

weather report

67°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:32 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:56 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:33 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 52 degrees
• Humidity 26 percent
• Sky mostly sunny
• Winds northwest 16-24 mph
• Barometer 30.28 inches and steady

• Record High 89° (1989)
• Record Low 21° (1958)

Last 24 Hours*

High 60°
Low 31°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly clear, low 45, light wind. Tomorrow: Sunny, high 70-75, low 45, south wind 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: dry, high 80. Friday: dry, high 85, low 45. Saturday: chance of thunderstorms, high 85-90, low 50.

(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 — \$2.72
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
Corn — \$1.79 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.68
Loan deficiency payment — 31¢
Milo — \$2.83 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$3.68 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.61
Loan deficiency payment — \$1.29
Millet — \$6.00 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.45 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.14
Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$14 (new crop)
(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, 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.

Skipper avoids court-martial

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii — Cmdr. Scott Waddle raised eyebrows in legal circles when he decided to testify without immunity at a Navy court of inquiry into the USS Greeneville's collision with a Japanese fishing vessel.

Waddle's attorney says the skipper's testimony may have helped him avoid a court-martial, where a conviction could have drawn a prison sentence.

Japanese families had called on the Navy court of inquiry to recommend a court-martial for Waddle, who was in charge Feb. 9 when the U.S. submarine rammed the Ehime Maru during a surfacing drill and killed nine.

At an "admiral's mast" disciplinary hearing Monday, Waddle was found guilty of two violations of military law: dereliction in performance of duties and negligent hazarding of a vessel.

School board fires husband and wife

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

With the end of the school year approaching, the Goodland School Board on Monday fired two first-year teachers and hired back the rest of the staff.

The board also accepted resignations from three teachers and a cook at West Elementary School and hired two new teachers to fill English and special education openings.

After a 45-minute closed session, members unanimously agreed at the regular meeting not to renew contracts for James Oss and his wife Jaime, who both started teaching at the high school this year.

The board didn't give reasons, as it

can legally go behind closed doors to talk about personnel matters.

Harvey Swager, high school principal, recommended that the board hire back all tenured and non-tenured teachers, except James Oss, an earth science teacher, and Jaime Oss, an English teacher. The couple moved to Goodland in February 1999.

Members followed recommendations from the district's four other principals, renewing contracts for the schools' teaching staff and giving tenure to seven teachers: Jon McLean, a high school teacher; Sally Bruce, junior high counselor; Tara Mull, a Central Elementary teacher; Stephanie McGinley, a West Elementary teacher;

and Deanne Burkett, Michael Nelson and Jona Neufeld, North Elementary teachers.

The board accepted resignations from Sharon Palmquist, a high school English teacher; Diane Coch, a North Elementary special education teacher; ReNae Farr, a North Elementary sixth grade teacher; and Michelle Smith, a cook at West. While the teachers will finish the year, Smith plans to leave on Friday.

Members hired Tony Diehl to fill the English position and Pamela Hernandez to take the special education position at North. The new teachers will

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Brewster principal fired; superintendent resigns

The Brewster School Board fired the district's principal earlier this month and heard that the superintendent is quitting to take a job in southcentral Kansas.

Principal Matt Pounds' contract was not renewed at the April 9 regular meeting, and Superintendent Jim Garner announced he plans to become superintendent in Kinsley.

Brewster residents had complained earlier this year to the school board about how Pounds handled an incident where students entered the school after hours and went for a joyride in a school suburban.

Residents said they felt that Pounds and Superintendent Garner

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This photograph of Amber Walls at the Sherman County Fourth of July celebration won *The Goodland Daily News* third place in the feature photo-

graphy category of the Kansas Press Association's annual contest. The newspaper won 13 awards. Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Paper earns photo, writing awards

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Awards for writing, photography and general excellence were handed out Saturday during the 109th Kansas Press Convention in Lawrence and *The Goodland Daily News* received 13.

Other newspapers in northwest Kansas also received awards, with the area winning a total of 29.

Erin Brockovich, the speaker on Friday afternoon, told the audience she was happy a movie had been made to get the story out about the contaminated

water in Hinkley, Calif.

"I have learned how important open records are," she said. "I am glad to see that you have passed a good open records law in Kansas."

She also spoke of how her upbringing in Lawrence had a lot to do with her success in life. Members of her family were in the audience and Brockovich thanked her mother and father for the lessons they had given her as a girl.

"You've got to have stickto-itiveness," is what her mother kept saying, and it was the reason she kept go-

ing on the case which has made her a celebrity.

Brockovich, dressed in white jacket and a tight, low-cut black top, answered questions both about the movie and about how it has changed her life. She said she did not know that Julia Roberts was going to play her, and that after it was announced she did not spend a lot of time with Roberts.

As to the changes she says that being a celebrity has helped open some doors when she is seeking information for ongoing cases, but there are times she

has found herself misunderstood about what she is trying to get done.

At the awards presentation, *The Goodland Daily News* won a first place in sports writing for Roxie Yonkey's story about the Cowgirl's volleyball loss in sub-state play in Scott City last fall.

The contest was judged by newspaper people from Missouri, and the judges comments on Yonkey's story said, "Good lead and good description

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Strong winds blow through, but rain skips area

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Strong southerly winds moved in ahead of a huge low-pressure system Friday afternoon, but Goodland received no rain until Sunday, even though thunderstorms had developed earlier.

Brooke Taber, meteorologist at the Goodland National Weather Service office, said the system developed in eastern Colorado and moved across the Tri-state area Saturday and into Sunday.

He said the south winds that developed ahead of the low moved into Goodland Friday afternoon and pumped moisture into the area. Severe thunderstorms developed Friday night and Saturday morning. Goodland received a trace of precipitation Saturday morning. A peak 72-mph wind gust was reported Friday afternoon by an off-duty Weather Service employee and at Goodland's Renner Field, a 62 mph wind gust was reported.

On Saturday, Taber said, the winds were out of the south and averaged 25-35 mph with gusts up to 50 mph.



Clouds rolled across the skies in Sherman County on Sunday evening after a cold front moved through. Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Taber, who was out storm chasing on Saturday, said he saw a tornado touch down briefly Saturday night in Rush County, just west of Great Bend.

The Kansas town of Hoisington, which is in Barton County, was hit by a tornado Saturday night.

Goodland received .24 of an inch

of rain on Sunday morning, far less than some areas to the east got. Oberlin

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Plane leaves for pole

Crew hopes to rescue sick American doctor

By Kevin Gray

Associated Press Writer

PUNTA ARENAS, Chile — A propeller plane took off today to rescue a sick American doctor at the South Pole, after raging winds and blinding snow that had caused days of delays eased enough to attempt the perilous flight.

The flight from Rothera base on the coast across from Chile came hours after a New Zealand air force plane successfully evacuated 11 American staffers from a research station on the other side of Antarctica.

Antarctica's harsh, dark winter conditions usually preclude flights in or out after late February. But rescuers in both operations were forced to move by health emergencies at the isolated, frigid stations on the bottom of the world.

"They're off," said Valerie Carroll, a spokeswoman for Raytheon Polar Services, after the eight-seat Twin Otter plane departed at 10:34 a.m. EDT from Rothera for the 10-hour flight to the pole to retrieve Dr. Ronald S. Shemenski at the Amundsen Scott-South Pole station.

Blowing snow and low visibility had postponed the flight for two days. But Carroll said clear skies and improved conditions at the pole allowed the departure.

The plane, fitted with skis for landing on a sheet of ice, would reach a point of "safe return" at 4:30 p.m. EDT, she said. At that point, the pilots would decide if conditions would allow them to continue on to the South Pole, where they would refuel for the flight back with Shemenski.

Shemenski, 59, the only physician among 50 researchers working at the Amundsen Scott-South Pole station, recently suffered a gall bladder attack and has been diagnosed with the potentially life-threatening condition known as pancreatitis.

Flights to the South Pole station are normally halted from late February until November because of the extreme winter cold and darkness. But the rescuers worried that Shemenski's condition would worsen in the coming months, when an airlift out of the South Pole would be virtually impossible.

Similarly, rescuers were also forced to move quickly to evacuate four ill Americans at McMurdo Antarctic Base on the opposite coast of Antarctica across from New Zealand.

In a 15-hour round-trip journey, a C130 Hercules from Christchurch landed on the base's ice runway. At McMurdo, the plane spent just one hour on the ground to pick up the evacuees and refuel. Its engines were kept running throughout the stopover to prevent them freezing in the air, which was 22 degrees below zero.

John Sherve, New Zealand manager for U.S.-based Polar Services — which provides support services at the McMurdo Base — described the mass evacuation as "unprecedented."

Officials said the mission got a lucky break, leaving New Zealand an hour earlier than scheduled and avoiding deteriorating weather conditions.