

## weather report

86°

at noon



### Today

• Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

### Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:35 a.m.  
• Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

### Middy Conditions

• Soil Temperature 72 degrees  
• Humidity 39 percent  
• Sky sunny  
• Winds northwest 6 mph  
• Barometer 30.11 inches  
and steady

• Record High 106° (1936)  
• Record Low 50° (1972)

### Last 24 Hours\*

High 70°  
Low 59°  
Precipitation .79 inches

### Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Becoming mostly cloudy, 40 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 65, winds southeast 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, high 85, winds north light, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 65.

### Extended Forecast

Thursday through Saturday: Chance of thunderstorms, high 85-90, low 60-65.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## local markets



### Noon

Wheat — \$2.34 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.21  
Loan deficiency payment — 24¢  
Corn — \$1.61 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.47  
Loan deficiency payment — 52¢  
Milo — \$1.98 hundredweight  
Soybeans — \$3.66 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.07  
Loan deficiency payment — 83¢  
Millet — \$4.50 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$5.60 cwt.  
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.06  
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 talks at critical point

THURMONT, Md. — President Clinton met Tuesday with his negotiators on what could be the make-or-break day in Mideast talks.

Israel's parliament speaker said the talks could end with a partial deal under which Israel recognizes a Palestinian state.

Clinton has said through a spokesman he hopes the parties will have "wrapped up their business" by the time he is to leave for Japan Wednesday morning.

Israel's parliament speaker, Avraham Burg, raised the possibility of a partial deal in an interview with the Associated Press Tuesday.

"Listen, let's not fool ourselves, OK?" said Burg, who has spoken often to Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak throughout the summit and returned from Washington late last week. "If it walks like a duck, if it talks like a duck, if it sounds like a duck, it's a Palestinian state."

# City denies waiver request

By Dana Sulsberger

*The Goodland Daily News*

A request from the Northwest Kansas Technical School to waive fire safety codes for the construction of a new fitness center was denied by the City Commission on Monday.

The waiver would have saved the school \$18,000, said Director Larry Keirns.

A code analysis of the building was done by Jerry Nemechek, city building official, when architect Glen Strait submitted the plans. The analysis showed some fire code violations.

The school proposed limiting occupancy of the building so it would not have to wrap columns in sheet rock or have an aerated ceiling.

"Who is going to police this?" asked Commissioner Curtis Hurd, explaining his main concern was that it would come down to the city enforcing the occupancy limit.

"We ask that the building inspector to treat everyone alike, and now you want us to deviate from that," he said. "What is the value of a life?"

Strait said life safety isn't the issue. Commission members are in more danger in the city's meeting room than they would be in the new gym, he said.

Codes were created to set a black-and-white distinction rather than gray, said Mayor Chuck Lutters.

Letters from the state Department of Education and state fire marshal agreed to allow the waiver if the occupancy was set at below 300 and the city commission also approved, but commission members were not convinced.

"If we approved this, we would be the ones held responsible if anything happened," said Hurd.

The commission agreed that the gym will be a fine facility but said they did not want to be responsible for anyone who gets hurt or killed down the road.

The request died because there was no one willing to make a motion to approve it, said City Manager Ron Pickman.

First National Bank, represented by Larry McCants, requested adjacent property the bank owns be rezoned from residential to commercial so it can be used for storage and parking for the bank.

The planning commission had held a hearing on the request, and with no opposition, they had approved. The commission did likewise.

In other business, the commission:

- Approved payment to Rhoads Construction for \$133,962, and Associated Pool Builders, \$35,100, for work completed on the new pool. Pickman said that the work is going well on the pool.

- Vacated a 10-foot tract on either side of Syracuse Street between Eighth and 12th streets at the request of adjoining property owners. An earlier public hearing on the matter drew no opposition.

- Passed a resolution amending the boundary resolution an error which left off 900 feet of land on the southeast corner of town. Pickman said a typographical error read 100 feet instead of 1,000.

- Designated *The Goodland Daily News* as the official paper for legal notices this year.

- Heard from Pickman about the street sealing project, which was supposed to start on Monday, but was delayed a day because of the rain.

## Thirst aid on a hot day ...



These four young entrepreneurs (left) found a shady and yet busy spot at the corner of 12th and Center for their lemonade stand Saturday. Whitney Green, 9, (pouring) and her sister Keshia, 4, (holding glass) both from Atwood and cousins Bethany, 9 (left), and Bailey Rather, 5, decided it was a good day to sell cool drinks. With Whitney in charge and Bethany making signs, the four managed to sell about \$6 worth of lemonade at 25¢ per glass. Several customers stopped, including Violet Peters of Goodland, (above) who said she was glad to get something to drink.

Photos by Tom Betz /  
The Goodland Daily News



# School board finished year in good shape, looks ahead

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Daily News*

The Goodland School District finished the year in good financial shape, Superintendent Marvin Selby told the school board Monday, and the new budget could increase by \$30,000 in local money and \$30,000 from the state.

Selby gave the board budget work sheets at a special meeting Monday, which show a proposed increase of \$30,000 in the local option budget, which would mean an increase in the local property tax of .26 of a mill to 13.8 mills. He noted that while this is an increase over last year, it is still below the 13.98 levy from 1998.

"The increase is necessary to cover the increased salaries and the anticipated increases in natural gas for heating our buildings," Selby said.

Board members Kathy Russell and

Gerald Franklin said they had heard the cost of heating this fall and winter could be double or even triple last year.

Member Mike Campbell asked Selby what the district would do if the heating costs go that high.

Selby said the board could dip into the contingency reserve if costs exceed the increase he has included in the budget. The proposed figures show an increase of about \$20,000 for next year, and that there is \$100,000 in the contingency reserve.

"If you think it is necessary, we could increase the local option budget mill levy a bit more to cover this," he said. "It is possible that when we take this to Topeka next week for their review, they may suggest we increase the levy to cover this."

Since the board was not formally adopting any of the figures, and will have a budget hearing in August,

Campbell suggested leaving them where they are until after the review by state officials.

The budget figures show the state money will increase by about \$30,000 to \$5,134,245. Selby said most of this is because of the increased property valuation for the district, which has grown by about \$2 million each year over the past three years. The assessed value of property in the district was \$48 million in 1998, \$50 million in 1999 and \$52 million in 2000.

The increase in the local option budget will bring the district \$875,000, which is \$30,000 higher than the past two years.

A large portion of the increases in next year's budget will go to salaries. The total for certified teachers will be \$2,675,507, but Selby said this also includes addition of two teachers, including a science teacher. The non-cer-

tified salaries will also increase by about \$50,000 to \$375,446.

Selby reported on a conference he attended in Vermont, saying he will expand on his report at the next regular meeting.

He said one of the subjects of the conference dealt with the standardized tests, which now set the students up for a pass or fail situation.

"We were told that we shouldn't make this an all or nothing for kids," Selby said, "because everybody should get a second chance."

Dick Liess, high school activity director, spoke to the board about the proposed changes facing the state activity association, which is looking for way to revise the current playoff system.

He had a state map which showed the location of all the Class 6A, 5A and 4A schools. The western portion had the 3A and some of the 2A and 1A schools also marked. More than two thirds of the 6A and more than half of the 5A schools are east of Salina, he said. Over three-quarters of the 5A and two-thirds of the 4A schools are east of Hays. Goodland competes in Class 4A.

Liess said several proposals will be considered by the state association's executive committee next week, and he is unsure which will be accepted. He said he made the map to visualize the school locations and what Goodland

may face in the near future. He noted that several of the schools in northwest Kansas will be shifting from one classification to another, and that this may cause more problems in developing schedules and even leagues.

One thing is for sure, he said; our teams will be traveling further east for many games.

"That shows we were thinking ahead when we purchased those buses," said board member Ben Duell.

Board President Dick Short reported on a successful trip he made with the Junior Parliamentary Precision team last week to the national competition in Florida. The team came back with silver medals, and Short said it was a very good trip. He said the team members will probably come to a school board meeting to talk about their experience and thank the board.

In other business, the board:

- Approved the Head Start contracts for the next year.
- Accepted the resignation of high school secretary Becky Davis.
- Approved hiring Don Trimmel as a new high school science teacher.

Tammy Schoenthaler as high school secretary and Gary Ginther as a bus driver.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 14, at the district office.

# Summer sidewalk sale bargains begin Thursday

Businesses on Main Street will have merchandise marked down and out on the sidewalks Thursday through Saturday for Goodland's annual summer sidewalk sale.

Participating stores will open at 8 a.m. Thursday for "Sidewalk Sale Daze" and remain open until 5:30 p.m. Then on Friday and Saturday, businesses will have regular store hours.

The Business Promotion Committee of the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the event.

Chairman Jim Lunsway, owner of Mr. Jim's His Shop, said most of the

merchants will have merchandise out on the sidewalk on Thursday and a lot will be outside on Friday and Saturday, depending on the weather.

Lunsway said the prices are usually some of the best of the year, especially for clothing. Even if businesses don't have merchandise outside, he said, they may have bargain prices inside the store, he said.

Participating stores include Mann's Jewelry, Alco Discount Store, Aten Department Store, Jan's Hallmark, Mr. Jim's His Shop, Collage Ltd. and J.C. Penney's.

## K-27 concrete work moving slowly



Workers were pouring concrete on the east side of K-27 under the I-70 underpass on Friday. Once this section is done, the contractor will move to the west side. For about a week, the west ramps will be closed while new concrete is poured.

Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News