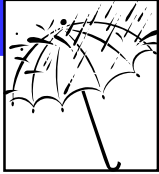


weather
report

51°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:09 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:21 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:10 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 58 degrees

• Humidity 100 percent

• Sky overcast

• Winds east 7 mph

• Barometer 29.77 inches
and steady

• Record High 101° (1956)

• Record Low 36° (1943)

Last 24 Hours*

High 66°

Low 51°

Precipitation 0.03 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, 40 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 50, east wind 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Becoming partly sunny, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms at night, high 70, low 50, east wind 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday through Friday: high 80s, low 50s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Officials to probe clean up

HOISINGTON (AP) — Barton County is investigating possible price-fixing and fraudulent clean-up contracts connected to the tornado that destroyed much of Hoisington.

In a copyright story Sunday, the *Wichita Eagle* said Barton County officials are checking alleged improprieties at the burn pit used to dispose of debris after the tornado, which hit April 21. Some alleged problems include:

- Contractors who originally signed on as volunteers but later submitted bills for thousands of dollars in government emergency funds. Contracts may have been written after much of the work was done and backdated so they would be eligible for federal reimbursement.

- A Barton County official says she has verified that a private contractor — the brother of the county commission's chairman — billed the county for labor that was actually performed by county employees.

- A demolition contractor said he raised his fee after a county official in charge of the site met with him and other contractors at a bar and told them to make their rates the same.

A Federal Emergency Management Agency spokesman, David Teska, said he is aware of the alleged improprieties and is waiting for Barton County's investigation.

"We certainly want to find out about fraud or any collusion to commit fraud," he said. The agency might take further action "if we get any tangible evidence of collusion or fraud."

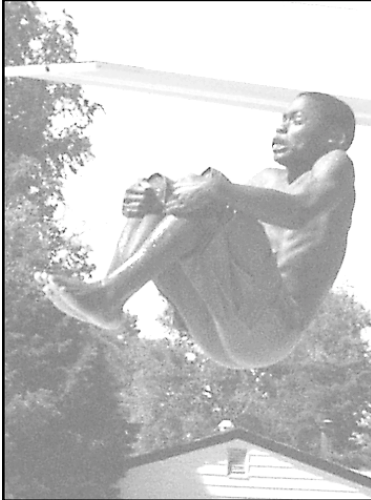
Brothers Roger and Kirby Krier are at the center of the controversy. Roger Krier is a former reserve deputy sheriff who was stripped of his badge for his activities after the disaster. Kirby Krier is chairman of the Barton County Commission and the chief liaison between the disposal operation and the other commissioners. Kirby Krier is believed to have run the burn pit, while Roger Krier's company was one of the chief bulldozer operators at the pit.

The bill from Roger Krier's company, Krier Dozer Services Inc., has drawn the most intense scrutiny. Krier submitted bills as high as \$19,675 for bulldozer work immediately after the tornado; he filed two subsequent bills for the same work that dropped to \$11,465.

But witnesses told the *Eagle* that Krier rarely worked at the burn pit, and

See PROBE, Page 7

Variations on a diving theme ...



During Thursday's warmer weather, youngsters at the new Steever Water Park demonstrated diving styles as they went off the boards. The styles included a walking jump (top left), cannonball (middle), simultaneous jump and forward dive (top right), sideways dive (above) and a front belly flop dive (right).
Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News



local
markets

Noon

Current wheat — \$2.80 bushel

New wheat — \$2.80 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.80

Corn — \$1.76 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.72

Loan deficiency payment — 72¢

Milo — \$2.87 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.96 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.95

Loan deficiency payment — 97¢

Millet — \$5.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$7.10 cwt.

Oil new crop — \$6.20 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$2.84

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.

Nepal awakes to a new king

KATMANDU, Nepal — Prince Gyanendra inherited Nepal's throne from his dead relatives Monday, becoming king as police fired tear gas at rioting youth who demanded an explanation of a shooting that killed nine royals.

Police called for a curfew to clear the streets, and state-run radio issued a warning police were to fire at those who ignored orders.

Many mourners refused to believe Crown Prince Dipendra had killed his family and then himself, as officials privately say. Some blamed Gyanendra for the deaths, and many Nepalese were incredulous at the new king's assertion the bloodbath was a freak accident.

Earlier, thousands lined the path of a somber royal procession as King Gyanendra rode in a carriage from one palace, where he was enthroned, to another that will be his official residence.

Hospital board meets tonight

The Goodland Regional Medical Center board will meet at 6:30 p.m. tonight in the new conference room at the hospital, with the audit report being the major agenda item.

Jay Jolly, new hospital administrator, said the board will hear from Roger Johnson of Wendling, Noe, Nelson and Johnson on the audit for last year.

There will also be some discussion about the need to purchase equipment for the nursery, and Jolly said he will have some updates for the board under his report.

A closed session is scheduled, and Jolly said there may be some action on a couple of items afterward.

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The first meeting of the Sherman County commissioners for June will be held at 8 a.m. Tuesday in the second-floor jury room at the courthouse because the commissioners room is being used to microfilm county records.

At the last meeting of May, on Thursday, the commissioners heard a report on the audit for last year, and a special presentation in a joint session with the Goodland Regional Medical Center board at lunch.

Mark Bauer, accountant with VonFeldt, Bauer and VonFeldt, presented the 2000 audit report. He said that except for one very minor problem, the county had a very good report.

The problem had to do with some paperwork on the prosecuting attorney diversion fund and drug seizure fund. County Attorney Bonnie Selby handles

these accounts, and with the recommendation of the accountant, the invoices will be kept to match the checks and they will set up a computer program to aid in the bookkeeping.

The commissioners approved the resolution appointing members of the Mid State Port Authority, including John Golden of Goodland.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitch Tiede to appoint Bob Rohr of Goodland to the Smoky Gardens Board. The motion passed unanimously.

A 20-minute closed door session was held on personnel matters with Sheriff Doug Whitson. No action was taken when the commissioners resumed their open meeting.

Amy Griffey from the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission from Hill City was present and held a public hearing on the

completion of the community development block grant which allowed Kanorado to purchase a used fire truck.

There was no opposition to closing the grant, and the commissioners approved making the final payment of \$380 to the planning commission for the work on the grant.

County Attorney Selby said she had received a letter from the Convention and Visitors Bureau requesting a change in its contract with the Goodland Chamber of Commerce to approve an increase of salary for a full time person and a part-time person. Selby said she was directed to write a letter to the Convention and Visitors Bureau, and will present the letter for commissioner approval at Tuesday's meeting.

The board adjourned and went to Sugar Hills Golf Club for a noon luncheon with the hospital board and members of the hospital staff.

Hometown celebrates Kansas candidate for sainthood

PILSEN (AP) — Fifty years after a Kansas priest died while ministering to soldiers in a Korean prisoner of war camp, the candidate for sainthood has been honored for his services.

On Sunday, hundreds gathered at St. John Nepomucene Church to unveil and dedicate a statue to the Rev. Emil J. Kapaun, a Pilsen native who was the most highly decorated chaplain in the U.S. military.

After being taken prisoner in 1950, Kapaun nursed the sick and wounded until a blood clot in his leg prevented him from making his daily rounds.

He was moved to a hospital but denied medication and died on May 23, 1951.

Kapaun was still missing in action in 1952 when his parents were presented with the Bronze Star Medal and the

Distinguished Service Cross at a special Mass in Pilsen.

Notification of his death came in 1953, and special services were held for the priest. Kapaun was posthumously awarded the Prisoner of War Medal in 1989.

Eight years ago, the Vatican announced Kapaun officially would be called a "servant of God," in what could

be the first step to his eventual elevation to sainthood.

The Wichita Diocese of the Catholic Church and the Archdiocese for Military Services in Washington have led the cause to have Kapaun canonized.

"There has to be a groundswell of interest, a grass-roots attraction for what he stood for," said Archbishop Edwin O'Brien, who came from Wash-

ington the weekend ceremony.

Several men who were imprisoned with Kapaun planned to attend the memorial Mass on Sunday. There was an unveiling ceremony on the parish grounds to dedicate a life-size cast-bronze statue depicting Kapaun helping a soldier.

A group of families from St. John Nepomucene commissioned the statue.

Auditor says county in good financial shape

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The purpose of giving EagleMed representatives Glenn Coffman and Jim and Ivan Ballard from Wichita a chance to make a presentation about the possibility of them stationing one of their medical aircrafts in Goodland.

They would need a hangar with office space, medical staff to work for EagleMed to staff the plane, and exclusive contract for handling all calls out of Goodland unless their flights are full. They would expect some marketing assistance from the Goodland hospital.

On Tuesday's agenda, the commissioners will hear a report from County Treasurer Shelby Miller about security for the courthouse.

Golden will give an update on the Mid States Port Authority.

Ron Ewing will present the commissioners with information on the Green Thumb program, which provides jobs for seniors.