

City to approve park financing package

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The city commission will consider approving the lease-purchase agreement for financing the new Memorial Field and Steever Water Park, a joint project of the First National Bank and Bankwest.

The commission will likely have a new chairman and vice-chairman after the annual reorganization, set for shortly after tonight's meeting begins at 5 p.m.

This is an annual process, and the commission will select a chairman and vice-chairman for the year. The current chairman — also called the mayor — is Chuck Lutters, and the vice-chairman — also

called the mayor pro tem — is Jim Mull.

With the recent shortfall in the state budget, the state Municipal League is asking the city commission to pass a resolution opposing the state's action in reducing the amount of money the state is supposed to transfer to the cities under state law.

"It is doubtful that the resolution will have much real effect," City Manager Ron Pickman said, "but it is a way to draw public attention to the way the state is handling their budget problem. By reducing the transfers, they are taking money away from the cities, and that may cause some cities to have to raise property tax because of the cut in revenue.

"The state is withholding money, and making

the level below what the law says the transfers should be. For Goodland, the cut would not be a huge amount, but it is the principle of the way the state keeps doing this and putting the burden on the cities."

Bids will be reviewed for a sprinkling system for the city softball fields and Memorial Field. Pickman said bids were requested on doing the whole project, and an alternative of doing the softball separately.

Bids will also be reviewed for a new solid waste truck that was in the budget at \$102,000 for the new truck. It will replace one of the old trucks, Pickman said, which has been in service since 1994.

The commission will consider a new appointment to the library board for a four-year term. Lori Price has served two terms, the maximum under state law, and will be going off the board.

Pickman said the planning commission and the city commission will meet at 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 25, to review a draft of the comprehensive plan from Bucher, Willis and Ratliff of Kansas City.

The commission will make the next-to-last payment on the water line project to Allied Inc. There is one payment remaining, Pickman said.

The next portion of the project will be with Clark Well Drilling, which will begin drilling the new wells soon.

Markets stable after big decline

By Joyce M. Rosenberg

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Prices fluctuated on Wall Street today as a battered stock market sought a direction after Friday's devastating sell-off.

The Nasdaq composite index and Dow Jones industrials fell in early trading, then each rose more than 100 points, then turned down, giving up much of those gains.

By early afternoon, the Nasdaq was up 1.77 at 3,323.06, while the Dow was up 26.68 at 10,332.45.

The overall market was lower, with twice as many stocks falling as were rising on the Nasdaq market and the New York Stock Exchange.

Prices also fell on Asian markets, including a nearly 7 percent drop in Tokyo, as traders reacted to the selling in New York that has slashed nearly \$2 trillion from the stock market's value during last week. In Europe, the picture was much brighter, however.

The market had been expected to decline as investors are extremely wary after last week's debacle. The fact that they were interested in buying at all was a positive sign, but they were focusing on big-name stocks, the most stable.

The Dow fell 617.78 points, or by 5.7 percent, Friday, its biggest one-day point drop ever, though it has had larger percentage drops several times. It closed at 10,305.77.

The Nasdaq, over-the-counter home

See **STOCKS**, Page 6

Hotel board up to county

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

The Sherman County commissioners are to make appointments to the Convention and Visitors Bureau board at Tuesday's meeting.

State law says that on the 10-member board, six should be from the hotel/motel business. Hotel and motel owners have protested the makeup and direction of the board, though officials say it's hard to get hotel people to serve.

Recommendations for board members are made by the Goodland Chamber of Commerce, but the final decision is made by the commissioners.

Current members include Dale Neill, KOA Kampground, president; Danny Whalen, Dairy Queen, secretary; Marilyn Collett, Butterfly Aviation; Scott Weber, Mid-America Camp Inn; Norma Notz, Motel 7; Anthony Spomer, Anthony's; Joni Wilson, Comfort Inn; Michelle Coad, Motel 6; and Brenda McCants of Goodland Regional Medical Center, as community representative. Mike Irvine, who worked for Howard Johnson Hotel, was on the board, but he has moved.

Dorendo Harrel, administrator at the Sherman County Health Department, is scheduled to meet with the commissioners to talk about hiring someone to clean the department's offices. The present worker is quitting and the department needs to find a replacement.

The commissioners will attend a luncheon at noon at Sugar Hills Country Club with Randy Allen, director of the Kansas Association of Counties in Topeka, and Judy Moler, attorney for the association, along with all county department heads, to discuss a plan for hiring a county administrator.



This photo (above), taken by Janet Craft of *The Goodland Daily News*, won second place in the news photo category, Daily Division I, in the Kansas Press Association competition this weekend. It shows Sheriff Doug Whitson and others helping the victim of a construction accident. The layout (below), also by Craft, won first place in the newspaper photo spread category. The awards were presented Saturday in Topeka.

Daily wins dozen state awards

The Goodland Daily News won a dozen awards, including four firsts, in the annual Awards of Excellence contest sponsored by the Kansas Press Association.

The awards were announced this weekend at the association's annual convention in Topeka.

The Daily took second place in the general excellence judging among small daily newspapers in the state, behind *The Atchison Daily Globe*. *The Globe* also won the sweepstakes for most awards, with the *Daily News* close behind.

"It put us clearly in the top two or three among papers of our size in the state," said President Steve Haynes. "I am very proud of the effort our staff made to get the paper to that level of quality."

The paper also received a special award for participating in the Public Access project last year. The statewide project was organized to demonstrate the problems people have in getting access to public records from cities, counties and school districts.

First-place awards included:
• Janet Craft, society editor and reporter, for photo spreads, for a feature on elementary students digging for fossils on a field trip, titled "Students dig Kansas' history."

• Charlie Baker, former reporter, for feature packages for a story and photos about farm-art sculptor Lloyd Hardin, which ran on the Associated Press wire.

• Former editor Keith Lippoldt, for sports feature writing, for a story about British soccer coaches, and for sports reporting for a story about the Goodland American Legion coach pulling his team from a game in St. Francis.

Second-place awards went to Craft for a news photo of emergency workers helping the victim of a construction accident on I-70 in September and to acting Editor Tom Betz, for a photo spread on counting fish at Smoky Gardens, to the staff for best front page, and to Lippoldt for a feature photo and a

sports column.
The paper took third place for news photos for a shot by Betz of a semitrailer which skidded off the K-27 overpass on I-70 last winter, and honor-

The Goodland Daily News

Volume 67, Number 204

weather report
63° at noon

Today
Sunset, 7:25 p.m.
Tomorrow
Sunrise, 6:06 a.m.
Sunset, 7:26 p.m.

Middy Conditions
Soil Temperature 45 degrees
Humidity 38 percent
Sky partly sunny
Winds southwest 13 mph
Barometer 30.05 inches and falling

Record High 87° (1948)
Record Low 20° (1953)

Last 24 Hours*
High 60°
Low 29°
Precipitation trace

Northwest Kansas Forecast
Tonight: Partly cloudy, low mid 40s, winds south 15-25 mph. Tomorrow: Partly sunny, chance of thunderstorms in p.m., high mid 80s, winds south 15-25 mph, low 45-50

Extended Forecast
Wednesday: chance of rain, high 65-75, low upper 30s-40s. Thursday: chance of rain in a.m., high 60s, low 30s. Friday: 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 — \$2.17 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.06
Loan deficiency payment — 39¢
Corn — \$1.74 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.94
Loan deficiency payment — 6¢
Milo — \$2.63 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.57 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.58
Loan deficiency payment — 31¢
Millet — \$3.60 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.20 cwt.
Loan deficiency prmt. — \$3.61
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.

Protests fail to stop session

Students dig Kansas' history

By Janet Craft
Fifth graders in Willow and Logan counties spent the day digging for fossils on a field trip, titled "Students dig Kansas' history."

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Mexico.
The Herald won second place for a photo spread by Miscall and Jeanette Krizek, in special sections, in spot news for Miscall's story about the Columbine High School killings and for in-depth writing to her for coverage of disputes between the Decatur County sheriff and commissioners.

The paper took third in news and writing excellence for medium size weeklies, and in news photography. Honorable mention went to Steve Haynes, and to Miscall and Cynthia Haynes for feature photos.

The Colby Free Press won third-place awards for feature writing, news photography, personal columns and spot news coverage, and an honorable mention for best front page.

The Saint Francis Herald, in the class for small weeklies, won second place in general excellence and photo spread and third for in-depth writing.

The Bird City Times took first place in feature photography among small weeklies.

Elsewhere in north-west Kansas, *The Western Times* of Sharon Springs and Editor Jackie Walker won first place in in-depth writing and sports photography and third in news photography for small weeklies.

The Sherman County Star in Goodland won first for sports columns for Sports Editor Fred Kester, third for sports pages and honorable mention for photo spread for small weeklies.

The Rawlins County Square Deal took third for medium-size weeklies in sports feature writing, third in in-depth writing and honorable mentions in feature photography.

Two-year contract annuled for city manager

Those who went to:
• Managing Editor Rachel Miscall in feature photography for mid-size weekly newspapers for a photo of firemen practicing on a blazing propane tank.
• Publisher Cynthia Haynes in sports photography and for feature packages.
• Editor Steve Haynes for columns on the "farm crisis" and immigration from