

Students work through tragedy

TRAGEDY, from Page 1

sands. A fourth hijacked airliner crashed near Pittsburgh later in the day, pushing the number of killed passengers to 266. The final death toll may not be known for weeks. While officials are sure it was a terrorist attack, they're not sure which organization is responsible.

The tragedy touched lives across the country and world. Most people spent the day watching television or listening to the radio, witnessing the carnage and hearing screams of terror.

In Goodland, the radio stations stopped regular programming at 8 a.m. and focused primarily on the terrorist attacks until 4 a.m. today. Airplanes bound for California and other places were forced to land at Renner Field, as all aircrafts were ordered down and most interstate travel was halted.

Teachers in Goodland explained the tragedy to students and talked about what terrorism is. Students watched the violence unfold on television and the Internet. The Northwest Kansas Technical College put its crisis management plan into effect, offering students and instructors counseling.

Curtis Duncan, program director at KKCI Radio in Goodland, said the station tried to give listeners as much local information as possible, announcing prayer services and airing people's reactions. He said the station gave its first report about five minutes after the first plane crashed into the trade center.

"We had many calls," Duncan said. "People were saddened. Most of the comments were positive."

One woman called, he said, to say the station shouldn't be announcing President Bush's location.

"She just thought it was absurd," he said. "I explained to her and the listeners that CNN was broadcasting that, not us."

Ken Clouse, president of the technical college, said classes weren't canceled, but the institution put its crisis management plan into effect, with a notice going out that counseling was available in the administration office.

"It's not a highly formalized plan," he said. "We just take a little different look at things and try to be extra understanding."

Clouse said administrators are aware that students come from several states,

and some could have had friends or family members killed or injured in the attacks.

"These things have some really far-reaching impacts," he said, noting that the tragedy disturbed and saddened students, but there were no serious problems.

"Everything really went smoothly, considering...." Clouse said. "It's just a terrible, terrible day in history."

He said students were shocked and had the same comments as most others.

"They made comments like, 'Who could think of something like this?'" he said, "and 'You just don't know what people will do today.'"

Just getting home from work, Clouse said, he hadn't had time to watch much television during the day, but was planning to flip it on.

"It will be a lot to absorb," he said. While school administrators tried to keep business as usual, they said they felt it was important to let students know what was going on.

At North Elementary School, Pam Hardy, the head teacher, said teachers discussed what terrorism is, allowed students to watch coverage of the attacks on the television and Internet and

had a question and answer session at the end of the day.

Jim Mull, Grant Junior High principal, said teachers allowed students to talk about the attacks, but tried to maintain a normal classroom setting.

"As the president said," Mull said, "we want to give the people that did this as little satisfaction as possible as far as disrupting our lives."

Sharon Gregory, Central Elementary principal, said teachers explained what happened and let students watch the news casts on a television in the library.

"We reassured the kids that they are safe here," she said, "because that's always a concern."

After learning about the attacks at school, a fifth grade student wrote a poem at home and brought it to the prayer service at United Methodist.

After the service, Tashaya Abbott, 11, walked to the front of the church to ask Pastor Ramey if she could read her poem, which talked about the sadness and confusion the day's events had caused.

"They can rebuild the buildings," Tashaya's poem ended, "but they can't rebuild the hearts that were lost today."



Lines of five or more cars were common in Goodland Tuesday afternoon as word of rising regional gas prices sent travelers, locals and Northwest Kansas Technical College students to Goodland stations in search of the cheapest gas possible. Shortly after 3 p.m. Cowboy Loop, 17th and Main, Goodland, increased unleaded gas prices twenty cents in one hike to just shy of \$1.93 per gallon. Credit card terminals were bogged down due to Americans hitting gas stations and grocery stores during the late afternoon hours. Cowboy Loop clerks got out manual credit card machines. Photo by Eric Yonkey/The Goodland Daily News

Most, but not all, stations raise prices day of tragedy

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fuel prices, but her policy is not to give gasoline prices out over the phone.

Presto did not run out of gas, she said, and has another shipment on the way.

Despite rumors that gas prices in other cities had skyrocketed to between four and nine dollars per gallon, the prices in Goodland were between \$1.71 and \$1.99 per gallon.

"Most of the gas stations in Goodland held the line," Hansen said. "I'm pleased with that."

Kansas Attorney General Carla J. Stovall warned gasoline retailers in the state Tuesday that her office will investigate alleged price gouging.

The Kansas Consumer Protection Act, she said, says that it is unconscionable to exceed the price at which similar property or services are readily available.

Stovall said retailers charging exorbitant amounts for gasoline are shamefully attempting to make an immoral profit from a national tragedy.

A local retailer agreed. "I hope that the people that gouged the consumer will pay somehow," Hansen said.

The price of gasoline at the Goodland Sinclair, the only locally-owned gas station, stayed at \$1.66 through the panic.

Hijackers may have trained in Florida

INVESTIGATE, from Page 1

said it will comply with requests quickly.

The FBI interviewed Voss, the Venice, Fla., about two men who stayed with him and his wife for a week in July 2000 while taking small-plane flight training at the municipal airport.

FBI agents "informed me that there were two individuals that were students at Huffman Aviation, my employer, and FBI told me they were involved in yesterday's tragedy," Voss said.

The couple accepted the two men as house guests as a favor to the company, Voss said. The men, who stayed just a few days, trained at the airport and came to the house to sleep, he said.

The government believes the hijackers were trained pilots and that three to five were aboard each of four airliners that crashed in the worst terrorist attack ever in the United States, said Justice Department spokeswoman Mindy Tucker. She said the conclusion was based on information gathered from frantic phone calls made by passengers on the doomed jets.

"It appears from what we know that the hijackers were skilled pilots," said Tucker.

Tucker declined to comment on evidence linking the attacks to bin Laden or whether authorities have executed search warrants.

Lawmakers, including Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, believe bin Laden may have been behind the attacks. "I don't

think everyone in Congress has enough information to make those assumptions," Tucker said.

She said investigators are following all credible leads, but declined to comment on whether the government is close to arresting anyone. The 700 tips came from a special FBI Web site seeking information on the attacks.

From broken bits of hijacked airplanes to intelligence intercepts, the FBI is collecting evidence in its search for those responsible for the attacks. At the Pentagon, an FBI team recovered parts of the airplane's fuselage and sought the black box recorder that could provide conversations from the cockpits of the doomed planes.

"Everything is pointing in the direc-

tion of Osama bin Laden," said Hatch, the top Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

A flight manifest from one of the ill-fated flights included the name of a suspected bin Laden supporter, Hatch and several law enforcement officials confirmed. And U.S. intelligence obtained communications between bin Laden supporters discussing Tuesday's attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon, Hatch said.

"They have an intercept of some information that included people associated with bin Laden who acknowledged a couple of targets were hit," he said.

Hatch declined to be more specific.

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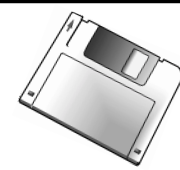


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