


**weather report**  
58°  
at noon



**Today**  
• Sunset, 5:15 p.m.  
**Tomorrow**  
• Sunrise, 6:45 a.m.  
• Sunset, 5:17 p.m.  
**Midday Conditions**  
• Soil Temperature 39 degrees  
• Humidity 22 percent  
• Sky cloudy  
• Winds calm  
• Barometer 29.88 inches and steady  
• Record High 78° (1976)  
• Record Low -22° (1933)  
**Last 24 Hours\***  
High 71°  
Low 31°  
Precipitation none

**Northwest Kansas Forecast**  
Tonight: Mostly cloudy; low 25-30; winds north 10 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy; chance of rain; high 50; winds northeast 10 mph; low 20-25.

**Extended Forecast**  
Friday through Sunday. Friday: snow likely; high 25-30; low 20-25. Saturday: dry; high 45; low 10-15. Sunday: dry; high 45-50; low 20. (National Weather Service)  
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400.MHz.  
\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local markets**



**Noon**  
Wheat — \$2.30 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.09  
Loan deficiency payment — 36¢  
Corn — \$1.77 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.86  
Loan deficiency payment — 13¢  
Milo — \$2.72 hundredweight  
Soybeans — \$4.24 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.24  
Loan deficiency payment — 65¢  
Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$5.85 cwt.  
Loan deficiency prnt. — \$3.50  
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.  
**Bush, McCain escalate battle**

Campaigning toward a collision in South Carolina, Gov. George W. Bush said his 2-to-1 victory in Delaware's GOP presidential primary Tuesday will buoy his supporters while Sen. John McCain claimed he'll get a boost for finishing second in a state he bypassed. Steve Forbes, third in Delaware, decided to drop out. Bush and McCain wasted no time today in making a pitch for supporters of the conservative publisher. Noting Forbes' proposals for a flat tax system and medical savings accounts, Bush said Forbes "injected some pretty good ideas into the political process. "I'm going to work hard to appeal to his voters and give his conservative voters a home." McCain predicted that "most of them will head in our direction," saying his tax cut plan was more conservative than Bush's.

## Board revisits evolution

### Opponents defeat review of standards

By John Hanna  
Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — The state Board of Education has reignited a controversy over its science standards for public schools, which de-emphasize evolution. The board killed a proposal Tuesday to hire a Washington company to review its science standards and submit a report before University of Kansas experts begin work on new science tests for students. The tests are to be given beginning in spring 2001.

The proposal failed on a 4-5 vote, delaying the outside review indefinitely. Some board members said they didn't have enough information on the company and felt rushed.

Critics immediately suggested that the board members who support the science standards feared that the company would have a negative opinion of those and embarrass the board.

"If we don't go out on an external review, it says we don't go by our desire for world-class standards," said board member Val DeFever, of Independence, who opposed the science standards and voted to hire the firm.

The board approved the science standards on a 6-4 vote in August, and they replace standards that some board members saw as too vague.

The 1999 standards include natural selection, the idea that advantageous traits increase in a population over time.

However, they exclude "macroevolution," the theory that different species — most notably apes and man — can have common ancestors. They also omit the "big-bang" theory of the universe's origin.

In December, the board decided to hire a consultant to review the science standards, something it has done for standards on other subjects, such as reading and math.

A committee set up by the state Department of Administration recommended StandardsWorks Inc. of Washington and a contract of up to \$8,850.

But most of the board members didn't have any input into the recommendation because state purchasing laws generally keep such discussions closed until a contract is agreed upon. The board hasn't used the normal contracting process in the past because it has hired nonprofit educational groups and can do that on its own.

"It was bizarre," said board Vice Chairwoman Linda Holloway, of Shawnee, a supporter of the science standards.

Other board members expressed frustration because the University of Kansas plans to begin work on the new science tests in April. That meant the board would have only until March to respond to a review.

"We're going to pay someone to criticize something right as we're getting ready to do it," said board member John Bacon, of Olathe, who supports the standards. "I think the timing stinks."

Holloway said the board could revisit the issue later and still do the review. But such a review wouldn't affect the way the first tests are developed.

Voting to hire the consultant were DeFever; Sonny Rundell of Syracuse; Janet Waugh of Kansas City; and Scott Hill of Abilene.

Against hiring were Bacon; Holloway; Chairman Harold Voth, of Haven; Steve Abrams, of Arkansas City; and Mary Douglass Brown, of Wichita.

TOPEKA (AP) — A populist coalition is using its majority on a Senate committee to bottle up a bill that would create a new agricultural loan program. Democrats and conservative Republicans who formed the Kansas Independent Family Farm Coalition this year question whether the loan bill does enough to help farmers. Some of them also want the committee to consider an alternative from a coalition member. However, some senators believe coalition members plan to use their major-



Kindergartners at North Elementary School released 100 balloons Tuesday afternoon to celebrate their one hundredth day of class. The afternoon class (above) each held two or three balloons while they waited for the big moment and watched a few that somehow got away too soon. Students wore one hundredth-day celebration hats (below) to the ceremony.  
Photos by Debra Turner/The Goodland Daily News



## County asks for reports on money

By Janet Craft  
The Goodland Daily News

County Attorney Bonnie Selby pointed out to county commissioners Tuesday that many agencies which get county money never make a report of how it is spent.

She asked commissioners at their regular meeting what they wanted to do and recommended sending letters to remind them that they are accountable to the county. She said she thought a minimal obligation should be once a year.

Commission Chairman Kenny Davis thought the hospital board has been the only one to report to the commissioners. Selby said if they get county money, then organizations have an obligation to report. Davis thought it was a good idea, since it was taxpayers' money.

"Some don't tell how it was spent," said County Clerk Janet Rumpel.

She said there were no official reports other than the hospital's. Other agencies which get county money, but apparently have not made formal reports, include the fair board, extension, recreation, historical society, cemeteries, library, mental health and others. Some have given occasional reports.

Davis asked Selby what she would recommend, and she replied that the organizations should present a budget and give an accounting of funds distrib-

uted. This would let the commission know what their needs are, she said.

"If there are any irregularities, the commission could be responsible for that," Selby noted.

She suggested having the county's auditor, Mark Bauer, a certified public accountant with Vonfeldt, Bauer, and Vonfeldt, make up a form showing the amount of money received, then to whom and how the money was spent.

Davis asked Rumpel to contact Bauer and have him come up with a form and said the commission would act on it at the next meeting.

Commissioners appointed Selby as the county's representative for the regional board governing Juvenile Justice programs. Selby had agreed to accept the position at last week's meeting, but the official appointment was not made until Tuesday.

Noxious Weed Supervisor Daryl West presented three different items to the commissioners. The first was an agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation to spray the ditches along state highways, the second was the annual noxious weed report, and the third was a list of outstanding debts on services provided by his department.

Commissioner Gary Townsend made a motion to sign the agreement and it carried. Townsend moved to accept the annual noxious weed report, and complemented West for his report.



## Denver channel to return to cable on Presidents Day

President's Day will be special for those who subscribe to the Goodland Cable television system, as Denver's Channel 9 (KUSA) will return to the lineup then.

Lila Krainbill, office operation manager for Eagle Communications in Russell, said that KUSA will return to channel 33 on Monday, Feb. 21, while Denver's Channel 2 (KWGN) will move to channel 53.

"We have all our ducks in order," Krainbill said Tuesday. "We are pleased we could get this done this quickly."

Eagle Communications had announced it was dropping KUSA in

a mix-up between the appraiser's office and the county clerk's office.

In other business, the commissioners signed a contract with Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas in Hays to allocate money to them. The agency provides services to mentally retarded people in the county.

The issue of mutual aid agreements with area counties for assistance in times of disaster, was tabled until the agreements could be drafted.

The commissioners approved charter resolutions drawn up by Dave Warren of Chapman Securities Inc.

Chairman Davis signed a letter from Yuma County Economic Development Corp. requesting a grant on behalf of a bean study. Davis said there would be no cost to the county.

They also approved the purchase of a computer software upgrade for the county presented by Crystal Linsner, county computer manager.

The commissioners will meet again at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 15, in the meeting room on the first floor of the county courthouse.

## Populists bottle up farm loan bill

TOPEKA (AP) — A populist coalition is using its majority on a Senate committee to bottle up a bill that would create a new agricultural loan program.

Democrats and conservative Republicans who formed the Kansas Independent Family Farm Coalition this year question whether the loan bill does enough to help farmers. Some of them also want the committee to consider an alternative from a coalition member. However, some senators believe coalition members plan to use their major-

ity to block passage of many bills and force the Legislature to consider the coalition's agenda. That agenda includes proposals attacking large agribusiness corporations and making state enforcement of antitrust laws more aggressive.

The Senate Agriculture Committee failed to endorse the agricultural loan bill on a 4-5 vote Tuesday. All of the no votes came from coalition members.

"They don't want the bill; it's not part of their agenda," said Chairman Steve

Morris, R-Hugoton, one of the yes votes. "If they really wanted to help farmers, they'd be more cooperative."

Sen. Tim Huelskamp, R-Fowler, said he and other coalition members had genuine policy questions about the agriculture loan bill.

However, he also acknowledged, "There are other bills we have to make sure get heard, too."

The bill would make up to \$50 million in loans available to farmers at lower-than-normal interest rates.

December and picking up KWGN because it has the Warner Brothers programming which customers were asking about. However, after an outpouring of complaints about the loss of KUSA, Eagle negotiated a contract which allows them to return the channel to the Goodland cable system at a better price.

The Goodland Daily News television listings, which are printed in the paper on Thursdays, will reflect the return of KUSA to channel 33 and the addition of KWGN to channel 53 with the listings to be printed on Thursday, Feb. 24, said Editor Tom Betz.