

weather report

36°

at noon

Today

Sunset, 4:58 p.m.

Tomorrow

Sunrise, 7:00 a.m.

Sunset, 4:59 p.m.

Midday Conditions

Soil Temperature 36 degrees

Humidity 66 percent

Sky clear

Winds east 8 mph

Barometer 30.38 inches and falling

Record High 71° (1970)

Record Low -7° (1957)

Last 24 Hours\*

High 35°

Low 21°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, low 15-20, south wind 20-30 mph. Tomorrow: Cloudy, 60 percent chance of snow, high 35, low 20-25, south wind 20-30 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday: dry, high 35-40, low 20-25. Saturday and Sunday: dry, high 35-45, low 15-25.

(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 — \$1.89 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.90

Loan deficiency pmt. — 9¢

Milo — \$3.13 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.14 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.04

Loan deficiency payment — 86¢

Millet — \$5.25 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$6.00 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.69

Confection current — \$15/\$7cwt.

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.

Senate OKs one secretary

WASHINGTON — The Senate has approved Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson as secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, giving him authority over issues from abortion to welfare. Republican and Democratic senators alike praised Thompson before voting unanimously to confirm his nomination. Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, complimented Thompson for reforms he initiated in Wisconsin to serve the disabled and elderly. He also singled out Thompson's Wisconsin Works initiative, the state's welfare reform program. Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee today forced a one-week delay in voting on Attorney General-designate John Ashcroft, with one panel member, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, announcing her opposition to the nominee.

# Two escapees surrender without fight

COLORADO SPRINGS (AP) — Cornered in a hotel room, the last two Texas prison escapees surrendered without a fight early today, 42 days after they broke out of a maximum security unit with an arsenal of weapons.

Patrick Murphy Jr., a 39-year-old rapist, and Donald Newbury, a 38-year-old robber, walked bare chested out of the hotel room where they had been holed up after about five hours of negotiations with police and an interview with a television station.

"They had their say by telephone and then we had them back out of the room, shirtless, hands in the air, no weapons on them," FBI agent Mark Mershon said.

The men each had a five-minute telephone interview with Colorado Springs' KKTV before surrendering at 3:45 a.m.

Newbury told anchorman Eric Sin-

“We had a statement to make that the system is as corrupt as we are.”

- Donald Newbury  
Texas prison escapee

ger the Dec. 13 breakout was a statement against Texas' judicial system.

"We had a statement to make that the system is as corrupt as we are," Newbury said. "You going to do something about us, well, do something about that system, too."

Murphy said he was up for parole when he broke out.

"What forced me to do this was the penal institution and such," he said. "The way Texas has things set up ... I'd eventually become an outlaw again anyway because of parole stipulations and such."

"I hope that maybe what we're doing here will open the eyes of people."

Newbury and Murphy were hand-

cuffed and put into separate patrol cars that slowly rolled out of the parking lot of the Holiday Inn. They were taken to the police department and were to be transferred to the El Paso County jail, also in Colorado Springs. Their four surviving companions were being held in a detention center in Teller County about 20 miles away.

"This episode is now closed and finalized," police Lt. Skip Arms said. "I think they felt that they had some message that they wanted to convey. Since we showed a level of trust to them, they followed through and showed a level of trust and did follow through on their commitment."

The arrests brought to an end a frus-

trating hunt for the seven convicts who bluffed their way out of the prison southeast of San Antonio.

Four were arrested peacefully Monday at a convenience store and at a motor home in nearby Woodland Park. A fifth killed himself in the motor home as authorities closed in.

Authorities have said the men robbed an Irving, Texas, sporting goods store and killed Officer Aubrey Hawkins when he arrived. He was shot 11 times and run over by a vehicle.

"Now we can get down to business and get some changes in this lousy Texas penal system," Jayne Hawkins, the officer's mother, told The Associated Press today.

## Hi-yah!



The Goodland Activities Center offers taekwondo classes on Monday evenings, taught by Wayne Luckert of Brewster, a certified American Taekwondo Association instructor. In the 5-7 age class, students Forrest Burr, Reed Bellamy, Jace Cowan and Travis Williams (from left above) went through moves. John Peden (right) looked to see if he was doing moves correctly.

Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News



# City seats draw competition for incumbents

By Janet Craft  
*The Goodland Daily News*

A mixture of incumbents and newcomers had filed to run for school board and city commission seats when the deadline arrived at noon on Tuesday. Their names will be on the ballot for the general election on April 3.

The only real contest will be for the Goodland City Commission, where five candidates are running for three open seats.

At least one of the commissioners will be a

newcomer, though, since incumbent Jim Mull did not file for re-election.

Filing for the three open seats were John Nichols, Brenda McCants, and Dean Blume, and incumbents Chuck Lutters, Rick Billinger.

Nichols worked for the city Public Works Department at the sewer plant and on water lines and streets until he retired at the end of June.

McCants is the director of patient relations and volunteer services at the Goodland Regional Medical Center.

Lutters, supervisor of buildings and grounds for the Goodland School District, currently is a commissioner and serves as mayor.

Billinger, owner of Nationwide Mobile Home Sales, is a former mayor and is serving on the commission.

Blume retired in 1997 from the lawn and garden business that he and his wife owned. He works part-time for the Northwest Kansas Technical School.

Junior high principal Mull, whose seat is up for

election, did not file again.

Filing for three seats on the Goodland School Board were board members Dick Short and Mike Campbell of Goodland and former member Ron Schilling of Edson.

Short is an owner in Short and Son Trucking, and is the current school board chairman. Campbell is a school board member and is the district director for 15 counties for the U.S. Farm

See CANDIDATES, Page 4

# District plans courts, science rooms

By Rachel Miscall  
*The Goodland Daily News*

The Goodland School Board wants to renovate the high school's second floor to make room for science classrooms and will work with the city to build a new tennis court east of the three now at Steever Park.

While members only talked about knocking down walls in the high school to put in state-of-the-art laboratories, they voted Monday to pay half of the cost to build the new tennis court and resurface the other three.

Superintendent Marvin Selby told the board that work should begin on the courts and at the high school — if the board approves — by June 1 and be finished by the time school starts. The district could pay up to a total of \$700,000 for both projects, though the board hasn't decided yet to take bids on the high school renovation.

With board President Dick Short and member Gerald Franklin absent, members agreed to pay up to \$80,400 for the tennis improvements, including a new court, fence, lights, dirt work and new surfaces for the old courts.

The superintendent said the city, which sought bids, will pay the other

half of the estimated \$160,800 project and will donate as much work as possible from the city crew.

Selby said construction work will cost \$138,058 and a performance bond issue will be \$2,671, but he added that he and City Manager Ron Pickman aren't sure about the cost of lights and dirt work. He said they're expecting to pay a total of \$20,000 for both.

After receiving bids from three companies, Selby said, the city and school board picked the lowest estimate from Southwest Recreational Industries, a track and tennis court construction company from Wichita.

The courts, near the city's new swimming pool still under construction, will be reserved for students' tennis practices and matches, Selby said, but otherwise will be open to the public.

Richard Liess, high school athletic director, said the new court and surfaces will help bring other schools' teams to Goodland for meets or tournaments. He said adding an extra court will allow the district to have teams play in one spot instead of traveling to courts in the city.

Selby said the older courts, built below ground-level to make skating rinks in the winter, now have a plastic mat

surface that is slippery and traps water.

The superintendent reviewed plans with board members to knock down walls between three classrooms, including two math classrooms and a special education room, on the second floor of the high school and put in three science laboratories.

The project is the brainchild of a building committee the board formed last year to figure out how to make room for more science classrooms.

The committee has discussed putting classrooms in the school's courtyard or building an addition onto the school's east side, but Selby told the board that they have decided this is the best option.

The committee has also discussed ways to move the junior high into the high school if declining enrollment warrants it, but Selby said they have decided that is not important now.

He said the committee has proposed moving one math classroom across the hall and making room in the vocal music area — only used two class periods a day — for the special education class.

The district's architect, Selby said, has estimated the project would cost about \$600,000, including the price of top-of-the-line work stations.

## School official says program could cut sex and drug use

To keep "latchkey kids" whose parents are still at work from spending evenings in an empty house, Goodland School Superintendent Marvin Selby hopes an after-school program will help develop skills and keep them out of trouble.

Selby said from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. is the time most children who are home alone while their parents are working get into trouble experimenting with sex or drugs.

Having an after-school program, he said, would keep students busy until their parents get off work, and would cost families less than paying a baby-sitter or daycare center.

The district, Selby told the Goodland School Board on Monday, plans to apply for a federal grant to pay for an after-school program for kindergarten through sixth-grade students. School officials, he said, envision the program would be held from 3:30 to 6 p.m. at one school in the district.

The district has a shuttle between schools, he said, so students in the

program could be driven to one site after school, where they would play sports, eat a nutritious snack and do fun activities to build reading, writing or math skills.

The superintendent said two or three adults would supervise, along with two or three student helpers, and the district would charge \$2 a day, unless parents couldn't afford it.

He said the grant application has to be in by March 30 for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, and if the district gets it, the program would start next fall.

But first, he said, the district is sending surveys to parents to get their response to the idea.

"We want to know the interest level," he said.

The after-school program, Selby said, would help students with their school work and their social life.

"It would give a boost to kids who need a boost," he said. "We would provide a good, safe environment and teach social skills."