

weather report

46°
at noon



Today

- Sunset, 7:45 p.m.
- Tomorrow**
- Sunrise, 5:40 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:46 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 68 degrees
- Humidity 96 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds northeast 11 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.90 inches and falling
- Record High 95° (1966+)
- Record Low 29° (1978)

Last 24 Hours*

- High 86°
- Low 44°
- Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy with 30 percent chance of thunderstorms, winds south 10 m.p.h., low upper 40s. Tomorrow: mostly cloudy with 30 percent chance of showers, high near 70, low upper 30s, winds west 20-30 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: mostly cloudy, high mid 50s, low lower 40s. Friday: partly cloudy with chance of thunderstorms (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$2.53 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$2.42
 - Loan deficiency payment — 18¢
 - Corn — \$1.80 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$1.78
 - Loan deficiency payment — 21¢
 - Milo — \$1.49 bushel
 - Soybeans — \$3.99 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$4.02
 - Loan deficiency payment — 90¢
 - Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$9.05 cwt.
 - Nusun — \$9.20 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 57¢
 - 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.

Support low for tax hike

TOPEKA — Republican leaders in both legislative chambers were having trouble building support for the tax increases necessary to finance a budget lawmakers already have passed.

A proposal before the Senate would increase taxes \$335 million to help finance government programs. But GOP leaders were not sure it would pass and were trying to draft an alternative.

"We're still trying to devise the most correct plan," said Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee Chairman Dave Corbin, R-Towanda.

Meanwhile, House Republican leaders hoped to build their own package by dealing with Democrats. The Senate plan would increase a wide array of taxes to eliminate a \$290 million hole in the budget legislators sent to Gov. Bill Graves last week.

Student made president of state club

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

Kansas members of a family and career leadership club will be taking their orders from a Goodland girl.

Amanda Hoffman, a junior at Goodland High School, is the state president of Family, Careers and Community Leaders of America, a club for high school students, for 2002-2003.

Other Goodland students have held state offices, Hoffman said, but as far as she knows, she is the first to become president.

"I was extremely excited," she said. "It's something that's been on the back of my mind since freshman year, ever since I saw the officers on stage at my first state meeting. It's actually really cool."

As president, she will help her 6,000 fellow

Kansas members with their leadership projects, and will direct the planning for the 2003 state leadership showcase. The meeting, to be held in Wichita, is expected to draw 2,500 students.

To become president, she had to best 10 candidates from the 12 club districts in the state. She had to take a written test, pass an interview by a 13-member panel of club advisors, give a mock thank-you speech, and give a presentation.

"We could be a little creative," Hoffman said.

The clubs theme this year is "Lights, camera, action," so she decided to do her presentation as a series of television commercials.

"I wanted to show how society is impacted by things it sees," Hoffman said. "When I gave the



Hoffman

beginning of the spirit slogan, 'Obey your... the audience finished the phrase for me with 'thirst.' It kind of proved that people are impacted by what they see, and can be impacted by what our club does."

Hoffman served as secretary of the Goodland chapter, and later as the district president. She has traveled to national meetings in Florida and California, and is getting ready for the next meeting in Minnesota.

"I've got to go places and see things I never would have if I hadn't been part of the club," Hoffman said.

After members graduate from high school, they can become alumni members, Hoffman said, and keep participating. She says she definitely plans

to do that. "The club has been good to me," Hoffman said. "I want to keep involved with it."

The Goodland chapter runs Little Brother, Little Sister, where high school students spend time with young children after school and serve as role models and mentors. The club usually gives two scholarships a year, Hoffman said, and adopts a Goodland family every year, helping them with food and money.

"Our main focus is on the family," she said. The group raises money for its activities by auctioning off members at a dance, and by running a "money grab" at Max Jones Fieldhouse every year.

Goodland's district has 13 chapters, Hoffman said, and will hold its next meeting, the fall academy, at Northwest Kansas Technical College.

Bomb suspect sought in Texas

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) — The FBI issued an all-points bulletin today for a 22-year-old man, described as armed and dangerous, in connection with a wave of pipe bombs found in rural mailboxes.

Lubbock police spokesman Bill Morgan said the bulletin identified the man as Luke John Helder, who was seen driving a gray Honda Accord with Minnesota plates. The bulletin said Helder was armed and dangerous, Morgan said.

Morgan's statement came shortly after a pipe bomb was discovered in a rural mailbox in Amarillo — 110 miles north of Lubbock — with a letter attached. The device was similar to 17 found in four other states, FBI agent Larry Holmquist said in Omaha.

In Salida, Colo., FBI agent Daniel T. Leyman said authorities nationwide have the description and name of a man who is a possible suspect. Leyman also identified the man as Luke Helder.

"We cannot rule out that he is connected with some kind of organization," Leyman said. In Omaha, where the investigation is centered, the FBI refused to confirm that Helder is a suspect. Holmquist would only say that investigators were aware that an all-points bulletin had been issued for a man.

At a news conference in Amarillo, FBI agent Miles Burden declined to answer questions about Helder, refer-

ring reporters to an afternoon news conference in Washington.

The bomb found in Texas was accompanied by a letter, the FBI said. Holmquist said it was found within the Amarillo city limits by a homeowner around 4:30 p.m. Monday. The homeowner found the bomb in a plastic bag and "moved it into their residence" before calling authorities, he said.

Most of the 17 earlier bombs found in the Midwest and Colorado were accompanied by antigovernment notes that warned, "More 'attention getters' are on the way."

There have been no arrests and no injuries reported since six people were hurt Friday.

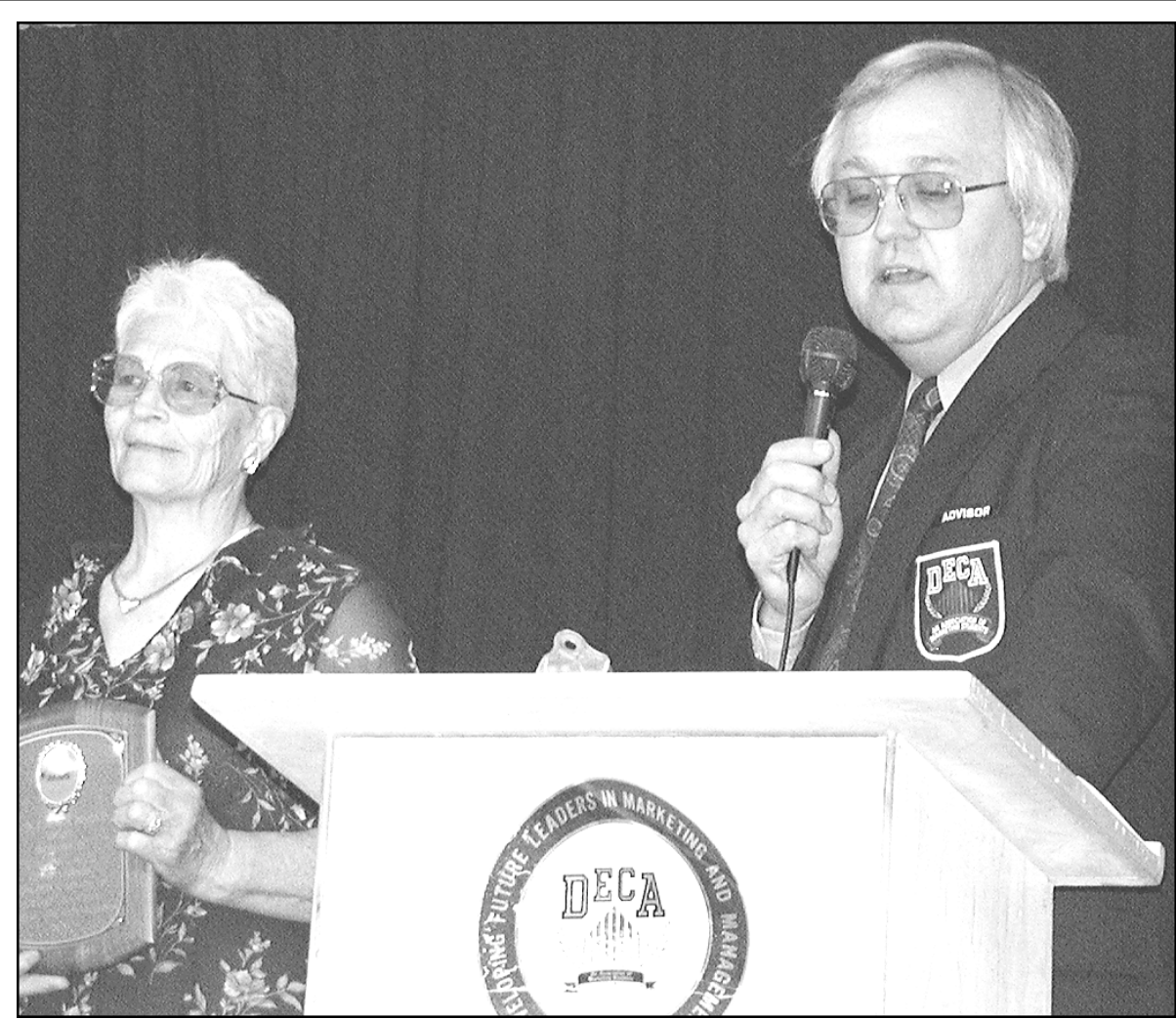
Authorities said notes found with most of the earlier devices were nearly identical, and profiling experts had said whoever wrote them is probably an older American man.

Officials described the bombs as three-quarter-inch steel pipes attached to 9-volt batteries, and said they appeared to be triggered by being touched or moved.

Investigators had not yet inspected the letter attached to the Amarillo bomb, Holmquist said.

"We haven't made any comparisons yet, but everything else, including the bomb itself, looks similar..." he said.

The FBI said today that the first 16 bombs clearly came from the same source and all carried similar letters.



Employers get awards

Richard Schwasinger, Deca club sponsor, introduced Vera Beneda (above), who gave away the Allan E. Beneda Memorial Scholarship at the Deca Employer/Employee dinner Monday evening at the Goodland Elks Lodge. The award, named after Beneda's son, went to Sharon Ries, club president. Ries (right), got ready to name the Sherman Theatre and the Good Samaritan Center as employers of the year.

Photos by Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News



Teachers want change in policy on complaints

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Goodland teachers say the way the district handles staff complaints needs to change because the current procedure takes too long and doesn't involve an impartial third party.

Negotiators representing the teachers union proposed Monday getting rid of some steps in the grievance procedure and giving staff the option to have their complaint heard by a mediator or arbitrator outside the district. Negotiators for the school board said they don't want to include a third party and the board should have the final say on how any complaint is handled.

The proposal was made during annual teacher contract negotiations. Negotiating teams for the teachers and the board have so far met three times this year to decide what will be included in the 2002-2003 agreement. They will meet again at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, at the school administration office on Main Avenue.

Negotiators have agreed on a couple of issues, but are still wrangling over proposals from both sides. They can't discuss salary increases until the Kansas Legislature decides how much it will give schools next year, a decision expected this week.

The four-member district team, headed by board member Kathy Russell, agreed to attach teacher evaluation forms to the agreement if a clause is included saying the content isn't negotiable.

The five-member teacher team, headed by Spanish teacher Mary

Porterfield, tentatively agreed. Porterfield said it's important for staff to know what aspects of their performance are being reviewed.

Both sides agreed during a meeting last week to each throw out three proposals tied to money because the district will likely have a smaller budget next year, thanks to state money problems and fewer students enrolling.

Issues still on the table are teacher suggestions to include starting and ending times of the work day, change the way complaints from parents are handled, update the technology requirement and give teachers forced to change grade levels money to buy new supplies. The board wants to make voluntary duties outside the classroom mandatory and require teachers who want to quit to give notice by May 15.

The board team submitted two counterproposals to not include starting and ending times and keep how the district handles complaints from parents the same. Members didn't say much about the teachers' proposal to change the grievance procedure, saying they need time to mull it over.

Porterfield said the current procedure is unfair because an impartial third party is never included. At an earlier meeting, she said many times the people the complaint is against are the same ones deciding a solution or punishment.

In the current policy, she said, a teacher first talks to the principal, then the superintendent, then the board. It's

Man asks repeal of parking rule

By Doug Stephen

The Goodland Daily News

A Goodland citizen has asked the city commission to repeal part of a parking ordinance at its last two meetings.

Ron Barkley says he would like the commissioners to amend the part of the ordinance passed in November which deals with recreational vehicles. Under the ordinance, motor homes and campers can't be parked on the street for more than two hours.

Barkley says he has out-of-town family members who stop by and see him from time to time, and they might stop coming if they have to spend the night in a motel or a campground instead of parking in the street.

The parking ordinance is at cross-purposes with all the effort which has gone into making Goodland more ac-

cessible, he said. The recent road work and the giant Van Gogh sunflower painting were meant to draw people into town from Interstate 70, he said.

"We want to pull people in," Barkley said, "but then we tell them we don't want them to park overnight."

Mayor Tom Rohr said people had complained about recreational vehicles blocking the streets and becoming eyesores.

Barkley suggested a permit be made available for recreational vehicles, which would allow them to stay on the street for a day or two, or at least overnight.

"We looked into that when we passed the ordinance," Rohr said.

Commissioner Dean Blume said a police officer would have to check the date and time a permit was issued,

which would use up manpower, and would end up costing more than the permit brought in.

Barkley had brought his niece, Joyce May, to the meeting Monday, saying that she comes to town about twice a year.

"She collects antiques," he said, "and spends a good amount of money on her biannual visits."

May said she was unhappy with the ordinance.

Her grandmother lives at Wheatridge Acres, she said, and two hours just isn't long enough to visit.

"I do not feel welcome," she said.

The ordinance made her husband angry, she said, and he threatened never to come back to Goodland again.

Rohr said the commission would continue to look into the matter.

New street section keeps old name

City commissioners decided to name the new street that connects 19th Street and Business U.S. 24 "Wyoming" since it basically extends the existing street by that name.

City Manager Ron Pickman said the new street closely aligns with the existing street of that name. It's not a per-

fect fit, he said, but with the train tracks and buildings in the area, the road will never go straight through anyway.

Commissioner Rick Billinger said he had a better idea.

"I've got a suggestion," he said. "How about 'Golden Beltway?'" Billinger couldn't keep a straight

face, though, and the Wyoming motion passed.

In other business, the commission: • Heard an early request from Susan Weagle of the Northwest Kansas Family Shelter for a grant of \$850 for 2003.