

weather report

36°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 5:19 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:41 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:20 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 33 degrees
- Humidity 67 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds southeast 8 mph
- Barometer 30.11 inches and rising
- Record High 78° (1962)
- Record Low -11° (1948)

Last 24 Hours*

High 43°
Low 22°
Precipitation trace

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 20-25, southwest wind 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, areas of patchy fog and freezing drizzle late, high 50, low 20-25, south wind 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: chance of freezing drizzle, high 30s. Thursday: dry, high 45-50, low 25. Friday: dry, high middle 30s, low 20.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.70 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.64
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
Corn — \$1.90 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.84
Loan deficiency pmt. — 15¢
Milo — \$3.04 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.02 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.95
Loan deficiency payment — 95¢
Millet — \$7.50 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.05 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.47
Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$14
(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.

Napster told to stop sharing

SAN FRANCISCO — Napster Inc. must stop allowing the millions of music fans who use its free Internet-based service to share copyrighted material, a federal appeals court ruled today.

In a ruling that Napster officials said could force the file-swapping clearinghouse to shut down, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said Napster must prevent users from gaining access to copyrighted content through the lists of songs archived by its users.

"This is a clear victory. The court of appeals found that the injunction is not only warranted, but required. And it ruled in our favor on every legal issue presented," said Hilary Rosen, president and chief executive of the Recording Industry Association of America.

In a statement, Napster said it was "disappointed" by the ruling.

Changing times kill Kansas towns

By Carl Manning

Associated Press Writer

BUTTERMILK — About all that's left of the corner store is the corner.

Like many Kansas towns now extinct or headed that way, Buttermilk curdled, falling victim to changing times. What once was a cluster of shops in Comanche County near the Oklahoma border in southcentral Kansas is all but forgotten.

Seventy years ago, there was the corner store, where people gathered in the evenings to chat, a

filling station and even a blacksmith shop. By the late 1970s, all was gone.

What's left of the corner store is the concrete floor, twisted metal sheeting, assorted bottles and rusted cans and a steering wheel from an old car stuck in the ground.

About two miles north is an open field. In the 1880s it was the site of Avilla, with about 300 people, two newspapers and a cluster of stores. Bypassed by the railroad and faced with drought in the 1890s, people moved elsewhere. The post office closed in 1895 and the townsite was voided

by the Legislature in 1904.

Such is the way Kansas was settled — and unsettled. Towns sprang up, sometimes overnight, flourished, dwindled and died — sometimes as quickly as they were born.

The Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka maintains a dead town file — a listing of some 6,000 communities that either never existed, became extinct after a fashion, or are only a shadow of what they once were.

Settlement began in eastern Kansas in the 1850s and moved westward as counties formed and

people migrated. As settlers moved in, the open range was homesteaded and towns and trading centers created.

In 1860, the state's population was around 107,000. But in 30 years it had increased tenfold, to 1.4 million settlers.

In some cases, towns existed only on paper and in the fertile imaginations of those selling town-site lots to newcomers.

As a young man in 1858, U.S. Sen. John J.

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Sky is the limit for state budget

Kansas may spend \$9 billion this year

By John Hanna

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — The state's motto is "Ad astra per aspera," or "To the stars through difficulties." The state budget has been on the same path since Kansas joined the Union.

The state had its first \$1 million budget in 1875, and since then, spending has multiplied 10 times roughly once every generation, a little more slowly early in the 20th Century, a little more quickly as the new millennium approached.

Each year's budget stands an excellent chance of being the largest in state history.

The state is likely to spend more than \$9 billion for the first time during the current budget year, which ends June 30.

A \$10 billion budget isn't far behind. Today's kindergartners are likely to pay taxes as parents to support the state's first \$100 billion budget.

The grinding inevitability of it frustrates conservative legislators, anti-tax groups and Libertarians to no end.

They're especially aggravated each session in which legislators and interest groups bemoan what they perceive as a tight budget.

This year, many legislators are talking about revenue shortfalls and making tough choices. Obscured by the gloom is a not-so-little secret.

"We're going to collect more money than we ever have in the history of the state," said Rep. Kenny Wilk, R-Lansing, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

The state expects to collect nearly \$4.5 billion in its general fund during its 2002 fiscal year, which begins July 1.

Through January, collections were \$48 million short of the state's official estimates. But they could fall \$283 million short of the estimates and still top collections for fiscal 2000 — and set a record.

The state is still collecting more money than ever before, despite efforts by Gov. Bill Graves and legislators to cut taxes during Graves' first term.

The general fund is the largest source of money for Kansas government programs and where the state deposits most of its tax revenues. The biggest sources of tax revenue are the sales and income taxes.

Sales tax receipts grow with inflation, because the tax is a percentage of what people buy. When prices go up, the amount of tax they pay also increases.

But sales tax receipts also ride along with the economy. If consumers are confident and have money to spend, the state benefits.

Income tax receipts also grow as the economy grows, because personal income increases — 5.2 percent last year, in fact.

But state government's spending regularly outstrips inflation, and sometimes even personal income growth.

Some of the reasons help explain why legislators, advocacy groups and state officials are fairly blue about this

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Technical school offers tours all week

The Northwest Kansas Technical School is opening its doors to students, teachers, parents and anyone else this week to celebrate National Technical Education Week.

Director Larry Keirns said the school's 13 technical-training programs, ranging from cosmetology to medical assistant to auto body repair, will be open for tours from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. He said

visitors will be led through the 24-building campus, where students and instructors in the school's career-training programs have organized demonstrations. The tours, Keirns said, will include a stop at the school's new fitness center, scheduled to open in April.

For groups of more than 10 people, Keirns asked that people schedule a tour by calling Patti Purvis or Robert Hartzler at (785) 899-3641.

Kids sculpt snow on a sunny day

Sunday was a sunny day to be outside in the snow. Cousins Ismael (above left) and Deborah Garcia built a snowman Sunday afternoon in Deborah's yard at 916 Syracuse. Friends Erica Fenner (right, left photo) and Jamie Gittinger played in a big pile of snow Sunday afternoon in Fenner's front yard at 217 W. 12th.

Photos by Janet Craft
The Goodland Daily News

Agency offers people free tax advice, forms

The Internal Revenue Service Tax Tour is headed to northwest Kansas and will be in Colby on Tuesday.

The IRS and the Kansas Department of Revenue are bringing the tour to people to offer free tax assistance and forms for preparing 2000 tax returns.

Representatives will be on duty from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Central Time at the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range.

Taxpayers who come for assistance should bring their W-2 forms from their employers as well as any other documents needed to prepare their federal and state income tax returns.

Federal tax return preparation assistance will be limited to forms 1040EZ,

1040A, 1040, Schedule A (itemized deductions), Schedule B (interest only), Schedule R (credit for the elderly or disabled) and Schedule EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit). Citizens can obtain many federal and state forms and publications at the tax tour location.

The service says the tour is part of efforts to provide tax assistance for citizens near their home.

Taxpayers can also get federal tax assistance and information through the IRS toll-free telephone information system at (800) 829-1040. Telephone assistance is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Information is also available on the Internet at www.irs.gov.



This painting, called "Purple Dresses and Dangly Earrings," is one on display at the Sandzen Gallery in Lindsborg painted by Phyllis Liljegren Newson, a former Goodland resident.

Goodland native succeeds with art

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Phyllis Liljegren Newson of Colorado Springs, a former Goodland resident, has some of her artwork on display through March 25 at the Birger Sandzen Memorial Gallery in Lindsborg.

Newson is the daughter of Leon and Eunice Liljegren of Goodland.

The show, which opened Feb. 1, presents her mixed media paintings. Newson spent a year preparing for the show, called "Ties."

As early as Newson can remember, she has been doing art. She said her mother used to give her scraps of old white bed sheets to draw on and a cookie tin full of crayon pieces to "paint" with. An old school blackboard hung in the kitchen where her father taught her the principles of perspective.

Starting in elementary school, she designed posters for con-

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