

College tuition increases approved

By David Miles

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — The state Board of Regents on Thursday approved a 3 percent tuition increase at state universities for students from Kansas for the 2001-02 school year.

The board also approved increases of \$6 per credit hour for out-of-state students at Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University and Pittsburg State University.

Out-of-state students at the University of Kansas, Kansas State University and Wichita State University will see their tuition rise by \$7.50 a credit hour.

Out-of-state students would see their tuition go up between 2.2 percent and 3.1 percent, depending on which university they attend.

The board approved all increases on a single vote of 7-1.

On average, tuition at the six state universities will go up 2.82 percent. The increases are expected to bring in a total of \$5.5 million in addi-

tional revenue.

Last month, a board committee recommended a 3 percent tuition increase for in-state students and a \$6 per-credit-hour increase for out-of-state students.

Chairman Bill Docking, of Arkansas City, said the proposal would not have resulted in enough additional revenue. In May, the board had estimated it would bring in nearly \$5.6 million.

Docking said that estimate had been decreased to \$5.1 million.

He said the approved increases should bring in enough money and be enough for the universities to keep up with inflation.

Fred Kerr, of Pratt, cast the only vote against the increases. He advocated a 2.85 percent tuition increase for in-state and out-of-state students alike.

Under the plan approved by the regents, some out-of-state students will face a smaller percentage increase than students from Kansas.

Kerr, a former state senator, said that would prove unpopular this year, when all 165 legislative seats will be filled in the November general election.

"I still think the perception of how we are treating in-state students versus out-of-state students is very important," Kerr said.

Other board members said they didn't want to raise tuition excessively for out-of-state students.

"We could get hurt very badly if we raise the rates so high that we lose a lot of that out-of-state revenue," said Stephen Clark, of Wichita.

The increases passed Thursday are on top of increases already approved for the 2000-01 school year.

Those amount to a 5.7 percent increase for all students at Emporia State, Fort Hays State and Pittsburg State. Students at the other three state universities will face a 2.5 percent increase besides an increase of \$3.20 per credit hour.

GOP members must contribute

WASHINGTON (AP) — Besides their own campaign war chests, GOP House members are under orders to contribute \$16 million to help keep the Republican majority, and the money has begun rolling in.

Plum assignments, such as Rep. Todd Tiahrt's job on the budget-writing Appropriations Committee, requires a \$100,000 donation. In turn,

committee membership in the next Congress will be influenced by individual lawmakers' fund-raising efforts.

The other two Kansas Republicans, Reps. Jerry Moran and Jim Ryun, are customarily tight-lipped about such matters.

The NRCC reported Thursday that two Republicans with similar high-

profile committee seats, Texas Rep. Kay Granger and California Rep. Wally Herger, had signed over \$100,000. And Alabama Rep. Spencer Bachus gave \$65,000, which was \$15,000 more than the party had sought.

With the presidency and control of Congress at stake, both political parties are raising money in record amounts, but Democrats criticize the Republican fund-raising program.

"We certainly plead with our members to donate to our committee, but we would never dream of tying it to actual legislative responsibilities," said Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee spokesman Erik Smith.

The NRCC has taken in more than \$45 million, while its Democratic counterpart has raised at least \$20 million.

Rank-and-file members have been asked for mandatory contributions to the "Battleground 2000" program ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000, depending on their ability to raise the cash, according to various lawmakers, aides and party staffers.

Clean-gas delay sought

WASHINGTON (AP) — Saying that finger-pointing won't curb soaring gasoline prices, Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., urged a temporary reprieve for cities required to use cleaner-burning gasoline, along with other long-term solutions to the crisis.

Gasoline prices are averaging \$1.68 a gallon nationwide and more than \$2 in parts of the Midwest. The Federal Trade Commission, which has begun a formal investigation into retail gasoline prices, will focus on the wide difference in price of cleaner burning gasoline — required since June 1 in

areas with severe summer smog — and conventional gasoline.

The cleaner "reformulated" fuel has been cited repeatedly by the oil industry as the reason for much of the price increase in the Chicago and Milwaukee areas.

Roberts wrote President Clinton on Thursday, urging the president to grant a six-month waiver from the Environmental Protection Agency's reformulated gasoline requirement. The "RFG" requirement has shaved refining capacity and led to a shortage of conventional gasoline, Roberts said.

Weather will change — by next year

Most fingers are pointing at the "La Niña, El Niño" patterns as an explanation for why the weather is so dry, said Aaron Dorn, meteorologist at the National Weather Service office here.

The La Niña pattern, in force the last two years, usually affects the tropics, said Dorn, and then the dry and hot weather patterns carry up to the U.S.

Professor John Harrington, head of the department of geography at Kansas State University, disagrees. He

says La Niña doesn't have that much affect this far north.

"There isn't a strong relationship between Kansas and the tropical Pacific," he said.

Both Dorn and Harrington do agree that things are going to change for Kansas, at least by next year.

"We are moving out of the La Niña," said Harrington. "Things are going to start changing."

"The cycle is neutralizing," said Dorn. "We are moving towards an El Niño-type year now."

Several other weather conditions are contributing to our unusually hot and dry spring, besides La Niña, the meteorologist said.

There have been long wave patterns in the atmosphere, over the last year and a half to two years, said Dorn. The long patterns cause unusually dry and warm weather.

A polar low has been hovering over Newfoundland for the past few weeks, he said, causing a stationary weather pattern.

"Its like a traffic jam in New York," said Dorn. "The system was blocking any other systems from moving."

That pattern changed in the last week, he said. Systems are moving from west to east. There should be a low pressure system coming through about once every four days, and this could create the low Goodland needs for rain.

In future projections, he said, a Bermuda low could create dry weather again in August.

"There is no confidence in forecasting too far in advance," said Harrington, "so I can't really say when this is going to end."

"The wind and high temperatures only make it worse," said Hank Ernst spokesperson for the state Water Office. "It can rain an inch, but if the temperature is high it just evaporates again."

Drought, or no drought?

DROUGHT, from Page 1

also taken into account, said Mike Mattson, with the Department of Agriculture.

In northwest Kansas, sixty percent of the topsoil has a very low moisture content and thirty-nine percent has a low moisture content, leaving only one percent with adequate moisture. Fifty-four percent of the subsoil has low moisture.

For the year to date, Goodland is listed at 64 percent of normal precipitation, said Knapp, which isn't bad, but that is the rating for the entire basin. Some towns in the basin have gotten a lot more precipitation.

"These towns with high levels skew the scale," said Knapp.

Long Island, northeast of Norton, has received a lot of rain, she said, and without it in the equation, the precipitation in the basin is only 50 percent of normal.

While no one seems to be able to agree if there is a drought or not, fields are dry, and everyone agrees that there isn't much relief in sight.

"Goodland is moving out of their rainy season," said Knapp, so chances of things getting much better aren't good.

"If things are starting to get bad, they won't get better soon," said Harrington.

Lounge features live music and fun

LOUNGE, from Page 1

area with a moveable control booth. There will be a 60-inch television in the main bar.

In the game room, there will be pool tables, pinball and video games, dart boards, two 25-inch televisions and a jukebox.

Price said that during the week, a basic menu of sandwiches, steaks, chicken, and pasta, will be served. They will have specials on Friday and Saturday nights.

"It will be the same place when you come in, with improvements," said Price. "We're not changing the nice atmosphere that Elks has worked to personify. We're expanding different

things to appeal to the general public."

Wilson said he is thrilled about opening the business.

"I've been trying to find a nice place to do a restaurant and lounge for about two years," he said.

Wilson described the place as "a nice place to eat, but with a fun attitude, a place to have fun at."

Price said she is very excited about the place and hopes that people will come out to help support it.

For the grand opening on Saturday, July 1, there is a full day of activities planned. The "Conman," the Denver radio personality who is featured on KWGB radio, will host the evening events. Disc Jockey Rusty Ray will play music, and Exit 17, a local band,

will play later that night. There will be a lot of giveaways and contests throughout the day, plus activities inside and outside, said Wilson.

The north bar and card room of the lodge building will be reserved for use by Elks members and bingo will be held in the dance room on Friday nights from 5-9 p.m.

The building will still be available for rent for events like parties, wedding dances, dinner meetings or community events. People can contact either Wilson or Price at (785) 899-3333.

Internet Tonight!
899-2338

Wheat Ridge Acres Retirement Community

OPEN HOUSE



Sunday,
June 25
2-5 p.m.

Wheat Ridge Acres
A RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Refreshments
Entertainment
Tours



- ❖ Enhanced senior living with professional help just a touch away, 24 hours every day
- ❖ Three nutritious meals served restaurant-style in a beautiful dining room every day
- ❖ Studio, one and two bedroom apartments
- ❖ Two bedroom duplexes with heated garage (no steps)
- ❖ Assistance available catered to individual needs

Come by, meet our Director and caring staff, enjoy refreshments and entertainment, tour the Victorian elegance of our new center, and see how easy life can be.

707 Wheat Ridge Circle Goodland, Kan. (785) 899-0100
(Go north on Hwy. 27, right on 8th Street, Wheat Ridge Acres is on left in three blocks)

Opening June 26!

Kickers ^{S.T., LLC.} Restaurant & Lounge

- Open Daily for Lunch & Dinner •
- Dancing Nightly •
- Live Entertainment •
- Game Room • Special Events •

Grand Opening

Saturday, July 1!!

Hosted by KWGB's 'Conman'
Featuring 'DJ Rusty Ray' & 'EXIT 17'
Specials & Contests!

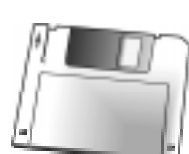
1523 Arcade • Goodland, Kan.

Previously Antlers at the Elks Lodge

Open to the Public!

No Membership Required

Call (785) 899-3333 for Details!



nwkansas.com

brings you Internet & E-mail access!



The world is at your fingertips via the Internet and nwkansas.com! For only \$16.50 a month, (if you pay \$198 for a year — includes four months free service compared to regular rates) you get:

• **Unlimited access to the Internet**, a rapidly growing network of computers all over the world. You'll find news, hobbies, businesses, law, education, census information, research papers, new products and services, museums, art, cyber tour guides, movie reviews, recipes, stock market information, weather alerts, satellite images, magazines, restaurants, travel tips, university extension information, church and religious news and

views, politics, philosophy, auto mechanics and much, much more!

• **E-mail address and account**. If you want to stay in touch with friends and relatives, but dread those long-distance phone bills, or delays in the regular mail, relief is at hand. For fractions of a penny, you can instantly send E-mail to anyone with an E-mail address, anywhere in the world, down the street or over the hill. You can even send pictures and other files as an attachment to E-mail.

• **Technical support** is just a phone call away. If you have any questions just call 785-899-2338.

Special rate of \$99.80 for 5 months (like getting one month free service), there is no sign-up fee, so you save \$34.95 (Regularly \$24.95 a month, plus a one-time start-up fee of \$10.00)

E-mail • World Wide Web • Full access

The Goodland Daily News

For more information about the Internet and how to sign up, call (785) 899-2338