

**weather  
report**

**44°**

**at noon**



**Today**

• Sunset, 5:40 p.m.

**Tomorrow**

• Sunrise, 6:15 a.m.  
• Sunset, 5:41 p.m.

**Middy Conditions**

• Soil Temperature 39 degrees  
• Humidity 79 percent  
• Sky sunny  
• Winds west 10 mph.  
• Barometer 30.12 inches and rising  
• Record High 74° (1936)  
• Record Low -20° (1960)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High 41°  
Low 31°  
Precipitation .36 in./Snow 3 in.

**Northwest Kansas Forecast**

Tonight: Mostly clear; low 25-30; winds light. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny; dry; high 65-70; winds south 10-20 mph; low 35-40.

**Extended Forecast**

Sunday through Tuesday. Sunday: slight chance of thunderstorms; high 65-70; low 35-40. Monday: dry; high 60-65; low 35-40. Tuesday: chance of rain; high 55-65; low 35. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. \* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local  
markets**

**Noon**

Wheat — \$2.14 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.03  
Loan deficiency payment — 42¢  
Corn — \$1.76 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.84  
Loan deficiency payment — 15¢  
Milo — \$2.65 hundredweight  
Soybeans — \$4.38 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.32  
Loan deficiency payment — 57¢  
Millet — \$3.70 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$5.90 cwt.  
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.04  
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.**

**FBI questions  
young hacker**

WOLFEBORO, N.H. (AP)—A polite 17-year-old who says he dropped out of school because he was bored admitted today he hacked into several Websites, including one of a leading computer security company.

Dennis F. Moran, who used the screen name "Coolio," denied responsibility for well-publicized attacks last month on major electronic-commerce companies. Sites including Yahoo! and Amazon.com were put out of business for hours by a barrage of messages sent to them all at once.

Moran said some friends started a rumor in an Internet chat room that he was responsible for those attacks and he jokingly took credit for them. Unbeknownst to the youths, a security expert from Stanford University was listening in and sent logs to the FBI, Moran said in an interview at his home this morning.

## County facing rising vehicle fuel costs

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Rising fuel costs and buying a new computer occupied the Sherman County Commissioners Tuesday.

When going over end of the month bills, Commissioner Chuck Frankenfeld mentioned an increase on the fuel bill from Frontier Equity Exchange. Commissioner Gary Townsend said at the time they started buying fuel there, they were the only station with cardrol.

"Maybe we ought to shop for fuel," Frankenfeld said.

The commissioners discussed a bill for \$5,200 from Colby Community College for tuition costs on Northwest Kansas Technical School students earning associate degrees.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said there's a state law that the county a student lives in for longer than six months is the one responsible for paying a portion of their tuition.

A discussion followed about purchasing a new computer for the Road and Bridge Department. Townsend said if they did that then the old one would go to the Noxious Weed Department which doesn't have one. Daryl West, director, and Paula Geist, secretary, have to use the computer for Road and Bridge.

Townsend said he had talked to Crystal Linsner, county computer manager, and she told him that the Sherman County Health Department was looking

### Bids get close on water park

The rebid of the water park project appears to have brought the desired results as they were opened Wednesday and will be reviewed by the city commission at their meeting 5 p.m. Monday.

City Clerk Mary Volk said there was an additional bid from a general contractor in this round, and that the bids were much closer to the budget the city had established.

It looks like the numbers are within a negotiable range, and City Manager Ron Pickman indicated he was pleased with the new figures, Volk said. Pickman will not be at Monday's meeting as he is recovering from minor surgery, but Volk said he has been keeping in touch with her by e-mail since he returned home.

A related issue to the new water park is the commission will need to determine the future of the current swimming pool. The pool has been leaking badly for several years, and near the end of the summer season another leak developed in the supply flow from the power plant which provides the water to heat the pool.

Public Works Director Ed Wolak told the commissioners in the fall, when the leak appeared, that the power plant had to cut off the water flow to the pool, and that it would be expensive to try to determine where the leak actually was.

The commission's alternatives are to not open the current pool this summer or to open the pool and spend money to either fix the underground lines from the power plant for heat, or to find another way to heat the water this year.

Wolak said a boiler could be purchased to heat the water, and it might be possible to get one which could be moved to the new water park. He did not think it would be worthwhile to try to find the leak from the power plant.

Citizen Don Monter, 323 E 13th, has asked to be on the agenda to discuss the current wording of the inoperable vehicle ordinance.

Alco Discount Store has applied for a sidewalk permit to place their summer items and gardening supplies on the sidewalk in front of the store at 1121 Main Street.

Bernadine Taylor has asked for a home occupation permit to open a daycare at 314 Eustis Avenue.

The term of Leo Townsend is expiring on the Board of Building Appeals, and the commission will consider filling the vacancy.

The commission will also consider an ordinance vacating a portion of Cherry Street on the west side between 17th and 18th Streets.

Another ordinance under consideration is one to adopt the 1999 edition of the national electric code.

The city commission meets at 5 p.m. upstairs in the City Administration Building, 204 W. 11th Street.

to buy a new computer. Linsner thought it would be cheaper if the county bought two.

Rumpel said the county health department would buy their computer out of their capital fund.

Road and Bridge Director Curt Way said his department would also need a printer.

Commission Chairman Davis said they would need to have bids and asked if Linsner should get them. Way said he would talk to her about it.

The exchange of property between the city and county was also tabled until the

next meeting.

William McKnight, county building manager, came to present the bids on mowers. He said he test drove all the mowers he received bids on. Out of those, he liked the Grasshopper from Yost Farm Supply the best.

Davis moved to accept the bid for the Grasshopper from Yost Farm Supply and the motion carried.

"How soon can we get the mower?" asked Davis.

McKnight said he was to let them know as soon as he found out what the commissioners wanted to do. He thought

they had that mower on hand.

Way talked to the commissioners about signing the contract from Penco Engineering for the bi-annual bridge inspections due this spring.

Townsend asked if it was for all the bridges in the county. Way said yes. Townsend then asked if it would include the one north of the airport that they were to trade with the city.

"Yes, if they come to inspect, before we make the trade," said Way.

There was a problem with something on the contract and Davis wanted to have a corrected contract before they signed

it. Way said he would have it ready by the next meeting.

Rick Billinger came to see if the commissioners would remove the solid waste fees on some of his junked out trailers, as they were not generating any trash. After much discussion, the commissioners decided not to remove the fees. Townsend said he was concerned about the fairness of doing so and about setting a precedent for others.

The commissioners passed a resolution urging the legislature to restore money to the budget to go from the state to counties and local government.

### Getting a first hand look at the paper business



Pat Pickett's second grade class was full of questions when they visited the Goodland Daily News on Thursday. Goodland Daily News owner, Cynthia Haynes was on hand to give the tour, and of course, answer the questions. The youngsters presented the Goodland Daily staff with a copy of the newspaper they had produced about the events at West Elementary. Photo by Janet Craft / The Goodland Daily News

## Legislator thinks airlines should keep promises

TOPEKA (AP)—House Appropriations Chairman David Adkins wants to punish airlines who sell tickets in Kansas but fail to keep their promise of arriving on time.

"I believe cattle going to feedlots are treated with more dignity than most airline passengers," Adkins, R-Leawood, said Thursday. "This was prompted by a year of disastrous air travel for me."

The final straw, he said, was last week when he had to sit in a plane for an hour before it took off from Minneapolis. He started drafting the bill while he waited.

It's uncertain whether airlines can be held accountable under the Kansas Con-

sumer Protection Act. Adkins acknowledged that line of thought, but disagreed with it.

"I think we have jurisdiction because it's focused on consumer protection, not regulating airlines," Adkins said. "The bill has a better chance getting off the ground than most major airlines."

The bill requires any carrier "who sells or offers for sale" an airline ticket in Kansas to honor its terms and conditions — like arriving on time. Exempted would be delays caused by weather, mechanical problems or criminal acts.

The bill also would make it a violation for an airline selling tickets in Kansas to

keep the purchaser on board with the doors closed without offering a full explanation for the delay.

The bill also says if airlines discontinue selling tickets in Kansas, its advertising in the state must state: "Tickets are not available in the state of Kansas because this airline refuses to honor its published schedules."

**Lawmaker wants trigger locks**

Kansans with children in their homes would have to put trigger locks on their weapons or keep them locked up under a bill that faces an uphill battle.

"I want to make parents more respon-

sible. It's a safety bill," Rep. Cindy Hermes said after introducing the bill Thursday.

"Telling people they have to have a gun lock on their guns in their own home? I don't support that," said House Speaker Robin Jennison, R-Healy.

However, Hermes, R-Topeka, has been promised a committee hearing by House Federal and State Affairs Chairman Tony Powell.

"I have concerns about some of the penalties in this, but I'm looking at it with an open mind," said Powell, R-Wichita. "I'm having a tough time seeing why that bill would be a problem for anyone."

### Slippery, sliding weather



The snowy weather Thursday which dumped about three inches of snow on Goodland also was responsible for at least one wreck. There were no serious injuries in this accident which occurred about 4:15 p.m. near the intersection of Caldwell and Seventh Street.

Photo by Jennifer Boyles