five-year plan from department heads to look ahead, but taxpayers said they didn't want taxes raised.

"So you look at things under a more tight, stringent budget, if they don't want taxes raised," he said. "It makes it difficult, but if we don't have the money."

Commissioner Gary Townsend said one problem is that the commission plans the budget for the next year in July. At that time, he said, they have no idea what will come up.

The county only has so much money, he said, and all these services to spread it around to, and the money only goes so far.

Bill Cole, another farmer, said he was concerned about property values going down as the roads are torn up.

"We definitely need a county manager," said Cole.

After taking care of other items on the agenda, the commissioners came back to the issue on the road around 1 p.m. and talked some with residents before making the decision.

In other business, Ron Pickman, Goodland city manager, reported on the exchange of property between the city and the county. He said that after checking, it was discovered that Mike Irvin, former county attorney, and Perry Warren, city attorney, had not drawn up a proposal for the exchange. It was decided that Bonnie Selby, present county attorney, would draw up a proposal. Townsend asked how soon Selby could have this done and she said she would make it a priority.

County Treasurer Shelby Miller came to report that after trying out four fax machines from area businesses, the office staff liked the Canon machine from Ikon Office Solutions of Colby the best.

Miller said the cost, at \$795, was down \$200 from last year and the money to pay for it would come out of the special funds account. The commissioners approved the purchase for the treasurer's and clerk's offices.

William McKnight, a county employee, came to see about making a change in the leases for the 4-H Building at the fairgrounds. The leases do not state that electricity is included in the rental fee and McKnight would like to change that. Commission Chairman Kenny Davis suggested making a slight increase in the rent to allow for electricity costs and have the leases changed to say that electricity was included. The change was approved.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said that Sheriff Doug Whitson had told her that Dr. Lyle Noordhoek, forensic pathologist from Hays, is scheduled to hold a seminar for law enforcement personnel, emergency medical technicians and the county coroners at 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 12, in the basement of the city building.

Commissioner Frankenfeld moved to pay old autopsy bills from Diversified Radiology of Colorado for \$128, Goodland Regional Medical Center for \$2,365, Bateman Funeral Home for \$210, and Kansas Pathology of Hays for \$1,440, and the motion carried.

House OKs claim in case for \$250,000

TOPEKA (AP) — A physician who spent two years in prison but later had his convictions overturned would get \$250,000 from the state under a bill that received first-round approval in the House.

The chamber gave approval Monday on a voice vote to a bill paying various claims against the state. A final vote of approval, expected Wednesday, is needed to send the measure to the Senate.

The House agreed to compensate Dr. L. Stan Naramore, of Harper, who was found guilty in 1996 of second-degree murder and attempted first-degree murder. The attorney general's office accused him of killing one elderly patient and trying to kill another.

In 1998, the Kansas Court of Appeals overturned his convictions, citing a lack of evidence to support them.

Naramore filed a claim with the Legislature, seeking about \$1.4 million for wrongful prosecution. The Joint Committee on Special Claims Against the State settled on \$250,000 as a compromise. The money would come from the state's general fund.

Last week, the House Appropriations Committee went along with the claims committee when it sent the measure to the chamber for debate.



Second-graders from Sandy Jamison's class at West Elementary got an explanation from Editor Tom Betz about how the newspaper press worked during a tour of *The Goodland Daily News* on Wednesday. The noise of the big press made an impression on several (below). Photos by Janet Craft / The Goodland Daily News

Second-graders impressed by smell of ink, roar of press

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Thirteen bright-eyed kids entered the front door about 8:15 a.m. Wednesday to learn about the news business, and left about an hour later clutching a paper and talking about the noise of the press.

Their second-grade teacher, Sandy Jamison, said she arranged the tour of the *Goodland Daily News* plant because the class had been reading about a newspaper, and thought a tour would make the story more real.

The youngsters were attentive as editors explained the various parts of the newspaper operation and the group moved into the back to watch the big press run. As they were leaving, each was handed a newspaper and a page negative for each was given to the teacher.

A day or two later, a nicely colored stack of letters were received at the newspaper office, thanking the staff for showing them how newspapers were produced.

The letters are an interesting look at how the students reacted to what they heard and saw:

"Dear Mr. Betz, Thank you for telling me how much the 900 pound newsprint weighed that was my favorite thing and thank you for giving me a newspaper. I liked it." From Josh Dorn

"It was great. I liked it very much. You explained everything so well. It was very exciting. I like how you told us about the deadline. The camera was interesting. Thank you." Parker Johnson.

"I like the color that you put on the newspapers. When I grow up I am going to be a paper girl. Thank you for the newspapers." From Angie Medrano.

"Thank you for giving us papers. Thank you for giving us a tour. I saw a



lot of people working very hard. Your printing press is very loud." Fernando Perez.

"I liked the tour. I might be a paper boy. That is when I'm 12. I enjoyed the newspaper." From Landon.

"I enjoyed the tour of the Goodland daily news office it was really fun. I liked how you explained how the newspapers are made. It's cool how the camera does not run out of film. And how you told how you made the plates. And thanks for the newspapers they are really cool. And I wonder how many newspapers one of those 900 pound rolls of newsprint would make." By Chance Davis.

"I liked the printing press. It was cool. I liked the office too. The newspaper was cool. I liked you. Thank you." Taylor Tomsic.

"It was a wonder that you let us look at the plate. Thank you for the newspaper. I really enjoyed it. I liked how you explained about the Deadline. I liked your printing press it was really cool. Thank you." Ryan Irvin.

"I especially like the paper press a

lot. It is cool. Thank you for the newspaper and the tour. I would not want to live back in the old days and go to gall and cross the deadline." Jay Cotter.

"Thank you for letting us come. It was fun. Watching the printing press was great. It was fast and loud. Thank you." Mike Adams.

"I really like the tour. I liked how you explained about the deadline. I'm glad that you recycle. Are you going to have a deadline? If you do I hope you make it. Your work looks hard. The tour was wonderful. I liked it when you took us into the backroom." Elaine Reiter.

"I liked the newspaper. I had never seen a printing press. and I learned how newspapers are made. Thank you." Natasha Hillman.

"I like how you explained about the Deadline. Thank you!" Amanda Mray Knight.

Editor Tom Betz described the origin of a "deadline" as being a special line inside a prison wall that prisoners were not to cross, or they would be

Payment to victim's family, primary defeated

By John Hanna

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — Proposals to save the state's presidential primary and pay \$200,000 to the family of murder victim Stephanie Schmidt have been rejected by the House.

Also Monday, a House committee did so much fine-tuning of Gov. Bill Graves' proposal to strengthen lobbying laws that it had to give up after more than two hours of work.

The significant legislative action was in the House, where members debated a bill that would cancel the April 4 presidential primary election and a separate measure that would pay legal claims against the state.

The House gave first-round approval by voice vote to a bill that would cancel the April 4 election and direct Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh to get

Kansas involved in a regional primary involving at least five other states.

During their debate on the bill, House members rejected an amendment from Rep. Bill Reardon, D-Kansas City, that would have saved this year's election. The vote was 44-72.

Reardon said having the primary this year would be "a reaffirmation of our democracy."

However, both houses already had rejected Gov. Bill Graves' proposal to add \$1.5 million to the budget to pay costs associated with the presidential primary. Graves has said since that he won't fight for the election.

The House is scheduled to take final action on the bill Wednesday, and passage would send it to the Senate.

House members also scheduled a final vote Wednesday on the bill paying legal claims. It won't include the

money for the Schmidt family, of Leawood.

The Legislature's Joint Committee on Special Claims Against the State recommended the claim, but the House Appropriations Committee rejected it.

The House voted 47-73 against restoring the money to the claims bill.

Supporters argued paying the money was justified for a family whose daughter was raped and murdered by an ex-convict on parole, whose parole officers failed to notify the killer's employer about his history.

Opponents noted that the family's wrongful death lawsuit was rejected in 1998 by the Kansas Supreme Court.

Stephanie Schmidt was a 19-year-old Pittsburg State University student who was killed in June 1993 after accepting a ride from Donald Ray Gideon, a man she had worked with at a

restaurant. Gideon was on parole after serving 10 years for raping and sodomizing a young college woman.

The victim's parents, Gene and Peggy Schmidt, watched the debate from the House gallery.

"It sends a very poor message to the public," Gene Schmidt said. "I feel betrayed by the very people who were to help us."

Meanwhile, the House Governmental Organization and Elections Committee struggled with Graves' proposal to require lobbyists to disclose exactly who receives the meals, drinks, snacks, tickets and trinkets they provide. Under current law, lobbyists report only their total spending in six categories.

The committee postponed a vote until Wednesday because many members didn't understand what some of their amendments included.