

weather report

32° at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:40 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:21 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:39 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 37 degrees

• Humidity 49 percent

• Sky mostly cloudy

• Winds north 23-33 mph

• Barometer 29.92 inches and falling

• Record High 82° (1931)

• Record Low 12° (1938)

Last 24 Hours*

High 34°

Low 24°

Precipitation trace

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, low 15-20, northwest 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high 40, low 15-20, northwest 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast


Thursday: dry, high 50, low 15-20 mph. Friday and Saturday: chance of rain or snow, high 40-45, low 20-25.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.82 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.71

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$1.96 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.87

Loan deficiency pmt. — 14¢

Milo — \$3.13 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.24 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.11

Loan deficiency payment — 81¢

Millet — no posted price; ask.

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.45 cwt.

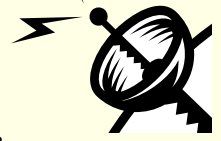
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.49

Confection current — \$15/\$6 wt.

Pinto beans — \$15

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

afternoon wire



Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Voters decide hopefuls' fate

WASHINGTON (AP) — In what held the prospect of being the closest election in 40 years, Americans elected a new president Tuesday, choosing from between Republican George W. Bush, who promised to be a “uniter not a divider” and Democrat Al Gore, who claimed he alone has the experience to “fight for you and win.” Exhausted, the candidates — Bush, the governor of Texas and son of a president, and Gore, the vice president for eight years — surrendered their fate to the voters. Two voters seemed to sum up many people’s views of the race. In Chicago, dentist John Scovic said integrity led him to vote for Bush. But Bruce Mitzit, who works at the University of Chicago, said he chose Gore because Bush “wants to make life easy for big business and for the wealthy.”

Election officer expects high turnout

By Rachel Miscall
The Goodland Daily News

Looking at the number of voters who have cast ballots in advance and the lines forming at polling places, County Clerk Janet Rumpel said she expects a high voter turnout for today’s general election.

She said she hopes it’s much higher than the 40 percent of registered voters who turned out for the August primaries.

“I hope we’re looking at 60 percent and above,” said Rumpel, the county election officer. There are 4,366 registered voters in Sherman County, and 2,619 will have to vote to reach a 60 percent turnout.

Judging by early turnout, including those who mailed in or delivered a ballot before election day, she said, it’s looking very likely.

“It’s been a really good turnout so far,” Rumpel said at 10 a.m. Tuesday. She said there had been a steady stream of voters since the polls opened at 7 a.m. Voting will stop at 7 p.m., when the counting will begin.

Over 10 percent of registered voters have already cast advanced ballots, said Rumpel, with a total of 514 people requesting ballots in advance. She said that’s an excellent number.

For the primary, 4,278 voters registered in Sherman County and about 220 voted in advance.

Rumpel said Sherman County had a better advanced voting turnout than neighboring Thomas County, which has nearly 1,000 more registered voters.



Linda Franklin, supervising election judge for Sherman County, gave Robert Kinderknecht, a retired engineer, directions for voting on Tuesday morning at the courthouse. Polls will close tonight at 7 p.m.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Of the 5,229 voters registered in Thomas County, 501 voted early.

Rumpel said she thinks the close presidential race and the races for sheriff, District 2 commissioner and register of deeds are bringing people out.

Commissioner Kenny Davis and Register of Deeds Carol Armstrong are both facing write-in campaigns. Mitch Tiede wants Davis’ seat and Lynn

Swayne is seeking Armstrong’s. Sheriff Doug Whitson is looking to stay in office, while Undersheriff Arthur “Dee” Albers wants the job for himself.

Rumpel said the tight presidential race between Vice President Al Gore and George W. Bush, the governor of

Texas, is making people eager to share their opinions.

“I’m wondering if it’s an incentive for people to get out and vote,” she said. “The close race is putting more excitement into the election and making people feel like their vote will count.”

Whatever it is, Rumpel said, she’s glad people are responding.

“We’re just happy that they’re coming out to vote,” she said.

If this general election is anything like the one in 1996, when President Bill Clinton was running against Bob

Dole, a Kansas native, the turnout will be high.

Forty-three percent of registered voters in Sherman County turned out for that year’s primary election, Rumpel said, but 77 percent voted in the general election.

Children pick Bush for his cats and dog

By Janet Craft
The Goodland Daily News

First- and second-grade students at West Elementary School got to vote for their choice as president of the United States this morning and George W. Bush came out as the winner.

The votes were tallied late this morning and Bush was the winner with 128 votes to 24 for Gore and four votes for other candidates.

On the ballots, the students had a choice to vote for Bush, Al Gore or a write-in candidate. They got an “I Voted” badge.

First-grade teacher Deborah Bantam said the whole school has been reading about the election in their Scholastic News Weekly Readers as part of social studies classes.

In her class, she talked about how the right to vote was a freedom for U.S. citizens. She said that goes along with the school district’s life skills program, which aims to raise responsible citizens.

When students in Mrs. Bantam’s class were asked if they thought it was important to vote, they all agreed, but

most have trouble giving a reason.

“Cause the presidents are important,” said Dallas Delarosa, 7.

“Because the presidents are important to others,” said Jackie Armstrong, 6. “They help save the country.”

“Yes,” said Audrey Titus, 7, “so we get a new president.”

“Because you get to pick the presidents and which ones are nice and everything,” said Deborah Garcia, 6.

“Cause you have to know what president you’re voting for and you want to make sure it’s the right president,” said Chris Hartsuiker, 7.

Mrs. Bantam’s students were also asked why they picked who they voted for.

These were statements from some who picked Gore:

“I liked him better,” said Lauren Kudera, 6.

“I just like him and I liked his family,” said Heather Miller, 6.

“I picked Al Gore because my mom said George Bush is for the rich people and Al Gore is for the not rich people,”

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Sidney Dirks, a first grader at West Elementary School, put her ballot in the box after she marked her choice. First- and second-graders voted for president this morning as part of their social studies learning.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

City tells state to continue with Cherry project

Commissioners discuss lease agreement on land where Van Gogh painting will go up

By Dana Sulsberger
The Goodland Daily News

Goodland City commissioners got their first look at the low bid on the Cherry Avenue project and told the state to continue with planning during their Monday meeting.

The low bid came in from Venture Corp., out of Great Bend, for \$764,763.

“The bids are considerably less than we had anticipated,” said City Manager Ron Pickman.

The bid includes all work on the road, but it doesn’t include the scenic enhancement project which will include building a pond with a walking trail and trees, said Darin Neufeld, an engineer

with Evans-Bierly-Hutchinson and Associates, which planned the job for the city. He said the bid was about \$30,000 lower than expected.

“We have enough money set aside for the project with a little extra,” said Commissioner Jim Mull.

The motion to go ahead passed unanimously, after which Mayor Chuck Lutters said the project has been a long time coming and he was glad to see it getting closer.

With the 80-foot-high Van Gogh sunflower painting that Canadian artist Cameron Cross is painting nearly done, the Sunflower U.S.A. Association asked the commission to look at an

easement agreement.

The city owns property by the junction of Cherry and Business U.S. 24 where the association wants to put the large easel and painting.

Neufeld spoke to the commission on behalf of the group. He said the association had an easement agreement drawn up as an example and asked the commission what changes the city would like to make. He said he wanted to go ahead and get the commission’s permission on the location of the painting before the easement contract was finalized.

The association has written permission from property owners in the area

for the painting to be erected, he said.

The painting will soon be moved to the same location as the giant easel, at Farris Manufacturing on U.S. 24, said Neufeld, and it will be assembled there.

Commissioner Tom Rohr asked Neufeld what would happen if years from now, the association no longer existed.

“I don’t want the taxpayers to have to pay for it to be taken down or repaired,” he said.

Neufeld said they had a contract with the artist for 25 years to make repairs to the painting, and the paint is guaranteed.

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Accident injures two

A one-vehicle roll-over accident early Tuesday morning on a gravel road east of Goodland sent an adult and a child to the hospital.

Sheriff’s Deputy Art Lovington said two people were in a vehicle about two-tenths of a mile west of the junction of county roads 68 and 25 at 6:50 a.m. when the driver lost control and the vehicle rolled.

Lovington said the two were taken to Goodland Regional Medical Center and released later. The deputy said he would release details after talking to the victims.