

weather report

16°

at noon



Today

- Sunset, 5:35 p.m.
- Tomorrow**
- Sunrise, 6:23 a.m.
- Sunset, 5:36 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 38 degrees
- Humidity 56 percent
- Sky mostly cloudy
- Winds north 32-39 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.45 inches and falling
- Record High 70° (1932)
- Record Low -6° (1960)

Last 24 Hours*

High	21°
Low	1°
Precipitation	.16

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly clear and very cold, low 2 below zero, winds northwest 10-15 m.p.h. Tomorrow: cloudy with 20 percent chance of snow showers, high upper 30s, low lower teens, winds northwest 10-20 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: mostly cloudy, 30 percent chance of snow, high lower 40s, low mid 20s. Friday: mostly cloudy with chance of snow during day. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$2.61 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$2.52
 - Corn — \$1.86 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$1.79
 - Loan deficiency payment — 20¢
 - Milo — \$1.59 bushel
 - Soybeans — \$3.77 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$3.73
 - Loan deficiency payment — \$1.19
 - Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$9.40 cwt.
 - Nusun — \$9.70 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 33¢
 - Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.
 - Pinto beans — \$26
- (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.

Drug diluter pleads guilty

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Millionaire pharmacist Robert R. Courtney pleaded guilty today to federal charges of diluting chemotherapy drugs given to cancer patients.

Courtney admitted to committing 158 separate dilutions for 34 patients.

Courtney, 49, had been scheduled to go to trial March 11 on 20 counts of adulterating, tampering with and mislabeling the chemotherapy drugs Taxol and Gemzar.

If convicted on all counts, Courtney could have been sentenced to 196 years in prison.

Under his agreement to plead guilty to all 20 counts, prosecutors will recommend a sentence of 17 1/2 to 30 years in federal prison. In addition, Courtney must disclose any other criminal activity he committed and any knowledge he possesses of crimes by others.

Phone officials push bill

Law deregulates Internet connections

By Patty Decker

Colby Free Press

COLBY — Southwestern Bell officials swept into western Kansas last week to push for a bill deregulating "broadband" Internet connections which they claim would help rural communities prosper and grow.

The reaction from community leaders, at least in Colby, seemed lukewarm at best. The bill is set for a Senate hearing today in Topeka, where it's chances were uncertain at best.

Randy Tomlin, Kansas president of Southwestern Bell from Topeka, and other Bell officials met with Colby civic and business leaders on Friday to talk about Senate Bill 606, titled "Building Kansas With Broadband." In a statement, they said it will help small towns attract and retain businesses, improving the quality of rural life through high-speed data access for homes, businesses, hospitals, schools and local governments.

"Everyone benefits from the proposed legislation," Tomlin said. "Consumers benefit, businesses benefit and, most importantly, towns like Colby benefit. This is the right law, the right time and the right move for Kansas."

The Bell executives also came to Goodland for an unannounced session with some members of the Chamber of Commerce. The general public wasn't invited, but Southwestern Bell issued a press release after the session.

Ron Harding, chamber executive director, said the Southwestern Bell representatives talked to community leaders and had contacted representatives of the city and county. Harding said the people at the meeting were interested in what Tomlin had to say, but wondered about the fact Goodland had to provide the list of 500 customers before the phone company would install broadband.

"Before I decide one way or another about this bill," said Gerry Fulwider, director of the Thomas County/Colby Chamber of Commerce, on Saturday, "I will need more information and an opportunity to investigate it further."

Tomlin said that this legislation would mean a commitment by Southwestern Bell to make broadband available in any community with at least 500 customers. The community has to gather the list of customers, however.

While Fulwider said he believes areas like Colby and Goodland will soon have the broadband capabilities to compete in the global economy, he said he has concerns about smaller communities in northwest Kansas — like Rexford or Gem.

"Southwestern Bell is a good supporter of our schools and has given financially to various causes," he said. "On the other hand, S & T Telephone

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Janet Murguia, a Hispanic Kansas native, worked in the White House for about six years before becoming executive vice chancellor at the University of Kansas. She talked with Hispanic students here Thursday about the importance of education.

Photos by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Education 'key to coolness'

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Janet Murguia, a Kansas native who worked in the White House for six years before moving back last year, told Goodland Hispanic students on Thursday that she and her twin sister Mary were "kind of nerdy" in high school.

She said they carried big piles of books from class to class and were an easy target for bullies.

"We were so uncool," the 41-year-old said, as the high school and junior high students giggled in front of her.

Murguia, who grew up in Kansas City, Kansas, said that didn't stop them from studying hard and getting good grades.

"But you know what," she said. "It was cool to work in the White House. It was cool to fly in Air Force One and it was cool to ride in the president's motorcade."

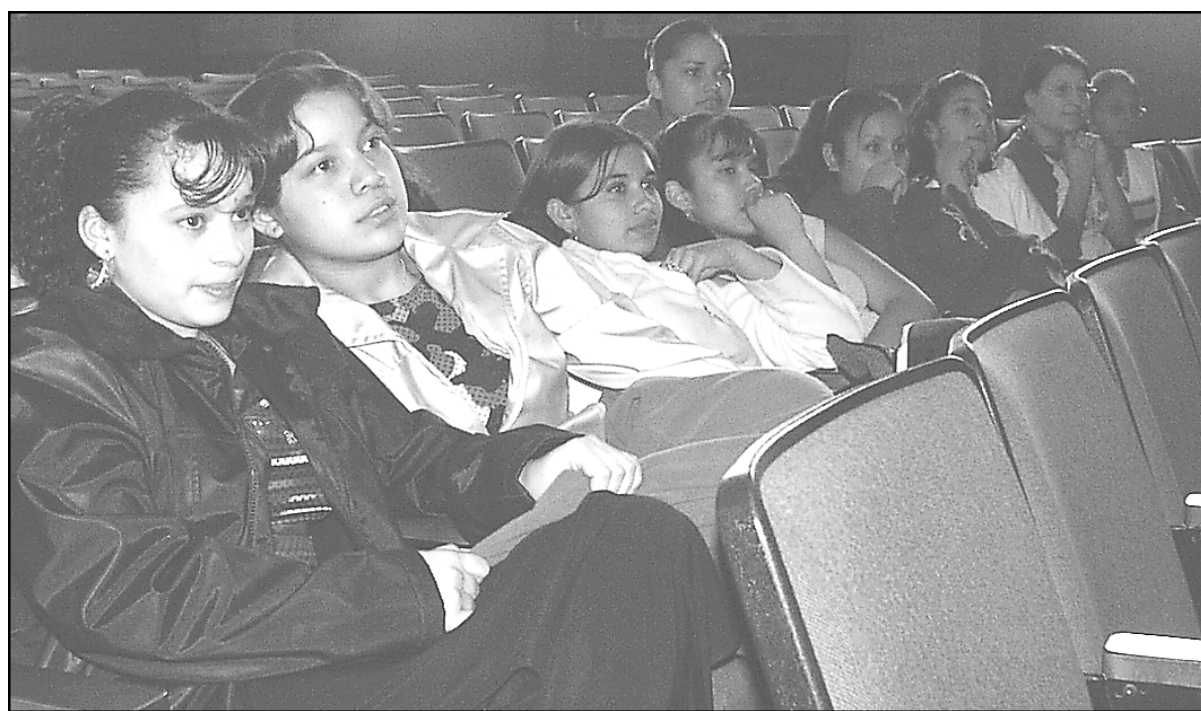
As the first latina to serve as a federal district judge in Arizona, Murguia said Mary has gone from "nerd" to "way cool," too.

"We're living proof you can do what you want," she said.

Murguia, named executive vice chancellor for university relations at the University of Kansas last summer, spoke to about 60 Hispanic students in the Goodland High School auditorium on Thursday afternoon. She and her sister earned three degrees from KU, including a juris doctorate from the law school in 1985.

Murguia and Al Bohl, the university's new athletic director, visited several cities in western Kansas last week to introduce themselves to alumni and meet with prospective students.

Harvey Swager, Goodland High



About 60 Hispanic high school and junior high students listened and asked questions.

School principal, said he asked Murguia to talk with Hispanic students here because he felt they would listen to her advice. He said the school is working with the Regional Prevention Center here to help Hispanic girls feel more accepted and improve their grades.

After Murguia talked for about 45 minutes, the boys were dismissed and Swager left her alone with about 20 young latinas. Cris Lovington, a latina who runs the prevention center, sat in on the session, which lasted until the last bell rang at 3:20 p.m.

With a compassionate but firm demeanor, Murguia talked with the girls for more than an hour about racism in the classroom, their grades, their home lives, their dreams and their fu-

tures. She told them to stay focused on their goals and to be proud of their culture and ideas, but also to keep an open mind towards others' beliefs.

"They have to give you a chance," she said, "but you have to give them a chance. They're going to learn a lot from you, and you will learn a lot from them."

Many of the girls at first responded with smirks, yawns and comments about how they couldn't get good grades, but they were soon talking about their plans after high school and resolving to try harder.

Early in the session, freshman Nelda Aguirre told Murguia school is boring and she doesn't plan to attend college or get a job after graduation.

"Oh, you think people are just go-

ing to give you money because you look good?" Murguia asked.

Aguirre didn't respond, but she raised her hand about an hour later to say, "Hold up. I have a soft spot. I want to become a nurse."

Other girls said they want to be a doctor, lawyer, anesthesiologist, pyrotechnician, chemist and psychologist. One girl named Melissa said she wants to design cars.

"Well, go on with your bad self," Murguia said, "and be a car designer."

She began her talk by saying she and her six brothers and sisters grew up in a poor, Hispanic community in the Argentine district of Kansas City, and all shared a bedroom. Murguia told the

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Winter melody



Birkley Barnes, Goodland, and 25 other musicians with the Pride of the Prairie Orchestra performed "A Classic Winter's Tale" at Colby High School auditorium on Sunday. The concert, directed by Juliann Groom, included Haydn's Toy Symphony and Muppet Medley for children. Photo by Patty Decker/The Colby Free Press

House advances Senate map plan

TOPEKA (AP)—A bill that redraws the state's 40 Senate districts is on its way to Gov. Bill Graves — putting him in a serious political bind.

The House approved the bill 96-25 today.

A coalition of the Senate's 10 Democrats and 11 conservative Republicans drafted the redistricting plan and pushed it through their chamber over the objections of Senate President Dave Kerr, R-Hutchinson.

Graves was in Washington at a meeting of the National Governors Association, but has said he had reservations about the proposal and had not decided whether he would veto it.

Last week, Graves told *The Topeka Capital-Journal* he will probably need all 10 Democratic votes in the Senate for tax increases to avoid deep cuts in education and social services.

"So, I find myself in a kind of a tough situation," Graves told the newspaper. "I'm going to sort of tread lightly here for a few days and see what develops." House members followed a tradition

that each chamber approves the other's redistricting map unchanged.

Senate coalition members said their proposal was fairer to Democrats and rural legislators than a map endorsed by the Senate Reapportionment Committee. Critics suggested the coalition plan helps conservative Republicans, particularly in Johnson County, and in western Kansas.

Another key difference is the treatment of Sen. Janis Lee, D-Kensington.

In the bill advanced by the House, Lee would share a district with Sen. Larry Salmans, R-Hanston. The plan supported by Kerr would put her in a district with Sen. Stan Clark, R-Oakley, one Democrats said would be tougher for her to win. Clark and Lee both pushed for the rebel plan.

Lee said that in an effort to drive a wedge between the Democrats and their conservative Republican partners, Kerr last week offered a deal to give Lee her own district, freeing her from having to run against Salmans. But she would have to sell out the 11

GOP conservatives who joined with the Democrats to form the coalition. Lee said she isn't willing to do that.

All 21 of the senators who voted for the map signed a letter to Graves last week urging him to sign it into law.

"We gave our word to them, just as they gave their word to us," Lee said. "And if either group was to break that word, we simply would not be able to operate in the Senate again."

Kerr said he, Lee and Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley, D-Topeka, talked last week but that he offered the Democrats no deal.

Kerr has said he opposes the map the Senate approved because it was drawn in secret.

He said Monday that he hadn't expected House members to make any changes.

"We didn't expect them to clean up our problems," Kerr said. "It would be unfair of us."

Graves told *The Capital-Journal* that in a meeting last week, Democrats warned him against vetoing the map