

weather report

70°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:14 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.
• Sunset, 8:15 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 69 degrees
- Humidity 24 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds northwest 20-28 mph
- Barometer 29.88 inches and rising
- Record High 105° (1952)
- Record Low 40° (1969)

Last 24 Hours*

High 84°
Low 46°
Precipitation 0.04 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Clear, low mid 40s, west wind 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Sunny, high 80-85, low 50-55, west wind 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday and Sunday: dry, high 85-95, low 55-65. Monday: chance of thunderstorms, high 85-95, low 55-65.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400.MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$2.73 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.64
- Corn — \$1.82 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.70
- Loan deficiency payment — 29¢
- Milo — \$2.92 hundredweight
- Soybeans — \$4.20 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.13
- Loan deficiency payment — 79¢
- Millet — \$5.50 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$7.50 cwt.
- Oil new crop — \$6.30 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — \$2.52
- 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.

Bush remains against treaty

GOTEBORG, Sweden — President Bush parted ways today with much of Europe over climate change, maintaining his opposition to a global warming treaty but pledging to seek "new channels of cooperation" on the issue.

Bush said he was optimistic about improving relations with Europe as he joined leaders of the 15-nation European Union at Gunnebo Slott, an 18th-century castle that sits atop a wooded hill nine miles outside Goteborg.

But after their meeting, Bush said he remains opposed to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, which commits industrialized countries to reducing greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels by 2012. No industrial country has yet ratified the treaty, although most leaders have voiced support for it. An effort to salvage it fell apart last November.

Firms hired for remodeling

Board holds off to check some bids

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland School Board hired nine contractors Wednesday night for different parts of a remodeling job on the high school's second floor this summer.

The project, which the district wants to finish

by the start of the school year, will include knocking down walls on the west side to put in three new science classrooms and two storage/preparation rooms. Contractors will also renovate two classrooms and two bathrooms across the hall.

It will be a big change, as workers will install new ceilings, walls, floors, doors, windows and classroom and bathroom furniture and features. School employees have started preparing for the job, clearing out old furniture and cleaning the classrooms and bathrooms.

At the regular meeting, the board met with Glen Strait, district architect, and Mike Miller, a Goodland contractor hired as the project manager, who

presented a list of recommended bidders and the work they will do. Strait and Miller reviewed bids with the district's bid committee on Tuesday.

Kathy Russell, a board and bid committee member, said during a break in the meeting that all of the recommended bids are the low bids. Strait said not many companies made bids because of the small scope of the work.

"If we wanted to tear the building down," he said, "we wouldn't have a problem."

The board has approved spending \$800,000 on the remodeling, voting Wednesday to pay contractors about \$138,000 for work and new features, including masonry construction, painting, doors,

windows, ceilings, walls, sink tops, window sills and fire extinguishers. Members already approved spending over \$200,000 on classroom furniture and new lab stations.

The board plans to borrow \$500,000 from First National Bank in a lease-purchase deal to pay for the project, taking the rest out of the capital outlay fund, used to pay for building renovations and major equipment purchases. The board planned to talk with bank officials at the meeting, but they weren't available.

Strait and Miller said they will receive bids on

See SCHOOL, Page 7



Tammy DeLaRosa held a sign in place on a large-size piggy bank this morning while her son, Dallas, 7, went to put another piece of tape on it, and daughter, Stephani, 4, watched at the Goodland city office. Smaller versions of the bank will be available for kids to make donations to Pioneer Park, which is to be built at the old wye in south Goodland. Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Little piggies to collect money for park

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Kids will have a chance to help pay for Goodland's Pioneer Park by putting money in piggy banks provided by the park's advisory committee.

The park, which is to be built on the west side of the old wye by South Cherry Street in Goodland, began as a pond to catch storm water runoff, but the city can't afford all the features people have suggested.

A group of supporters formed the Pioneer Park Advisory Committee, led by the Rev. Gene Tromble, a retired Methodist minister. The group is trying to raise \$300,000 for some of the features.

Engineers with Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, a firm with an office in Goodland, have designed the \$600,000 park, which includes trees, ponds, a fountain, a walking trail, a bridge and other features, but the city says it can only pay half that much. The committee plans to raise about \$300,000 to build the park by the fall of 2002. No schedule has been set as to when the work will begin.



One of the piggy banks that Goodland area kids will be able to use to make donations to Pioneer Park. The banks may be picked up at banks, The Goodland Daily News and other locations around town.

The park committee hopes small, plastic banks will give children, and maybe some parents, an opportunity to donate to the park. The banks come in red and blue and say "Fill My Pig for Pioneer Park" on one side.

Tromble said a fourth-grade boy

had asked him if there was something he could do on the Pioneer Park project and that got him to thinking.

He said the idea behind the banks is for children to be involved. It will give them an opportunity, he said, to make decisions about whether to use

their money to buy an ice cream cone or cold drink or give the money to the park.

If the parents make a decision to donate to the park, Tromble said, the children get left out.

It's a way to let children have a unique stake in the project, he said, and he thinks kids will feel much more a part of the community if they are able to contribute.

Kids can pick up banks at any of the Goodland banks, the Sherman County Courthouse, the Goodland Public Library, the city building, The Goodland Daily News and other locations.

Tromble said the committee plans to have a time and a place in late August for the kids to turn in their banks. Their donations will be added to the rest of the money that has been raised.

They will receive a gracious thanks and can see how their contributions are adding up, he said.

Businesses, families and organizations have already committed more than \$80,000 for the park's features, but the fund raisers still have a ways to go.

Friends and strangers pray for Wichita couple

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. (AP) — Prayers seeking the safe release of a missionary couple held hostage in the Philippines have come from around the world.

Some people praying for Martin and Gracia Burnham knew the couple from Calvary Bible College and Seminary in Kansas City, where the Burnhams were students in the early 1980s.

Others learned about them through an e-mail prayer circle started by alumni at the Bible College. The e-mails have connected the alumni with missionaries, clery and Christians all

over the world.

And members of the Tri-City congregation where Gracia once attended church and worked as a secretary have initiated daily prayer for their safety, said Matt Williams, an associate pastor at Tri-City Ministries in Independence.

In the Philippines today, the government said it has halted attempts to negotiate with Muslim extremists who hold more than two dozen hostages, and will focus only on hunting them down.

Roilo Golez said. "It's all-out war."

The Abu Sayyaf guerrillas, who claimed Tuesday they killed one of the three Americans they hold, already said they would no longer negotiate with the government.

Golez said the rebel beheading claim came despite the government's offer to give in to a key guerrilla demand — to ask a former Malaysian senator to help work out a deal.

Joel Maturan, mayor of Tipo town on the southeastern corner of the island, said today that residents saw the Burnhams last weekend, before the al-

leged beheading of Corona, Calif., resident Guillermo Sobero. The three Americans were seized May 27.

While fearing the worst, officials said Sobero might still be alive. A massive search failed to find his body by this afternoon. The Abu Sayyaf has failed to deliver on many previous threats.

A prayer service was held for the couple Wednesday night.

The couple has friends in the Kansas City area and in Wichita who are fol-

See KIDNAPPING, Page 3

Bush to end bombing

Navy told to stop practicing on island

By Ron Fournier

AP White House Correspondent

GOTEBORG, Sweden — President Bush said today the Navy will end its bombing exercises on Vieques Island off the coast of Puerto Rico.

"These are our friends and neighbors and they don't want us there," Bush said at a news conference in Goteborg, Sweden, during a European Union gathering. "My attitude is the Navy ought find somewhere else to conduct its exercises."

Officials said the exercises will end as early as May 2003.

The Pentagon was also expected to announce the establishment of a panel to look for an alternative to what the Navy has called the "crown jewel" of its Atlantic training sites.

Pulling out of Vieques is a loss for the Navy, which has used its range on the island for six decades and has said repeatedly that the site is vital to national security. Critics say the bombing poses a health threat to the island's 9,100 residents, which the Navy denies.

Earlier, a Defense Department official said that Navy Secretary Gordon England recommended to Bush that planning begin for an end to the bombing within two years.

He said Navy officials wanted to make the decision public because they felt the situation was growing more volatile.

Officials said England can't promise a place will be found within two years, but hopes it can.

The Navy owns two-thirds of Vieques and its bombing range covers 900 acres — less than 3 percent of the island. It used live bombs until two went astray in a 1999 practice and killed a civilian guard on the bombing range, igniting protests and calls for the military to leave. It since has used dummy bombs.

About 75 protesters demonstrated peacefully outside Camp Garcia's gates on Vieques on Wednesday as a fresh round of Navy exercises began offshore. In earlier demonstrations in April and May, 180 people were arrested on trespassing charges during previous bombing exercises.

A discussion of the problem, which is a thorny issue with Hispanic and other minority activists, was held in a meeting that senior White House political strategist Karl Rove convened on Wednesday with England, deputy national security adviser Stephen Hadley and Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, a senior White House official said.

In seeking to retain the Vieques training range, the Navy has argued that it is the only means of providing the training to ensure that battle groups begin their overseas deployments fully ready for combat. The Navy has said exercises there are vital to national defense because they uniquely combine air, sea and land maneuvers that cannot be done elsewhere.

A Navy retreat from Vieques could run into opposition from conservatives in Congress.

Rep. Bob Barr, R-Ga., said on CNN's "Wolf Blitzer Reports" Wednesday that

See NAVY, Page 3