

**weather
report****74°**

at noon

**Today**

• Sunset, 7:48 p.m.

Tomorrow• Sunrise, 5:37 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:49 p.m.**Midday Conditions**• Soil Temperature 65 degrees
• Humidity 42 percent
• Sky mostly sunny
• Winds north 18-25 mph
• Barometer 29.91 inches
and falling
• Record High 94° (1962)
• Record Low 28° (1981)**Last 24 Hours***High 87°
Low 57°
Precipitation none**Northwest Kansas Forecast**Tonight: Becoming cloudy, 30 percent chance of thunderstorms, low near 50, northeast wind 5-15 mph.
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, high 70, low near 50, northeast wind 5-15 mph.**Extended Forecast**

Saturday: dry, high 75-80. Sunday: chance of thunderstorms, high 90, low 50s. Monday: dry, high 90, low 50s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local
markets****Noon**Current wheat — \$2.81 bushel
New wheat — \$5.90 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.73
Corn — \$1.77 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.71
Loan deficiency payment — 28¢
Milo — \$2.81 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$3.81 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.81
Loan deficiency payment — \$1.09
Millet — \$6.00 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.65 cwt.
Oil new crop — \$5.90 cwt.
Loan deficiency prmt. — \$3.02
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.

**Congress OKs
2002 budget**

WASHINGTON — A divided Congress approved a final 2002 budget today as moderate Democrats supplied pivotal support for a measure clearing a path for President Bush's goals of cutting taxes and reining spending.

The Senate gave final congressional approval to the \$1.95 trillion fiscal plan by a mostly party line 53-47 vote. In a chamber divided 50-50 between the two parties, the difference was that while two Republicans voted against the GOP-written blueprint, five Democrats supported it.

"Is it a perfect document?" asked Sen. John Breaux of Louisiana, a leader of the Senate's centrist Democrats who voted for the package. "Of course not. But does it advance the cause of government in a democracy that is almost evenly divided between the two parties? I think the answer is yes."

Senator won't run for governor

Rep. Moran may be one candidate

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback will not run for Kansas governor in 2002, he said today.

The announcement was not a surprise, although Brownback had never ruled out the possibility of seeking the Republican nomination.

"It is an honor to serve the state I love," he said in a statement issued by his office. "After much discussion, contemplation and prayer, and after many kind words from good friends, I have decided I will not be a candidate for governor in 2002."

Republican Gov. Bill Graves finishes his second and last term next year. Among those mentioned as potential GOP candidates to succeed him are two members of the Kansas congressional delegation, Reps. Jerry Moran of the 1st District

and Todd Tiahrt of the 4th District.

Former Junction City Mayor Lloyd Parker has announced that he's running, and others considered as possible candidates for the party's nomination are Lt. Gov. Gary Sherrer, State Treasurer Tim Shallenburger and Kansas House Speaker Kent Glasscock. Kansas Insurance Commissioner Kathleen Sebelius has been mentioned prominently as a potential Democratic nominee.

Brownback, 44, was elected to the U.S. House in 1994, representing the 2nd District. Two years later he ran for the Senate when Bob Dole resigned

to concentrate on his race for the presidency. Graves had appointed his lieutenant governor, Sheila Frahm, to Dole's seat, but the conservative Brownback challenged her in the primary and won.

He then won a tough race against Democrat Jill Dockett to fill out the balance of Dole's term, and was elected to a full six-year term in 1998.

Brownback, a graduate of Kansas State University with a law degree from the University of Kansas, served as the state agriculture secretary from 1986 to 1993.

Roundin' up Rattlers



Snake handlers to come out

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Hundreds of rattlesnakes will be slithering around cages and strung up to be skinned this weekend at the 10th annual Rattlesnake Roundup in Sharon Springs.

Judie Withers, one of the organizers of the yearly event, said there will probably be 200 to 300 rattlesnakes at the show, held Saturday and Sunday at the Wallace County Fairgrounds.

She said the prairie and western diamondback rattlesnakes will be confined in a large plexi-glass pit during the show for people to see. Professional snake handlers will perform stunts with the slithering creatures.

Withers said the majority of the snakes are prairie rattlesnakes, caught by Kansas snake hunters who must have a state hunting license and a snake permit. She said the hunters sell the snakes to Rattlesnake Roundup Inc. for the show.

Withers said the snakes, which are caught for commercial purposes, can only be hunted within a 30-day period prior to the snake show. In Kansas, hunters can only legally catch them west of Highway 283, which runs north and south through Kansas intersecting Norton, Hill City, WaKeeney, Ness City and Dodge City. However, she said, the snakes can't be hunted in Morton County.

She said some snake hunters use a noose-type catcher, but the more experienced ones use a tong-type catcher with a long handle, and can stand 3 or



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Workers skinned snakes at last year's Rattlesnake Roundup in Sharon Springs. The rattlesnake meat is breaded and deep fat fried as a snack.

Photos by Sheila Smith/The Goodland Daily News

Officials to save records

*Preserving files will
cost about \$30,000*

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The Sherman County Commissioners decided Tuesday that records going back 130 years to the beginning of Sherman County will be preserved on microfilm.

The commissioners heard a presentation at the April 30 meeting about the cost of preserving the records from Linda K. Roberts of Lockwood Company in Atchison.

She said the total cost of the program, which includes records in the Register of Deeds, County Clerk, County Treasurer and County Appraiser's offices, is about \$30,000.

The Lockwood Company will bring their equipment to Goodland and copy all of the records onto microfilm. This includes original plat maps and field notes which date back to 1870.

County Register of Deeds Carol Armstrong said she has been micro-filming the records on a regular basis since 1973, but there are 212 books that are not on microfilm.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said there is no way to replace 12 commissioner journals, which have all the minutes going back to the county's start, without having them microfilmed.

A number of records in the Appraiser's office need to be micro-filmed, and Appraiser Terry Ballard has requested they be converted to a CD-based quick retrieval system. Roberts said Lockwood will sell the county special retrieval software to use with the CDs.

The commissioners approved using money in the capital outlay fund.

Mary Messamore, head of the county dispatch and emergency communications, brought several bids for a new computer in her office.

She favored a quote on a Dell computer from Brunghardt and Hower of Hays for \$1,460. Crystal Linsner, county computer person, agreed it was a good bid.

The commissioners approved the purchase, asking Linsner to check on

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Speakers will share historic stories

History conference to teach about people, places across western Kansas

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

When Ellen May Stanley makes the trip from her home in Dighton to Goodland this weekend, she will bring the stories of three women who faced heartache and hard times on the High Plains in the late 1880s.

At the same time, as Tobe Zweygardt, an 85-year-old St. Francis man, prepares for his visit to Goodland on Saturday, he'll be gathering information he has on the Cheyenne Breaks and making sure to pack pictures of the natural formation in northern Cheyenne County.

Both will be speakers at the Sherman County Historical Society's first history conference, starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday in the basement of Western State Bank, 8th and Center. A Colby Community College instructor and a woman who helps run the museum in

Greeley County will join them in sharing the stories of historic people and places in Kansas.

The conference, which society members hope to make an annual event, is one part of Goodland's second annual Settlement Days, running today through Saturday. The Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce and the business promotion committee have organized special events and contests downtown and the High Plains Museum and Carnegie Arts Center are featuring displays honoring pioneer women.

Stanley, who has lived in Lane County for 80 years, said she will tell one story about a woman who triumphed despite the tragedies in her life and one about a New York woman who slipped into extreme depression after moving to Kansas and was declared insane.

The historian, who has written three books on Lane County history and is working on a fourth, said she wants to salute the pioneer women who were able to survive life on the plains. She said one woman she will speak about was left to raise 10 young children when her husband died and another had a miscarriage before losing all of her possessions in a fire.

"You really have to admire the women who had the strength to live through this," she said.

Stanley said she's always had an interest in history, but didn't do anything about it until the 1960s, when she started attending week-long history courses at the Kansas History Center in Dodge City.

The woman who ran the center encouraged her to become involved, she

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Donna Swager, business promotions committee president and co-owner of Pied Piper Video, worked in pioneer clothing today in honor of the second annual Settlement Days. Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News