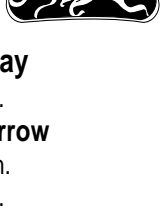


## weather report

78°

at noon



### Today

• Sunset, 8:07 p.m.

### Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:22 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:08 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 66 degrees
- Humidity 40 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds southwest 8 mph
- Barometer 29.90 inches and falling
- Record High 95° (1940)
- Record Low 36° (1951)

### Last 24 Hours\*

High	75°
Low	54°
Precipitation	trace

### Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 50, east wind 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Partly sunny, 40 percent chance of thunderstorms at night, high 75, low 55, southeast wind 10-20 mph.

### Extended Forecast

Sunday through Tuesday: chance of thunderstorms, high 70s, low 50. (National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## local markets

### Noon

- Current wheat — \$2.88 bushel
  - New wheat — \$2.88 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$2.78
  - Corn — \$1.78 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$1.66
  - Loan deficiency payment — 33¢
  - Milo — \$2.91 hundredweight
  - Soybeans — \$3.99 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$3.92
  - Loan deficiency payment — 98¢
  - Millet — \$5.50 hundredweight
  - Sunflowers
  - Oil current crop — \$7.20 cwt.
  - Oil new crop — \$6.30 cwt.
  - Loan deficiency payment — \$2.95
  - 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. Standoff may come to end

SANDPOINT, Idaho — One of six children involved in a four-day standoff at their rural home was taken into custody overnight and is apparently willing to try to help end it, authorities said today.

Benjamin McGuckin, 15, who initiated the standoff, went to a neighbor's house late Thursday and accepted the neighbor's offer to drive him to a meeting with authorities, Bonner County Prosecutor Phil Robinson said.

"He indicated he may be able to be of some assistance," the prosecutor said. "He could convince them nothing bad will happen."

It appears the boy has been outside for some time — perhaps since deputies took his recently widowed mother away from the home on Tuesday on a warrant charging felony injury to a child, the prosecutor said.

## Sounds of laughter and splashes ...



Kids of all ages (above) played in the big pool Thursday afternoon at the new Steever Water Park in Goodland. It was the second day the water park was open. Nathan Linin (below) waved from the top of

the stairs leading to the water park slides as he and a gaggle of others waited their turn to go down.

Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

## Water park committee work hailed

Inside today's edition:

Special water park salute on pages 4-5

Among those who were mentioned at the Steever Water Park opening Wednesday were the citizen committee members who worked on the design conception and research for the Steever Water Park.

Those on the committee were Annette Fairbanks, Mark Hagerman, Jeff Deeds, Brenda Linin, Dennis Daise, Dennis Stone, John Baker, Glenna Jarmin, Darrell Malpert and Jan Elliott.

At the opening of Steever Water Park, City Manager Ron Pickman read the names of the committee and said, "Without them this would not have happened. It was a team project including the committee, all the city officials and employees."



## Fireman to visit city homes emphasizing smoke detectors

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Daily News*

Sometimes it takes a tragedy, like the Memorial Day fire which took the lives of a mother and two of her children, to draw our attention to things we take for granted on a daily basis.

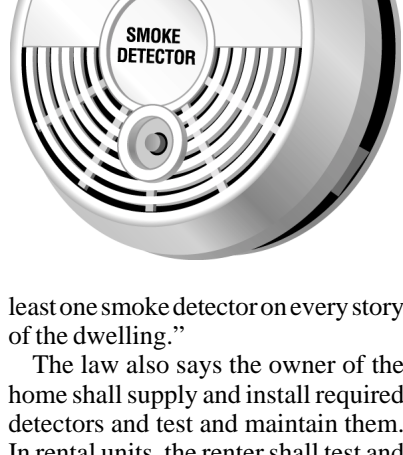
Goodland Fire Chief Dean Jensen and his volunteers believe this is an excellent time to begin a door-to-door canvas of homes in the city to talk to home owners and parents about fire safety.

Beginning about 7 p.m. Monday, the firemen will begin knocking on doors across the city to talk about smoke detectors and general fire safety. Since there is not a large number of firemen there is no way they can knock on every door in the city in one night, and Jensen says they will be doing this on the nights when they have fire school which is usually two Mondays a month.

"It will take us some time to get to every home in the city, but we feel this is a very important program," Jensen said.

"Installing a smoke detector in every home is a state law," the chief said.

He has copies of the law which was approved by the Kansas legislature in 1998. Specifically the law says: "Every single-family residence shall have at



least one smoke detector on every story of the dwelling."

The law also says the owner of the home shall supply and install required detectors and test and maintain them. In rental units, the renter shall test and maintain the smoke detectors.

Jensen believes lives can be saved by having the proper smoke detectors.

"There is usually smoke present before a fire gets too large, and working smoke detectors can give family members time to escape from a dangerous fire," he said.

Communities across the country are reporting families saved from certain tragedy thanks to the early warning of residential smoke detectors. Evidence

of the effectiveness of smoke detectors points to an opportunity for dramatically reducing the more than 6,600 residential fire deaths that occur every year in the United States, says a national fire safety group. In fact, if all of our nation's homes were protected by smoke detectors, the residential loss of life could be reduced by more than 40 percent.

"We will be asking the people to check their smoke detectors, and if they don't have one we will suggest a way to get one installed," he said. "Anyone who wants more information on smoke detectors can call me at 899-4545."

One of the things pointed out by the recent tragedy Jensen believes is that there are things to think about in the proper placement of the detectors. There was some evidence that there was a smoke detector in the kitchen area, but to be properly protected there should be one in the hallway outside the bedrooms.

The state law says that homes built before Jan. 1, 1999 can use either battery-powered smoke detectors or they can be wired into the home's electrical system. Homes built after Jan. 1, 1999 are required to have smoke detectors wired permanently into the home's electrical system.

Jensen said the firemen will not be inspecting the homes with the idea of finding anyone who does not have a smoke detector. He said that while there can be a fine of up to \$25 that is not the purpose of their efforts.

"We want to make people more aware of both the state law and that the detectors will save lives," he said. "We want to do this because we want to do what we can to prevent tragedies."

**Smoke detector tips**

Smoke detectors can make the difference. Most deaths occur from smoke rather than flames. Smoke contains many poisonous gases and can cause you to become disoriented, and 80 percent of all fire deaths take place in residences not equipped with working smoke detectors.

Smoke detectors can provide early warning of fires, allowing time for families to escape and firefighters to arrive before the fire grows.

**Things to consider**

**Placement** — Which areas of the house are more prone to fire.

**Size of the home** — How many do you need. In general, you should have at least one detector per floor. But for maximum protection, place one in each room.

**Malfunction signal** — It warns you

## Runners on roads Saturday

The High Plains Marathon is set to start early Saturday morning and end by mid-morning at the Goodland Activities Center.

The 26.2 mile race, which is in its sixth year, will start and end at the Goodland Activities Center, Eighth and Main. It will go through Goodland to old U.S. 24 where participants will run to Edson and then turn around. The runners will come back into Goodland on Cherry and then onto Eighth.

The entry fee buys runners a T-shirt, use of shower facilities in Goodland, giveaways from local businesses, a pre- and post-race meal, certificate and medal.

Mike Skipper, race director, said there are 42 runners registered for the race, which is sponsored by the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce.

On of those runners, Alfred McClodden, traveled from Tallulah, La. to run and is optimistic about his chances in the race.

"I think I'll finish in the top five (on Saturday)," McClodden said, "but there are some very good runners this year and it should be a difficult race."

Skipper said there will be five first time runners which include three women from Nebraska, a woman from St. Francis and a man from Wichita.

He's estimating that there may only be one person who doesn't finish the race.

He said the Goodland marathon runs pretty close to 100 percent on the number of runners who finish the race.

In two of the last three years, there were 100 percent finishers, Skipper said. In 1998, it was 60 of 60; in 1999, it was 49 of 50; and last year, it was 53 of 53.

The marathon is one of only two races in Kansas that is U.S.A. Track and Field certified, which means participants who complete the race qualify for the Boston Marathon. The certification makes runners eligible to break state and national records and to win money for setting records.

The state marathon record of 2 hours, 18 minutes and 18 seconds was set in October 1982 at a Wichita marathon by Fred Torneden of Wichita.

Skipper said the course is relatively easy because it is flat and the weather is usually nice.

"You don't have the hills or the humidity like they do in eastern Kansas," he said.

The race will start at 5 a.m. Saturday with an early start time of 4:20 a.m. for those who will need longer than five hours to run the course.

Skipper said it should be cool in the morning with temperatures in the 50s

See MARATHON, Page 9