

weather report
79°

at noon


Today

• Sunset, 7:21 p.m.

Tomorrow

 • Sunrise, 6:15 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:19 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 76 degrees
- Humidity 53 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds west 17-24
- Barometer 30.08 inches and falling
- Record High 103° (1939)
- Record Low 42° (1956)

Last 24 Hours*

High	85°
Low	57°
Precipitation	none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: increasingly cloudy, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, low upper 50s, wind southeast 5-15
Tomorrow: partly sunny, high 80s, low 55-60.

Extended Forecast

Sunday and Monday: dry, low 60s, high 80s.

(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 — \$2.54
Corn — \$2.03 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.91
Loan deficiency payment — 8¢
Milo — \$3.27 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.38 bushel
Posted county price — \$8.04
Loan deficiency payment — 65¢
Millet — \$3.75 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$7.90 cwt.
Oil new crop — \$7.10 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$1.45
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.
Stock market still plunging

NEW YORK — The stock market hasn't just been falling since last Labor Day — it's been plunging, so much so that last year's levels suddenly don't seem so bad.

When the Nasdaq composite index accelerated its decline shortly after Labor Day and lost 10 percent in September, no one imagined the market would still be tanking a year later. And the selling frenzy, which had been confined to technology, has spread to the overall market and shows no sign of fading.

Thursday, the Dow Jones industrial average fell 171.32 to 9,919.58 Thursday, closing below 10,000 for the first time in more than four months.

Analysts say there's no reason the market won't go even lower — not with persisting rounds of corporate layoffs, profit warnings and weak economic reports.

First week back 'smooth' for schools

Teachers, students adjust well

By Reaghan Smith

The Goodland Daily News

Returning to classes this year meant walking into a construction zone for Goodland high school students and teachers, but Principal Harvey Swager said it hasn't caused many problems.

"The teachers have been very patient and have had a great attitude about the whole thing," Swager said. "We all know it will be very nice when it is done, and the students even seem to find it amusing when they can't find their teacher and class."

He said five classrooms upstairs are being remodeled into three nice-sized science labs. The project began last May after school let out, he said, with the cleaning and clearing out of the classrooms. The real work began this summer.

Swager said the project is progressing nicely, with plumbers from Wichita beginning plumbing work next week. The workers have agreed to work from 3 p.m. to midnight so they won't interfere with the school day.

"The construction hasn't interrupted the school schedule," Swager said, "but it has displaced some of the teachers and classrooms."

He said the school has changed the teacher's lounge to a classroom, and cleaned out the drama department's prop room to use as a classroom. The wrestling pit is a temporary class, he said, as well as one of the girl's locker rooms. The band is sharing their room with a social studies class.

Before classes started Tuesday, Swager said administrators and teachers were working to find solutions to problems the construction would cause, such as an increase in tardiness and confusion as far as classroom locations.

Miller Construction of Goodland is heading the project, Swager said, but has contracted out for some of the work. Workers have gone in and taken out walls to make the rooms bigger, and are doing electrical rewiring in anticipation of the new computers going into the labs.

In addition, he said, workers are lowering the ceiling, adding air conditioning and new heating systems and putting new tile on the floor. In the hallway, he said, they are replastering the walls to give them a finished look.

The construction is expected to be completed in 90 days, but this is just a rough estimate, Swager said.



Romelia Fuentes, an eighth grader at Grant Junior High, finished classwork Wednesday afternoon in her Algebra class. School started

Tuesday and principals say things have been running smoothly. Photos by Reaghan Smith/The Goodland Daily News

Principal can't recall a smoother first day

By Reaghan Smith

The Goodland Daily News

"Smooth" is the word Goodland principals are using to describe how the first day of school went Tuesday.

"I don't remember a first day going as smoothly or on as such a good note as this year," Jim Mull, Grant Junior High principal, said.

The first week of school is busy for everyone. Teachers are learning about their students, students are learning about class and school procedures and parents, along with everyone else, are settling into a new routine.

At Central Elementary School, Principal Sharon Gregory said the first week includes familiarizing students with minor procedures — such as where to put lunch trays in the lunch room, where to put papers that are be-

ing turned in and how to ask to go to the bathroom while in the classroom.

Steve Raymer, North Elementary School principal, said teachers are focusing on improving reading scores this year and taking different approaches in order to encourage students to read.

Librarian Marie Elias will be giving each student a bank book with a beginning balance of 100 imaginary dollars. For each scholastic reading book a student reads, that student will receive points, in dollar amount, based on the difficulty of the book. If the student chooses to take a test on the book the score they get will also be added to the dollar amount. The final dollar amounts will be worth incentives at the end of

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Victor Regalado, a first grader at West Elementary School, licked a popsicle Wednesday in his classroom.

Man questioned about train derailment, fire

MULVANE (AP) — A man was taken into custody early today for questioning about a train derailment and fire that led to evacuation of more than 100 people from their homes in a rural area south of Wichita.

Investigators said someone had put a backhoe from a nearby construction site on the tracks, causing the derailment just before midnight Wednesday. Rewards totaling \$15,000 have been posted for information in the case.

Sgt. Eric Smith of the Sedgwick County sheriff's department said a Wichita man was taken into custody about a quarter-mile north of the derailment sight, between Mulvane and Derby.

He said the man owned a truck which had been left parked at the home of some people who were among those who had to evacuate. He said they called authorities about the truck, which had two flat tires, and the man was taken into custody about 2 a.m. after he came to the area.

Deputies took him to the FBI office in Wichita for further questioning, Smith said.

More than 100 people were forced from their homes in the hours after the three engines and 10 extra-long flatcars

carrying trailers and cargo containers stacked two high left the tracks.

Black smoke hung for several hours Thursday over the wreckage of the train, whose cargo included white asbestos, sodium hydroxide and compressed nitrogen. Authorities determined that no hazardous materials escaped into the air, however, and residents were allowed back in their homes Thursday evening.

The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway train was en route from Chicago to Los Angeles when it hit something on the tracks, said Steve Forsberg, a spokesman for the railroad in Kansas City, Mo.

Investigators from the railroad and the FBI later determined that someone had moved a backhoe from a nearby construction site sometime after 10:30 Wednesday night. The backhoe's boom extended over the tracks and the bucket rested between the rails.

"This was not an accident," said Bill Seck, a supervisory agent in the FBI office in Wichita. Another train had gone over the same track an hour earlier with no problem, he said.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe of-

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Some services available for holiday

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

The Labor Day holiday means several businesses will be closed Monday, including *The Goodland Daily News*, but travelers and people will still have access to places to eat, shop and fill their gas tanks.

The Daily News office will be closed and there will be no newspaper printed. Western State, Bankwest and First National banks will be closed, along with the city and county offices and the post office.

High Plains Museum will be closed Sunday and Monday, as will the liquor stores, required by state law to close.

Gambino's and Ray's Restaurant will be closed, but hungry people can still enjoy a meal at Pizza Hut, which will be open on the new Cherry Avenue, with access on the south side through Dollar General's parking lot. People can also enjoy meals at Wendy's and KFC/Taco Bell on K-27.

Dollar General will be open on

Cherry Ave., Manager Dean Terry said, with access to their parking lot through the south entrance. The store will be extending their hours with the opening of Cherry Ave. today to 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

Shoppers can visit Wal-Mart during their usual hours on Monday and can fill their gas tanks at The Cowboy Loop, Sinclair and Presto Convenience Store. ALCO and J.C. Penney will also be open on Main.

Holiday forces city to move session

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

The regularly scheduled city commission meeting on Monday has been rescheduled for Tuesday at 5 p.m., as the city offices will be closed for the Labor Day holiday.

The commission will hear from Donna Swager, chairperson of the business promotions committee, concerning the proposal of the Chamber of Commerce to rename Cherry Avenue. A name hasn't been suggested. The commissioners have talked informally

about the possibility of renaming the avenue, but this will be the first official discussion of this proposal.

In other business:
•The commission will hear a request from Jeffery Harsh, owner of K-Inn, for a permit to care for needy animals.

•Grasser Construction, Inc. will request final payment in the amount of \$4,887 for the paving done at Renner Airport earlier this year.

•Rebecca Downs, director of Carnegie Arts Center, will request

money from the city to repair water damage to interior walls of the center.

•The commission will appoint two voting delegates and two alternate delegates for the League of Kansas Municipalities Annual Conference. The delegates chosen will vote on any changes to be made in the by-laws of the conference.

•City Manager Ron Pickman will talk to the commission about the Municipal Leadership Academy Ethics Course, to be held Sept. 14 at Dodge City.