

weather
report

32°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:51 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:03 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:52 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 35 degrees
- Humidity 72 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds north 12 mph
- Barometer 30.08 inches and steady

• Record High 65° (1976)

• Record Low -20° (1984)

Last 24 Hours*

High 26°

Low 5°

Precipitation trace

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy with patchy fog, low 5-10, northwest winds 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high 30-35, low 10-15, northwest winds 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: dry, high 35-45, low 10-15. Sunday: dry, high 40s, low 15-25. Monday: dry, high 50s, low 20s.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.93 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.77

Loan deficiency payment — 00¢

Corn — \$1.92 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.91

Loan deficiency pmt. — 8¢

Milo — \$3.18 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.19 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.06

Loan deficiency payment — 84¢

Millet — \$8.25 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.85 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.75

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.

State rushing
to buy power

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California cut off power to thousands of people for a second straight day today as lawmakers rushed to pass an emergency bill allowing the state to buy power at taxpayer expense and keep the lights on.

Californians stocked up on flashlights, generators and firewood as the northern half of the state was struck again. The rolling blackouts stretched from the Bakersfield area to Oregon, 500 miles away.

Traffic lights went out by 10 a.m. in parts of San Francisco, causing gridlock in some areas, and Sacramento also was affected.

The outages were expected to affect a million customers at a time for at least an hour. The blackout order could be expanded to the south, said a spokeswoman.



Calvin Heilman of Associated Pool Builders in Bismarck, N.D., cut some stainless steel tubing loose Wednesday afternoon around the big pool at the water park construction site. The tubing will carry water to the pool when it is complete. Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

New swimming pool built in the snow



Neil Brandenburger of Deadwood, S.D., welded together pieces of stainless steel tubing for the pool.

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Even though temperatures aren't ideal for swimming yet, work is moving ahead on the new water park at Steever Park in Goodland.

Ed Wolak, city director of public works and utilities, said things seem to be going well and there have been no major setbacks.

"As far as I know, everything is on schedule or ahead of schedule," Wolak said. "It should be a fun area for the kids this summer."

Rhoads Construction of Goodland is the contractor on the pool buildings and exterior concrete work, while Associated Pool Builders of Bismarck, N.D., is doing the pools and all the equipment that goes with them.

Rhoads is not far from being done,

Wolak said. There is still some outside concrete work and some trenching for electrical lines.

Wolak said there are items that need to be completed on the pools as the weather permits. The pools still need to be painted, but that can't be done until it has been warm enough for several days.

The pool crew also has work to complete in the mechanical building, which houses the heater, water tanks and filtering system.

Phil Reitcheck, project manager at Rhoads, said the bathhouse is pretty much done. The showers, toilets and sinks have been installed on the women's side and on the men's side everything has been installed except for a shower.

The mechanical building is com-

plete and the building for the concessions just needs a couple of tables installed, Reitcheck said.

He said they will pour the concrete sidewalks around the pool area and buildings after the pool crew is finished with all its work.

Reitcheck said Rhoads has some dirt work to do and chain link fences to put up also.

Wolak said the curbing for the parking area has been poured, but the asphalt for the parking lot will be done later.

"It's our hope to have it completed for the scheduled opening this year," Wolak said.

However, he said he wasn't sure if a definite date had been set.

"We want to make sure everything is right," he said.

Scout plans memorial

Project will help 16-year-old get eagle badge

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

David Russell is raising money to put a memorial to unborn children behind the All Faith Chapel at the Goodland Cemetery, hoping the project will earn him an Eagle Scout badge.

The 16-year-old is organizing a pancake feed fund-raiser from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Knights of Columbus hall at 7th and Caldwell. He said you can have as many pancakes as you can eat, ham, juice and coffee.

Russell, a Life Scout, is asking for donations of \$3 for adults, \$2 for children 12 and under or \$11 for a family ticket. The money, he said, will go towards the large, black granite memorial that he hopes to put up this summer or early fall.

Besides the pancake feed, Russell said he isn't planning other fund-raisers, but added that the size of the memorial will depend on the amount raised. Cash donations would be welcome.

He said the "jagged-looking" memorial, which he is getting through Koons Funeral Chapel, will say, "They number as the stars. Let not one be forgotten. In memory of unborn children."

Russell said he plans to have a picture of a baby laying in cupped hands engraved on the granite. However, he said, the photograph was taken by Anne Geddes, a famous baby photographer, and he has to get permission to use it. Circling the memorial, Russell said,

there will be a cement or wood border surrounding different types of flowers. He said it will be a memorial to all unborn children, not specifically those taken by abortion.

Russell said he got the idea after a relative's baby was born three months premature, but managed to survive and is now 5.

"It got me thinking that every baby deserves a chance to live," he said. "The right to live. It brought up this idea."

Russell said in order to earn an Eagle Scout badge — which is the highest level a Boy Scout can achieve — a Scout must finish a major community project before his 19th birthday. The memorial project, Russell said, has been approved by the state scouting board.

For information or to donate money, call Russell at (785) 899-3473 or send a check made out to "Memorial for the unborn" to 318 W. 12th.

By Roxana Hegeman

Associated Press Writer

HUTCHINSON — Police evacuated hundreds of people — including children at two elementary schools — after an explosion today at a mobile home park was blamed on natural gas geysers that have sprouted around the city's east side.

Slippery ride



Two young women had a wild ride Wednesday when this pickup rolled on icy I-70 west of Goodland. The Kansas Highway Patrol reported that Shanann Little, 21, a student at the Northwest Kansas Technical School in Goodland, was westbound at 9:20 a.m. when the pickup slid on the ice, went into the median and flipped onto the driver's side.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Gas geysers blamed for new explosion in Hutch

Some of the eruptions, noticeable by plumes of vapor mixed with soil, reached as high as 30 feet, police said. Their cause was under investigation.

Patrolman Brice Burlie said several blocks of houses were being evacuated after the fire at Big Chief Mobile Home Park. Students at St. Teresa's and Avenue A elementary schools were also

moved to other schools.

Three injuries, two serious, were reported in the mobile home explosion. At least one burn victim was airlifted to a Wichita hospital.

Hutchinson Fire Chief Gary Frazier said they have had the natural gas leaks at locations around town. Oil field fire workers from Oklahoma were arriving

to help deal with the gas problem.

The Kansas National Guard has sent about 15 vehicles, mainly Humvees, and 30 troops from its Hutchinson armory to help evacuate families and patrol the area.

The mobile home explosion came a day after a blast Wednesday destroyed two businesses downtown.

Students to teach business

City proclaims this
Free Enterprise Week

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

It's officially "Free Enterprise Week" in Goodland and a group of high school students is celebrating by teaching people about business and encouraging shoppers to spend money in their home town.

After sophomores Tiffany Schwasinger and Laura Rice presented ideas to the city commission Monday, Mayor Chuck Lutters signed a proclamation declaring this free enterprise week.

The girls — who are enrolled in the high school's DECA class, where students learn how to run a business — told commissioners that the proclamation is part of a project they're doing for the annual state DECA competition in Overland Park this March.

A project Schwasinger and Ruby Fuentes, who graduated last year, entered in the competition last year won first place in the state and was ranked 24th in the nation. Schwasinger, who is president of her DECA class, said they want to win again, but they also want to convince people to shop in Goodland.

"Our main goal is to get shoppers to stay in town," she said.

Free Enterprise week is only part of their plan.

Schwasinger and Rice said though the week will only last five days, they'll be working on the project, called "Localize With Free Enterprise," for months.

Schwasinger said they started with a Monopoly-like board game and CD-ROM game using Goodland businesses. She said they plan to use the game to teach people about free enterprise.

She defined free enterprise for the city commissioners with a computerized presentation they created using the Power Point program. Schwasinger said they plan to show the same presentation to sixth graders and junior high students while speaking to them about free enterprise.

Kicking off the second stage of their project, Schwasinger and Rice passed out promotional signs and pamphlets to businesses Wednesday, encouraging people to shop in Goodland and defining free enterprise terms, including supply, demand and economy.

Today, Schwasinger said, they will hold a scavenger hunt for other DECA members, who will each go to 15 downtown stores to collect facts about the businesses.

She said they will put information about free enterprise on bulletin boards in the high school, tape a segment explaining free enterprise to air on the high school's television channel and promote free enterprise and local shopping during the "school spotlight" show on Friday, Feb. 2, on KLOE/KKCI Radio.

The state competition will be Mar. 3-6, Schwasinger said, with Overland Park business people judging the projects. Their effort will include a 30-page manual and educational campaign.

The written project is voluntary, Schwasinger said, while all students who enter the competition must take a 100-question test and act out two roles plays in a business situation.

Schwasinger said she expects to do well in the competition again this year.

"This project is so much bigger than last year," she said.