

weather report

36°
at noon

Today

Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Tomorrow

Sunrise, 6:59 a.m.

Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions

Soil Temperature 35 degrees

Humidity 72 percent

Sky Sunny

Winds West 10

Barometer 29.93 inches and rising

Record High 74° (1988)

Record Low -09° (1963)

Last 24 Hours*

High 37°

Low 16°

Precipitation .12

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: clear, low in the upper 10s, winds west 10-15 m.p.h. Tomorrow: mostly sunny and breezy, high 40s, low 20s, winds southwest 15-25 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Saturday and Sunday: partly sunny and windy, high 30s, low 20s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.54 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.45

Corn — \$1.97 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.92

Loan deficiency payment — 07¢

Milo — \$1.72 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.73 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.71

Loan deficiency payment — \$1.21

Millet — \$3.75 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$8.90 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — 69¢

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.

Fighters renew their assault

TORA BORA, Afghanistan — Backed by intensifying U.S. airstrikes, Afghan tribal fighters launched a new assault today against trapped al-Qaida forces. Commanders said key terrorist leaders had likely fled Osama bin Laden's besieged mountain base for neighboring Pakistan, however, and the whereabouts of bin Laden remained unknown. Front-line commanders of the tribal eastern alliance said they now intended to wipe out the Arab and foreign Muslim fighters from al-Qaida after two deadlines to surrender fell through over the past two days — the latest at noon today. AC-130 gunships, armored aircraft with Gatling guns, strafed al-Qaida positions as B-52s circled over the canyon where the foreign fighters have been trapped since fleeing their nearby Tora Bora.

Tape shows terrorist pleased

WASHINGTON (AP) — Osama bin Laden contentedly recalled the Sept. 11 attacks against America on a videotape released today by the Pentagon, saying the destruction exceeded his estimates and the event “benefitted Islam greatly.”

The hijackings were “a martyrdom operation,” Bin Laden said in a conversation with two aides and a Saudi sheik, but those who carried them out didn’t know the precise details until just before they boarded the planes.

The tape, amateurish in quality but chilling nonetheless, was released as part of an administration effort to support claims that bin Laden was

the mastermind behind the attacks that killed thousands in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania. The translation of the Arabic conversation was provided by the government.

In it, bin Laden discussed some of the planning that led to the attacks, and recalled tuning in to the radio to hear American news broadcasts of the attack.

“They were overjoyed when the first plane hit the building,” he said of others listening with him that day. “So I said to them: Be patient.”



Bin Laden

He said, “At the end of the newscast, they reported that a plane just hit the World Trade Center.”

“Allah be praised,” replied one of the other men in the videotape.

“After a little while, they announced that another plane had hit the World Trade Center,” bin Laden recalled. “The brothers who heard the news were overjoyed by it.”

Administration officials have said the tape was found in a house in Jalalabad after anti-Taliban forces

On the tape, bin Laden is sitting on the floor of a spare room, talking with several other men, including two aides and an unidentified Saudi sheik.

Entering the room, bin Laden bends over to greet the sheik, then smilingly takes his place next to him, sitting cross-legged on the floor.

The sheik promptly thanks bin Laden, saying, “You have given us weapons, you have given us hope and we thank Allah for you.”

“Everybody praises what you did, the great action you did, which was first and foremost by the grace of Allah,” the sheik continued. “This is the

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Family, Community and Career Leaders of America sponsor Sarah Short served beans and rice to students representing the middle class of a third-world country at a Hunger Banquet on Wednesday. The banquet showed students the reality of world hunger in a personal way.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Daily News

Students taste hunger

By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Daily News

Goodland High School students had a taste of what people around the world get for daily meals at a Hunger Banquet held Wednesday at the Goodland High School gym.

Eighty-five students were divided into three groups — upper class, middle class and low income — and were served food according to their classes. The upper class students ate pizza, cookies and chips and drank cola. The middle class ate rice and beans and drank water, and the lower class got a piece of pita bread and some water.

The upper and middle class students sat in chairs around tables, while the lower class sat on the floor.

Moved by a similar demonstration at a youth leadership conference she attended in the summer, Amanda Hoffman organized the banquet as her Power of One project for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA).

During the demonstration, Hoffman said, she got a sense of the number of starving people in the world and what they deal with.

“I just got a feeling,” Hoffman said, “of sick to your stomach almost.”

Wanting other students to understand the severity of world hunger, Hoffman said, she posted sign-up sheets around the school seeking volunteers to participate in the demonstration. Though they didn’t know what they would be doing, she said, 85 students volunteered.

When the students arrived at the high school gym, each was handed a piece of colored paper and told to go to the section marked with the same color. When all of the students were



Students representing the lower classes sat on the floor at the hunger banquet and got only a piece of pita bread and drank water.

assembled, Hoffman explained the project to them.

“Your mom says to you when you don’t eat,” she said, “that someone in Africa or halfway around the world would like to have the food.”

“Then you say something smart like, ‘well pack it up and mail it to them.’ Now you will understand better what she was talking about.”

The students with the green tickets, Hoffman said, represent the 15 percent of the world’s population that eat a balanced diet daily. Giving a description of this group of people, she said they would have an average income of \$17,000 per year, leading causes of death would be heart disease and diabetes as a result of over-indulging in the plentiful food and that for this group of people there would be one doctor per 470 people.

The students with blue tickets represent 20 percent of the world’s population, she said, and would have annual incomes between \$611 and

\$11,600.

Students with pink tickets represent the majority of the world’s population, she said, who have annual incomes of less than \$610. People in this class are chronically malnourished, she said, and often work on plantations growing food that will be given to wealthy people.

As the students were eating, Hoffman listed some statistics, such as the amount of food wasted by restaurants and caterers and the number of babies that die each year from hunger.

Although the earth produces enough to feed everyone, she said, one fifth of the world’s population does not get enough food.

Hoffman asked the students to donate canned goods and paper products to the Genesis Food Bank to help needy people here in Sherman County.

She said she did research on the Internet to find some of the information she used for the demonstration.

State to repair six I-70 bridges

Department takes \$1.5 million bid

By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Daily News

The Kansas Department of Transportation has approved a \$1.5 million bid from Bridges Inc. to repair six I-70 bridges in western Sherman County.

The Newton firm will begin repairs in April, said Eric Oelschlager, area manager for the department in Atwood, and should finish the work during the summer.

Only minor repairs are needed, Oelschlager said, requiring traffic to be closed on one lane of the bridges at a time. Workers will patch holes on the concrete decks, he said, and put down a 1 1/2-inch concrete overlay.

All six bridges are west of Goodland, he said, two about a half mile east of Kanorado, two at the rest area west of Ruleton and two west of Caruso.

The department has spent an estimated \$30 million on construction in Sherman County in the last four years, he said, and is currently building a new

tourist center 10 miles west of town on the interstate.

Some of the projects in those years have included new concrete pavement on I-70 east to Edson; rebuilding the exit ramps on I-70; new asphalt on K-27 between U.S. 24 and I-70; the new section of Cherry Avenue; repaving K-27 south of Goodland to the Wallace County line; new approach slabs and paving on the K-27 railroad viaduct; and new bridges and paving on K-27 north of Goodland to the Cheyenne County line.

The department paid for shoring up the bridge over the Smoky Hill River eight miles south of Goodland to allow trucks to run the full legal weight limits and will pay for a new bridge in 2004. The state will pave the intersection of K-27 and Business U.S. 24 and install stoplights at the intersection next summer, as well as build a new street to U.S. 24 and providing access to Cattletrail Avenue.

County increases department budgets

Line item added for jail commissary

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Daily News

Sherman County commissioners adjusted three department budgets and added a fourth during a budget amendment hearing Tuesday.

A notice had been published announcing that the Road and Bridge fund would be amended to increase spending from \$1,494,305 to \$1,646,305; the Soldiers Memorial Park expenditures were to be increased by \$4,400; and Noxious Weed spending by \$2,500 to \$88,085.

The budget amendment added a line item for the sheriff’s commissary at \$3,500, which allows for sales of supplies to inmates in the Bastille. The supplies include writing paper, pencils, candy, gum and similar small items.

Daryl West, head of the noxious weed department, asked the commissioners to consider three bids he had for chemicals.

The Van Dies company of Lindsborg bid \$23,585; Pueblo Chemical of Garden City (which has a Goodland office), \$23,610; and Helena Chemical, (with an office east of Goodland), \$24,463.

Looking at the closeness of the bids, Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked West if he had purchased chemicals from either Pueblo or Helena in the past.

West said he had used both at different times, but not in the bulk he was asking for this time.

Commissioner Chuck Frankenfeld asked if it would be possible to share the bids between the two lowest bids, but Rasure said he did not like that idea.

“I don’t like this when I have done it in my business,” he said. “It seems less than fair when bidding because you lose the edge if you only get half.”

Frankenfeld asked West if he had purchased chemicals in this quantity before, and if it would save money. West said he had not purchased them in

the past in this manner, and felt there would be some savings but he was not sure exactly how much.

Rasure said he would lean toward the local vendor, and made a motion to award the bid to Pueblo Chemical. Commissioner Mitch Tiede said he agreed and seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

West also asked if he could hook the computer in his office to the Internet. He said he is now an officer for the West District of Noxious Weed Departments, and will be for the next three years.

He said there are 25 counties in the district as the state is divided into four sections.

The commissioners gave their approval.

Sherman County Public Works Director Curt Way gave the commissioners a proposed fee schedule for taking tires at the transfer station, with the increases to take effect at the start of January.

The fee schedule would raise the charge for a passenger tire to \$2.25 from \$2, and raise the fees for other sizes by varying amounts.

After reviewing the fees, the commissioners decided to table approval of the schedule until the next meeting to allow more discussion with Way about the charges for larger tires.

Commissioner Tiede said he felt there was some disparity in the fees, as there was an increase of \$25 for farm and large truck tires.

The commissioners held a closed session dealing with personnel and had William McKnight, head of building maintenance, in for about half of the 25 minutes. They took no action when the meeting was reopened.

The commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. Tuesday in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County Courthouse, south of Eighth Street on Broadway Avenue.