

**weather report**

**54°**

at noon



**Today**

• Sunset, 5:52 p.m.

**Tomorrow**

• Sunrise, 5:58 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:53 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil Temperature 42 degrees
- Humidity 41 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds variable at 7 mph
- Barometer 29.98 inches and steady
- Record High 81° (1935)
- Record Low -03° (1958)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High 58°  
Low 26°  
Precipitation none

**Northwest Kansas Forecast**

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, low 35-40, winds southwest 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, 30 percent chance of rain, high 50-55, winds northeast 15-25 mph, low 25-30.

**Extended Forecast**

Thursday: dry, high 40s, low 20-25. Friday and Saturday: dry, high 60, low 25-30.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$2.29 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.12
- Loan deficiency payment — 33¢
- Corn — \$1.88 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.93
- Loan deficiency payment — 06¢
- Milo — \$2.88 hundredweight
- Soybeans — \$4.55 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.46
- Loan deficiency payment — 43¢
- Millet — \$3.70 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$6.30 cwt.
- Loan deficiency prmt. — \$3.88
- 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.

**Panel reworks abortion bill**

TOPEKA — A bill to ban what state law calls "partial-birth" abortion got a major overhaul by a Senate committee, while the state's top tax collector tried to put a positive spin on her beleaguered agency.

The Federal and State Affairs Committee endorsed a rewritten bill Monday that outlaws partial-birth abortion and tightens exceptions for other late-term procedures. The Senate will debate the bill later this week.

Current law bans partial-birth abortions except to save a woman's life or if the pregnancy would substantially and irreversibly impair her physical or mental health.

The House-passed bill bans the procedure except when it's necessary to save a woman's life. The Senate committee reworked the bill to repeal the partial-birth abortion law and add language to specifically outlaw that procedure.

## Board hears plea for Edson gym

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Members of the Goodland School Board climbed aboard a yellow school bus Monday evening for the short ride to Edson, where they looked over the gym and talked to citizens who want to see the building turned over to the community.

When the board discussed the future of the gym, however, the decision was put on hold to allow the administration to gather more information.

"I was surprised to see how good of shape the building was in," said school board member Gerry Franklin, "and while I don't want to spend a lot of money on the building, I am not sure the district should get rid of it just yet."

At the gym, Superintendent Marvin Selby explained the property lines and the status of the old school building next door to the west.

District Maintenance Supervisor Chuck Lutters talked about the problems with the skylights and the vent leaking. He told the board members and Edson citizens that the roof is out of warranty, and that there was a problem with the water well, which is in the basement of the old school building.

Board member Kathy Russell brought a basketball along and checked out the floor for dead spots. She found several, including the northeast and southwest corners in particular.

"I think some of these dead spots were here when we played games here in 1972," she said.

Discussion about when the Edson school was abandoned suggested it was in the early 1970s, and a plaque on the wall said the gymnasium was built in 1964.

Eleanor Elliott, who has been maintaining the gym for over 20 years, said the building was in fairly good shape, but that some maintenance did need to be done to keep it that way.

"I just want to say 'wow' twice," said board member Ben Duell, "once for the gym and once for the bus trip."

"I think there is merit to keeping it for a year to see how much the district would use it," Franklin said. He also suggested that Selby get estimates on repairs and the minor changes which have been suggested.

"I concur with Gerry, that we need to see what our needs are," board member Mike Campbell said.



Goodland School Board members Gerry Franklin (left), Mike Campbell, second left), Dick Short (second right) and Kathy Russell (right) talked to

Jim Cress, (center) and other Edson citizens about the future of the gym, which belongs to the district. Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News

"What do we need it for?" asked board member Jane Philbrick.

"Building the new gym did not solve all our problems," Selby replied. "We still use the armory, and don't know what the future is there."

A call to Sgt. Mark Reasoner, active duty supervisor at the Goodland National Guard Armory, revealed there is not any plan that he knows of for moving the unit out of Goodland or closing the armory.

"We are a bit down in strength right now, but there has been no discussion about closing us down," Reasoner said.

"We are happy with the support we receive from the armory people, and

have a good working relationship," said Jim Mull, junior high principal, "but the armory is not a gym, and we would rather be able to use the Edson gym despite the extra ride because it is a better place for volleyball and basketball."

"I am not advocating, 'Have the junior high continue to use the Edson gym as we have in the past,'" Campbell said, "but I also believe the group from Edson deserves a year to see if they can develop a feasible plan to bring to the district to either purchase or somehow take over the building. I believe they deserve an opportunity for the Edson community to put this together.

"If it has value, we must look at our duty to get the best value for the taxpayers of the district," he said.

"Right now, it looks good because it is being used, but that will change if it is not used and occupied," Duell said. "I think we should make the building available to qualified groups for their use. We need to have a plan about the use and our liability."

"We have lots of questions, and want sometime to review the discussion before making a decision," said board President Dick Short. He suggested that the discussion be tabled to give Selby some time to get estimates about repair needs and give the Edson group time to

put together a proposal.

"Are you, as a group, prepared to raise at least \$10,000 a year?" Campbell asked the Edson representatives.

"We have considered that, and yes we can raise that," replied Mike Cochran.

The board decided to have Selby and the Edson group bring their information back to the board at the April 24 meeting, but later scheduled a strategic planning day for Saturday, April 8, and one topic will be facilities.

Duell asked that the costs of the building be gathered, including the insurance costs.

### Let them eat cake?



Boy Scout Troop No. 142 held its annual chili feed on Saturday at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Michael Middleton was picking up pieces of cake to serve to customers during noontime. Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

## I-70 lanes will close as rebuilding resumes

Koss Construction Co. plans to close the eastbound lanes of I-70 between Goodland and Edson on Tuesday as the Topeka firm resumes work on replacing the pavement with new concrete.

Signs were placed last week and pavements markings and barricades will be placed next week as the eastbound lanes are shut down.

"Koss announced in a pre-construction meeting Thursday that they will be closing the Interstate down to one lane, head-to-head traffic on the westbound lanes on Tuesday," said Donna Binning, construction engineer for the Kansas Department of Transportation in Atwood. "The closure begins at Edson and runs west on the for Interstate approximately six miles.

"Initially the work will include grading and removing the old concrete from

the eastbound lanes. The public will also see activity along the shoulders as the contractors will be applying the permanent seeding."

The I-70 project, which began last year on the westbound lanes, is to wrap up sometime in September. Koss is ripping out two layers of old pavement, repairing the subgrade as needed, and laying new, high-standard concrete pavement and shoulders.

About three-quarters of the work was completed last year, including both east and westbound lanes through town and the entrance and exit ramps for Goodland. This year, the only remaining work is the eastbound pavement from east of town to Edson, and the eastbound ramps at Edson.

Koss workers should begin tearing out the old concrete next week.

## Rain helps wheat improve

WICHITA (AP) — Warm weather and moisture have slightly improved the condition of the Kansas winter wheat crop, Kansas Agricultural Statistics reported Monday.

In its weekly crop weather report, the agency said wheat has greened up

around the state and begun to grow. Wheat that emerged several weeks ago is growing rapidly.

Already about 7 percent of the crop has started jointing, well ahead of the 2 percent normal for this year.

Wheat condition was rated as 8 percent excellent and 34 percent good. Another 42 percent was fair, while 16 percent of the crop was in poor or very poor shape, the agency said.

The crop weathered the mild winter so far. About 90 percent showed no freeze damage and 82 percent had no wind damage. The wet ground helped protect fields, resulting in little damage from last week's strong winds.

Greenbugs and army cutworms are becoming more widespread and some fields have already been treated.

Meanwhile, spring oat seedings is now 33 percent complete.

## Schools plan enrollment, tests for new kindergarteners

The Goodland School District will hold a combined kindergarten screening and enrollment for children who will enter school this fall from 8 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 6, and Friday, April 7.

The roundup will be at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 220 E. 13th, Goodland.

All children living in the district who will be 5 by Aug. 31 are eligible to attend. They must be accompanied by an adult.

The screening includes a hearing exam, vision test, speech assessment, developmental screening and immunization record check.

Parents are asked to bring their child's immunization records, a certified copy of their birth certificate and a copy of their Social Security card.

To obtain a certified copy of your child's birth certificate, write to the Department of Vital Statistics of the state in which your child was born. In Kansas, the address is: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Vital Statistics, 900 SW Jackson, Room 151, Topeka, Kan. 66612-2221. The fee is \$10 for one certified copy and \$5 for each additional copy ordered at the same time.

Immunizations and a health assessment must be completed before children entrance into school. Appointments for immunizations can be made by contacting your doctor or the county Health Department.