

**weather report**

**66°**  
at noon



**Today**  
• Sunset, 7:19 p.m.  
**Tomorrow**  
• Sunrise, 6:15 a.m.  
• Sunset, 7:20 p.m.  
**Midday Conditions**  
• Soil Temperature 57 degrees  
• Humidity 43 percent  
• Sky sunny  
• Winds north 16 m.p.h.  
• Barometer 30.05 inches and steady  
• Record High 85° (1998)  
• Record Low 11° (1997)  
**Last 24 Hours\***  
High 81°  
Low 47°  
Precipitation none

**Northwest Kansas Forecast**  
Tonight: cloudy, 20 percent chance of rain, low lower 40s, winds variable 5-10 m.p.h. Tomorrow: cloudy, high upper 60s, low lower 40s, winds south 10-15 m.p.h., 20 percent chance of rain increasing to 60 percent in the evening.

**Extended Forecast**  
Saturday: mostly cloudy, high 60s, low mid 40s, 40 percent chance of rain. Sunday: partly cloudy, 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 — \$2.47  
New Crop — \$2.54  
Corn — \$1.82 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.79  
Loan deficiency payment — 20¢  
Milo — \$1.51 hundredweight  
Soybeans — \$3.94 bushel  
Posted county price — \$3.98  
Loan deficiency payment — 94¢  
Millet — \$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.**  
**Arab gunmen surrender**

**JENIN REFUGEE CAMP, West Bank** — Several dozen Palestinian gunmen surrendered today, ending a weeklong battle here that brought the bloodiest fighting of Israel's West Bank offensive. Inside the devastated camp, homes had been flattened by Israeli bulldozers, walls blackened by fire and the streets chewed up by dozens of armored vehicles. Hours ahead of the arrival of Secretary of State Colin Powell on a truce mission, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon acknowledged that Israel's offensive was posing a "problem" for U.S. policy in the Middle East. But he reiterated that the assault would not end until Palestinian militias had been crushed. Israel pulled out of two dozen small towns and villages in the West Bank today, but took over other Palestinian areas.

## Talk of gambling returns

### Slot machines could go in at race tracks

By John Milburn  
Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA—Pari-mutuel track owners and other supporters are trying again to win House approval of expanded gambling in Kansas. After a brief meeting in the Statehouse rotunda Wednesday, the House Tourism Committee endorsed a new proposal, just two days before the Legislature was scheduled to take a two-week recess. Rep. Clay Aurand, R-Courtland, gave the bill a "one-in-three chance" of being debated before lawmakers recess. He said a more likely date is May 2, the second day of the planned legislative wrap-up session. The House voted 64-58 against a similar bill last week. Both chambers rejected gambling bills last year. Under the latest proposal, slot machines and other electronic gambling devices could be installed at Kansas' five pari-mutuel race tracks. The bill specifies how profits would be shared among track operators, local governments and the state. Machines would be allowed at The Woodlands in Kansas City, Camptown Greyhound Park in Frontenac and Wichita Greyhound Park. They also would be permitted at Eureka Downs in Greenwood County and Anthony Downs in Harper County, but they run limited seasons. Voters in each county would have to approve first, however. The latest proposal omits a provision in the earlier bill to allow the new machines at an unspecified, "at-large" site. The bill would require that 26.5 percent of the net revenues from the machines go to the state, with 1 percent set aside to cover regulatory expenses and another 0.5 percent, for an eight-year renovation of the Statehouse.

## Pill may replace workouts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pop a pill, get in shape. That ultimate fantasy of the couch potato may become a reality some day, according to researchers who have found the chemical pathways muscle cells use to build strength and endurance. With this basic knowledge in hand, it now may be possible to develop a pill that pumps up muscle cells without all that exercise, said Dr. R. Sanders Williams, dean of the Duke University of School of Medicine and senior author of a study appearing Friday in the journal Science. Does this mean sedentary people could build muscle by taking pills? "That may be one of the possibilities," said Williams, but the main target of the research is to promote the health of people with heart disease or other conditions that keep them from doing enough exercise. "This could lead to drugs that will let people get the health benefits of regular exercise, even if they cannot exercise," said Williams. This could help patients with heart or lung disease, or lower the risk of Type II diabetics. "It is possible it could become a drug of abuse because it would enhance the performance of athletes," he said. In the study, Williams and colleagues at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas created a group of mice with genes that made a surplus of a protein called calmodulin-dependent protein kinase, or CaMK. When this protein is activated, it and another protein, calcineurin, trigger the physical changes that muscle cells undergo after intense exercise. Mice with a high level of CaMK saw an increase of "slow twitch" muscle.



The cast of "Don't Say No to the U.S.O!" held a dress rehearsal last week. The annual Goodland Arts Council community theater production will go on next weekend with a patriotic theme this year. Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Daily News

## 'Don't Say No' to patriotic play

By Rachel Miscall  
The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Arts Council's annual community theater production will have a patriotic theme this year, complete with a musical salute to the U.S. during World War II, an "all-American" meal, baseball tickets and a red-white-and-blue quilt. Judy Hayden is directing this year's play, "Don't Say No to the U.S.O.!" It's a musical comedy which takes place in 1942 in a Brooklyn U.S.O. club. U.S.O. stands for the United Service Organization, formed during World War II to entertain American soldiers and make them feel welcome wherever they went. Hayden said the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and the war in Afghanistan made her gravitate towards the production. "I chose this play," she said, "because I was interested in doing something patriotic this year in light of all the events." Hayden said other factors in her decision were the play's length — a little over an hour — and the fact it could be held in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, which she thought was an appropriate setting. There will be two dinner-theater productions starting at 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, April 19 and 20, at the hall on Main Avenue and a dessert matinee at 2:30 p.m. that Sunday. Tina Goodwin, director of the Carnegie Arts Center, said the dinner theater is the arts council's biggest fund-raiser of the year. She said tick-



Jeanie Schields, a lead character in the play, rehearsed her role Tuesday night. Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

ets are on sale at the center, 120 W. 12th, and the council is asking people to make reservations by the end of this week, Monday at the latest. No tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets are \$30 for the dinner and \$25 for the matinee. Council members will get a \$5 discount. Hayden said the arts council is planning a patriotic experience, offering an "all-American" meal and giving away symbols of traditional American pastimes. She said the menu will comprise fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, a vegetable, salad, dinner rolls

and apple pie for dessert. Goodwin said desserts will be served during the matinee and student singers from Herndon will perform for that show. The group is called "The Herndon Go-Getters," she said, and its members are 4-H junior leaders. Hayden said the play's finale will honor all branches of the U.S. military. In conjunction with the play, Goodwin said, the arts council is giving away four tickets to a Colorado Rockies game, a homemade apple pie, a handmade quilt and an American flag that flew over the Kansas State Capitol. She said First National Bank donated the tickets, Sharon Jensen is making the apple pie, U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts supplied the flag and a group of women made the patriotic quilt, which is on display at the arts center. Goodwin said Cora and Freda House, Jan Wilson and Joan Reid made the square quilt, which is about five feet in length and width, with Cora House donating the materials. "I really wanted to help the arts center since it didn't get all its funding from the city this year," House said. "I wanted to do something special that would help raise some money." City commissioners cut the amount of money they usually give the arts center by \$3,000 this year, from \$5,000 to \$2,000, saying they didn't have enough in the budget and the city had other commitments. Hayden said the play, which has a

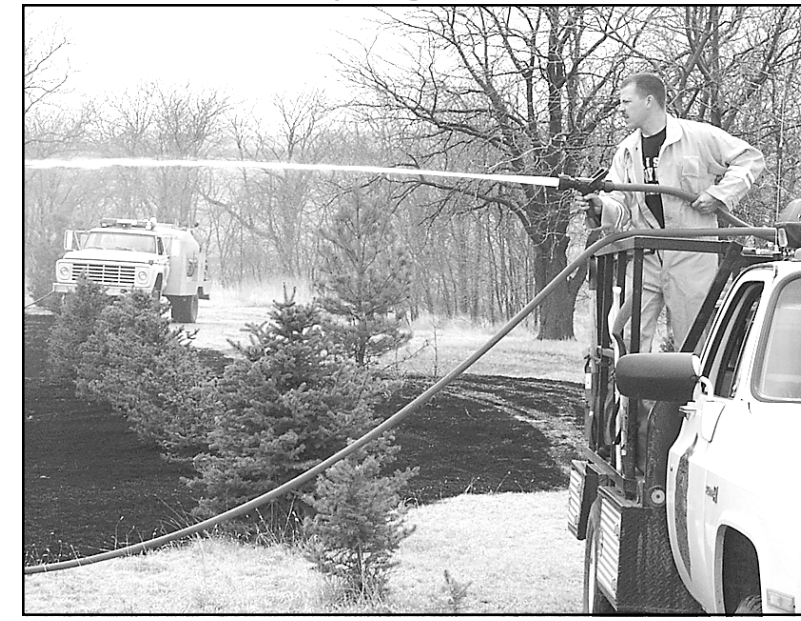
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## Grass, tree fire breaks out on dry golf course

By Doug Stephens  
The Goodland Daily News

A grass fire erupted at Sugar Hills Golf Club Wednesday afternoon on a warm, windy day when the National Weather Service was thinking about issuing a fire weather watch. About 1:30 p.m., a couple of golfers noticed a fire in a group of trees at the west edge of the golf course, said Gary Meyer, superintendent at the golf club. As they tried to beat the fire out, Meyer said, he noticed the commotion and drove over in a golf cart. He tried to stop it from spreading, he said, but the fire was too far gone. Meyer said he drove over to the main buildings and found someone with a cell phone who called the fire department. Seven or eight volunteer firefighters showed up in three trucks, said Lt. Quigg McCombs of the county volunteers.

They put out the blaze quickly, and doused the trees and ground with water to keep the fire from blaring up again. "It was just a little fire," McCombs said, adding that he doesn't know how the blaze started. The weather service had issued a statement Wednesday morning that there was potential for a fire watch, said Dave Thede, a meteorologist at the weather service here. Forecasters had expected strong winds, he said, which didn't show up until last night. "It never got to the point where we had to call (a watch)," Thede said. On a day with low humidity, strong winds can cause small fires to get out of control, Thede said, but the winds Wednesday weren't enough to cause severe problems. A few trees were destroyed at the golf club, Meyer said, but there was no damage to the course.



A Sherman County volunteer fireman soaked trees and grass after a fire Wednesday at Sugar Hills Golf Club. Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News