

weather
report

61°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 7:50 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:53 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:51 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 63 degrees
• Humidity 18 percent
• Sky mostly sunny
• Winds north 20-35 mph
• Barometer 29.99 inches
and falling
• Record High 99° (1962)
• Record Low 27° (1953)

Last 24 Hours*

High 75°
Low 52°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 35,
winds 15-25 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly
sunny, dry, high 65-70, low 40-45,
winds light.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: dry, high 80, low 45. Mon-
day: dry, high 80-85, low 50. Tues-
day: dry, high 85, low 50.

(National Weather Service)

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

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.36 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.25
Loan deficiency payment — 20¢
Corn — \$1.96 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.01
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
Milo — \$2.96 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.86 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.90
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
Millet — \$3.60 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.00 cwt.
Loan deficiency prnt. — \$3.57
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 to talk
to marchers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joy
Livingston, the Michigan coordi-
nator for a national gun control
rally on Mother's Day, said she had
no expectation that President
Clinton would accept an invitation
to her delegation's reception in
Washington on Saturday — the
eve of the "Million Mom March."

The president didn't.
Instead, he invited the Plain-
well, Mich., resident and about
1,000 other organizers to his house
— that is, the White House lawn.
Clinton will address the group
Sunday morning, before they head
to the National Mall to join a mass
rally designed to urge lawmakers
to approve licensing and registra-
tion of handguns.

"I just got an e-mail to be at the
White House," an excited Living-
ston said Thursday. "I can't picture
a better Mother's Day."

State wants city land for highway work

The project is more than a year from
getting started, but the state is asking
that the City of Goodland give them
right-of-way for an area north of the
airport for the redesign of K-27 where
it connects with North Caldwell.

City Manager Ron Pickman said the
Department of Transportation is work-
ing on a redesign of what is known as
the "pretzle," and there is a piece of city
property that the state wants to use to

reroute County Road 67 as part of the
redesign.

The city commission will consider
the right-of-way request Monday at its
regular meeting.

The short agenda includes a grant
request from the Northwest Kansas
Family Shelter being presented by
Charlotte Linsner.

Board appointments will be consid-
ered for two positions each on the Tree

Board and Airport Board. Warren
Dickinson and Alleyn Heble are the two
with expiring terms on the Tree Board,
and Heble is expected to be recom-
mended for reappointment.

Larry Dickey and Kevin Ross are the
two members of the Airport Board
who's terms are expiring. Both are ex-
pected to be recommended for reap-
pointment. All the appointments are for
three-year terms.

The commission will also consider a
contract for the maintenance of the el-
evator in the administration building.

Pickman said the new ballpark is pro-
gressing, and that the concession and
announcing stand is being built.

The lights have arrived and the city
crews are getting them ready, and he
thinks they can be erected next week.
On the south K-27 project, Pickman

said the contractor has completed all
three of the culverts on the west side and
is now working on the east side.

Median demolition is moving north,
and the area under the interstate will be
next.

The city commission meets at 5 p.m.
Monday in the commission room up-
stairs in the City Administration Build-
ing, 204 W. 11th.

Tornado sweeps through town, hits 200 homes

By Carl Manning

Associated Press Writer

TONGANOXIE — Residents sorted
through broken tree limbs and rubble
today after a tornado cut through this
northeast Kansas town, damaging
about 200 homes and a dozen busi-
nesses.

There were no reports of injuries, and
residents were warned by sirens about
10 minutes before the tornado blew
through Thursday evening, said Fire
Chief Charlie Conrad.

Joy Moser, spokeswoman for the
state emergency management office,
said emergency crews were assessing
damage in Tonganoxie, which was hit
hardest by the storm.

"It looks like it hit in the center of
town and got into some residential ar-
eas," Moser said.

About a dozen businesses were seri-
ously damaged, along with the grade
school and an abandoned church. Most
of the damage to homes was minor.

However, little remained this morn-
ing of Florence Somers' farm about one
mile west of town.

Her house suffered only window
damage and roof damage, but near the
home a hay barn, a silo, a machine shed,
and a garage were completely leveled.
Nothing remained of the 45-foot silo
except a pile of concrete blocks and a
twisted ladder.

"It was pretty devastating. We saw a
few pieces of hail and then things
started crashing and banging," she said.
"We were very fortunate. God was
looking after us."

In Tonganoxie, what was once a tree-
lined street is littered today with broken
limbs and uprooted trees.

Jeremy Cates, his wife Amy, and
their puppy named Sadie spent the
night in a neighbor's basement with
about 10 other people.

"As soon as we heard the sirens, we
went to the basement," he said. "My
heart was beating I was waiting for
the house to go up."

When the storm ended, felled trees,
downed power lines and broken signs
littered the town. Utility crews were
busy this morning trying to restore
power.

Richard Erickson, superintendent of
schools, said the roof of Tonganoxie
Elementary School was ruined, which
caused water damage to eight class-
rooms and equipment.

Classes were canceled today for the
school's 700 students as workers began

to repair the roof. There was no deci-
sion yet on whether school would be
canceled next week, said Tammie
George, the administrative assistant for
the school.

"It's pretty sad. I feel sorry for the
kids. They had Mother's Day things
setting on their desks, and all of that was
ruined," she said. "We're just fortunate
it happened at night. If we're going to
have damage, I'd rather have it when
the students aren't here."

The National Weather Service
posted its first tornado warning at 9:31
p.m., and numerous severe thunder-
storm and tornado warnings were is-
sued throughout the night, said Lynn
Maximuck, a meteorologist with the
service's office in Pleasant Hill, Mo.

He credited early detection of the and
siren activation for the lack of injuries.

Maximuck said the storms began
forming along a line from Manhattan
to north of Topeka.

Rainfall was heavy, Maximuck said,
with reports of up to 2 inches in Jeff-
erson and Leavenworth counties in
Kansas and Clay and Platte counties in
Missouri.

Storm spotters throughout northeast
Kansas reported strong winds, hail and
rotation within the clouds.

Perry Fire Chief Dave Warriner said
he saw three tornados, including one
southwest of the Perry Lake dam and
others following U.S. 24. Each one
dropped from the sky and cut through
fields before jumping back into the
clouds.

A trailer overturned about 1.5 miles
north of Midland Junction, he said, but
otherwise damage in his area was lim-
ited to downed tree limbs and power
lines. Warriner knew of no injuries.

The storm tracked east from south-
ern Shawnee County at up to 30 mph,
riding north of the Douglas-Jefferson
County line until moving into Leav-
enworth County.

"It spun up real quick, about 7 p.m.,"
said Suzanne Fortin, a weather service
meteorologist. "We had everything you
need: temperatures in the mid- to upper-
90s, plenty of moisture, a front and an
upper-level storm. Everything just
came together. We had all the ingredi-
ents necessary."

The storm moved into Kansas City,
Mo., about 10:30 p.m. Police said a tor-
nado touched down briefly north of
downtown across the Missouri River.
Two automobile dealerships were ex-
tensively damaged.



Pushing for victory

The Grant Junior High Mustangs
hosted the Northwest Kansas
League junior high track meet
Thursday. Dexter Deeds (front) lead
Craig Mason and James Nelson on
another lap in one of the distance
runs. Laying out in the classic high-
jump style was Malcom White. Re-
sults will be available next week.

Photos by Janet Craft
The Goodland Daily News

Tech School to graduate 287 in record class Wednesday night

The Northwest Kansas Technical School will
hold graduation ceremony for the class of 2000
at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Max Jones Fieldhouse
in Goodland.

Director Larry Keirns said 287 students, the
largest class ever, will receive degrees. The com-
mencement address will be given by Gregg Haas,
regional training and branch operations manager
for Martin Tractor Co. of Topeka. His address is
entitled "Let's Get Out of Here."

Haas' involvements include serving as chair-
person of the state organization of Vocational-
Industrial Clubs of America and on the advisory
boards for Pittsburg State University, the North
Central Technical School, and Kaw Area Vocational Tech-
nical School.

Keirns will recognize individuals who have contributed
to the success of the technical school and technical educa-



Gregg Haas

tion. Counselor Paul Chaffin will honor the 13
Students of the Year chosen by departments at the
school. One of these will be Ismael Gamboa,
Kanorado, a medical assistant student. An all-
school Student of the Year will be announced at
the ceremony.

In addition to Gamboa, graduates from Sher-
man County will be Joey and Tim Snethen, Chris
Hurd, Adam Acosta, Polly Barnhart, Valerie
Scott, Coby Brock, Jason Cude, Tyson Herzig,
Rebecca Herzig, Steven Weber, Alicia West, Jer-
emy Armstrong, Shane Easterberg, Adam
Easterberg, Jose Galindo, Wes Hay, Bonnie
Francis, Cara Butler, Gary Meyer, Jeff McCall,
Matt Mills and J. D. Burk.

Graduates will receive their diplomas or credentials from
board members Arlie Archer, Cheylin School District, and
Myra Douthit, St. Francis School District.

Firemen dig in as wind slacks off in New Mexico

LOS ALAMOS, N.M. (AP) —
Slackening wind and increased hu-
midity today gave firefighters a boost
as they struggled to hold the line
against a fire that destroyed 191
homes and forced 25,000 people
from the town where the atomic
bomb was built.

"With the light winds, we're hop-
ing to get air power in here today to
put it out," Gov. Gary Johnson said
this morning on NBC's "Today"
show. "There haven't been any new
fires, so this is really positive."

State Insurance Superintendent
Don Letherer told *The Albuquerque
Tribune* he estimated property losses
could reach \$1 billion. He said the

fire would be declared a catastrophe,
which means insurance companies
will have to settle claims in 90 days
or face penalties.

Roughly 200 miles to the south, a
fire in the Sacramento Mountains,
sparked by a downed power line,
blew up from the 100 acres it covered
when it was reported Thursday to
20,000 acres today.

"This fire has grown at an astro-
nomical rate," said Rick Hartigan, a
fire information officer.

The fire forced the evacuation of
the southern New Mexico towns of
Sacramento and Weed and a number