

weather
report

39°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:56 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:01 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:57 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 35 degrees
- Humidity 62 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds northwest 8 mph
- Barometer 30.17 inches and falling

• Record High 73° (1967)

• Record Low -10° (1966)

Last 24 Hours*

High 37°

Low 19°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Cloudy with flurries, low 20, north wind 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Partly sunny, high 35-40, low 15-20, light north wind.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: dry, high 45, low 15-25. Thursday: dry, high 40s, low 15-25. Friday: chance of snow, high 30s, low 10-20.

(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 — \$2.80

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$1.88 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.88

Loan deficiency pmt. — 11¢

Milo — \$3.10 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.18 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.04

Loan deficiency payment — 86¢

Millet — \$5.25 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.95 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.69

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.



Texas escapees
are arrested

WOODLAND PARK, Colo. — Authorities on Monday arrested three men who are believed to be among seven felons who escaped from a Texas prison in December.

Teller County sheriff's dispatcher Jim Borchert said officers arrested the three at a private residence. Borchert said they believed the three were Texas fugitives.

The seven, described as highly dangerous, broke out of the Connally Unit in South Texas on Dec. 13. The men overpowered civilian workers and a guard and are suspected in a Christmas Eve robbery that left a police officer dead.

Woodland Park is about 80 miles south of Denver. Lt. Melissa Hartman of the El Paso County Sheriff's Department said FBI agents and her department's SW-AT team were at a residence in Woodland Park.

Kansans
at capital
for switch

Family watched
as Bush took office

WASHINGTON (AP) — Kansas' small population and sure vote for President Bush made yard signs scarce during last year's campaign, but not so inaugural tickets.

At least 1,578 tickets for Saturday's swearing-in were available to the two senators and four congressmen who represent Kansas.

"So many states were borderline — Missouri, Florida, New York — that we needed the yard signs there," said June Cooper, a Republican National Committeewoman from Garnett, Kan.

When it came time for inauguration, "I thought there might be a cutback in tickets, but there were no problems," she said. "For as little time as they've had, they've done an amazing amount of work."

Cooper and her family arrived last week to see the sights before attending a series of events surrounding the official change of power.

"We saw moving vans outside the White House," said her son, Scott, the president of Kansas State Bank in Garnett. It was his first trip to Washington, he said, and the size of its stately buildings impressed him.

He wasn't the only one. Even U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, who as a teen-ager attended President Eisenhower's 1952 inauguration and who now drives by the monuments on his commute to work, was a little awed.

"I always get a case of institutional *deja vu*," Roberts said. "These are very special times."

Roberts particularly liked this part of Bush's inaugural address: "I ask you to be citizens," Bush said. "Citizens, not spectators. Citizens, not subjects. Responsible citizens, building communities of service and a nation of character."

"So many times, speeches of this nature feature what we expect government to do," Roberts said. "I think he was trying to point out that all of us have a stake in this; we all have a responsibility."

Another Kansan, Republican Rep. Todd Tiahrt, was struck by the prayer said by the Rev. Franklin Graham, who asked that "we may rise above partisan politics and seek the larger vision of your will for our nation."

This, combined with Bush's pledge of "civility, courage, compassion and character," set a refreshing, hopeful tone, Tiahrt said.

"As I looked out over that sea of people, I thought, 'What is it that brings all these people out in this cold, rainy weather?'" he said. "I think it's this sense of hope, that America can be a better place."

Bush gets
to work

WASHINGTON (AP) — Getting swiftly down to work, President Bush ushered in his new administration Monday by welcoming his staff to "the honor of a lifetime" and calling on them to uphold high ethical standards.

As scores of new White House staff members were sworn in, Bush asked them to help deliver on promises he made during the campaign, saying, "We are here to make progress, we are not here just to mark time."

"I want it said of us that promises made were promises kept," Bush said in his first official appearance in the East Room.

With that, Bush sent his aides back to their empty offices, where they found fresh coats of paint and new carpeting but little else.

Computers were still to be hooked up, paper supplies restocked and telephone directories circulated.

Press secretary Ari Fleischer announced Bush's first trip overseas, to

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Steve Bugbee, an auctioneer for the Colby Pheasants Forever chapter, helped the High Plains Roosters, a new chapter in Sherman County, auction prints and guns Saturday night during the chapter's first fund-raising banquet.

Photos by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Pheasants banquet a success

New chapter raises thousands more for habitat than expected

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Almost 300 people packed into the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall Saturday night to eat, drink and spend money to boost the pheasant population in Sherman, Wallace and Cheyenne counties.

It was the first fund-raising banquet for the High Plains Roosters — a new Pheasants Forever chapter formed last year — and the president of the tri-county chapter said he hopes every banquet is as successful.

Chapter members expected to make a few thousand dollars, said Tim Muhr of Goodland, but preliminary numbers show the chapter brought in \$28,816 before expenses.

"That's real good," Muhr said. "We expected \$4,000 to \$5,000 net profit, but we'll make much more than that. We did wonderful."

Monday morning, members could only guess at the profit, and Muhr said it would be a few days before they know exactly what the banquet cost.

He said the money will be used to develop pheasant habitat in rural areas of the three counties. The chapter will buy trees, seed for brood and nesting cover, food plots and other plants the colorful birds need to prosper.

The trees and plants, he said, will go to landowners and farmers who want to increase the pheasant population, which has been declining across Kansas for over two decades.

More pheasants, Muhr said, means more hunters and a stronger economy.

"It makes a big impact on the community," he said. "Not only do businesses see it, but the whole county sees it with the sales tax."

About 295 people attended the ban-



Levi Schlegel, 13, made a silent bid on a cherry wood clock.

quet, he said, paying \$15 to get in the door.

He said more than 80 businesses and individuals sponsored the framed prints, guns and other items — most of which showed a pheasant or hunting scene — that were auctioned, and many donated items for the raffle.

"We had great support from the community," he said, "especially the businesses that sponsored the prints."

The chapter, he said, picked up 52 new adult members and 29 new youth members.

Steve Bugbee, who works with Colby's Pheasants Forever chapter, was the auctioneer, and Barth Crouch, Pheasant Forever's regional biologist from Salina, spoke.

Crouch explained why it is important to maintain pheasant habitat, which is typically wheat stubble fields, so more birds can survive.

He said the Colby chapter — which is 15 years old — is the oldest in the state.

Muhr said Pheasants Forever was formed in 1982 to increase the number of pheasants.

He said the group's mission is to develop pheasant habitat, which has been hurt by changing farming practices.

Crouch said the birds need weeds and stubble for cover and food.

"Farmers are tilling up everything just to survive," Muhr said. "They're just too good as farmers is what it comes down to."

Next year, Muhr said, chapter members don't plan to change the banquet's format much, except possibly to include more items in the auction. He said he hopes it is even more successful next time around.

"We might have to get a bigger place," he said.

New job
attracts
agent

Worker says good-bye
to county this week

Roxanne Burda will be leaving her job as family and consumer science agent for Sherman County Extension after Friday.

Burda, who has worked at the K-State Research and Extension Office in Goodland for a little over two and a half years, is moving to Nebraska. The extension service has its headquarters at Kansas State University in Manhattan.



Burda

Burda said she will be moving to West Point, Neb., where she will be a child care resource specialist in an area of eastern Nebraska near Omaha. She will do this for daycare and child care facilities.

She is originally from that area and lived there most of her life. Burda has a son who is married with a 2-year-old daughter who lives in West Point and a daughter who attends college in Omaha.

"I'm moving back to be closer to friends and family," she said.

She came to Goodland towards the end of May 1998, replacing Glenda (Waugh) Cochran.

Burda said she has enjoyed working for K-State and bringing programs from the university to the people.

"It's been very challenging and very rewarding," she said.

Her job with the extension office was to organize programs for individuals, families and organizations that dealt with issues such as nutrition, health, parenting, and family relationships. The goal, she said, is to promote healthier and safer lives.

She said youth development was an important aspect of her job, especially the 4-H program.

Burda said she tried to get as much information from K-State research as possible to the public.

She said she has enjoyed working here and has enjoyed the people.

"This has been a great community to work in," she said, "and I'm sure I'm going to miss it."

Officials
avoiding
blackouts

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California power managers on Monday began what has become a daily scramble to find enough power to avoid rolling blackouts.

"As Yogi Berra said, 'It's *deja vu* all over again,'" said Patrick Dorinson, spokesman for the California Independent System Operator, the private agency which controls the state's power grid.

The state Legislature prepared to introduce a proposal Monday that would allow utilities to pass their huge debts onto customers in exchange for giving up their hydroelectric plants. The plan would make the state one of the largest owners of hydroelectric power in the nation.

Also being floated was creation of a state "power czar" who would ramrod approval of new power plants through by summer, said Steve Maviglio, Gov. Gray Davis' press secretary.

Stage 3 alerts remained in effect Monday for the seventh straight day. Blackouts occurred briefly Sunday for up to 75,000 customers in Northern California, but they were caused by a spike in power

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Workers win one battle in Hutch

HUTCHINSON (AP) — One battle is won for workers trying to stop natural gas from leaking out of an underground cavern, though the significance of that victory remains to be seen.

Workers were able to plug a pipe leading from a gas storage cavern Sunday afternoon after two attempts on Saturday failed because plugs did not expand properly.

The question now is whether that leak was the only source of a plume that spawned gas geysers and explosions in this central Kansas city.

Also on Sunday, crews tried to find the source of a gas pocket discovered Saturday at Cargill Salt Co., and continued monitoring gas levels throughout the city.

The leak at the Yaggy Field storage

facility seven miles northwest of town caused two fires and forced the evacuation of scores of residents. One blaze Wednesday destroyed two downtown businesses and another Thursday about three miles away at a mobile home park killed one man and seriously injured his wife. The downtown fire, dubbed "the eternal flame by locals, continued to burn Sunday.