

weather report

54°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:58 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:28 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:59 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 53 degrees
- Humidity 36 percent
- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds north 30-38 mph
- Barometer 30.09 inches and rising
- Record High 97° (1925)
- Record Low 35° (1945)

Last 24 Hours*

High	74°
Low	35°
Precipitation	0.10 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Clear, overnight frost possible, low 35, northwest wind 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, overnight frost possible, high 70, low 35-40, northwest wind 15-25 mph and gusty.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday through Friday: dry, high 70s, 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 — \$2.77 bushel
 - New wheat — \$2.79 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$2.87
 - Corn — \$1.74 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$1.70
 - Loan deficiency payment — 29¢
 - Milo — \$2.84 hundredweight
 - Soybeans — \$3.89 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$3.92
 - Loan deficiency payment — 98¢
 - Millet — \$6.00 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$6.85 cwt.
 - Oil new crop — \$5.95 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency prmt. — \$2.96
 - 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.

Middle East battles go on

JEBALYA REFUGEE CAMP, Gaza Strip — Israeli helicopters rocketed what the army said was a mortar factory and tanks briefly entered a village in Palestinian territory, firing sporadically. Two Palestinians were killed in a border clash.

Today's shelling began before daybreak when Israeli helicopter gunships rocketed the Jebalya refugee camp near Gaza City.

The shells badly damaged one building, knocking holes in the walls and shattering windows. Palestinians said it was a workshop for making spare car parts, while the army said it was a mortar factory.

The violence came hours before the release of a report by a commission headed by former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell, which called on Israel to freeze settlement activity.

You made it!



Valedictorian Lindsay Custer spoke to her fellow graduates at a packed Max Jones Fieldhouse. Eighty-six members of the Class of 2001 came forward to be congratulated by school board members. Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News

Successful alumnus gives grads tips

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The skies were cloudy and the humidity was high Saturday as family and friends packed Max Jones Fieldhouse for Goodland High School graduation.

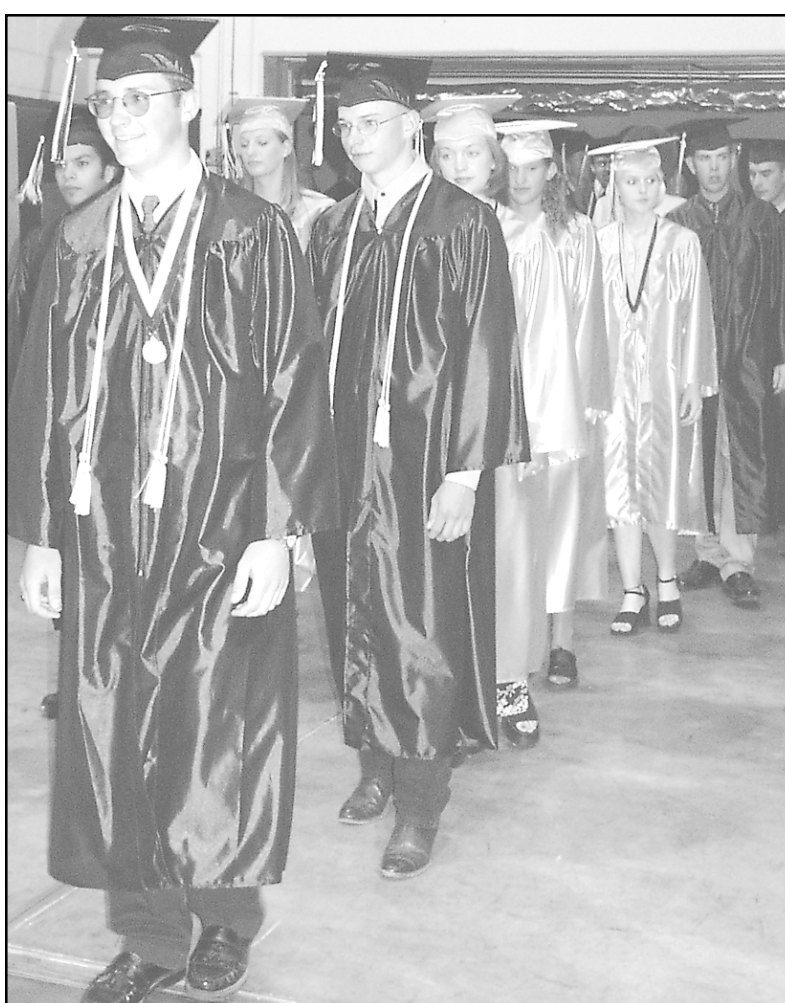
Huge fans helped keep the interior cool and the air moving as the 86 graduates from the Class of 2001 waited to receive their diplomas.

Superintendent Marvin Selby introduced the speaker, Larry Todd, a 1966 Goodland graduate who is now director of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Before getting to the introduction, Selby said he had special feelings for this year's class. They were in sixth grade when he came to Goodland in 1994, he said, and the class decided they wanted to bring an author in to talk to the students.

The man they wanted was John R. Erickson, author of Hank the Cowdog. Selby said the sixth-grade class leaders worked hard and organized the visit, which went very well. The class raised money to pay the fee for his visit. He said he thought there were quite a crop of leaders in that class, and he had been proud to watch them as they moved through the years.

When he turned to introducing Todd, Selby said he had learned that he was the first Goodland wrestler to win a state championship in Max Jones and that it was in February 1965.

Todd, son of Robert and Ione Todd of Goodland, told the class that when he graduated 36 years ago, he never imagined he would be back to speak



"Step — Slide, Step — Slide." Goodland graduates made the traditional entrance to the music of Pomp and Circumstance at Max Jones Fieldhouse on Saturday to receive their diplomas.

to a class. He said the class of 1966 was somewhat rebellious, and although he had some stories, he did not think it was a good idea to tell them because many of the class were in the audience and

some were parents of the graduating seniors.

"I want to thank all the teachers and those who made a difference in my life," Todd said, then turned to the graduates:

"I want to talk to you about choices," he said. "The next five years are exploring years when you will find out who you are. There may be changes and the choices will make you what you are."

"Where will you be 20-36 years from now? The choices are steps closer to where you are going, and if they are not heading where you want, it's up to you to make the changes. These are yours, no one else's."

"As you are growing and changing, never stop learning." He said he was not a model student in high school, and that when he graduated he was not focused on what he wanted to do. He went to the vocational-technical school, and said that the skills he developed there he still uses today.

Todd said he got focused when he went to college and that he has expanded into public service, being a city councilman and working with his credit union.

"If you seek to learn, opportunities will appear," he said.

Talking about his current job as the head of the Bureau of Reclamation in Washington, he said it is his job to make sure federal dams are safe and that areas in the West have enough

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Wheat maturing quickly

Farmers planting corn, spring crops

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Corn planting is finished in Sherman County and farmers have now turned to planting other spring crops. Meanwhile, the wheat crop, while poor, is maturing ahead of schedule and harvest may be as much as a week early.

Dana Belshe, Sherman County agricultural extension agent, said county wheat yields will be lower this year, probably in the low to mid 30s in bushels per acre.

Belshe said there is some wheat in the county that looks good, but some that doesn't.

"There's a real variability in the wheat crop," he said. "It's not going to be as good a wheat crop as what we've seen in the last few years."

He said farmers will see shorter wheat plants than normal and yields that are less than what they have averaged in the past few years.

Belshe said there were good stands of wheat in the fall, but the crop just didn't have enough moisture in the winter and early spring to carry it through. He said the wheat has started heading out early.

He said the crop was two to three weeks behind schedule during the winter, but after the hot weather hit in spring, it caused the wheat to go from joint stage to boot stage rapidly.

The wheat plants developed quickly because of the lack of moisture and hot weather, he said, and that contributes to lower yields. He said hot weather and winds have also hurt the wheat crop.

Belshe said the crop is at the head development stage now and the recent moisture would help fill out the heads.

Based on how the wheat is heading out, Belshe said, he expects harvest to be ahead of normal by about a week. The normal harvest date in Sherman County is around July 4.

Belshe said he had read that nationwide that the harvest will be down this year and a report from the Kansas State University Research and Extension says that the 2001 winter wheat harvest might be the smallest in 44 years.

Farmers are finished planting corn, he said, and the work went along well. Now they are planting soybeans, pinto beans and sunflowers.

Strong storm cuts power

DENVER (AP) — A fast-moving storm packing high winds, rain and snow blew through Colorado on Sunday, knocking out power to more than 30,000 people and playing havoc with flights at Denver International Airport.

Xcel Energy crews had restored power to main distribution lines and planned to work through the night repairing hundreds of smaller outages, spokesman Mark Stutz said.

Sheriffs, school offices do better the second time

By Hurst Laviana

The Wichita Eagle

Kansas sheriffs and school districts are doing a better job of providing information that is open to everyone under state law, a survey by 14 state newspapers found.

However, three-quarters of the offices checked could not meet their duty under a new Kansas law to provide brochures telling people their rights when seeking public records.

The survey in April checked four school districts and 28 sheriff's departments that denied similar requests in September 1999. Reporters sought a copy of an accident report or a high school principal's salary.

All but four offices complied.

Along with the lack of brochures, which are required by law, many still asked more questions than citizens are required to answer when they ask for records.

Reporters check out 33 offices

Reporters and editors from 14 Kansas newspapers canvassed 33 sheriff's departments and school district offices April 9, seeking copies of accident reports or the salary of the principal at each district's largest high school.

They also checked whether each office could provide public records information brochures upon request, as required by law. The offices were chosen because they did not provide copies of public records under the terms of the Kansas Open Records Act during a similar survey in 1999.

Access to public records allows people to monitor how government does its job, from protecting public safety to spending taxes.

Kimberly Brandt of *The Oberlin Herald* covered Rawlins County. A reporter from the Garden City Telegram came to the Sherman County Sheriff's Office, which had refused records to a *Goodland Daily News* employee in the previous test.

Other papers participating were the Chanute Tribune, Emporia Gazette, Hays Daily News, Hutchinson News, Kansas City Star, Manhattan Mercury, Ottawa Herald, Parsons Sun, Pittsburg Morning Sun, Salina Journal, Topeka Capital-Journal and the Wichita Eagle.

A Haysville school board candidate, Seth Konkel, learned their importance

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Sherman County office has better handle on records act

By Rachel Miscallo

The Goodland Daily News

A matron clerk at the Sherman County Sheriff's Office had no problem finding and copying an accident report for a Garden City reporter this spring, but couldn't produce freedom of information brochures which are required by law.

Molly Gardner, with *The Garden City Telegram*, visited the sheriff's office in April as part of a survey to determine whether public offices are following the Kansas Open Records Act.

While clerk Raemita Artzer couldn't give Gardner everything she asked for, the clerk did better than another

sheriff's employee did a year earlier.

Newspapers across the state conducted the first survey in September 1999, sending reporters back this year to check up on the four school districts and 29 sheriff's departments that denied requests for public information. The sheriff's office, school district, courthouse and city hall here were included. However, the sheriff's office was the only one that denied access.

During the first visit in 1999, Mary Cooper, a *Goodland Daily News* employee, said when she asked for offense reports an officer, standing behind a

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