

weather
report

41°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 6:00 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:46 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:01 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 44 degrees
• Humidity 25 percent
• Sky partly sunny
• Winds southwest 18-25 m.p.h.
• Barometer 30.20 inches
and falling
• Record High 80° (1945)
• Record Low 7° (1952)

Last 24 Hours*

High 29°
Low 9°
Precipitation trace

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, lows near 30, winds south 10-15 m.p.h. Tomorrow: partly sunny, high upper 60s, low lower 30s, 40% chance of rain or snow late, winds west 5-15 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: cloudy, high lower 40s, low upper teens, 30% chance of snow. Monday: cloudy with chance of snow, high mid 30s. Tuesday: cloudy with 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 — \$2.59 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.50
New Crop — \$2.55
Corn — \$1.87 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.85
Loan deficiency payment — 14¢
Milo — \$1.58 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.02 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.92
Loan deficiency payment — \$1.00
Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.25 cwt.
Nu Sun — \$9.40 cwt.
Loan deficiency prmt. — 17¢
Confection current — \$16/\$8 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$27
(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.

Bush pledges
aid to poorest

MONTERREY, Mexico — As fresh terrorist worries loomed, President Bush told a U.N. poverty summit today the United States will lead rich nations in helping the world's most desperate regions prosper because "hope is an answer to terror."

"History has called us to a titanic struggle whose stakes could not be higher because we're fighting for freedom itself. We're pursuing great and worthy goals — to make the world safer and, as we do, to make it better," Bush told some four dozen heads of state meeting here.

He outlined his new foreign aid doctrine rewarding poor nations with additional U.S. funds only if they root out corruption, commit to open markets and undertake serious political reform.

The U.S. will help the world's poorest people, Bush said.

Economy growth 'relies on passion'

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

It's called Enterprise Facilitation, but Ze Ferreira of the Sirolli Institute describes it as a bottom-up economic development system that relies on the passion of people to take new business ideas and make them successful.

About 50 people, including 12 from Sherman County, met at the Barrel Springs Hunt Club in Horace on Tuesday. They came for a day-long session on how a program developed by Ernesto Sirolli can help expand the business base in six counties involved in the Western Kansas Enterprise Facilitation Consortium.

The consortium, including Sherman County, has been awarded a \$200,000 state grant to try

out Sirolli's ideas over three years. The six counties have to come up with \$100,000 collectively to match the grant. It is one of three pilot programs that received the grant.

The six counties are Sherman, Scott, Greeley, Wichita, Logan and Kearney.

Ferreira, a Sirolli Institute project manager, spoke at the session. He said the goal of the program is to empower people to do good things, including developing ideas and implementing those ideas.

The basic idea is to find people in a community with an idea for a business and have experts within that community work to build the business and make it successful. That way, profits will stay in the community and benefit people there.

The program will strengthen the community's economy and give young people a chance to stay and raise families, increasing the community's population.

Ferreira compared the plan to an old-fashioned sense of barn raising.

"We want to recapture the spirit of the culture that gave us this western idea of help from neighbors," Ferreira said. "We know that in every town in this area there are people with ideas for starting new businesses, and this program is designed to assist in seeing these ideas become successful."

It won't happen overnight, Ferreira said, noting the program differs from the traditional economic development programs because it is client-driven and the effort depends on the passion of the

person with the idea.

"This program does not go out and seek new business from out of the area," he said. "In fact, we don't go out seeking anyone. We want to spend our time helping those who come to us for help, and are willing to look at what they are doing and how it can be improved."

The Sirolli Institute is a not-for-profit corporation based in Minneapolis, Minn. There are also offices in Canada and Australia.

Ernesto Sirolli was born in Italy and has a degree in political science from Rome University. Over the past 20 years, he has worked in Europe, Africa, Australia, New Zealand, the U.S. and

See ECONOMY, Page 7

Jury says

owners are guilty

Dog master may be sentenced to life

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Rejecting defense arguments that the attack couldn't have been foreseen, jurors returned a murder conviction against a woman whose dog mauled a neighbor to death in an apartment building hallway. The woman's husband was convicted of manslaughter.

Marjorie Knoller fought back tears as jurors announced Thursday she was guilty on all counts. Behind her, victim Diane Whipple's domestic partner, Sharon Smith, and others began to weep.

"There's no real joy in this but certainly some measure of justice for Diane was done today," Smith said later. "I'm glad to see the jury didn't buy some of the smoke screens that were put in front of them."

Knoller, owner of the two huge Presa Canario dogs named Bane and Hera, was convicted of second-degree murder. She was also found guilty, along with her husband, Robert Noel, of the lesser charges of manslaughter and having a mischievous dog that killed someone.

The murder count carries a potential sentence of 15 years to life; each of the lesser charges carries a sentence of up to four years.

Sentencing was set for May 10 in San Francisco, where the fatal attack on Whipple, a 33-year-old lacrosse coach, happened last year as she was carrying groceries into her apartment. The case was moved to Los Angeles because of heavy pretrial publicity.

One legal expert said Thursday's verdict was likely to send a message across the nation.

"This does not mean every dog mauling case will end up as a murder case," said Loyola University Law Professor Laurie Levenson. "But it does mean if people have prior warning they will have to take it seriously."

After the verdict, jurors said they thought Knoller, 46, and Noel, 60, had been arrogant to ignore warnings from more than 30 people that their dogs were dangerous. The 120-pound Bane delivered the fatal wounds and Hera tore at Whipple's clothing during the attack. Both dogs were later destroyed.

Knoller looked stricken upon hearing the verdict, turning to look at her parents and apparently mouthing the word "help." Her husband showed no reaction.

In all, jurors deliberated for 11 1/2 hours over three days before convicting the couple. They decided the most serious charge, second degree-murder, last.

"It was a painful decision," said jury foreman Don Newton, 64. "The question of implied malice was a difficult question to decide, but we did decide there was implied malice in her actions."

He said Noel, who was not present during the attack, nevertheless "was equally responsible."

Jurors said Knoller was her own worst witness, unbelievable at every turn in her testimony. Newton said Noel, who didn't testify but whose letters about the dogs were admitted as evidence, "didn't seem to be a very nice person."

Award winners



Fifth graders (from left) Jordan Skyler, Hollie Langley, Linsey Owens and Hannah Blake compared pictures of themselves on reading goal awards they received on Thursday at North Elementary School. Julica

Bonsall (far right) stood with the girls on the school's stage, where the students went after receiving their awards. North holds an academic awards ceremony for all students every March.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

City approves water park improvements

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

City officials plan to install equipment for middle-sized kids at Steever Water Park, and have decided to shut the pool's gates a little earlier each day when it opens this spring.

The Goodland City commissioners approved water park recommendations from the city-county recreation board, presented by Jason Hickson, parks and recreation director for the city, at a meeting Monday.

The suggestions included:

- Put in a small slide or low diving board to replace the high dive, which was removed to satisfy insurance requirements. The biggest complaint Hickson said he hears about the pool is there aren't enough activities for middle-sized kids.

- "We have stuff for toddlers, and stuff for big kids," Hickson said. "We need something for kids who aren't big enough for the big slides."

- A small board or slide costs \$4,000 and up, Hickson said, depending on how fancy it is.

- Keep the pool open from 1 to 6 p.m., closing an hour earlier than last year. A lot of people don't swim after 6 p.m., Hickson said, because of youth baseball leagues and other activities.

- "We might upset a few people," Hickson said, "but not the majority."

- Monitor adult lap swim times from noon to 1 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. Hickson said the pool might close early some days if not enough people show up for lap swimming. One possibility, Hickson said, is to have adult lap swim times every other day.

- Close early on July 4 and during the week of the county fair. Not enough

Screens to make field better

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

Players should have an easier time playing baseball at Memorial Field this summer, thanks to some improvements by the City-County Recreation Department.

Jason Hickson, parks and recreation director for the city, told the Goodland City commissioners this week that he has collected enough money from six Goodland businesses for windscreens and a sponsor panel for the baseball field at Centennial Park.

The windscreens and the panel will be placed on the center field section of the outfield fence, Hickson said, and will cover 145 feet in both directions. The windscreens will block about 70 percent of the wind, he said, noting he could have gotten a screen that would block 90 percent, but it would not have been as durable.

"This one should last a good many years," Hickson said.

He said the windscreens and the panels should both help baseball players at the park.

Blocking the wind will make it easier for ball players to chase down and control the ball, he said, and the sponsor panel will help batters see the ball better by giving them a back-

ground.

The cost of the project is just under the \$1,800 collected, Hickson said, but he told the commissioners the recreation department might have to pay \$100 for shipping costs. He said Thursday all costs will be covered. The project should be completed sometime in May, he said.

Short & Son, Frontier Equity, Dairy Queen, Kennedy & Coe, Finley Motors and Unruh Family Chiropractic each donated \$300, Hickson said, and will have their names and logos displayed on the sponsor panel.

Hickson said he would like if six more business would sponsor the ball park, adding that he is looking into getting more windscreens and panels for other fields.

Hickson also told the commissioners that Western State Bank has agreed to pay for a new scoreboard at the field to replace the current broken one.

The cost of the board plus shipping comes to \$3,414. He said it was ordered Thursday, March 14, and should be at the field in three to four weeks. Hickson said the new scoreboard is similar to the one on the field the Goodland High School softball team uses.

people swim during fair week, Hickson said, to justify keeping the pool open.

- Fill the pool on Monday, May 6, and open the park on Memorial Day week-

end. This will give pool employees enough time to make sure everything is working correctly, Hickson said.

- Keep price for admission the same:

13 and up, \$3; 6 to 12, \$2; younger than 6, \$1.

- Offer a lifeguard certification class for those wanting to be lifeguards from May 20 to 24.

- Reject a recommendation by last year's lifeguards to close once a week for maintenance and to give lifeguards at least one day off a week. The board doesn't see any reason to close, Hickson said. There should be enough time in the mornings to do any maintenance work, he said.

The board did not have any recommendations for a pool manager, but the city has received two applications. Last year's assistant manager wants to stay in that position, Hickson said.

The board has discussed hiring a third manager, he said, because last year the two managers worked fifty hours a week or more.

A part-time third manager would take some of the burden off of the other two.

"If we made it a part-time job," Hickson said, "maybe it would make it easier for someone from the school district to take the job every year."

Commissioner Curtis Hurd said he was concerned that the pool had to close in the middle of August so the lifeguards could go back to school.

Hickson said it really wasn't much of a problem, attendance starts to drop in August anyway.

The recreation board gave figures to the city commissioners which showed the average pool attendance in June was 169 people a day, July 165 people and August 125.

A total of 13,137 admissions were sold over the summer, and 611 adult lap swims.