

**weather
report**

76°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:18 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:16 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:19 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 53 degrees
• Humidity 20 percent
• Sky mostly cloudy
• Winds north 8 m.p.h.
• Barometer 29.95 inches

and falling
• Record High 87° (1977)
• Record Low 4° (1989)

Last 24 Hours*

High 74°
Low 33°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: cloudy, low mid 40s, winds southwest 15-25 m.p.h., 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Tomorrow: cloudy, high mid 60s, low lower 40s, winds north 10-20 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Friday: mostly sunny, high lower 70s, low mid 40s. Saturday: partly cloudy, high upper 70s. Sunday: showers in the afternoon, high 70s. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local
markets**

Noon

Wheat — \$2.56 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.46
New Crop — \$2.54
Corn — \$1.85 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.80
Loan deficiency payment — 19¢
Milo — \$1.54 bushel
Soybeans — \$3.99 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.98
Loan deficiency payment — 94¢
Millett — \$3.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$8.70 cwt.
Nusun — \$8.85 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 56¢
Confection current — \$16/\$8 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$28

(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 to fight until the end

JENIN, West Bank — Prime Minister Ariel Sharon toured the scene of the deadliest West Bank fighting today and said he would press ahead with his military offensive until Palestinian militias have been crushed — despite U.S. pressure.

Sharon spoke at an army command post overlooking the Jenin refugee camp hours after an Islamic militant, apparently a resident of the camp, blew himself up on a bus near the Israeli port city of Haifa, killing eight passengers.

On Tuesday, 13 Israeli soldiers were killed in a sophisticated Palestinian ambush in the camp, the army's biggest single combat loss since 1983.

Speaking to cheering soldiers, Sharon said he explained to President Bush that "We are in the middle of a battle. If we leave, we will have to return."

Grocery may open in Alco location

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

The group working to start a community-owned grocery in Goodland has switched its sights from the old Safeway building on 11th and Broadway to the former Alco building on Main Avenue.

John Garcia, spokesman for the 17-member committee, said members stopped looking at the old Safeway when they received an "unacceptable" lease agreement from Fleming Foods.

Fleming holds the lease on the building, which last housed a Fleming-owned Jubilee store, and agreed to sub-lease it to the grocery committee for \$2,500 a month.

Garcia said he couldn't discuss the details that

turned the committee off.

"Fleming threw a monkey wrench into the content of the lease," he said. "I'm not at liberty to discuss it now."

Plans are tentative, Garcia said, but the committee is considering opening the co-operative grocery in Alco's former home on 12th and Main. The Abilene firm that owns Alco closed the store two weeks ago, saying it would take about a month to clear out inventory.

Alco's closing upset city leaders and business owners, who said the "anchor store" pulled shoppers downtown.

Linda Knott, owner of Knott Just Books on Main, said people should support the co-operative grocery, which could become a new downtown

anchor.

"It would be ours," she said. "We could either make it or break it."

Garcia said the Alco store has about the same square footage as the old Safeway and the committee could install a side entrance so it would be convenient for shoppers to park on 12th Street.

First, he said, committee members have to figure out where they will buy food and how they will get the money to open the grocery.

If the grocery opened in the old Safeway, the committee would likely have bought food from Fleming, but that's not an option now. Garcia said members plan to meet with a Kansas City man who works for Affiliated Foods, a co-operative grocery supplier.

He said the committee is planning to hold public meetings this month to answer questions about the co-operative. Members canceled two meetings scheduled for last week because they wanted time to discuss changing plans and moving into the Alco store.

The meetings also serve as a chance for the committee to recruit investors. They are hoping 500 families will invest \$2,000 each in the project and 20 businesses will pitch in \$10,000 each, for a total of \$1.2 million. If the store turns a profit, investors will make money.

Garcia said he hopes the change in plans doesn't dim people's enthusiasm.

"People are so positive right now," he said. "We don't want to throw any negatives at them."

Cafe waitresses to donate tips

Money used to fight crippling disease

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

A woman is walking around a mall, shopping, and her legs give out underneath her. Though a young woman, she is not able to get up on her own.

For three months, she continues to have trouble with her legs going numb. Finally, a doctor diagnoses her with multiple sclerosis. Now she knows what is wrong, and also that there is no cure. The disease will progressively worsen.

She has to give up her job. She is unable to walk more than 10 minutes at a time and sometimes even has to use a wheelchair. She can't bend down or she will fall over.

This is what life is like for Marian Corke, whose mother, Delores Corke, manages Butterfly Cafe at Renner Field. Delores and her daughter Carlotta McDermott, who waits tables at the cafe, will be collecting tips as they wait tables on Friday at the cafe to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Society through the MS Walk in Hays.

Carlotta said they were just trying to think of a way to raise money instead of just asking people for it. They hit on the idea of donating their tips from one day.

Friday, the women will be collecting money for the cause, she said, and will have pamphlets on hand about multiple sclerosis. Marian plans to travel from Great Bend to be at the cafe to visit with people and answer questions. The restaurant will be open from 6 a.m.-3 p.m.

Marian says the disease started in her legs. She was walking in a mall in Kansas City, where she lived at the time, when her legs just gave out. There was no pain, she said, but she couldn't walk.

She was food service director for a school in Kansas City, working about 50 hours per week, Marian said. She was pushing a cart of food up a hill one

day when her legs gave out. The cart rolled down the hill and spilled the food, and she couldn't even get up. She had to crawl back down the hill to the door of the school so she would have something to hold onto to pull herself back up.

"This was the first sign I could not do the job anymore," she said.

Marian's active lifestyle ended. She used to walk four miles a day with her mom, but now can't walk for more than 10 minutes.

She is not in pain; she goes numb and feels nothing.

She says she gives herself a shot every night but doubts that the medication is helping.

"I told my neurologist that it isn't working," she said, "but he said it won't cure me, just keep me from getting worse."

"I can't tell it's doing anything. I just have to take his word for it."

Although she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis three years ago, Marian still has difficulty with the way it has changed her life.

"I tell my sister — I used to be able to do that," she said, "and I see other people and think, 'I wish I could do that.'"

Marian is on disability because she can't get a job.

She is not used to sitting at home all day and has only enough money to pay her bills, nothing extra.

She could make a little bit of money and still get disability, she said, so she is trying to find a job.

Marian sells Avon, Carlotta said. She had an open house one day and donated 10 percent of her sales to the walk.

Carlotta and her mother, along with Delores' husband Kenneth, and another daughter, Marlene, and her husband

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Kids cuffed at career day

Jordan Albers (above) listened to police officers describe their jobs while Cpl. Dave Becker of the Goodland Police (left) showed Spencer Windell how it feels to wear handcuffs during a career day for sixth graders Tuesday morning at Northwest Kansas Technical School.

Photos by Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

Internet customers: be ready for switch

Customers of nwkansas.com need to make changes in their system setup today as the Internet service provider switches its wholesale connection to Southwestern Bell.

Customers were not able to access web sites or get e-mail until the changeover was done, said Tom Betz, director of Internet services for the firm.

"Everyone will need to change their Domain Name Service, or DNS, setting," he said. "We've notified everyone again this week of the new numbers."

The change had been scheduled for last Wednesday, but was put off a week after Bell discovered that several wholesale customers had been assigned the wrong Internet Protocol numbers.

"Basically, what they told us is that we got numbers to connect to Kansas City," Mr. Betz said, "but we have to connect to Topeka. It's a good thing we found out before we made the actual switch."

E-mail service was shut down in the

morning so the server could be moved from Oberlin to Goodland. Both e-mail and web service were expected to be back by early afternoon, Mr. Betz said.

Customers got an e-mail and a letter outlining the change and what they need to do. Anyone who needs help can call 899-2338 for help.

"We plan to have our offices open in the evening Wednesday to Friday and on Saturday to help, as long as people keep calling," he said.

He said the firm expects to have faster and more dependable service after the change.

It has been getting Internet from Carroll's Web out of Salina, which bought out the old supplier. Carroll's had a major outage on its system last month.

nwkansas.com has Internet services in Oberlin, Norcatur, McDonald, Oakley, Bird City, Goodland and Colby. It is a unit of Nor'West Newspapers, which operates *The Goodland Daily News* and four other papers in northwest Kansas.

State budget dilemma gets worse

By John Milburn

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — Legislators swallowed another dose of bad-tasting budget medicine, learning that Kansas will receive \$83 million less than expected in federal Medicare reimbursements.

Some members had hoped to use the money for state expenditures in the 2003 fiscal year, which begins July 1.

"We aren't going to get as much as was anticipated and, in fact, we have to give part of what we received back," Budget Director Duane Goossen told the Senate Ways and Means Committee on Tuesday.

The \$83 million was an optimistic projection based on a change last fall in Medicare reimbursement rates to states for nursing home care for the elderly. The first fruits showed up in the February payment.

However, Congress is closing a loophole that has allowed states to bill the

federal government for half of the highest nursing home provider fees even though they often contract for services at much lower prices. When reimbursement checks arrive, the states pocket the difference.

Federal officials told Kansas on Monday that its attempt to draw down extra money was not allowed under federal law.

"There has always been a big 'if' associated with those funds," Goossen said. The congressional action will have significant budget implications for about 20 states, including California, New York and Illinois.

"I think Kansas is being punished for the misdeeds of other states," said Senate Ways and Means Chairman Steve Morris, R-Hugoton. Kansas captured \$19.4 million of the extra federal funds during its 2000 fiscal year and \$90.1 million in fiscal 2001.

Goossen said new estimates are that

Kansas will receive \$103.2 million in the current fiscal year and \$51.6 million — not the anticipated \$135 million — in fiscal 2003.

"Then that's it," Goossen said.

He noted that Gov. Bill Graves and the House drafted budgets for fiscal 2003 that depended on \$97 million in extra federal money, leaving about \$50 million available for fiscal 2004.

The Senate's budget plan, expected to be debated Wednesday, uses the \$50 million that Graves wanted to leave for 2004 and the now-unavailable \$83 million to cover part of a projected \$700 million budget gap for fiscal 2003.

"It's the ultimate in one-time money," Goossen said. "It creates a huge, huge gaping hole."

Senators appeared shell-shocked.

"We all knew the program was going to come to a screeching halt," Morris said. "Obviously it is very disappointing."