

**weather
report**

32°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 5:39 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:17 a.m.
• Sunset, 5:40 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 43 degrees
- Humidity 96 percent
- Sky overcast with snow; visibility 3/4 of a mile
- Winds east 15 mph
- Barometer 30.02 inches and falling
- Record High 76° (1974)
- Record Low -15° (1960)

Last 24 Hours*

High 60°
Low 27°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Snow, 1-3 inches; low 25; winds northeast 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Cloudy and foggy, early; partly sunny, late; high 50-55; winds northwest 10-15 mph; low 30.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Monday, Saturday: dry; high 60-65; low 30-35. Sunday: chance of rain; high 55; low 30-35. Monday: dry; high 60; low 35. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local
markets**



Noon

- Wheat — \$2.12 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$2.05
 - Loan deficiency payment — 40¢
 - Corn — \$1.74 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$1.84
 - Loan deficiency payment — 15¢
 - Milo — \$2.63 hundredweight
 - Soybeans — \$4.36 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$4.26
 - Loan deficiency payment — 63¢
 - Millet — \$3.70 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$5.75 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.99
 - Confection current — \$13/\$7 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.

**Gun owner
may be charged**

MOUNT MORRIS TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — Prosecutors will seek an involuntary manslaughter charge against a 19-year-old man who had possession of a stolen gun later used by a 6-year-old boy to shoot a classmate, authorities said today.

The charge would require the state to show gross negligence by Jamelle James for allowing the youngster to get the .32-caliber semiautomatic gun used in the classroom shooting of Kayla Rolland, Prosecutor Arthur Busch said.

“We were not looking for scapegoats in this case; we were looking for justice for Kayla,” Busch said. “Ultimately, that justice will be found in the court of law.”

The complaint also will allege that James contributed to the delinquency of a minor and as a result, the manslaughter was committed

Goodland part of Read Across America

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Goodland schools celebrated Read Across America Day today by holding various activities. The day honors the birthday of children’s author Dr. Seuss.

Principals, Jerry Burkett at West, Sharon Gregory at Central and Steve Raymer at North, read to their students over the intercom at 9 a.m.

In honor of the program’s spokesperson, University of Kansas Coach Roy Williams, Central School had junior high and high school coaches read to different classes throughout the day.

Sixth grade students at North School read to kindergarten students during the day.

West School will hold “Family Reading Night” from 6:30 to 8 p.m. tonight. Karen Gillihan from the Goodland Public Library will dress up as Amelia Bedelia and read to students and parents at 7 p.m. in the school’s multi-purpose room.

At Grant Junior High School, all the students and staff read during Teacher Advisor time at the beginning of the day. The teachers either read to their students or had the students read on their own for about half an hour.

Goodland High School showed a video to its students during Reading Cool Stuff Together, a reading time held from 10:40 to 11 a.m. each day. The video showed Jerry Fairbanks talking about the importance of reading in his business and Forensics students reading “Green Eggs and Ham.” The school has equipment which allows students to see the same video at the same time while remaining in their classrooms.

In addition, the high school had other business people from the community come to be videotaped either reading or talking about the value of reading to students. Those individuals were Dale Shields, Ron Lucas, Mike Foust, and Karen Gillihan. A different video was then shown each day.



Jackie Elliott, Goodland High School teacher, and former golf coach, read to third grade students in Lori Lalicker’s class today at Central School. It was in celebration of Reading Across America Day to encourage all our people to read. Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

New game supports free enterprise

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

“Monopolize on Free Enterprise” is the theme of this year’s DECA program to promote free enterprise, Feb. 28 through March 3, in the community.

Students created a gameboard based on the game of “Monopoly” to promote the idea of consumers spending their money in Goodland. The names of the properties were changed to the names of Goodland businesses. The Community Chest and Chance cards had economic situations that occur in everyday life written on them, said Tiffany Schwasinger, DECA member.

Schwasinger said every dollar spent in Goodland stays here because businesses support so much of what DECA does in the community. Among those activities are the races in summer and fall to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

About 22 DECA students from Goodland High School will leave Saturday morning for state competition in Overland Park. They will return Tuesday night.

They will have an orientation session and enter their manuals on Sunday. Series competition, which includes two role plays and a 100 question test in whatever business section the student chooses, and competition with their manuals will begin Monday.

Tuesday will be the awards session to announce the names of those students who have been chosen to go to the national competition April 28 through May 4 in Louisville, Ky.

Schwasinger said she is very excited about going to state competition.

“I’m hoping to qualify for nationals. I also want to see what it’s like,” she said. “Since it’s my freshman year, I hope to qualify for nationals all four years.”

Richard Schwasinger, DECA teacher, will accompany the students on the trip. Four volunteer sponsors, James Stewart, Matilda Yarbrough, Vera Beneda, and Kama Fellhoelter will also go.

The game was shown to sixth graders at North School on Monday. It will be taken to state competition. After the students return, they would like to leave it with the sixth grade teachers.

Legislation would cut county, district judges

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

On the face bills recently introduced in the Kansas legislature would give the State Supreme Court more flexibility in determining where district judges and magistrate judges are assigned to handle heavier case loads, but rural judges who read between the lines see it as an effort to shift more judges to the city.

District Magistrate Judge Larry D. Montandon of Sharon Springs says the bills which have been introduced in the Kansas Senate (#618) and the Kansas House (#3008) are nothing new, but the manner in which the bills were introduced is different than in past years.

The Senate bill was introduced by Sen. Alicia Salisbury of Topeka and it calls for the elimination of the one resident judge per county and removes the current language which specified the number of judges to be assigned to each judicial district and county.

“In the past this was being approached on the basis that the supreme court needed to be able to assign judges to handle heavy caseloads,” Montandon said, “but this time they are bypassing the judicial process and approaching as a

cost savings budget issue. This is a backdoor way to get this passed.”

The Senate bill was introduced about four weeks ago and was assigned to the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

“We had opposed this same measure when it was introduced two years ago and it was soundly defeated in the Judicial Committee, but now the people are doing an end-run by using the budget as an excuse,” he said. “The current laws allow the supreme court to shift judges on an apart-time basis to help areas where there are case overloads, and there are several judges who are spending weeks hearing cases in Topeka to help with an overload.

Friday a new bill was introduced in the Kansas House by the Appropriations Committee which Montandon feels is as dangerous to rural communities as the senate bill. The House bill would repeal the law which requires there to be at least one resident judge in each Kansas county.

“If this supposed cost saving measure is passed I can see the immediate effect being the loss of several rural area judges,” Montandon said. “I believe that the ultimate effect would be a consolidation of our courts into Colby and within

the next four to eight years it would be moved to Hays. This would make it more difficult for local people to deal with the judicial system.

“I know it is something of a chore for small businesses to work with small claims court, but with such a massive change it would be even more difficult if this law is changed,” he said.

Montandon is the president of the District Magistrate Judges Association, and sees the bills as a threat to having local judges in the rural areas of the state, and does not see that there is any cost savings if the judges are shifted to the more expensive urban areas where there are more staff positions assigned to the judges.

“When this issue came up before we had the support of the counties, cities and local businesses who depend on the local judges, and that is part of why we were able to soundly defeat the bills,” Montandon said. “It will be even more important this time for our citizens to let the lawmakers know their views on these since they will not be going through the more traditional channels.”

Judge Montandon also sees the specific language of the bills as a way of getting around the election of judges by

allowing the supreme court to appoint all judges.

“If either of these passes I can see the supreme court judges calling up a newly elected rural judge and saying ‘we have just eliminated your position, and your choice is to accept an appointment in Johnson County or you may resign,’” he says. “This may sound far-fetched to some, but there is a continuing push to have all judges appointed, and there is a resolution in the legislature which seeks a constitutional amendment to accomplish that.”

Citizens should send messages or letters to members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee and the House Appropriations Committee Montandon says. (List of committee members with phone numbers and e-mail addresses on page 7.)

Boy killed; deputy shot

HIAWATHA (AP) — A teen-age boy fatally shot a deputy sheriff inside a patrol car and fled, sending officers on a man-hunt. The boy later ran out of a wooded area and died in an exchange of gunfire with officers, the sheriff said today.

“The officers returned fire, and the suspect was shot and killed,” said Lamar Shoemaker, Brown County sheriff.

The deputy, Todd Widman 21, apparently was shot inside his car along U.S. Highway 36 about 7 p.m. Wednesday and radioed for help, Shoemaker said. He was found outside his car and later died at a hospital.

More than 50 officers from various area law enforcement agencies converged on the scene, responding to Widman’s call. The boy, who was armed with his own handgun, was found at 9:10 p.m. near the parking lot of a Wal-Mart store, and fired several shots on officers before he bolted, Shoemaker said.

A half-hour later, the boy was spotted in a field and authorities cordoned off the area. He came out of the woods nearby and fired on three officers. Two of them fired back, killing him, about 9:45 p.m., Shoemaker said.

The boy was believed to be in his mid-teens, but his identity was not known, Shoemaker said.

However, The Buffalo News in New York reported in today’s editions that he is the 16-year-old son of a Buffalo police lieutenant. The family reported him missing Tuesday after he fled in a car, reportedly distraught over bad grades.

The News reported that Kansas authorities contacted Buffalo police early today after learning the gun he was carrying was registered to his father.

Improving those brick intersections



Allen Werth (second from left) and Toby Rupp (right), Allied Inc. workers, smoothed the concrete poured for a portion of a sidewalk at Sixth and Main late Wednesday afternoon. It was part of a bigger job, which replaced bricks in the dip pan of the intersection with concrete.