

weather
report

78°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:31 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:09 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:30 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 62 degrees

• Humidity 53 percent

• Sky mostly clear

• Winds north 10 mph

• Barometer 29.99 inches

and rising

• Record High 105° (1936)

• Record Low 43° (1928)

Last 24 Hours*

High 83°

Low 56°

Precipitation 0.20 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 55-60,

northeast wind 5-15 mph. Tomorrow:

Partly cloudy, 20 percent chance of

thunderstorms, high mid 80s, low 55-

60, north wind 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday through Tuesday: chance

of thunderstorms, high 80, low 50s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info, at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.57 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.55

Corn — \$2.02 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.98

Loan deficiency payment — 1¢

Milo — \$3.24 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.39 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.34

Loan deficiency payment — 61¢

Millet — \$4.00 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$8.20 cwt.

Oil new crop — \$7.30 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$1.15

Confection current — no bid

Pinto beans — \$16 (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.

Dole registers
in home state

SALISBURY, N.C. — Former Labor Secretary Elizabeth Dole registered to vote in her native Rowan County today, inching her closer to a possible run at the U.S. Senate seat held by Jesse Helms.

Dole, like Helms a Republican, gave her residence as her mother's address in Salisbury, said Nancy Evans, director of the county board of elections.

"I've said many times this is my rock of Gibraltar, my home," Dole said. "I love Salisbury."

Dole said it was an honor to be mentioned as a potential candidate and that she is giving "serious consideration" to running for the seat.

Dole must prove she's lived in the district for 30 days before the election in which she wants to vote, Evans said. On Thursday, Dole notified elections officials in Kansas that she intended to transfer her voter registration.

Back to class



Thomas Edwards (middle) and Ben Campbell (right), second-year students in the automotive program at the Northwest Kansas Technical College, showed Brian Bauman, a Goodland High School senior, the

ropes Thursday. Bauman may enter the program next year. Most classes started Wednesday, with Ken Clouse, the new president, greeting students at an assembly. Photos by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Students find changes at college

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Joel Pfeifer was one of hundreds to walk out of the Northwest Kansas Technical College bookstore with an arm full of books and supplies this week, as more than 600 students flooded the campus to start a new year.

Classes started Wednesday for most students enrolled in the college's 13 programs — some of which go year-around — and many spent the first few days filling out financial aid forms, taking tests, buying supplies and getting oriented.

It is one of the busiest times of the year for the bookstore in the student union.

Lugging a big pile of books out of the store, Pfeifer, a second-year electronics technology student, said he's looking forward to another year, but is anxious to graduate and find a good job. The Hays native said he may earn a two-year associate's degree later to give him a sharper edge in the working world.

"It helps you move up," Pfeifer said, adding he could take extra courses now and earn the degree from the technical college, but would rather focus on his electronics classes. Receiving college status from the state this year, the school now offers its students Associate of Applied Science degrees.

Pfeifer said he came to Goodland because he heard the college had an excellent electronics program. It turned out to be true.

"It's a good school," he said. "The instructors really know what they're doing."

Having the chance to earn a degree instead of a graduation "certificate" isn't the only new thing students will find at the technical college this year.



Joel Pfeifer, a second year electronics students, picked up books and supplies from the college bookstore Thursday, along with hundreds of other students who started classes Wednesday. JoAnn Clouse, the new president's wife and bookstore manager, helped students get their supplies.

There is a change in leadership, which could lead to other changes, and students may notice it's harder to find a job as the economy slows down.

All students packed into the union's assembly room Wednesday, where new president Ken Clouse greeted them, sharing some of his ideas for the institution's future — which he believes is bright. Clouse took over in July after Larry Keims, who had been in charge for most of the college's 37-year existence, retired.

Clouse said later that folding chairs had to be set out in the assembly room because there weren't enough seats for all of the students.

"We're at 93 to 94 percent capacity," he said. "All of the programs have adequate or more enrollment."

That's good, he added, but it could

be better.

The 51-year-old — who moved his wife and son here from Atchison, where he was head of the Northeast Kansas Technical College — said he and the college's board and administrators are working on a three-to-five-year strategic plan to bring in more students and money, evaluate older programs and start new ones and find other ways to make the successful college more so.

Money problems make that difficult, though.

Clouse said the college is looking for ways around some roadblocks, including the state giving the college only part of the money it promises each year. He said the state promises to pay 85 percent of the cost to educate in-state students — the equivalent of

paying for 600,000 instructional hours last year — but only covered 530,000 hours last year.

"That has a direct impact on the growth of the institution," he said. "It doesn't make a lot of sense to add programs if you're not going to get paid for them."

Clouse said the college makes up for the shortfall by finding areas to cut — giving instructors smaller raises, choosing the cheaper health insurance plan — but he added that's not always going to work.

"We can tighten our belts for a while," he said, "but eventually it's going to catch up with us."

Clouse said the college may start looking to alumni to help students pay their tuition. Many alumni probably want to help, he said, but don't know how to.

"We want to get the word out more," Clouse said, "work that part of the institution a little more."

He said just a few dollars from alumni could translate into a big help for students.

"Can you imagine what 20,000 alumni giving \$5 would generate in scholarships?" he said, noting that the college may start sending out a newsletter to former students, organizations and businesses.

Some students may need help after they graduate, too, he added.

This year, a drooping economy will catch up with many technical college students, like Pfeifer, who are excited about entering and moving up in the working force.

There are always students who graduate without a job, Clouse said, but there may be a few more this year

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Fair
results
inside
today's
Daily
News !

K-27 repairs progress

Bridge should open
sometime next week

By Reaghan Smith

The Goodland Daily News

Work on K-27 from Business U.S. 24 north to the Cheyenne County line, closed since March, is nearing completion, and the bridge across the railroad tracks should reopen sometime next week.

Closing the bridge has forced traffic onto a worn, bumpy Cattletrail, the only paved entrance to downtown Goodland this month. Another contractor, working for the city, has Cherry Avenue closed for rebuilding on the east, while K-27 to the north has been closed all summer.

Both the bridge and Cherry are expected to be open by Labor Day weekend, however.

Crews from Ritchie Paving of Wichita have been busy all summer rebuilding K-27, widening shoulders, cutting hills, filling in low areas and eliminating the "pretzel" at the intersection with North Caldwell. Several bridges are being widened and one is being replaced.

Other work includes replacing the guard rail on the railroad overpass. Next year, as part of the same contract, Ritchie will rebuild the intersection of U.S. 24 and K-27 with concrete and install a stoplight. Both highways will be kept open during that work, said Chriss McDiffett, district engineer with the Kansas Department of Transportation in Norton.

At the same time, Cattletrail will be closed south of the railroad tracks and a new concrete road will be built connecting it to U.S. 24 east of the intersection.

Despite some delays from the weather, the project is right on time and the original completion date of Nov. 1 for the whole project is still accurate, said Bob Armstrong, assistant district construction engineer for the department.

When the contract with Ritchie was written, a special clause was put in covering completion. This clause, said McDiffett, was put in because of the traffic disruption and the long detour through Colby on paved roads.

The "Incentive-Disincentive Clause" says that the department will pay Ritchie a \$5,000 per day incentive if they finish the job and open the road before Nov. 1. Conversely, if Ritchie will have to pay a \$5,000 disincentive for every day past Nov. 1.

As of now, K-27 will be open to traffic in November, the department says, but workers will have to return in the spring to complete the finishing touches. Those will include a surface overlay to seal the asphalt, McDiffett said, and final grading and seeding. A pilot car will be used when that time comes so the road will not have to be closed next summer.

Two committee heads to run for insurance post

TOPEKA (AP) — The chairman of the House Insurance Committee plans to run for insurance commissioner next year, and his Senate counterpart is interested in the race as well.

Rep. Bob Tomlinson, R-Roland Park, said he expects to announce his plans by the end of next week, adding during an interview Thursday, "The answer is yes."

Sen. Sandy Praeger, R-Lawrence, said she may run for the GOP nomination, despite Tomlinson's plans.

"If I'm going to announce something, it will be the formation of an exploratory committee next week," she said.

Tomlinson and Praeger clashed during this year's legislative session over a proposal to require insurance compa-

nies to provide equal coverage for treatment of mental and physical illnesses. The proposal was championed by Commissioner Kathleen Sebelius, a Democrat.

Tomlinson opposed the idea, saying it needed more study. Praeger supported the concept but helped her Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee draft a compromise bill to

increase the minimum coverage companies must offer.

Tomlinson has become known in the Statehouse for his opposition to imposing coverage mandates for insurance companies.

He contends such mandates only drive up the cost of insurance and make it less available — the same position the industry takes.