

weather
report

74°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 4:40 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:21 a.m.
• Sunset, 4:39 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 58 degrees
• Humidity 29 percent
• Sky sunny
• Winds northwest 7
• Barometer 30.06 inches
and falling
• Record High 84° (1980)
• Record Low 10° (1959)

Last 24 Hours*

High 77°
Low 43°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: cloudy, low 40s, wind
southeast 10-15. Tomorrow: sunny,
high 70s, low 30s, chance of mois-
ture, wind southwest 10-20.

Extended Forecast

Thursday and Friday: sunny, high
50s, low 20s.

(National Weather Service)

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

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.63 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.58
Corn — \$1.95 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.77
Loan deficiency payment — 22¢
Milo — \$1.64 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$3.68 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.70
Loan deficiency payment — \$1.22
Millet — \$3.75 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$8.10 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$1.90
Confection current — inquire
Pinto beans — \$19 (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.

Opposition
claims villages

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Af-
ghan opposition forces claimed
the capture of several villages to-
day near the strategic northern city
of Mazar-e-Sharif after U.S. war-
planes cleared the way with inten-
sive bombing.

It was the first significant move-
ment reported on the ground
against the Taliban after U.S. jets
stepped up bombardment of the
Islamic militia's defenses. For
weeks, the opposition northern
alliance has been unable to ad-
vance against Taliban lines and
complained the bombing was not
heavy enough.

U.S. jets also struck Taliban
front-line positions north of the
capital, Kabul, swooping down to
drop more than a dozen bombs
near an air base held by opposition
forces but besieged by the Taliban.
Meanwhile, Germany offered
up to 3,900 troops for the war.

Officials ban truck parking

Two-hour limit on semis, boats

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

An ordinance banning heavy trucks,
semis, recreational vehicles and trail-
ers from parking on city streets and al-
leys passed the Goodland City Com-
mission in a close vote Monday.

The commission also heard City
Manager Ron Pickman report that it
may cost \$26,000 to replace the street
lights on K-27 at the commission's
regular meeting.

The parking ordinance, approved on
a 3-2 vote, prohibits parking any heavy
truck, truck tractor, semi-trailer, recre-
ational vehicle, trailer, farm machinery
or boat on any city street or alley for
more than two hours.

No truck or trailer owners showed up
to protest the ban, however, and the
debate involved mostly the commis-
sioners.

Backers said they felt the ordinance
was needed to protect the streets from
damage and to protect drivers from an
"obstacle course" of vehicles parked in
the street.

The ordinance seemed too restrictive
to two of the commissioners. Chuck

Lutters said he voted against it because
the two-hour time limit was too tight.
The ordinance is moving in the right
direction, he said, but two hours is aw-
fully restrictive.

While he agreed that semi-trailer rigs
should not be parked on the street,
Commissioner Rick Billinger also said
the ordinance was too tough.

He did not favor the restrictions on
parking other vehicles, Billinger said,
and he felt the time limit was too restric-
tive.

"This is still America," Billinger
said.

The ordinance passed with Commis-
sioners Curtis Hurd and Dean Blume
and Mayor Tom Rohr voting for it.

Pickman told the commission that
the bolts on the bases of the street lights
on K-27 between Eighth and 16th
Streets had been damaged by the con-
tractor during the construction on K-27
and the city would not be able to put the
lights up on them.

Replacing the bases and restoring the
lights, he said, will cost \$21,113 plus

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Teen's wild actions called 'unbelievable'

Friends, neighbors say he was a regular guy

By Rachel Miscal

The Goodland Daily News

Friends and neighbors say Mark
Palmer was the typical American teen-
ager, with the typical American family,
from a typical American neighborhood.

They use words like friendly, popu-
lar, artistic, nice, bright and funny to
describe the 19-year-old from Carmel,
Ind. Growing up in an upper-middle
class suburb, they say, the
tall, thin boy was a good stu-
dent and a great baseball player.

His father, Ted, is an under-
writer for an insurance com-
pany, his mother, Mary, a lab
technician and his sister,
Erika, a graduate of Boston
University and a law student
at New York University.

Mark wasn't perfect, they
say.

He could be irresponsible, immature
and impulsive at times, and he was
stressed out by the Sept. 11 terrorist
attacks and other problems in his life.

But he was no different than other
kids his age. At least that's what friends
and neighbors say.

"He didn't come from the ghettos,
slums or a bad family," said Dan
McQuiston, a professor at Butler Uni-
versity in Indianapolis, who has lived
across the street from the Palmers since
1990. "He was not a bum. He was not a
druggie. He was not a real mature kid,
but he was always nice. He was just sort
of your typical all-American kid."

Mark wasn't the typical American
teen-ager on Friday, Oct. 26, when he
led law officers on a crazy chase, steal-
ing three vehicles and wrecking seven,
threatening and injuring officers and
driving the wrong way on I-70.

The events started in Burlington,
Colo., where Mark rolled his car on I-
70, and ended in Sherman County near

the east Goodland exit, with the young
man dying in an ambulance from four
gunshot wounds.

Sherman County officers caught up
to Mark after he sideswiped a truck
while going the wrong way on I-70.
During a struggle, the young man was
able to steal a Highway Patrol trooper's
cruiser. He was shot while driving away
and zig-zagged across the freeway un-
til another trooper rammed
the vehicle.

A trooper shot Mark again
after he allegedly tried to
steal another cruiser and
reached for an officer's gun.
Officers and witnesses said
the teen looked "crazy," as if
he was on drugs.

Those who knew Mark
say they can't understand
how or why.

"Everyone is in a state of
shock," said McQuiston, noting that
more than 300 people attended the fu-
neral in Carmel on Thursday. "This was
not the kid they knew."

He said he talked to Mark's parents,
and they said they are shocked and
baffled.

"His mother is just a wreck," he said.
"She could barely function. His dad
said he is just numb. They just don't
understand it."

McQuiston had to pause several
times, saying he was getting choked up.

"It makes no earthly sense," he said,
adding that Mark's parents said they are
hoping to get answers from their son's
roommates in Fort Collins, Colo., but
the roommates aren't talking.

McQuiston said Mark, who gradu-
ated from Carmel High School in May
2000, enrolled at Colorado State Uni-
versity in the fall of 2000 to study en-
gineering. The Palmers have relatives

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Swingin' Sailors



Navy band draws crowd

The U.S. Navy Commodores jazz
ensemble sailed into Goodland
Monday night to perform for a
crowd of 350 at the Max Jones
Fieldhouse. The 1 1/2-hour con-
cert featured 18 of the Navy's top
jazz and "big band" musicians
from across the country, playing
many styles of jazz from swing to
be-bop. Chief Musician Thomas
M. Palance (top), New Hamp-
shire, was one of four trumpet
players. Musician First Class
Yolanda C. Pelzer (above), South
Carolina, joined the band for a
couple of numbers and Musician
First Class John T. Parsons, Vir-
ginia, kept the beat.

Photos by Rachel Miscal
The Goodland Daily News

State preparing for agroterrorism

By John Milburn

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — It is not a question of if
but when Kansas will become a target
for agroterrorism, lawmakers were told
Monday.

A leading researcher from Kansas
State University is encouraging legis-
lators to take the steps now to protect
the state and its top economic engine.

"We're performing a very important
function," said Rep. Carl Krehbiel, R-
Moundridge and co-chairman of the
Special Committee on Kansas Security.

Dr. Jerry Jaax, assistant vice provost

for research at Kansas State University,
told legislators that many of the larger
threats to the United States can be
traced to the biological weapons devel-
opment of the former Soviet Union.

Jaax, who spent 26 years in the mili-
tary working in biological weapons
research, said the Soviets invested
thousands of scientists and billions of
dollars to perfect their weapons system.
When the Soviet Union collapsed,
many of those scientists were out of
work and prime candidates for rogue
nations.

"That's one of the reasons we are in

the state we are now," Jaax said.

During his presentation, Jaax illus-
trated the potential for biological attack
on the state's agriculture industry in-
cluding the 1.8 million head of cattle in
feedlots in southwest Kansas. An infec-
tion of foot and mouth disease, he said,
would wipe out those herds and dam-
age the state's ability to export beef.

Unlike the Cold War, where the en-
emy and potential weapons were state
sponsored, terrorism does not have a
face, he said, making security difficult.

"There's no way of telling who the
good guys are," Jaax said.

Board takes hint from crowd about extending zoning laws

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

About 70 Sherman County residents
jammed the room last week as the City
Planning Commission and the City
Commission met to consider extending
city zoning laws to land up to three
miles outside the city limits.

Taking a hint from the crowd, the
board decided to leave things the way
they are.

State law allows cities to enforce city
zoning to a maximum of three miles,

Building Inspector Jerry Nemechek
said, and the planning commission pro-
posed extending Goodland's rules.

The change would help to keep the
growth of the city uniform, Nemechek
said, but the planning commission
voted unanimously against it at the
meeting last Tuesday.

Residents asked Chairman Terry
Imel what kind of permits the change
would require, Nemechek said, and
wanted to know why the city would
want to do this.

The public does not want this type of
regulation, he said.

At this time, there is no compelling
reason to adopt it, Imel said. If con-
ditions change, he said, it may be needed
five, 10 or 15 years down the road.

"The biggest objection I had person-
ally," he said, "was there wasn't enough
gain to be worth the extra regulations
and extra work writing and enforcing
them."

The biggest benefit he could see,
Imel said, was that if someone starts a

sub-division just outside the city that
later becomes part of the city, it would
already match the city codes.

The commission will hold a public
hearing at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, at
city hall, Nemechek said, to allow the
public to ask questions or complain
about proposed changes in the existing
zoning codes within the city.

The commission has worked to fine-
tune the code, Imel said, to make it more
uniform. Currently there are three types
of residential districts, he said, one for

single-family dwellings, one for du-
plexes and one for multi-family dwell-
ings.

The commission wants to change the
designations and have just two, the
chairman said, one for single-family
and duplexes and one for multi-family
and duplex dwellings.

Some other points to be determined,
he said, are how wide sidewalks should
be required, how wide streets will be
and in commercial zones, how tall and
how big signs can be.