

The Goodland Daily News

Volume 70, Number 36

Eight Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

50¢

weather report

51°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 5:28 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:31 a.m.
• Sunset, 5:29 p.m.

Middy Conditions

• Soil Temperature 39 degrees
• Humidity 30 percent
• Sky mostly sunny
• Winds north 19-27 m.p.h.
• Barometer 29.89 inches and falling
• Record High 73° (1972)
• Record Low -1° (1953)

Last 24 Hours*

High 53°
Low 27°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, low mid 20s, winds northwest 10-20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: mostly sunny, high mid 50s, low mid 20s, winds northwest 10-20

Extended Forecast

Friday: mostly sunny, high near 70. Saturday: partly cloudy, high upper 50s, low upper 20s. Sunday: mostly cloudy with chance of snow, high mid 30s, low near 10. Monday: partly cloudy with a chance of snow. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.62 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.56
Corn — \$1.92 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.83
Loan deficiency payment — 16¢
Milo — \$1.64 bushel
Soybeans — \$3.05 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.74
Loan deficiency payment — \$1.18
Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.40 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 56¢
Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$26 (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.

Israel troops kill 16 more

JERUSALEM — Firing missiles, tank shells and machine guns at Palestinian Authority positions, Israeli troops killed 16 Palestinians today in reprisals for a Palestinian shooting ambush that killed six Israeli soldiers — one of the deadliest attacks on Israeli troops in 17 months of fighting.

The six soldiers were killed at a West Bank checkpoint, shot at close range by three militiamen linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

The ambush ignited debate on the military's tactics, including the effectiveness of checkpoints, and intensified pressure on Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to take more decisive action in stopping Palestinian attacks.

"It's clear the strategy that we've had until now can't continue," said the Israeli president, Moshe Katsav.

Panels OK cuts in budget

TOPEKA (AP) — Proposed cuts in higher education and social services received committee endorsements as legislators said they still lack needed information on how much money the state can spend.

"I think we're waiting for the budget picture to clear," said Senate President Dave Kerr, R-Hutchinson, a member of that chamber's Ways and Means Committee.

Gov. Bill Graves had proposed some of the reductions in the balanced budget he submitted for the next fiscal year, when revenue is expected to trail required spending by at least \$426 million.

But he has also proposed \$228 million in new taxes and fees, although neither chamber has considered any of

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Athletic director to speak

Dr. Allen Bohl, the new athletic director at the University of Kansas, will speak during a luncheon at noon Thursday at the Sugar Hills Country Club, 6450 Road 16.

Bohl was named athletic director on June 28. Over the previous 14 years, he ran athletic programs at the University of Toledo and Fresno State University.

A native of Vermilion, Ohio, he earned a bachelor's degree in math from Bowling Green in 1970, a master's of education from Southern Mississippi in 1973 and a Ph.D. in physical education administration from Ohio State in 1978.

Highlights of his years at Fresno State include back-to-back football bowl games, a national championship in softball and two consecutive appearances by the men's basketball team in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament.

During his nine years at the University of Toledo, he directed record-breaking fund drives, spearheaded the renovation of the football stadium and significantly upgraded the marketing of women's athletics.

For information on the luncheon, call Brenda McCants at (785) 899-6036.



Allen Bohl

a baseball life

Goodland man remembers minor-league career

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

Ken Yoke took an eight-year bus ride in the 1950s, on a minor-league baseball career that took him from mile-high Denver to Florida to Arkansas to dusty El Paso and exotic Monterrey, Mexico.

Today Yoke, 67, is retired. He and his wife, Wilma, welcome visitors with open arms and smiles. He spends much of his time in his workshop behind the house, where he works with wood, creating bowls, chess sets, and his current project, a pool cue made from scratch for his daughter. Pictures from his playing days are mounted on wood and hold honored spots on the wall.

Wilma Yoke kept scrapbooks from Yoke's heyday on the diamond, and while the original books have long worn away though use and age, she has lovingly remounted them, and is happy to show them to any who ask.

Yoke played professional ball from 1951 to 1958. Baseball might be a game, but it has its ups and downs just like every other job. Early in his career he learned that the hard way when he got hit on the arm with a line drive. Although he recovered, teammates feared the bones were fractured.

He got his first unfavorable press right after he signed with his first team. After a string of losses, headlines such as "Yoke Still Winless," plagued him until he adjusted to professional ball.

As for the upside, he was named an All-Star in two different leagues, eventually got his fair share of news coverage, played with players like Billy Martin and Dick Stuart, who would go on to fame in the major leagues, and had a wife who followed him wherever the life of a ballplayer might lead.

While Yoke never made it to the big leagues, he played for at least seven minor league teams, and one glorious year, went to spring training with the New York Yankees.

As a young man, Yoke said, baseball was the driving force of his life. He played for the Brunson Tigers in a youth league, and pitched for North High School in Wichita. When he graduated, he joined the semi-pro Norton Red Sox for eight games.

A young Yoke signed a contact with a \$3,000 bonus for the Denver Bears in 1953 as a red-hot 18-year-old southpaw pitcher who had an ERA of 0.83 and a 6-1 record with the Red Sox, one of those wins a 3-0 shutout over the semi-pro Goodland Tigers. Despite high expectations, he didn't shine at first.

"I was having all kinds of trouble that first year," he said. "I was in bad shape until I learned to play in the pros."

He was sold after half a year from the AAA Bears to C-level El Dorado,



Ken Yoke posed with the greased pig he caught before a game on "Screwball Night."

Photo courtesy of Ken and Wilma Yoke

Ark., in the Cotton States League, where he was a standout. He was an All-Star and helped his team go on to win the championship.

An old newspaper clipping Wilma Yoke keeps described Yoke as, "(a) little southpaw who has developed into one of the real hurlers in the league."

He went on to the B-level El Paso Texans, where he was unanimously chosen as an All-Star and got married in the same week. Ken and Wilma wed

in a ceremony at home plate in 1955. Fans showered the new couple with wedding presents, including cowboys boots and a silver teapot. When a daughter was born in 1956, fans threw Yoke a baby shower.

"Fans in Texas treated you right," Yoke said.

When a player would hit a home run, he said, the crowd would stick dollar bills through the fences, which the player would grab as he ran by.

"Texas is the only place I ever saw

something like that."

"The Hoxie Kid," as newspapers called Yoke, got a scare early in his career when every pitcher's nightmare, a line drive, cracked against his shoulder.

"Everybody thought it was fractured," he said. "I don't know about that, but I did have it in a cast for awhile."

There were numerous newspaper

See YOKE, Page 4

Senator says he knew a terrorist attack was likely

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts said as a member of the Emerging Threats Subcommittee he knew there would be a devastating terrorist attack on American soil, but committee members didn't know how to prepare for it or warn the public.

He told about 50 people at a breakfast in Goodland on Tuesday he wishes there was some way they could have alerted those killed or injured in the Sept. 11 attacks. Also a member of the armed services and intelligence committees, Sen. Roberts said all they can do now is figure out what went wrong and fix it.

"I think we're doing a lot better," he told the group of farmers, business owners, government officials and taxpayers. He said a joint Senate and House committee has been formed to review past intelligence failures and find solutions.

Roberts stopped in Goodland for an hour to talk with his constituents at the Elks Lodge, before heading for another meeting in Sharon Springs. During the breakfast, he updated the crowd on legislative issues, including agriterrorism,



U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts spoke about legislative issues at a breakfast on Tuesday.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

the new farm bill and campaign spending reforms.

The senator had time to answer a few questions after his talk, and each one was farm-related. People asked about specific items included in a proposed farm bill and whether the government

will turn to crop-based fuels to reduce dependence on foreign oil.

Sen. Roberts said President Bush thinks snuffing out terrorist organizations is this generation's obligation. Bush is going to make sure terrorists aren't able to produce or use weapons

of mass destruction, he said, adding he respects that.

"They will pay the price," the senator said. "For too long now, the U.S. has responded in ways that didn't make a difference."

Roberts said it's time for Americans

to realize that their food supply is at risk. "Wake up, Sherman County," he said, noting that there are 15 Russian-produced pathogens terrorists can put on crop fields to infect U.S. consumers.

If that were to happen, he said, the National Guard would have to hand out safe food in cities. He said there would be one good side to that.

"At least they'd realize their food doesn't come from the grocery store," Roberts joked, sparking laughter from the farmers in the room.

He said Congress wants to provide first responder training in agricultural areas, so people will be ready if the food supply is attacked. Lawmakers also want to stop it before it happens, he said.

"We want to detect, deter and if necessary take action," he said. Sen. Roberts, who said he's been in office for the passing of six farm bills, said he prefers a House version of the 2002 farm bill to the one the Senate passed last week. The Senate bill includes a provision banning meat packers from owning animals within 14 days of slaughter and one requiring meat and produce to be labeled with

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