

weather report

62°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:16 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.
• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Middy Conditions

• Soil Temperature 72 degrees
• Humidity 83 percent
• Sky cloudy
• Winds southeast 9 mph
• Barometer 30.27 inches and falling
• Record High 105° (1936)
• Record Low 40° (1946)

Last 24 Hours*

High 72°
Low 53°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Cloudy, low 50, light and variable wind. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high 75-80, low 50-55, east wind 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday: dry, high 85. Saturday and Sunday: high 90-95, 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 — \$2.69 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.64
Corn — \$1.77 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.64
Loan deficiency pmt. — 35¢
Milo — \$2.85 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.19 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.05
Loan deficiency payment — 87¢
Millet — \$5.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$7.40 cwt.
Oil new crop — \$6.20 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$2.64
Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$14
(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, 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 pushes patient rights

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Bush urged Congress today to pass a patients' rights bill before the end of the year, but said he will fight proposals that open the door to unnecessary lawsuits against HMOs.

Bush praised a bill sponsored by Sens. John Breaux, D-La., Bill Frist, R-Tenn., and James Jeffords, an independent from Vermont, that is an alternative to a Democratic health care proposal.

The Democratic plan, which senators will begin to debate later this week, would rewrite 27 years of rules that now protect HMOs and insurers from patient complaints and lawsuits.

Republicans, who have vowed to scuttle the legislation, contend it would open the gates for numerous lawsuits that would threaten small businesses.

Petal power



Van Gogh has new meaning to city



Vincent van Gogh has a whole new meaning in Goodland now that a 24- by 32-foot reproduction of one of the Dutch artist's sunflower paintings is perched on an 80-foot steel easel north of the Business U.S. 24/Cherry Street junction. Canadian artist Cameron Cross painted the giant replica last year and Farris Manufacturing of Goodland assembled the 40,000-pound sculpture. Organizers spent most of Tuesday erecting the tourist attraction, which could bring up to 89,000 more visitors to the city each year. After the painting was placed on its foundation about 4 p.m., Rod Butts (left), a welder from Goodland, helped attach the easel's three legs to steel plates bolted to a cement foundation. Members of Sunflowers U.S.A., a group raising money to pay for the huge painting, say landscaping and a parking and viewing area will come soon. They also hope to raise enough money for an exhibition hall and gift shop. The attraction is near where the city is building a new entrance to Goodland, including a new road and park, and just south of the new water park that opened in May.

Photos by Rachel Miscall and Lester Bolen/The Goodland Daily News

Marijuana bricks found in California woman's car

A California woman was arrested last week by a deputy who tried to stop her for speeding, and had to chase her from Goodland to Colby, found more than four pounds of marijuana in her trunk.

Quishawnta Carmelita Mills, 28, of Riverside, Calif., was arrested in

Colby early last Monday morning after a Sherman County sheriff's deputy clocked her driving 90 mph down I-70 near Goodland.

Sheriff Doug Whitson said Deputy Robert Lamb clocked Mills at 1:16

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City imposes electric charge

Taxpayers get oil clean-up bill

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Goodland residents will see an additional charge on their monthly electric bills to offset the extra cost the city recently has had to pay to produce or buy electricity.

The Goodland City Commission approved an ordinance at Monday night's meeting establishing a fuel adjustment charge on electric utility bills for city residents.

The city's current electrical rate is based upon a cost of \$0.028 dollars per kilowatt hour to produce or purchase electrical energy. However, since the current price of natural gas, used to generate electricity, has increased substantially, the city's costs have also risen.

While the costs have gone above the established rate in the past, it's a regular occurrence now, and officials have had to dip into reserves to cover the extra costs.

Officials said the city is passing the added expense on to its customers, in an effort to recoup costs. As usual, customers will pay according to how many kilowatts of electricity they use, but a monthly fuel adjustment charge will be added to the monthly electrical bills for all customers. The charge will also be figured according to how much electricity is used.

City Manager Ron Pickman said if

the cost of purchasing or producing electricity stays below the \$0.028-dollar rate, residents won't pay any additional charge. He said they will only pay when the cost goes above that mark.

Pickman said the city will keep an eye on the cost and if the city can produce electricity cheaper than they can purchase it, they will do that.

The commission also decided to approve a 100 percent settlement rate for cleanup of a superfund site as recommended by Perry Warren, city attorney.

The Environmental Protection Agency had set up sites in Kansas City to transfer oil from electrical transformers, which contained polychlorinated biphenyl, a chemical that can cause cancer. The two sites didn't follow through with proper storage procedures and became contaminated. Now the government says the city has to pay for cleanup costs, which would be \$12,790 at the 100 percent settlement.

Ed Wolak, public works director, said the oil was supposed to be burned, but it wasn't disposed of properly and contaminated the whole area.

If the city chose to pay at the 50 percent settlement rate, the cost would be \$9,593, but the city would be liable for additional costs incurred and those could amount to more than the 100 percent rate. Pickman said the settlement is based on the percent of oil delivered to the site.

Educators learning to teach agriculture

By Lester Bolen

The Goodland Daily News

With one out of every five children in today's classrooms expected to take an agriculture-related job in the future, the need for agriculture in the classroom is a must.

This summer, North Elementary School fifth grade teacher Myron Tedford said he will do all he can to make sure his students have the best opportunity to learn about farming and agriculture.

Along with six other instructors from northwest Kansas, Tedford will attend an intensive summer session provided by the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. He is the only teacher from Goodland who will attend.

The class, which will begin on July 9 and run through July 14, will be held at Kansas State University and is designed to help teachers incorporate agriculture into the classroom and to help students make the agriculture connection to their daily lives.

"The class is aimed at teachers and helps them get agriculture into the curriculum," Tedford said.

Barbara Oplinger, Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom Administrator, said most teachers, even those living in agriculture-based communities like Goodland, don't teach students agriculture-related subjects.

"Very few teachers understand the need for agriculture in today's classrooms," she said. "With the number of

kids going into an ag-related field it's important we expose them to agriculture."

Oplinger said participants in the class will take information supplied by classroom presenters and incorporate those resources into their teaching.

"We have hands on activities and will take a lot of tours," she said. "There will also be a specialist there to help answer questions and to help establish a network for answers."

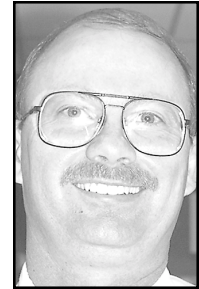
She said the teachers will be given many resources to use, such as web links and search-engines.

Educators will tour Kansas State University sites, local farms and area agricultural businesses, including the new Colbert Hills Golf Course.

The teachers will also hear and watch presentations from agriculture specialists, as well as other educators, who use hands-on teaching techniques in their classrooms.

"Another goal of ours is that we have to work hard to get teachers up to the speed of technology," Oplinger said. "The Internet is a much faster source of resources."

Teachers are provided scholarships to attend the course by local Farm Bureaus and county conservation districts. Overall scholarships are provided by Grace Flying Service, Inc., of St. Francis, the Midland Dairy Association, Kansas Pork Producers Council, Kansas Farm Bureau, and the Kansas Beef Council.



M. Tedford

Tornado damage delays street work

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

City Manager Ron Pickman told the Goodland City Commission on Monday that the company which will reconstruct brick intersections on Main Avenue will start work in late August or September instead of June.

At the regular meeting, Pickman said APAC-Kansas of Hays, hired to reconstruct intersections between Sixth and Eighth Streets, can't get brick pavers

from their supplier until mid-to-late August. He said their entire supply has gone to Hoisington to help rebuild after a tornado hit there in April. The company was supposed to start work this month.

Commissioner Curtis Hurd asked about getting brick pavers from another company, but Pickman said since the city received a grant to do the work, the state has to approve the type of brick and the brick company.

He said the commissioners would have to start over to get approval on the company, which could delay the start of the job even longer.

The commission also approved a \$2,325 change in the cost of the work on the brick intersections to install non-woven geotextile material below the layer of bedding sand.

Pickman said the material will re-

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