

weather  
report

45°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:31 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:06 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:32 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 31 degrees

• Humidity 33 percent

• Sky partly sunny

• Winds north 31-38

• Barometer 30.18 inches  
and falling

• Record High 67° (1922)

• Record Low -10° (1924)

Last 24 Hours\*

High 55°

Low 19°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 15,  
northwest winds 10-20 mph. Tomorrow:  
Mostly sunny, high 35-40, low 15-20.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: dry, high 40, low 15-20.

Sunday: snow likely, high 20, low 10.

Monday: dry, high 30, low 5-10.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local  
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.83 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.70  
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢  
Corn — \$2.05 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.97  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 2¢  
Milo — \$3.29 hundredweight  
Soybeans — \$4.38 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.37  
Loan deficiency payment — 53¢  
Millet — \$9.00 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$5.85 cwt.  
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.83  
Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.  
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.

Bomb goes off  
in Tel Aviv bus

JERUSALEM — A bomb went off on a bus on one of Tel Aviv's busiest thoroughfares today, injuring at least 11 people, police said.

The explosion sent black smoke billowing into the air, and people in the crowded area scattered in panic. The area police commander, Uri Bar-Lev, said the cause of the blast was "apparently a device."

There was no immediate claim of responsibility, although the explosion immediately raised suspicions of a terrorist attack. Islamic militants opposed to the peace process have often staged bus bombings inside Israel.

"I saw three or four people who were injured," Doron Levy, the manager of a wedding hall next door to where the blast occurred, told Israel radio. "There was a smell of fire in the air."



Rolling  
through  
winter break

Eric Ross, 8 (left in above photo); Daniel Blake, 13 (center); and Curtis Ross, 6, enjoyed their Christmas break by taking a bike ride down Main Street today. Jerrod Goodman, 12, took advantage of the good weather during his break to ride his scooter down the sidewalk in front of his house.

Photos by Dana Sulsberger  
The Goodland Daily News



Retired teacher to reach  
100 years next week

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

On Jan. 2, Amy Nichols will accomplish a feat that very few people have accomplished. She will turn 100.

Nichols, born Jan. 2, 1901, has been a resident of the Good Samaritan Center in Goodland since November 1997.

She was the second daughter of five children born to Cassi Ann (Mitten) and Adelbert Frank Nichols.

She had three sisters and a brother, but all have died.

The family lived on a farm in the Cumberland community, north of Gem in Thomas County. While living on the farm, Nichols said she milked cows, slopped hogs and fed the chickens.

She attended Cumberland School through the eighth grade and gradu-

ated in 1920 from Thomas County High School in Colby. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1939 from Manchester College at North

Manchester, Ind., and a Masters Science in 1950 from Fort Hays State Teachers College.

Nichols was a teacher for 42 years and taught history. During her career, she taught at both elementary and high school levels. Seven of those years, she taught in one-room country schools in Thomas County.

She never married, but

likes kids.

She said she also likes cats and dogs.

When she was able, she enjoyed growing plants and flowers.

She also read and listened to the radio a lot.

Nichols retired in 1970 and has lived in Goodland since then.



Amy Nichols

Storm to blame for accidents

Mexican woman killed Monday when van crashes on highway

A weekend storm left I-70 east of Goodland slick enough to cause several accidents, including one in which a van load of illegal immigrants crashed into cars stopped for another accident, killing a Mexican woman.

The Kansas Highway Patrol said Norma Cecila Sancez Munoz was killed Monday afternoon when a van carrying 11 people plowed into a van stopped to help after an earlier accident.

The incident started when Gerald Dryer, 28, of Colorado, lost control of his 1997 Ford pickup at 2:45 p.m. on I-70 just west of the Levant exit and entered the median from the westbound lane.

The pickup rolled across the median and came to rest in the eastbound lane. While officers were investigating that accident, said Thomas County Sheriff Tom Jones, a van carrying 11 Mexican nationals suspected of being in the country illegally and driven by Christopher Munoz struck another van which had stopped to assist in the first accident.

Norma Munoz was pronounced dead at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

Another passenger in the same van was taken to Hays by ambulance with serious injuries and a third passenger was airlifted to Denver.

Colby hospital spokesperson Michael Boyles said Tuesday that the other passengers had been released to the local authorities.

Dryer and his passenger, 24-year-old Jamie Olds, were treated at the medical center for minor injuries and released.

Another accident Monday morning sent a Cascade, Colo., woman to the Gove County Hospital.

Highway Patrol troopers said a 1996 Cadillac driven by Gaylord Blankenbaker, 77, of Cascade, Colo., struck the rear of a 1986 GMC snowplow driven by John Cooper, 56, of Grainfield on I-70 a mile west of Grainfield in the eastbound lane.

Both vehicles were then struck in the rear by a 1997 Ford Explorer driven by 25-year-old Melinda Hailey of Westminster, Colo.

Blankenbaker's wife, Jill, 56, was the only one injured. She was taken to the hospital in Quinter with minor injuries.

Two other accidents on Monday resulted from people driving too fast for the conditions, said Thomas County Sheriff's Deputy Ken Patton, but no one was injured.

The weekend started with an accident also when 64-year-old Delrose Rarick, of Hoxie attempted a U-turn on K-23 near Hoxie on Friday morning. She was struck by a 1981 Kenworth driven by David Meiar, 40 of WaKeeney. Rarick's vehicle, a 1981 Oldsmobile was totaled, but she only suffered minor injuries.

Another accident on Friday afternoon resulted in Jennifer Ouimet, 20, of Pueblo, Colo., being airlifted to St. Anthony's Medical Center in Denver where she remained in critical condition in the intensive care unit on Wednesday.

The highway patrol said Ouimet was the passenger in a Nissan — driven by 20-year-old Shawn Purvis of Parker, Colo. — which was pulling a U-haul trailer.

The car lost control near milepost 50, resulting in I-70 being partly blocked for a while.

State to keep  
congressmen

Census data shows districts  
remain, boundaries change

By CARL MANNING

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — Kansas will keep its four congressional districts, based on the latest national head count, but their boundaries will have to be shifted by the Legislature.

Debate on the changes is expected to span two years of political wrangling as both political parties jockey for advantage.

With Republicans in firm control of the Statehouse, however, they are expected to call the shots.

The U.S. Census Bureau reported that Kansas has a population of 2,688,418, compared to 2,477,574 for the 1990 census, an increase of 8.5 percent.

There were 281,421,906 Americans on April 1, the bureau reported.

Among the anticipated changes in boundaries is an expansion of the 1st District, which now covers 66 of the state's 105 counties, mostly in western Kansas.

As rural areas have lost population over the years, though, the district has kept expanding to the east. That trend should continue.

Another expected change will be for the 3rd District, which includes Johnson, Wyandotte and Miami counties and part of Douglas County.

Democrats and Republicans agree that it will have to be redrawn to reduce its population, since that area of the state has been growing. The 2nd and 4th districts will have to be shifted some.

The congressional districts will be redrawn by the Legislature and reviewed by the courts to make sure the new districts meet all legal requirements.

The new chairman of the Senate Reapportionment Committee, Republican David Adkins, said lawmakers will start working on redrawing the districts this year, but the changes won't be approved until the 2002 session.

The federal Constitution says seats in the House must be redistributed fairly among the states every 10 years, following the census.

Based on an estimated national population this year of nearly 276 million, that means each of 435 House members represents about 625,000 people, said John Haaga, a researcher with the Population Reference Bureau.

County to discuss  
new traffic route

Pete Whalen, a Goodland attorney, plans to talk to the Sherman County commissioners Friday morning about establishing an alternative traffic route next summer while K-27 is closed for repairs.

The Kansas Department of Transportation plans to close the highway north of Goodland in April to make repairs and will open the road again in November. The department is going to replace the highway from Eighth Street north to the county line. They will also redo the intersection of U.S. 24 and K-27.

Darrell Schrader of Goodland, who mowed ditches and roads for the county this summer, is on the agenda to discuss the mowing contract with the commissioners.

Eric Yonkey, an advertising representative for The Goodland Daily News, will ask the commissioners about buying an ad for a travel and tour-

ism guide to be put out in the spring by the Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau. The guide will be made available to visitors and newcomers, and will tell about points of interest and historical highlights in Sherman County.

Sheriff Doug Whitson will give an update on the replacement of two toilets at the Sherman County Bastille. At the Dec. 12 commissioner's meeting, Whitson told the commission he had checked with McClure Plumbing and Heating in Goodland about replacing the toilets and gave them an estimate.

Marshall Hatfield of Goodland is to talk with the commissioners about a contract for scrap iron removal prepared for him by County Attorney Bonnie Selby.

The commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. Friday in the commissioner's room at the courthouse.