

weather report

91°
at noon

Today

• Sunset, 8:14 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:32 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:14 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 79 degrees

• Humidity 32 percent

• Sky sunny

• Winds southwest 15 mph

• Barometer 30.21 inches and steady

• Record High 108° (1934)

• Record Low 43° (1990)

Last 24 Hours*

High 90°

Low 65°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 65, winds southwest 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high 95-100, low 65-70, winds south 10-20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: dry, high 95-105, low 65-70. Sunday: chance for thunderstorms, high 95-105, low 65-75. Monday: dry, high 95-105, low 65-75.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.45 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.28

Loan deficiency payment — 17¢

Corn — \$1.66 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.52

Loan deficiency pmt. — 47¢

Milo — \$2.87 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.76 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.18

Loan deficiency payment — 72¢

Millet — \$4.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.60 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.99

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.

Mideast leaders meet one-on-one

THURMONT, Md. — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat held their first one-on-one summit talks as the two sides grappled with the “tough issues” standing in the way of a peace agreement, the State Department said Thursday.

The meeting, Wednesday night in Arafat’s cabin at the Camp David presidential retreat, came at the two leaders’ initiative, according to State Department spokesman Richard Boucher.

Boucher would only say the parties were “grappling with ... tough issues that involve their vital interests.”

The most contentious issues include the status of disputed Jerusalem, the fate of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and whether more than 2 million Palestinian refugees will be given the right to return to homes in Israel.

City completes budget work

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

Road improvements and drainage problems are top goals on the budget for 2001, the City Commission decided at their meeting on Wednesday.

The board informally approved the new budget, and discussion then turned to the creation of an economic development plan.

Both the drainage problem and the road repair are not something the city can do alone, said City Manager Ron Pickman. Both of these projects are things the city and county have to work on together.

“We could do quick fixes and Band-Aids which won’t solve the problem,” he said, “We need long term solutions and that means working with the county.”

“If nothing else we need to fix the problem on Walnut street,” said Mayor Chuck Lutters, “those people have been really patient with us.”

East bound old Hwy. 24, and who is responsible for the repairs of it, was also discussed. Commissioner Rick Billinger said he did not want the city to invest money in repairing this. Commissioner Curtis Hurd said he would hate to see an accident at this location. The city and county officials have set a meeting for next week to discuss the problem.

In order to complete all the road work, the commission agreed it might be necessary to raise the sales tax by a half a cent.

“A good time to do it would be when the sales tax goes down from its current half cent raise, since people are already used to paying that much,” said Pickman.

The economic development plan was looked at during the meeting.

The commission agreed that one of the main things they needed to do for the economic development was to create a new video tape highlighting the airport and swimming pool.

“We have to get our name out there and show what we have to offer,” said commissioner Jim Mull.

“Economic development committees seem to be throwing money where ever hoping to catch someone,” argued commissioner Billinger, “but I agree that we need a new video.”

New barrel hangers at the airport were also debated. In the last year there has been several requests for new barrel hangers.

“I think if we build them we should raise the rent so they pay for themselves,” said commissioner Hurd.

“We can’t do that,” explained the Mayor, “we thought of that a few years ago and you should have seen the line of people who came in to complain.”

“We have two main things going for us here, the hospital and that airport,” said Mull. “I think we need to keep people happy there.”

The commission seemed satisfied with the new budget. It will be voted on during the first meeting in August.

Edson ramps opened; K-27 barriers removed

As summer progresses road construction is moving right along, with the Edson I-70 ramps being opened on Wednesday and the barriers on K-27 coming down today.

The east bound Edson ramps, exit 27, on I-70 were opened to normal traffic flow said the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Koss Construction Co. of Topeka had temporarily closed the exit ramps as they repaired the subgrade of the roadway and applied new pavement as part of the I-70 construction project, reported the department of transportation area engineer, Eric Oelshlager of Atwood.

The barriers on K-27 came down this morning, said Goodland City Manager Ron Pickman. They are being removed because the holes in the median are now filled in.

“They will be relying on cones to separate the lanes,” he said. “That way the lanes will be wider.”

The contractor will still have the east bound lane closed for at least the rest of this week, said Pickman.

They will be pouring the rest of the concrete tomorrow for the east side, he said, but he doesn’t know what their plans for next week are.

County Commissioners hear budget requests

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

As the budget process begins so do annual visits from groups requesting money, and Tuesday three organizations appeared before Sherman County Commissioners.

The Sherman County Extension Council, the Thomas County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council and the Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas came.

Lori Leonard, Reba White and Colleen Smith represented the Extension Council accompanied by Extension Agent Dana Belshe and Family Services Roxanne Burda.

Leonard said the group needed an increase because of the rising costs of telephone services and gasoline prices. Also included was an increase in wages and \$1,500 for the employer contribution for the secretary’s health insurance.

The total request for next year was up \$7,000 over the \$153,000 requested for 2000. Commissioners gave the Extension Council \$146,500 for this year.

“We will take your request under consideration,” commissioner Kenny Davis said. “We expect to review our revenue estimates the first of August, and then we will begin to see where everything will fit.

“We are going to try to hold things in line as much as possible,” he added. “We are looking at adding a county administrator.”

Next up were Nina H. Carpenter, executive director, and Nira Barricklow, counselor of the Thomas County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council.

Carpenter said the number of people being seen by Barricklow in Sherman County has increased over last year to the point that she is spending all her time in the county.

“She is providing more services, and Nina is now more available being in Goodland on a full time basis,” Carpenter said.

Carpenter said the council had asked for 50 percent of the cost previously, but with Barricklow now in Goodland full time, the request for next year would be 60 percent.

The total budget for the council for next year is \$33,100, but it was not clear from the document presented to commissioners whether this was the amount being requested or if they were asking for 60 percent of the total.

The final group to present a budget request was Clarence Scheopner, board member, and Jim Blume, president, from the Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas.

The group serves 18 counties in

Digging hole for new water park



Wilbur Tiede (top right) of Tiede Construction in Goodland removed dirt from the site where Goodland’s new swimming pool will be. Tiede (bottom right) dumped a truckload of dirt near the hole for the pool. The business has subcontracted with Rhoads Construction of Goodland to do the dirt work on the pool project.

Photo by Janet Craft/
The Goodland Daily News



Northwest Kansas with headquarters in Hays, the Prairie Development Center in Atwood and an office in Oakley.

Blume said the organization is serving 15 individuals from Sherman County, and the cost was over \$500,000. He said the state and federal contribution was \$160,000 and they had \$52,000 in local funds and donations.

“We have not had an increase from the state since 1997,” Blume said, “and we have increased to a total of

500 people in those years. We received \$40,000 from Sherman County for this year, and we would ask for help to bridge the gap in 2001.”

Blume said the organization does receive local donations, including proceeds from the Knights of Columbus sale of Tootsie-Rolls.

“Our goal is to get people involved and give them a feeling of being worth something,” he said. “They do not want hand outs.”

He said an economic impact study of the organization, done by Preston

Gilson, Ph.D. of the Docking Institute at Fort Hays State, showed a total impact of \$12.3 million in the 18-county area.

Commissioners Davis and Chuck Frankenfeld thanked Blume for the presentation, and said they would take the request under consideration in the next few weeks.

The next regular commissioner meeting will be 8 a.m. Tuesday, July 18, in the commissioner room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse.

State gets grant to fight smoking

TOPEKA (AP) — The state will receive \$2.25 million over three years to help it decrease smoking among teen-agers and prevent children from picking up the habit.

The money is from the American Legacy Foundation, a national non-profit organization. Its establishment was part of a settlement of lawsuits by 46 states, including Kansas, against large tobacco companies.

Attorney General Carla Stovall sits on the foundation’s board, and she and Clyde Graeber, secretary of

health and environment, announced the grant Wednesday. The state will receive \$500,000 during its 2001 fiscal year, which began July 1.

That \$500,000, plus another \$500,000 appropriated by the Legislature and \$1.1 million in federal funds, will be used to finance education programs in which young people teach other young people about the dangers of tobacco use.

“What we really needed is some money to help get the message out to teens,” said Sheena Nagaraja, a 16-

year-old Manhattan resident involved in the group Teens Against Smoking in Kansas. “We’re going for campaign brochures and billboards.”

Graeber said \$500,000 will spent on an anti-tobacco program in a single community in Kansas to be designated later.

Nagaraja said her group will sponsor five rallies each year across the state, rather than a single rally at the Statehouse and take van trips across Kansas. The group also is working on an Internet site.