

weather report

76°

at noon

Today

Sunset, 7:41 p.m.

Tomorrow

Sunrise, 6:02 a.m.

Sunset, 7:40 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 82 degrees

• Humidity 41 percent

• Sky cloudy

• Winds northeast 12 mph

• Barometer 30.26 inches and steady

• Record High 105° (1983)

• Record Low 47° (1944)

Last 24 Hours\*

High 98°

Low 66°

Precipitation 0.14 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 50s, winds northeast 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, high 80s, low 60-65, winds southeast 10-20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: dry, high 90-95, low 60-65. Sunday and Monday: dry, high 95-100, low 65-70.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.44 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.15

Loan deficiency payment — 3¢

Corn — \$1.58 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.40

Loan deficiency pmt. — 59¢

Milo — \$2.44 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.80 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.99

Loan deficiency payment — 91¢

Millet — \$7.00 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.50 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.16

Confection current — \$15/\$6 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.

Gore to take stage tonight

LOS ANGELES — Democratic presidential nominee Al Gore, a political understudy no more, is urging Americans to reject Republicans who would take them “back to the past,” and promising to deliver prosperity, progress and positive change if he wins.

“We’re the new guard,” the vice president said in a preview of the nationally televised address he delivers Thursday night at the Democratic National Convention. That acceptance speech, a vital step in his quest to catch and beat Republican George W. Bush, is Gore’s hour at the center of the national stage, his send-off into the intense, 82 days of campaigning that will settle the issue.

Gore said he has been working on it for two months, “rewriting and editing and tweaking” the words.

# Two cities become invisible to state

By Tom Betz  
*The Goodland Daily News*

Caruso and Ruleton, cities in eastern Sherman County, no longer exist in the state’s eyes.

Highway signs on I-70 that used to point to Caruso and Ruleton have been taken down and replaced with signs saying “County Road 14,” and “County Road 11.”

That means the cities also no longer exist to drivers passing by on I-70.

State officials say it’s all part of the new Kansas highway map and a federal sign upgrade.

Chriss McDiffett, area engineer for Kansas Department of Transportation in Norton, said the two cities were changed over to county roads as part of the federal interstate sign upgrade project.

But another state official had a better explanation — both cities have been erased from state maps.

“They are no longer on the state map is the first reason,” said Darrell Gwaltney, signing technician in the traffic engineering section of the department of transportation in Topeka. “It is part of an effort to standardize destinations for the emergency 911 system to make it easier for people to identify where they are to an emergency dispatcher.”

Old interstate signs workers have taken down are now in a large pile along the roadside of I-70 at the eastern Sherman County line. Signs for Caruso, Ruleton and Kanorado are included. New signs have been installed over the past two months.

Businesses and people call the two now-invisible cities home.

Caruso, five miles west of Goodland, is where Northern Sun is located.

Ruleton, 10 miles west of Goodland, is where Prairie Pea and Bean has their pinto beans processed.

Frontier Equity has an elevator operation there and some people live in town.

Drivers on I-70 now see signs saying County Road 14 and County Road 11 where the old Caruso and Ruleton signs were.

The signs at the County Road 11 (Ruleton) exit also indicate that there are no services offered in the cities.

Both cities have now disappeared from all but the railroad maps and local lore.

Kyle Railroad still recognizes both as loading stops along with Kanorado, Brewster and Edson.

“I was coming back from Kanorado and noticed the new signs,” said Curt Way, Sherman County public works director. “If the state notified me, I don’t remember seeing anything come across my desk.

“It seems strange they didn’t include the names,” he added. “I wonder why the state didn’t do the same thing at Edson, which is County Road 29. I sup-



Old highway signs are piled up at a sort of sign graveyard at the Sherman-Thomas County line (above) along I-70, and the ones for Caruso and Ruleton are reminders of a bygone era as the two cities have disappeared from I-70 signs. New signs have replaced Caruso with County Road 14 at exit 12 (left), and Ruleton is now County Road 11 at exit 9 (below). The signs were changed as part of a federal highway sign upgrade program and because the cities are no longer on the Kansas state highway map.

Photos by Tom Betz  
The Goodland Daily News

pose the reason is because there are no incorporated towns today, but that would apply to Edson as well.”

Gwaltney explained that Edson is still on the state map, and there is a state road going up to that location.

“I don’t know if the county was contacted about the changes,” he said. “It is possible the district office in Norton checked with either the county officials or the emergency dispatchers and relayed the information to our office in Topeka.”

Edson’s and Kanorado’s names will remain on highway signs, for now.

The state road is 253 at Edson and 267 at Kanorado, and Gwaltney says the exit signs have a white shield with the road numbers.

He says that as long as the state roads exist and the two locations are on the state map, the names will remain on the signs.

While there are signs on both of the I-70 off ramps indicating where Ruleton is, there is only one sign on the eastbound off ramp designating Caruso.

“Now you’ve got me there,” Gwaltney said. “I wasn’t ready for that question. I don’t know why that situation exists, and I will have to check with somebody.”

He said it is possible the Norton office decided to leave the existing ramp signs until they wear out, or the contractor may not be done taking down all of the signs.



# Committee will select replacement after meeting

By Dana Sulsberger  
*The Goodland Daily News*

The Sherman County Republican central committee will meet tonight to select a new chairperson, allowing them to choose a candidate to replace the 54-year-old county commissioner who died in Denver last Thursday after a bone marrow transplant.

The committee will meet at 7 p.m. in the county commissioner’s room on the first floor of the Sherman County Courthouse.

“This meeting falling after Gary

Townsend passed away is a coincidence,” said Bill Gattshall, current Sherman County Republican Party chairman. “We meet every year after the primary election to reorganize our central committee.”

Commissioner Townsend, who represented the 3rd District, suffered from severe aplastic anemia, diagnosed in 1996, and had been recovering at a Denver hospital from a bone

marrow transplant performed in early June.

Gattshall said state laws say the central committee can only talk about positions Thursday and can’t select a new commissioner until a new chairperson is appointed.

“That is all that can legally be on our agenda,” he said. “We just have to organize positions and get everything in place before we can do anything else.”



Townsend

# Truck totaled after roll-over accident

By Dana Sulsberger  
*The Goodland Daily News*

The breaks on a Frontier Equity Exchange fuel truck from Goodland went out on a gravel road in Rawlins County on Wednesday, causing the driver to lose control of the truck, which flipped on its side and slid 40 feet into a ditch.

While the Rawlins County Sheriff’s Department didn’t have a report Thursday morning, Randy Schoenthaler, general manager of Frontier, said the driver Melvin Musil Jr. wasn’t hurt and was wearing a seatbelt.

Schoenthaler said at 12:30 p.m. Musil was delivering fuel to a farmstead and as he was cresting a hill, the

breaks went out on the truck. The truck flipped on its side, he said, and slid for about forty feet into a ditch.

“He walked away with only some scrapes and bruises,” said Schoenthaler of the driver. The truck wasn’t as lucky.

Schoenthaler said the truck was totaled and the company won’t use it anymore.

All of the oil and 15 to 20 gallons of diesel and gas in the truck — which holds 2500 gallons of diesel fuel, 500 gallons of gas and 30 gallons of mineral oil — was lost, he said, adding the company was able to salvage the remaining fuel.

“The accident did a number on the

truck,” Schoenthaler said, “but it didn’t do too much damage otherwise.”

Not all of the diesel fuel lost was held in the tank, he said, but some was fuel from the truck’s gas tank. Schoenthaler said the main fuel tank held up well, which stopped what could have been a major disaster from happening.

“The fuel tank did just what it was supposed to do,” he said, “it held pretty tight.”

The Rawlins County Sheriff’s department handled the accident but no reports were available on Thursday morning. A representative of the Sheriff’s Department said the report would be filed sometime today.

## City workers start trimming trees

Starting today city workers will be trimming trees in the way of power lines and cutting back shrubs and hedges blocking street or stop signs or obstructing drivers’ views at street corners.

Trees that have grown into primary and secondary power lines will be trimmed back to meet safety standards set by state and federal regulations, said Charles Bandel, Goodland’s electrical superintendent.

He added that in order to allow the designated 20-foot line-of-sight clearance for city vehicles, such as fire and rescue trucks, workers will

also trim trees, shrubs and hedges that block streets or alleys.

City employee Cindy Crutcher said the city will contact people before trimming — but if they can’t be reached, workers will start trimming.

If it looks like something that needs to be cut back will be a continual problem, she said, the city will try again to contact property owners. But, she added, if it’s something small they will go ahead and trim it.

Crutcher said if homeowners have shrubbery that grows over street curbs or obstructs the sight of vehicles, they need to trim it back.