


weather report

34°

at noon



Today

Sunset, 6:07 p.m.

Tomorrow

Sunrise, 5:35 a.m.

Sunset, 6:08 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 48 degrees

• Humidity 96 percent

• Sky cloudy, light snow

• Winds calm

• Barometer 29.91 inches and rising

• Record High 88° (1943)

• Record Low 2° (1987)

Last 24 Hours*

High 52°

Low 32°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy with fog, low 30-35, light winds north. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, 20 percent chance of rain, high 50-55, winds east 5-15 mph, low 25-35.

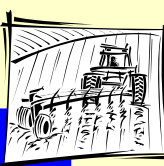
Extended Forecast

Friday: chance of rain in morning, high 55-60, low 30s. Saturday and Sunday: dry, high 65-70, low 30s. (National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.11 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.98

Loan deficiency payment — 47¢

Corn — \$1.77 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.83

Loan deficiency payment — 16¢

Milo — \$2.68 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.54 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.47

Loan deficiency payment — 42¢

Millet — \$3.70 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$6.35 cwt.

Loan deficiency prnt. — \$3.44

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.

Mobile home fire kills eight

ACWORTH, Ga. — Fire destroyed a mobile home early today and killed eight people, including an infant, authorities said.

Five bodies were found in a bedroom near the back door and three others were in the front of the four-bedroom, double-wide mobile home, said police Maj. Chuck Martin.

“It appears they were all trying to exit,” said Mark Gresham, a spokesman for the Cobb County Fire Department.

Neighbor Jim Wheeling said he tried to open windows to get to the victims.

“I picked up a big ol’ rock and slammed it into the plate glass window, but it wouldn’t break,” said Wheeling, a construction worker.

The victims were Linda Joanne Cochran, her four children, her niece, her teen-age son’s girlfriend and the girlfriend’s baby.

Judge lets county go back to ripping

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Daily News

County crews raced to rip out pavement on the Nemechek Road after a second court challenge Monday by neighborhood residents fell flat.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby said crews were at work on the road when neighbors tried to get a temporary restraining order to halt the work, as they had done last month.

A telephone hearing was held during the noon hour with District Judge Glenn D. Schiffner; attorney Ron Vignery and resident John Sanders, who asked for a temporary restraining order to stop the county from removing the pavement.

Selby said County Commissioners Gary Townsend and Chuck Frankenfeld and County Road Superintendent Curt Way were in her office for the hearing while Sanders was in Vignery’s office.

Judge Schiffner, of Thomas County, had granted a temporary restraining order in early February when the county began tearing the pavement out. At that time, Sanders was asking for time to organize a “special benefit district” to save the road.

Schiffner lifted the temporary restraining order after a hearing on Feb. 17 when the commissioners agreed to allow the people time to explore the special benefit district as a means to help raise the needed money to save the road.

A petition to create the district was turned into Sherman County Clerk Janet Rumpel the day after the hearing, but after reviewing the law and the petition, Rumpel ruled on March 7 that it did not have enough valid signatures, and that there had not been any oath or witnesses for the signatures as required.

Despite a request from the citizens along the road for another chance to develop a non-profit corporation to save the road, the commissioners decided March 20 to continue removing



A new asphalt grinder moves down the Nemechek Road on Tuesday as Curt Way, county road and bridge superintendent, and County Commissioner

the pavement on the east-west road, part of County Road 68.

When the county began moving equipment into place on Monday, Sanders went to Vignery and a call was placed to Judge Schiffner for another temporary restraining order.

Selby said the judge called her and

asked for the noon hearing. She was able to get a hold of Townsend and Frankenfeld.

When the judge opened the hearing, he asked about what had happened, and Selby told him about the petition and that it had been ruled insufficient.

Sanders said the people wanted to

stop the removal, but when asked by Judge Schiffner what law he was hoping to use, neither Sanders nor Vignery had an answer.

Without a new law, Judge Schiffner said he did not see any way to grant a restraining order, and that he would not stop the county.

sioner Chuck Frankenfeld watch. The county crew had just resumed ripping up the pavement.

Photo by Janet Craft / The Goodland Daily News

Selby said that after the judge made his assessment, Sanders said he would withdraw his request, and the hearing was closed.

County crews returned to work Tuesday, and at one point someone changed the “road construction” sign to read road “destruction.”

Tornadoes sweep city at rush hour

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press Writer

FORT WORTH — Two tornadoes roared through Fort Worth shortly after rush hour Tuesday, overturning cars and sending broken glass and debris raining onto city streets.

Four people were killed and more than 100 injured.

The storms struck shortly after 6 p.m., with one tornado churning to the north and the other through downtown Fort Worth, a city of 480,000 some 30 miles west of Dallas.

“The wind was blowing so fast and all the people were shouting, ‘We don’t want to die, we don’t want to die,’” said Sanu Piya, a worker at Star City Fina gas station and convenience store, who huddled with others inside the downtown store as the tornado passed.

Dozens were homeless today and some 30,000 across one of the state’s largest cities remained without power. Authorities closed off the central business district and urged people who work downtown to stay home.

Mayor Kenneth Barr said rescuers would go floor-by-floor through buildings to assess damage and safety. They had the aid of the Texas Urban Search Rescue Team, created after the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing to respond to catastrophes.

Two people died in one of the tornadoes, said Lt. Kent Worley, a fire department spokesman. One was crushed inside a collapsed building, and another was hit by debris.

Strong winds blew two other people

from their car into the Trinity River.

Worley said they were missing and presumed dead. No names were released.

After hustling frantic customers down 35 floors, Sean Finley described the tornado that struck his high-rise downtown restaurant this way: “Imagine a large bomb going off.”

Finley said the storms destroyed Reata, a popular restaurant he managed on the top floor of the 35-story Bank One building.

“It got pretty hectic in here,” said owner Mike Evans, who helped patrons and employees hurry down the stairs to safety. “We were doing some major yelling to get people out of there.”

Robert and Wendi Sparlins were celebrating their second wedding anniversary in the posh restaurant.

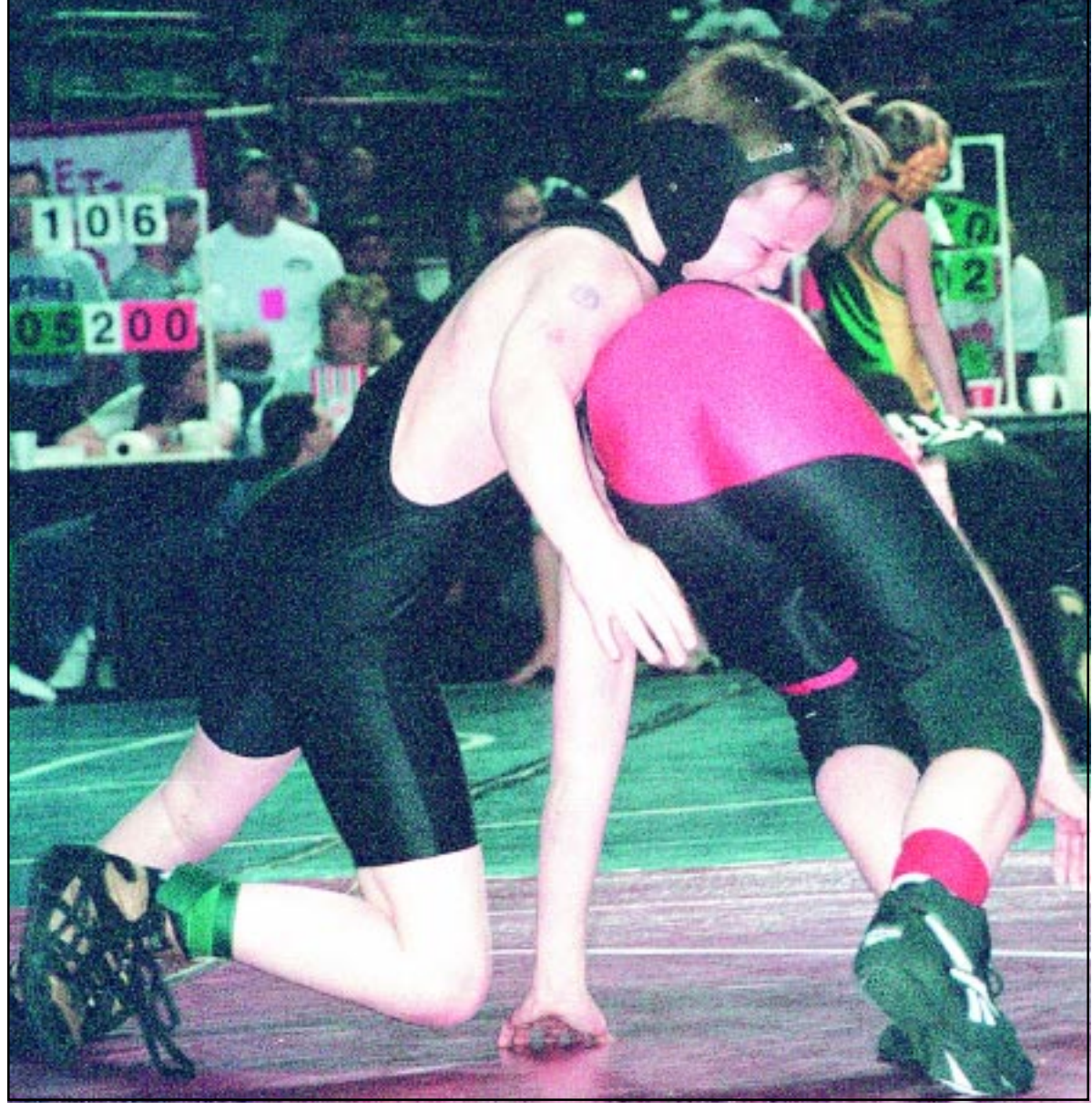
“The windows starting popping, people were running trying to get under the table,” Sparlins said. “I saw a chair in the straight line winds going down the street.”

One side of the Calvary Cathedral International suffered major damage. Pastor Bob Nichols said his church looks like it had been “in a war zone.”

About 175 people stayed the night at a Red Cross shelter at Will Rogers Coliseum, most of them elderly, manager Richard Fall said. The Red Cross also set up shelters in Grand Prairie and River Oaks. Police said 82 people in Arlington were homeless.

Jeffery Moore, a forecaster with the National Weather Service in Fort Worth, said another round of severe weather was possible today.

Tough job for a little guy



Aaron Deeds tries to corral his opponent during a match at the Kansas Kids state tournament in Topeka Saturday and Sunday. Deeds did not place, but 10 of the 23 members of the Goodland Wrestling Club did come away with finishes in the top six. For more photos and a story, see Page 8.

Photos by Kathy Bahe and Jeff Mason

No one shows up to oppose new county landfill at hearing

By Janet Craft
The Goodland Daily News

Plans to dig a new landfill south of Goodland are awaiting state approval, but a public hearing held Monday afternoon at the Sherman County Courthouse should move the process along.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment held the hearing.

with the Bureau of Waste Management.

Three other state employees and County Clerk Janet Rumpel were present at the brief hearing. Mark McMullen and Curt Ahrendsen of Terranext in Lakewood, Colo., the environmental engineering firm that the county has been consulting with on the landfill, were also present. No citizens showed up to ask questions or hear the presentation.

The hearing officer called for opposition from anyone present, but got no answer. Then it was announced that anyone with either written or oral comments had until midnight Tuesday to present them.

Written comments had to be postmarked by midnight Tuesday.

Road and Bridge Director Curt Way said the county will have to wait until it hears back from the state before it can move ahead on the landfill.

Way said engineers from Terranext have to put together a bid package.

After Way receives the package, he will present it to the county commissioners to see if there is anything they might want to change. Once the commissioners approve the package, he said, the county can solicit dirt contractors to build the landfill.

Way said that he doesn’t know how long it will be before he hears from the state.