

**weather
report**

33°

at noon



Today

- Sunset, 5:59 p.m.
- Tomorrow**
- Sunrise, 5:47 a.m.
- Sunset, 6 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 40 degrees
- Humidity 96 percent
- Sky overcast with light snow and fog
- Winds
- Barometer 30.18 inches and steady
- Record High 80° (1988)
- Record Low 2° (1983)

Last 24 Hours*

- High 39°
- Low 30°
- Precipitation trace

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Rain likely mixed with snow, low 30-35, winds northeast 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy; 50 percent chance of rain; high 45-50; winds northeast 10-20.

Extended Forecast

Chance of rain Thursday and Friday; highs 50s; lows 30-35. Dry Saturday; high 60s; low in the 30s. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400.MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local
markets**



Noon

- Wheat — \$2.24 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$2.18
 - Loan deficiency payment — 27¢
 - Corn — \$1.82 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$1.93
 - Loan deficiency payment — 6¢
 - Milo — \$2.77 hundredweight
 - Soybeans — \$4.52 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$4.44
 - Loan deficiency payment — 45¢
 - Millet — \$3.70 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$6.20 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency prnt. — \$3.73
 - 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.

**Clinton, India
blast violence**

NEW DELHI, India — President Clinton joined Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee today in decrying bloodshed in disputed Kashmir.

"The violence must end," Clinton asserted, calling for peace talks between nuclear rivals India and Pakistan.

Vajpayee called the massacre of dozens of villagers in Kashmir "a premeditated act of barbarism" and warned, ominously: "We have the will and the means to eliminate this menace."

The meeting between Clinton and Vajpayee failed to produce any breakthroughs on either the Indian-Pakistani standoff or on India's nuclear ambitions.

The two leaders signed a "vision statement" promising warmer relations between the world's two largest democracies and closer economic ties.

City backs out of U.S. 24 agreement

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

City commissioners decided to scuttle an agreement with Sherman County to get parts of old U.S. 24 within city limits resurfaced Monday, and one said the result might be going back to gravel on the quarter mile or so east of town.

Commissioners told City Manger Ron Pickman to inform the county of their position after the city attorney told them state law makes the county responsible for "connecting links" inside the city.

Commissioners have been unhappy that the county did not include the two city-owned stretches in its initial rebuilding plans. They said they thought the county had agreed to that when it got city approval for a special sales tax more than two years ago.

However, plans do not include the two quarter-mile stretches on the east and west sides of town.

Commissioners said they could not afford to rebuild the east stretch, where the base has failed, but proposed an agreement where they would take the two pieces of road in return for the city accepting responsibility for the stretch of North Caldwell by the airport.

The proposed agreement with Sherman County was up for approval at Monday's city meeting with the city attorney, Perry Warren, told the commissioners about the law.

Warren said the law requires the county to maintain "linking" sections of roads whether they were inside the city or not, and said that the city did not have to accept the agreement.

"I have a serious problem with this agreement," said Mayor Chuck Lutters. "I still feel we had an agreement on this before the sales tax was passed, and I am not in favor of signing."

Lutters was referring to a meeting where the

cities of Kanorado and Goodland both agreed not to take any of the special sales tax the county was asking for to repair old U.S. 24. After that meeting, several city commissioners were sure that the county had agreed to also repair the sections of the old highway which were on the east and west edges of Goodland.

Later, however, county commissioners said they did not agree to take care of these sections. They eventually decided they were willing to take responsibility for these if the city would accept responsibility for North Caldwell from Armory Road to K-27.

City Commissioner Rick Billinger asked Monday if the city could revoke its agreement not to take any sales tax. Pickman said the city had sent a letter to the county which had said the city would not take any of the sales tax, and that there is no way to change that now.

Billinger said he agreed with Lutters that it was the understanding of the city that the county would be repairing all of the road from Brewster to Kanorado.

Commissioner Tom Rohr said after listening to the other commissioners that he did not feel it was a good idea to sign the agreement.

"I guess we will maintain what we do and they can maintain what they are doing," Commissioner Jim Mull said. "We may have to go back to gravel on the east. I know that sounds funny, but I am serious. I am sorry to see us in this head butting, but I believe the sales tax was set up to pay for it."

"Why would we give up our sales tax if we were going to have to do the work on these sections," Billinger said.

"There is no reason for you to do something you have no obligation to do," Warren told the commissioners.

Hospital gets some recognition

Board spends its time in closed personnel talk

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Administrator Jim Chaddic told the Goodland Regional Medical Center board at Monday's night's meeting that the medical records department had received a certificate of achievement for submitting birth certificates to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in a timely manner.

In a short meeting, the majority of the time was spent in closed session to discuss personnel.

Chief Financial Officer Andy Laue reported that the auditors had been at the hospital last week and would return again on Tuesday, so the February financial report was not ready. Board Chairman Doug Irvin suggested rather than wait until April's meeting, that copies of the financial report be mailed to board members. That way they would have a chance to look the report over before the next meeting.

Laue said he didn't expect February to be a good month, though, as in-patient volume was down.

Chaddic said there wasn't much to report as the medical staff wouldn't meet until Friday. There would be no credential files for the board to go over until next month's meeting.

Board member Pete Whalen then called for a half hour of executive session to discuss personnel. Afterwards, the board had about 20 minutes of general discussion which centered around how to get information out to the public about the hospital's services. They decided to have a newsletter mailed out telling about them. The board also talked about the increased competition for nurses in the state.

Other members present at the meeting were Larry McCants, Lynn Hoeltling, Steve Evert and Greg Bongers. Mary Ann Elliott, vice president of the hospital's ancillary services, was also present. The board will meet next month at 6:30 p.m. on April 24 in the hospital board room.



City crew starts work on moving ball park

Dennis Daise, city-county recreation director, (above) burned a pile of corn husks at the baseball complex near I-70 in preparation for the coming baseball and softball season. The new ballfield will be built north of the present complex. At Steever Park, city crew members were beginning to dismantle the old ballpark. They had taken down fences and pulled up fence posts to be used at the new one.

Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News



Memorial Park will honor baseball backers

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The new baseball park will be called "Memorial Park," to honor all those who have worked for Goodland baseball the past years, the city commission decided unanimously at its regular meeting Monday evening.

City Manager Ron Pickman said there was nothing to stop the city from giving the new field a new name, and that since the Goodland Baseball Committee had requested the Memorial Field designation to use in raising money for improvements, it was fine for the city to approve the new name.

Pickman reported that the negotiations with contractors on the Steever Water Park project were going well, and that the total cost was now within the \$2.2 million the commission had authorized.

Working with Rhoads Construction, Pickman said they had reduced the

firm's part from \$998,202 to \$826,870, and the actual pool cost was cut from \$1,320,000 to \$1,285,200. He said there is a possibility the pool cost would be lowered a bit more, but he had not received final figures from the bidder.

"It had been a long process," Pickman said, "but I believe we have gotten the project below the cost you set and are ready to proceed."

The final figures are expected to be completed by Monday, and the project should be underway later this spring.

The items the city will still need to pay for, such as the parking and trees, will be an additional \$112,500. With this added, in the total cost will be \$2,199,570.

"This is just barely below the cap, but I believe we can make it and there may be some other ways to reduce the cost as we go along," Pickman said.

Stock cars will not be automatically considered "inoperable" vehicles un-

der an amendment passed by the commission.

City Attorney Perry Warren was present as the commissioners considered the new ordinance, which includes a special section defining a stock car.

Under the original ordinance, an inoperable vehicle was defined as "junked, wrecked, full or partially dismantled, discarded, abandoned or unable to perform the functions or purposes for which it was originally constructed."

The new section defines a stock car as a vehicle which is specialized and equipped for car racing. It says that all the doors are either welded, bolted or chained shut; the interior contains racing or bucket seats; is equipped with five point seat belts; contains a four point roll cage with a minimum of three bars in place of the windshield in front of the driver's seat; has no glass, plastic, upholstery, lights, mirrors, interior

tin or other coverings; has a fuel cell rather than a fuel tank; and runs under its own power.

"This does not include any demolition derby cars?" asked Commissioner Curtis Hurd.

Warren said he did not see where it would apply to a demolition car based on the detailed definition of a stock car.

The amendment was approved unanimously.

In other business, the commission: • Approved a \$500 grant for the Community Volunteer Appreciation reception to be held Tuesday, April 25.

• Approved demolition bids for nine properties under the new Community Development Block Grant, including three commercial properties. Miller Construction was the successful bidder on houses as 910 W. Ninth St. (\$4,200) and 622 W. 10th St. (\$2,500). Goody's-Mike Yarger was the successful bidder on the remaining properties: 1616 Main

St. (\$6,500), 418 Center Ave. (\$5,900), 422 Sherman Ave. (\$5,900), 1301 Syracuse Ave. (\$6,500), 902 Main St. (\$7,800, and the owner must pay \$1,300 over the maximum price), 119 East 12th St. (\$5,900) and 515 East Eighth St. (\$4,100).

• Agreed to allow Peggy Klinge to operate the concession stand at the softball complex this summer, and agreed that the K-18 team could operate a concession stand at the new baseball field.

• Pickman said the recycler has decided not to continue handling cardboard, and that the city is now looking for someone else to take over. He said the city will try to find a new cardboard recycler over the next month and would report back at that time.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. The next regular meeting will be 5 p.m. Monday, April 3, in the commission room, upstairs in the City Administration Building, 204 W. 11th.