

weather
report

74°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:21 a.m.
• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 59 degrees
• Humidity 30 percent
• Sky mostly sunny
• Winds light and variable
• Barometer 30.32 inches
and falling
• Record High 105° (1936)
• Record Low 45° (1951)

Last 24 Hours*

High 66°
Low 53°
Precipitation 0.11 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Clear, low 50-55, light southeast wind. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high 80-85, low 55-60, south wind 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: dry, high 85-90. Sunday: dry, mid 90s, low 60-65. Monday: chance of thunderstorms, high 90, low 60s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.67 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.63
Corn — \$1.76 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.64
Loan deficiency payment — 35¢
Milo — \$2.82 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.11 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.04
Loan deficiency payment — 88¢
Millet — \$5.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$7.40 cwt.
Oil new crop — \$6.20 cwt.
Loan deficiency prmt. — \$2.22
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.

Murderer was
very depressed

HOUSTON (AP) — The husband of the woman accused of drowning their five children said tearfully today that he supports her because her severe depression had driven her to kill.

Pointing to Andrea Pia Yates on a family picture, he said, "The woman here is not the woman who killed my children."

Ms. Yates, 36, was charged with murder Wednesday in connection with the deaths of the children, all apparently drowned in a bathtub.

Authorities said she summoned police and led an officer to a bed in a back bedroom. Found under a sheet were the wet bodies of Mary, 6 months; Luke, 2; Paul, 3; and John, 5. The fifth child, Noah, 7, was found in a bathtub.

Her husband, a computer specialist at NASA, arrived about the same time as police but was kept out of the home.

Wheat harvest inching closer

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Wheat harvest may begin next week in Sherman County on fields that are mature because of variety, disease or lack of moisture, while corn and sunflowers have good stands, but could use moisture, Sherman County Agricultural Extension Agent Dana Belshe said.

On the wheat crop, Belshe said, there's a more rapid dry down due to the hot, dry winds and unusually high temperatures.

He said he has seen some shriveling of the wheat, but noted that the yields are going to be better across the county than what he originally thought. Belshe said it wouldn't surprise him if there would be some wheat cut this next week.

He said wheat fields that have already dried down due to disease, different varieties or moisture stress will be ready to cut sooner. The test weights

will be lower than normal on these fields, he added.

Disease and drought contributed to flag leaf deterioration, Belshe said. The flag leaf, which is the last leaf on the wheat plant to emerge, contributes nutrients to kernel development and builds starches.

If it gets shut down too quick, Belshe said, the kernel doesn't fill and shriveling occurs.

The stands of corn are really good on both irrigated and dryland corn in the county, he said, and farmers are cultivating their corn fields now.

He said the topsoil on dryland corn fields is drying out rapidly because of the heat and wind and fields need a "good shot" of moisture.

"We definitely could use some rain now," he said.

The corn plants are looking good, he said, but wilting will be seen during the heat of the day.

As far as the corn's development

goes, Belshe said, plants are ranging in size from fairly small to some that's knee high or taller. Corn is usually planted in late April or early May in the county.

"We're pretty much on schedule," Belshe said.

The heat units are there, so the corn's growing rapidly right now, he added.

Belshe said most of the farmers who are growing sunflowers, ideally planted from mid-May to mid-June, finished planting them in the last week or so. The plants are starting to emerge or have emerged and the stands look good, he said.

Belshe said there is some replanting of the sunflowers that didn't emerge.

The topsoil is also dry on sunflower fields.

"We haven't had any appreciable moisture for quite some time," he said.

But there are good, uniform stands, he said, as farmers were able to plant the sunflowers into moisture.



Harvest in the Sherman County area is inching closer and closer. A field east of Goodland is near ripe and harvest could start as early as next week.

Photo by Lester Bolen/The Goodland Daily News

Ramblin' Reservists



U.S. Army Reserve soldiers finished maintenance on their vehicles at the parking lot of the old Gibson's Discount Center Wednesday. The

soldiers spent the night here before continuing their journey from Fort Carson to Fort Riley.

Photo by Lester Bolen/The Goodland Daily News

Soldiers stop here on last leg of journey

By Lester Bolen

The Goodland Daily News

The usually-empty parking lot at the now-closed Gibson's Discount Store in Goodland was alive once again Wednesday evening as 32 U.S. Army vehicles and over 100 troops stopped for the last time as part of a two-week odyssey.

The troops, with the 129th Transport Action Company out of Gardner and Osage City, were transferring the vehicles back from Fort Carson, Colo. to Fort Riley. The stop in Goodland was their fourth overnight stay here and was the final stop on a 2,000-mile journey across the nation's heartland.

Vehicles being transferred included tanks, Patriot missile launchers, two and a half ton trucks and Hummers.

The troops hauled the vehicles from Fort Riley to Fort Carson, a 500-mile trip, twice this summer to complete training in Colorado.

Major Theodore Lockwood, the 129th Company Commander, said the convoy started early in the morning on Saturday, June 9 at Fort Riley and made it's way to Goodland, about 300 miles away, where they stopped for the first time.

He said the troops stayed at the Howard Johnson motel, parking their vehicles at the nearby Gibson's, that Saturday and left to go to Fort Carson the next day. While in Fort Carson, he said, the unit conducted field training and then left to return back to Fort Riley, stopping in Goodland another night on their way home.

After conducting more field training at Fort Riley, he said, the unit

stayed another night in Goodland on their way to Fort Carson. Their last stay here on Wednesday night was the final leg of their summer journey.

The major said the unit was offering support for the Kansas National Guard in Fort Carson as they conducted field training there.

"The people of Goodland have been real friendly and helpful," Lockwood said. "All of the businesses have been great."

The trip has been very uneventful, he said, adding that is a good thing.

Lockwood said Goodland was chosen as the overnight point because of it's central location between Fort Carson and Fort Riley.

Specialist Tim Lillich of Goodland is a heavy transport driver for the 129th Transportation Company. He is the son of Eugene and Amy Lillich.

"I've had a good time but it's been a long, slow trip," Private First Class Jimmy Thorne said while working on

a Hummer in the parking lot. "I'm ready to go home though."

Home seemed to be the place on all of the soldiers' minds.

The troops were taking part in the vehicle transportation as part of their annual two-week reserve training.

Lockwood said a reserve soldier is required to spend one weekend a month at the unit conducting training and two weeks during the year for annual training. The reserve unit is designed to offer support to the active Army components and is trained along side active Army soldiers.

Reservists receive benefits such as student loan repayment, which repays student loans up to \$10,000, and the Montgomery G.I. Bill, a monthly payment to reservists enrolled in college. A 70 percent increase of the GI Bill was unanimously approved recently by the House of Representatives and moves on to the Senate for final approval.

Scouts to build shelter

County to buy new grader, picnic cover

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Sherman County commissioners decided Tuesday to buy a new road grader and build a new picnic shelter at Smoky Gardens.

The shelter is the Eagle Scout project for Max Saint, who asked the commissioners to allow him and the Boy Scouts to build the shelter. Saint told the commissioners he had checked with Randy Bellamy, chairman of the Smoky Gardens board, and he had no problem with the project.

At the regular meeting, the officials decided they would pay for the materials, estimated at \$1,300, and the Scouts would provide the labor.

Bob McClure, caretaker at Smoky Gardens, said he thought it was a good way for the Smoky Gardens to get another picnic shelter at a minimal cost.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede made the motion to approve the project. Commissioner Chuck Frankenfeld seconded the motion and it passed with Commissioner Kevin Rasure not voting because of a conflict of interest.

Richard Bates, from Martin Tractor of Colby proposed the county purchase a new Brazilian built motor grader at a cost of \$107,591. He said the Brazilian machine is identical to the ones build in Illinois, but at a lower cost.

The motor grader would be custom ordered and the total cost includes a snow package. He suggested the county finance the purchase over a five-year period at 5.5 percent interest and annual payments of \$25,195.

Rasure made the motion to purchase the motor grader. Frankenfeld seconded and it passed unanimously. The commissioners, however, decided to wait until a later time to decide on the financing proposal.

Sherman County Sheriff Doug Whitson told the commissioners he found a state law allowing him to charge up to \$10 per day for keeping work release prisoners. He has not charged for this service, but with the state law he asked the commissioners to pass a resolution allowing him to put the \$10 charge into effect.

The commissioners by consensus agreed with the sheriff and asked County Attorney Bonnie Selby to draft a resolution for passage at the next meeting.

Goodland Regional Hospital Administrator Jay Jolly and Andy Laue, hospital financial officer, met with the commissioners to present the hospital's 2000 audit.

The commissioners asked about the status of Rural Health Ventures, the doctor's clinic attached to the hospital.

Jolly said the group will remain separate from the hospital, and they are