

weather report

69°

at noon



Today

- Sunset, 7:54 p.m.
- Tomorrow**
- Sunrise, 5:31 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:55 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 72 degrees
- Humidity 37 percent
- Sky mostly cloudy
- Winds northeast 18-27 mph
- Barometer 30.02 inches and rising

- Record High 99° (1927)
- Record Low 31° (1976)

Last 24 Hours*

High	87°
Low	56°
Precipitation	none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, 30 percent chance of showers, low 40-45, northeast wind 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, high mid 70s, low 50-55, east wind 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: chance of thunderstorms, high 75-80. Sunday: high 70s, low 45-55. Monday: dry, high 65-75, low 40s.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Current wheat — \$2.91 bushel
- New wheat — \$2.93 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.91
- Corn — \$1.81 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.71
- Loan deficiency payment — 28¢
- Milo — \$2.46 hundredweight
- Soybeans — \$3.96 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.92
- Loan deficiency payment — 98¢
- Millet — \$6.00 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$6.75 cwt.
- Oil new crop — \$5.90 cwt.
- Loan deficiency prmt. — \$2.94
- 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.

Chinese arrest U.S. scholar

HONG KONG — China has formally charged an American business professor with spying for Taiwan, upping the stakes in an anti-espionage campaign that has angered Washington and ensnared at least five foreign intellectuals.

Li Shaomin, a U.S. citizen who taught at the City University of Hong Kong, disappeared after crossing the border into China on Feb. 25 to visit a friend. His wife said a State Security Ministry official informed her by telephone Tuesday of his formal arrest on charges of spying for Taiwan.

"He is a scholar. What they accuse him of is pure nonsense," Li told The Associated Press. "I want the world to know my husband has done nothing wrong."

U.S. Embassy officials in Beijing said today that they were pressing for his release on humanitarian grounds.

Teachers, board reach agreement

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland School Board and teachers union exchanged proposals and counterproposals during a three and one-half hour session Wednesday evening, reaching a tentative agreement on a contract for the upcoming school year.

Teachers will receive raises totaling \$117,390 if the agreement is approved. For the majority, this will mean an average increase of \$900, with a \$500 base increase and \$20 for each year of service up to 21.

The teachers had requested \$800 on the base and \$20 per year, a total of \$146,570. Under the teacher's salary schedule, someone who had been

with the district for 21 years or more and has a master's degree plus 45 hours would get a raise of \$1,120.

Before agreeing to the school board offer, Mary Porterfield, head of the teacher's negotiating team, said that while they understood the financial problem facing the district, the teachers needed the raise to keep up with the cost of living.

"We have analyzed the budget and believe there are places where money could be shifted to handle the salary increases," Porterfield said.

"We are not going to negotiate the budget," replied Kathy Russell, head of the board negotiating team.

Porterfield suggested there might be some money in interest income, and in the salary line itself, which appeared to include money for the Title 1 teachers which the district is reimbursed for by the state.

"I know it is not popular, but we may need to look at increasing the local option budget to fund the health insurance costs," Porterfield said. She said an increase of 3.621 mils would raise the needed money, estimated at \$159,000.

"I understand the Legislature didn't want to raise taxes, and some legislators said they did not feel schools needed more state aid as long as they were not using the full authority for the local option budget," she said. "In Goodland, we have a

ways to go before reaching that level.

"We also are wondering if the student activities could be funded out of the local option budget rather than from the general fund," Porterfield said. "This would free up \$112,000 and would be a 3 mil increase."

Another suggestion was to extend the lease portion of construction projects, and possibly to shift emphasis away from technology.

"We are in good shape in comparison to other schools on technology," Porterfield said.

"Where do we get the money the next year?" asked Marvin Selby, district superintendent.

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Picnic in the park

The Goodland High and Grant Junior High bands, directed by Paul Garrison and Tom Miles, performed in Gulick Park on Tuesday while parents cooked and served hamburgers. People relaxed (above) as the bands played. Lyn Hoffman (below) put pickle slices on Ken Griffith's hamburger in the food line. Saxophone trio members Erinn Hardy, Amanda Hoffman and Lindsay Custer (right photo, from left) played a number for the audience.

Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News



Grads advised to be nice to others

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

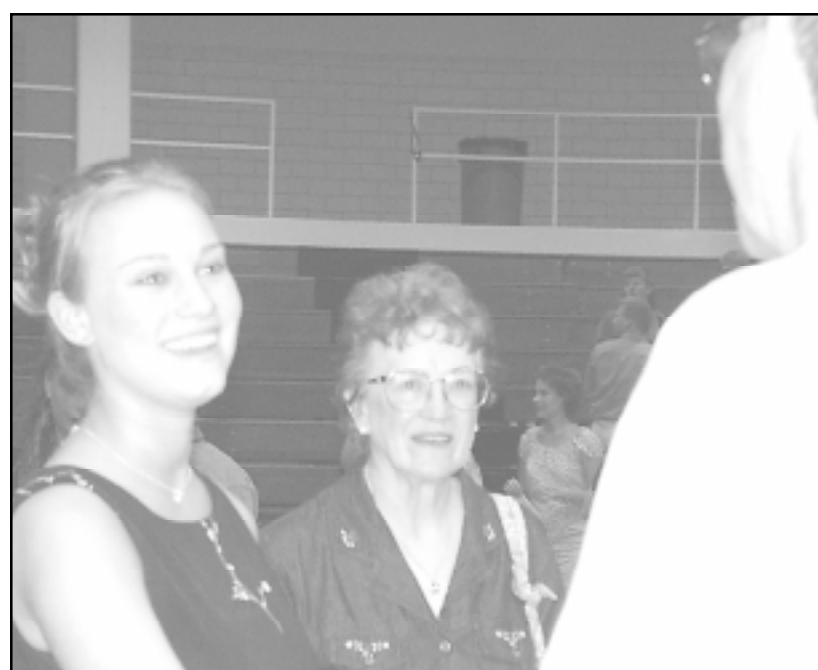
Kay Melia, retired Goodland radio station manager, encouraged Northwest Kansas Technical College graduates to be considerate of others in the workplace at Wednesday night's graduation ceremony.

The school's 37th commencement — its first as a technical college — was held at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Melia referred to retired basketball coach John Wooden's comments in his book, "Be Quick, but Don't Hurry."

Wooden, 91, coached for 28 years at the University of California at Los Angeles, Melia said, and won 10 national championships while there.

When Wooden was interviewed recently about the book, he related, the coach told a reporter that the thing he would his readers to learn was to be more considerate of others.

Wooden didn't teach winning, Melia



Beckman

Jandi Smith, a communications technology grad, accepted congratulations at the Northwest Kansas Technical College graduation Wednesday at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

said, but tried to instill qualities in his players like honesty, consideration, kindness and enthusiasm, and as a re-

sult they were winners. In the book, Wooden stressed that great leaders give credit to others and

aren't afraid to take the blame themselves. He said that teamwork is not a preference, but an absolute necessity.

President Larry Keirns talked about three things the school had accomplished this year. One was to become a technical college after Gov. Bill Graves signed a bill on March 15; the second was to become nationally accredited by the Council on Occupational Education in Atlanta, which will take place on June 9; and the third was to construct and complete a student fitness center, which opened April 27.

"I really think the school year 2000-2001 was one of the most significant years for accomplishments for the technical college," he said.

In addition to the 265 technical graduates, 22 students received associate in applied science degrees, the first the school was able to grant at the college level.

Shane Beckman of Hoxie, a graduate of the welding department, was named Student of the Year from among 13 department winners.

Keirns recognized the college's board members, state Reps. John Faber and Jim Morrison.

Investors are back in market

Dow back to level reached in the fall

NEW YORK (AP) — After eight long, painful months, the Dow Jones industrials returned to levels not seen since September, and every indication is small investors — however cautiously — are helping it happen.

From Wall Street to Main Street, optimism is growing that the days of incessant selloffs are coming to an end. The reasons: encouraging economic data, a more stable stock market and five interest rate cuts by the Federal Reserve this year. But the enthusiasm is restrained and euphoria is nowhere to be found.

"I think the worst is over, but that doesn't mean it's going to go straight up," said Ari Pramudji, 35, a Houston lawyer, who recently returned to buying stocks.

"I'm buying again, but I'm more apprehensive and my priorities have changed. Right now I'm interested in capital preservation. Back then, I was looking to double my money."

The Dow closed Wednesday at 11,215.92, rising 342.95 for its first finish above 11,000 since Sept. 14. Technology stocks also rose, notching a nearly 4 percent gain on the Nasdaq composite index. The advances came a day after an expected rate cut by the Federal Reserve and indications that more reductions were possible.

"The market, the institutions are getting more comfortable," said Robert Harrington, head of listed equity trading at UBS Warburg. "We're probably a quarter away from seeing better corporate results, and they're more willing to commit money on anticipation that the second half is going to be better."

On most days, it's the big institutions and mutual funds that do most of the buying, but Wednesday was different.

More money than usual went into trades of less than 10,000 shares — an indication that individual investors were doing much of the buying. Institutions and mutual funds are more likely to buy in blocks of more than 10,000 shares.

The Dow recorded \$517 million in inflows from trades of less than 10,000 shares, compared with \$137 million of inflows for larger-size transactions, according to Birinyi Associates, which monitors trade activity.

"This isn't really what we normally see. It gives us the indication that people who have taken money out of the market in the last couple of months may have come back in today," said Paul Hickey, a Birinyi analyst.

Not everyone is convinced that now is the time to buy stocks.

The Dow's rise Wednesday, while noteworthy, reflected the growth of a very select group of stocks: the 30 issues determined by the editors of The Wall Street Journal as most representative of the market.

The Nasdaq is still more than 50 percent off its all-time closing high of 5,048.62 reached in March 2000, and the Standard & Poor's index remains 15 percent below its best finish of 1,527.46, also from March 2000.

The markets are also likely to give back some of Wednesday's gains in coming days as part of the normal fluctuations and cycles found on Wall Street.