

**weather
report**

**60°
at noon**



Today

• Sunset, 7:47 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:38 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:48 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 57 degrees
• Humidity 51 percent
• Sky partly sunny
• Winds southwest 6 mph
• Barometer 29.99 inches
and falling

• Record High 92° (1928)
• Record Low 31° (1924)

Last 24 Hours*

High 56°
Low 38°
Precipitation .22 inches

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly clear, low 45-50,
winds 15-25 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly
sunny, dry, high 85-90, low 50.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: dry, high 80-85, low 50.
Friday: dry, high 80-85, low 45-50.
Saturday: chance of thunderstorms,
high 75-80, low 40s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local
markets**

Noon

Wheat — \$2.21 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.18
Loan deficiency payment — 27¢
Corn — \$1.89 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.97
Loan deficiency payment — 2¢
Milo — \$2.83 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.76 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.80
Loan deficiency payment — 9¢
Millet — \$3.60 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.10 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$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.

**Forest road plan
draws critics**

WASHINGTON — The administration today proposed banning road building in 43 million acres of roadless federal forests while letting foresters decide whether to bar activities such as logging, mining and off-road-vehicle use. "Our objective is really to preserve and protect the values that draw millions of people each year to the forests that they love," Forest Service Chief Mike Dombeck said from Phoenix, where he announced the proposal. Some environmentalists expressed disappointment, saying they expected more when President Clinton announced plans for the proposal last fall. "It doesn't match up to the vision President Clinton laid out," said Ken Rait, director of the Heritage Forests Campaign. Industry groups also complained, saying the proposal limits their access.

Fire marshal dampens summer plans

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Superintendent Marvin Selby told the Goodland School Board on Monday that a state fire inspector's visit had turned what had looked like a few simple summer improvements into an almost impossibly complicated task.

He said the summer projects include redoing the parking on the south side of the football field to make it angle parking, which he estimated to cost \$50,000; moving the maintenance shop to the bus barn; and replacing the track surface.

When the fire inspector was making his rounds, though, he was told about the plan to move the maintenance shop to the bus barn. The inspector

told Selby a wall included in the plans would have to be designed by an architect and approved by the state fire marshal.

"What I thought would be a simple project is turning out to be more complicated and more expensive," Selby said.

He held up the 41-page report from the inspector's recent visit, saying that many of the things he found were minor and could be handled easily.

"The most discouraging and possibly most expensive is the district office," Selby said. "We don't have exit signs, which is a minor thing and we can fix, but we have a conveyor belt down to the basement and we store a lot of paper down

there which the fire inspector says is not proper because it is combustible material."

He said the fire inspector said the choice was to move the material out of the basement or put in a sprinkler system.

"I talked to the state fire marshal, who said we could apply for a waiver for the building," Selby said. "He said we could fill out the waiver and his office would evaluate the request."

There are other areas where the inspector found problems, and Selby said some will take some time and be expensive to correct. The inspector found minor problems at every building, but the major ones were at the district office, the basement of the high school and the need for an out-

side support on the fire escape at the junior high.

"When I got through reading the report I had fire marshal indigestion," said board member Ben Duell. "We certainly want to have safe buildings for our students, but this seemed a bit beyond that."

"How many total violations did he find?" asked board member Mike Campbell.

"I didn't count them," Selby said. "We will be working between now and the end of the school year to develop a plan to deal with all of them."

"While we are at it, I think the board needs to ask the city to fix the curb outside the high school," Campbell said.

Selby suggested he would write a letter to the city about fixing the curb.



Planting some history

Central School children did a little learning outside Friday, attending an Arbor Day celebration and tree planting ceremony at 17th and Cherry. City Manager Ron Pickman (above) explained why it is important to continue planting trees. Students brought items to be placed in a time capsule that was put in the ground, and then K&K Tree Service planted the tree on top of it (right). This is the 21st year in a row that Goodland has been selected as a Tree City, and Dale Hayden, chairman of the Tree Board, presented Mayor Chuck Lutters with the Tree City U.S.A. award (bottom), which came with a flag. Photos by Debra Turner/Goodland Daily News



Governor signs bills on antitrust, charter schools and safety agencies

By Carl Manning

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — Gov. Bill Graves signed a bill increasing the number of charter schools authorized in Kansas and another strengthening the state's antitrust laws.

He also signed a measure creating a task force to study consolidating public safety agencies. The governor signed seven bills Friday but didn't announce his actions until Monday.

In addition, Graves vetoed a bill to expand the reasons a person can't work in nursing homes and home health agencies, saying it conflicted with existing law. "This was an attempt to build on the good public policy of other laws protecting older Kansans in adult care facilities," Graves said of his first veto of a bill this year.

The bill was intended to expand the list of criminal offenses to disqualify people from working in adult care facilities. But it also would have allowed for the exchange and release of arrest

records and juvenile records, conflicting with a law that prohibits the release of such records.

Under one bill Graves signed, the number of charter schools statewide can double to 30. School boards still have the final say on whether charter schools are allowed in their districts.

New charter schools can receive a one-time \$50,000 federal grant for planning and implementation. Of the 15 charter schools allowed under a 1994 law, nine are alternative schools for troubled students, started by districts to receive extra federal money.

Charter schools are taxpayer-financed, but are operated separately from other public schools and can be started by parents, teachers, businesses and other groups. They are supposed to feature innovative programs or concentrate on certain subjects.

Another bill signed by Graves permits the attorney general's office to challenge a proposed merger upon its announcement if the companies have combined annual sales of \$500 million

or more. Previously, the state had to wait until the merger was completed to challenge it.

Also, the attorney general's office can keep 20 percent of any award it receives from an antitrust or restraint-of-trade lawsuit to finance an antitrust office.

Previously, the attorney general's office could keep 10 percent but lose any unspent funds at the end of the state's budget year ending June 30.

The legislation creating the 11-member public safety task force was a compromise for Senate President Dick Bond, R-Overland Park.

Bond pushed for a Department of Public Safety to oversee various agencies, including the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, but the idea had little support.

Agencies to be studied by the task force include the KBI, the patrol, the state fire marshal, the corrections ombudsman, the Juvenile Justice Authority, the Kansas Parole Board and the Board of Emergency Medical Services.

Angry McCain endorses victor Bush in public show

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Setting aside their bitter primary battle, John McCain endorsed George W. Bush today and said he looked forward to "enthusiastically campaigning" for the likely Republican nominee.

The fiery Arizona senator gave his formal endorsement to Bush after a 90-minute private meeting that ended with a public handshake.

"I endorse Governor Bush," McCain said over and over with a smile, drawing laughter from an audience that had waited weeks for the moment. "By the way, I enthusiastically accept," Bush said.

While agreeing to hit the campaign trail for his one-time rival, McCain made clear he wouldn't accept the No. 2 position on a Republican ticket that polls show would attract support from independent voters also being courted by Democrat Al Gore.

Behind the scenes, McCain's political team was chafing at Bush's refusal in the news conference to re-

putiate conservative broadcaster Pat Robertson's statement last weekend that a McCain vice presidency would be "very dangerous."

"I look forward to enthusiastically campaigning for Governor Bush for the next six months," McCain said, calling the Texas governor the most qualified candidate to be president.

Both men said the bitter GOP primary that ended two months ago had not affected their relationship. McCain told his staff of the endorsement decision after receiving a call from Bush on Sunday. When word leaked out Monday, McCain was furious, threatening temporarily in private to reverse course.

Arriving Monday in this battleground state, McCain telegraphed his intentions during a news conference that followed a book signing. Asked whether he would consider endorsing Bush immediately if he "liked what he heard," McCain replied, "Sure."

District buys buses half price

Used units save schools more than \$68,000

The Goodland School Board agreed Monday to buy two used buses for less than half the price of new units.

Bob Harkins, head of the district transportation department, and Randy Raile, head of bus maintenance, told the board they drove to Kearney, Neb., earlier in the day to look at two reconditioned 71-passenger buses.

In April, the board had given permission to seek bids on reconditioned buses. Harkins said they had contacted four companies, but received responses from only two, including the original contact in Tulsa and Masters Transportation of Kearney.

Harkins and Raile drove up to inspect the buses, and told the board they spent about two hours inspecting the undercarriage, insides, motors and drive train and test driving the two buses.

"These are exceptionally good buses," Harkins said, "and we think for the price they would be very good for us."

The two are both 1995 International 71-passenger units with diesel engines, automatic transmissions and Thomas bodies.

"We looked at them very closely, and drove both," Raile said. "They are very good, and with maintenance they will last for a number of years."

One has 35,000 miles and is priced at \$29,550, and the second one has 53,000 miles and priced at \$28,600. Harkins said the estimated price of a new bus was about \$63,000 each, and that for the savings he recommended the purchase of the two used buses.

Harkins said these buses were in service on the East coast, and have not been driven on country roads. He said if they are purchased the company will deliver them to Goodland within a couple of weeks.

The board unanimously approved the purchase of the two 71-passenger buses from John Goodbrake of Masters Transportation for \$58,150.