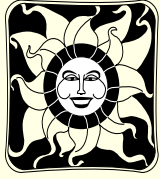


weather report

**76°
at noon**



Today

• Sunset, 6:05 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:01 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:04 p.m.

Middy Conditions

- Soil Temperature 60 degrees
- Humidity 25 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds southwest 14 mph
- Barometer 30.23 inches and steady
- Record High 87° (1958)
- Record Low 24° (1989)

Last 24 Hours*

High 74°
Low 36°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Clear, low 40-45, south winds 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Clear, high 80, low 35-40, south winds 10-20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday: dry, high 75-80, low 35-40.
Saturday: dry, high 75-80, low 40.
Sunday: chance of rain, high 55-60, low 40.

(National Weather Service)

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

Waiting list long at school

Students can wait four years to get into technical programs

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

If a student enrolls in the Northwest Kansas Technical School communications technology program as a freshman in high school, she might make it into the program by graduation.

Anyone who enrolls today will be put on the list behind 395 others waiting to get into the program, and it's not the only one that's hard to get into, just the one with the biggest list.

If a student wanted to get into the electrical technology classes, he would have to wait two years, along with the 38 other people on the waiting list. For the communications network technology program, a student could have to wait three years behind 110 other candidates.

That brings the technical school's grand total waiting list up to 543 students who will trickle in over the next four years, having their names replaced by other students waiting to get into the same programs. Officials say anywhere from 14 to 45 students join the lists any given month.

"The reason that we can't serve all these students," said the Director Larry Keirns, "is because we don't have enough funding from the state."

He said without the money, the school doesn't have the facilities, equipment or instructors to be able to deal with any more students in the three programs.

"Money may be the root of all evil," said Keirns, "but money is the only avenue to be able to serve students."

He said that all of the technical colleges across the state are coming up against the same problem and they have been unsuccessful in obtaining more money from the Legislature.

"The Legislature and governor need to recognize the great need for technical education," said Keirns, "and the large number of students wanting to receive this kind of training."

The school currently serves 600 students a year, he said, but with more money available, enrollment would top 800.

See WAITING, Page 7

Those fall afternoons



Leaves are changing color and falling around Goodland. A particularly pretty tree can be seen in the yard of Loren and Peggy Howard at 812 Eustis. Rebecca Howard was enjoying the weather Tuesday afternoon, talking on the phone, and was joined by a cat.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$2.76 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.68
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Corn — \$1.87 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.67
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 32¢
- Milo — \$2.80 hundredweight
- Soybeans — \$4.13 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.86
- Loan deficiency payment — \$1.04
- Millet — ask
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$5.25 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.50
- Confection current — \$15/\$6 cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$15

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

Goodland man saves woman's life

A Goodland man passing by after a wreck got credit for saving a woman's life Wednesday when her car caught fire after colliding with a pickup in rural Sherman County.

Dan Knitig, a salesman at Elliott's Inc., saw the car on fire and pulled Bonnie Thompson, also of Goodland, out and away from the blaze before any emergency workers arrived.

"In our belief," said Sheriff Doug Whitson, "he saved her life."

He said that by the time the fire department got there, the vehicle was completely engulfed in flames.

The sheriff said Larry Gutsch of Goodland was driving north on

County Road 19 north of town when he collided with Thompson, who was driving east on County Road 67.

Gutsch's 1989 GMC Pickup, Whitson said, rolled three times and landed in the east ditch north of the intersection.

Thompson's 1996 Mercury skidded into the north ditch. The collision, which damaged the front of the vehicle, apparently caused something to catch fire under the hood, the sheriff said.

Thompson was flown to a hospital in Denver and Gutsch was admitted to the Goodland Regional Medical Center. The sheriff said both vehicles were a total loss.

End in sight for highway repairs

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

The company doing work on K-27 will miss another scheduled deadline this week, but an end to the work is in sight.

Smith Sand and Gravel Construction out of Garden City missed its original deadline of Sept. 27, but had told City Manager Ron Pickman the project

would be done this week. Once again, though, the project will not be finished as scheduled.

The company started work on K-27 at the end of April as part of a project to re-pave the highway from south of I-70 to Business U.S. 24. The project was put together with money from the state and the city.

The city submitted plans to the state

Department of Transportation, which approved and chose the contractor, leaving them to supervise the project. The city put in \$300,000 of the total \$1.3 million cost.

Pickman said, at a city commission meeting on Monday, that work on the asphalt was supposed to start on

See HIGHWAY, Page 7

Resting hard



Four pre-schoolers played football Wednesday afternoon on the lawn in front of the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Colton Cooper, 4, (front) Gage Ihrig, 5, (back left) and Gannon Ihrig, 5, (back right) gathered around Kyler Amthor, 4, (center) after he was tackled.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Newspaper hires staff of rival publication

Some new faces will be seen around *The Goodland Daily News* office, but they're not new to Goodland.

Eric and Roxie Yonkey, Pat Schiefen, Jan Zwetzig and Sally Michael have come on board with the merger of *The Daily News* and the *Sherman County Star*.

Eric will sell ads for the paper. He said he worked in advertising when he bought *The Syracuse Journal* in the fall of 1991 and then after he and his wife, Roxie, started *The Star*.

"I prefer ad sales," he said. "This is the first opportunity I've had to focus on ad sales."

He said it is challenging, especially adapting from selling ads on a weekly to a daily basis.

Eric has worked for the *Daily News* before, as a reporter during the summer in 1986 and 1987. Then he came back as a full-time reporter in May 1989 and stayed until July of 1991, when he bought the *Syracuse* paper.

"(I) probably never imagined that I'd be coming back to work here," he said. "I want to commend the staff here for making *The Star* staff feel welcome. We're all on the same team again."

He started work on Monday in the advertising department and will join ad representatives Doug Jackson and Cami Rodgers.

He grew up in St. Francis, where he graduated in 1985 from St. Francis



Eric Yonkey



Pat Schiefen

High School. Then he graduated from Bethany College at Lindsborg in 1989.

The Yonkeys were married in May 1994 and started *The Star* in June 1994. While publisher for *The Star*, Eric also wrote stories, sold ads and took pictures. He won awards for his editorials while there. He is a member of the Goodland Baseball Commission.

Roxie Yonkey started work last week at *The Daily* and will write columns and sports stories for the paper. This will be her ninth year of covering area sports.

She said she gained experience writing when she worked in the sports information department at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va. Roxie said writing is the thing she likes to do the most and especially enjoys sports writing.

She also has worked at *The Daily*

See STAFF, Page 7

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Candidates in countdown

NEW YORK — Al Gore warns that "prosperity itself is on the ballot," urging voters to stay the economic course, while George W. Bush courts younger voters with economics of his own.

Gore was focusing on the economy in a speech Thursday to business leaders in New York. Aides said the Democratic presidential candidate would offer no new proposals, but that he would outline differences with his GOP rival on the issue and claim credit for the nation's economic health.

"This sets the stage for the final push in the last 19 days," Gore said, as he flew into New York.

Bush was spending part of Thursday in Michigan pitching his proposal to allow younger workers to invest some of their Social Security taxes for themselves, before following Gore to New York.