

weather report



99°
at noon

Today
Sunset, 8:06 p.m.

Tomorrow
Sunrise, 5:22 a.m.
Sunset, 8:07 p.m.

Middy Conditions
• Soil Temperature 67 degrees
• Humidity 12 percent
• Sky sunny Record high
• Winds southwest 20-25 m.p.h.
• Barometer 29.90 inches and falling
• Record High 95° (1940)
• Record Low 36° (1951)

Last 24 Hours*
High 93° (broken)
Low 54°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast
Tonight: partly cloudy, low mid 60s, winds south 10 m.p.h. Tomorrow: partly sunny with isolated afternoon thunderstorms, record high 95-100, low mid 60s, winds south 10-15 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast
Sunday: partly sunny with 20 percent chance of isolated afternoon thunderstorms, record high 95-100, low mid 50s, Monday: much cooler. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon
Wheat — \$2.57 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.49
New Crop — \$2.62
Corn — \$1.92 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.90
Loan deficiency pmt. — 9¢
Milo — \$1.62 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.42 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.44
Loan deficiency payment — 48¢
Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$10.10 cwt.
NuSun — \$10.25 cwt.
Confection current — \$16/\$8 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$27
(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, 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.

India claims region stable

NEW DELHI, India — India's defense minister said the confrontation with Pakistan was stable today, but the United States advised all but essential American diplomats to leave India and urged about 60,000 Americans there to depart as well.
"There isn't any change on the ground," Defense Minister George Fernandes told The Associated Press. On Thursday Pakistan threatened to redeploy troops moved from the Afghan border to the Indian frontier. "The situation is stable," Fernandes said in Singapore, where he was meeting with other defense officials at a conference on terrorism and security.
In recommending the departure of nonessential diplomats, the State Department said, "Tensions have risen to serious levels."

Dry winter turns to drought spring

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

It has been a tough spring for Sherman County wheat farmers.

The parched plants managed to survive a dry winter, but are now facing an extreme drought, said Brooke Taber, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service here.

The county has received just 2.82 inches of moisture so far this year, he said, down from a normal 6.8. According to the United States drought monitor index, he said, the county would need six to nine inches of rain to come out of the drought.

Moisture that would normally come our way is instead being drawn to other places, Taber said.

Areas in Oklahoma, Texas and even eastern Kansas are getting more than their normal share of rain, he said, due to cold fronts pushing a "dry line" towards our area. These fronts don't allow enough moisture on the surface for rain clouds to develop.

The wheat crop is showing the effects of the lack of rain. Stalks aren't as tall as farmers would like, said Dana Belshe, county agricultural extension agent, and it looks like unirrigated fields will have low yields.

"We missed some good early rains," Belshe said. "We have gotten a little spot moisture in the past few weeks, but it's pretty bad out there."

The topsoil might be a little better off with the recent moisture, he said, but the subsoil is still

hurting.

"Most of the subsoil has been dried out," he said. "The wheat has suffered because of it quite a bit."

The southwest part of the county looks to be having the toughest time, Belshe said, while the northeast seems to be doing a little better.

"It could be worse," he said. "Areas to the south of us, and maybe some in north, are having even a worse time."

Some farmers in surrounding areas have abandoned their crops in the field, Belshe said, due to the extreme dryness and the expectations of a low yield.

"Other counties have had it worse," he said, "but I am sure there have probably been some (abandoned crops) in the county."

The wheat yield will probably be smaller than normal this year, but it is too early to tell how small, Belshe said.

"It will be low," he said. "How low I don't know. It just depends on who got (moisture) and how much they got."

Farmers will soon have to worry about more than just wheat. Sunflowers, pinto and soy beans are being planted, Belshe said, and most corn is already in the ground.

"We've had some moisture, and the crops that are coming up seem to be doing pretty well," Belshe said. "What little moisture we have gotten has helped, but we sure could use more."

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Father held over on charge

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

After two police officers, the police chief, a lawyer, an ex-wife, ex-boss, three friends and 16-year-old testified, a judge decided there was enough evidence to hold Mark Thompson over for arraignment for intentional interference with parental custody, a felony.

The preliminary hearing began at 1:30 p.m. and ended about 4:30 p.m. Tuesday. The charges are the result of Mark taking his and Tohna Thompson's sons, Jaeger, Jacob, Jonah and Job to Texas in January.

Mark and Tohna, who were recently granted a divorce, have been fighting over custody of their children for two years. The conflict rose to a new level when Mark took the kids to Texas without permission.

An anonymous caller told the Bastrop, Texas, police there was a man taking one child then another out of a travel trailer at Fisherman's Park. The officers who responded found Mark with the boys.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby called Kevin Berens, Tohna's lawyer; Officer Brandon Terry; Marie Johnson, the former Marie Enfield, station manager of Total Convenience Store; and Tohna as witnesses for the state.

Perry Warren, Mark's appointed lawyer, called Mike Widner; Jennifer Enfield, Johnson's 16-year-old daughter; Jaymes Caldwell; Ron Jones; Police Chief Ray Smee; and Corporal Dave Becker.

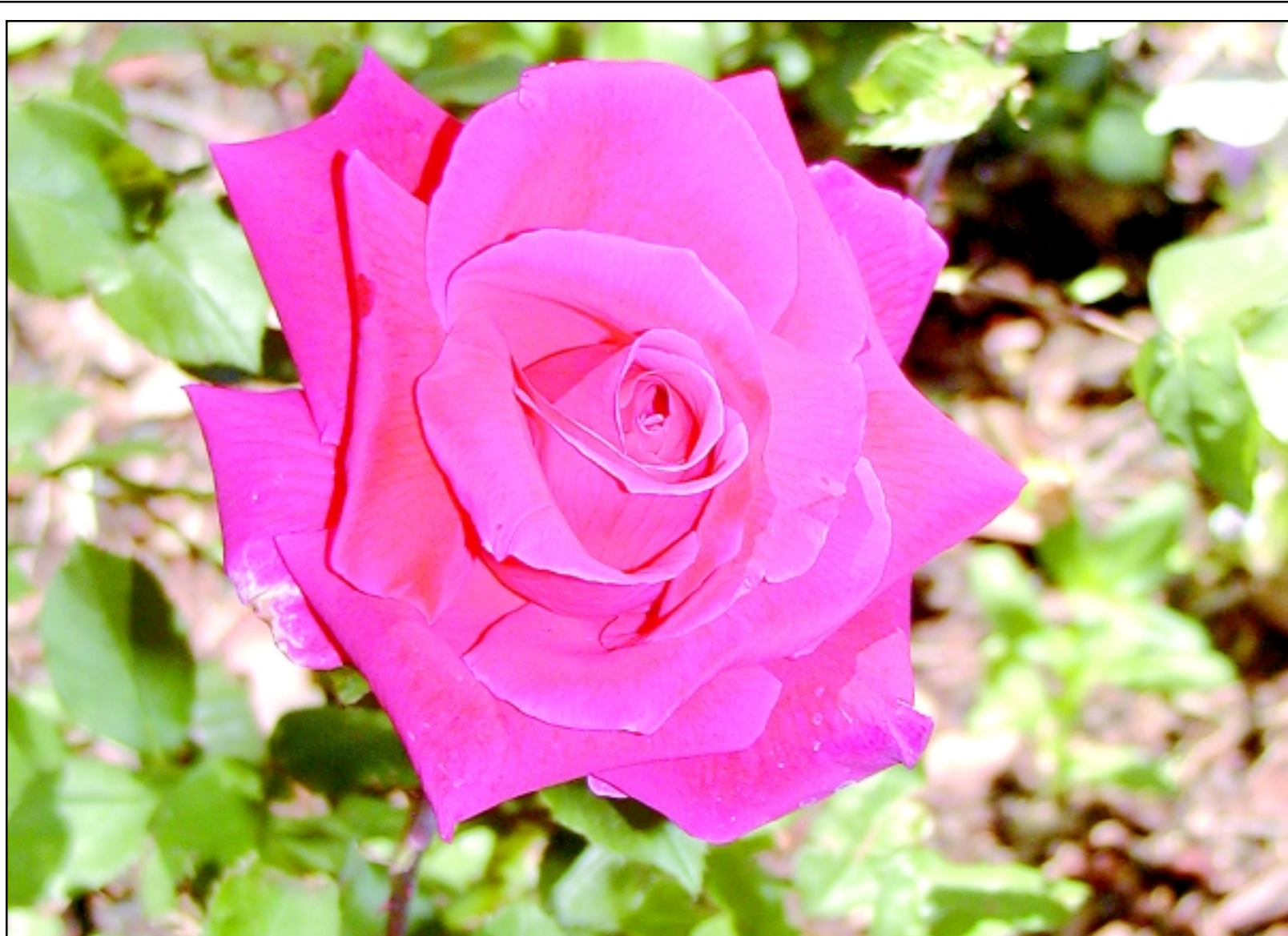
In her closing arguments, Selby said there was sufficient evidence that a crime had been committed and that the proper person was accused. She said evidence showed Mark had intended to deprive Tohna of residential custody.

Warren concluded the evidence clearly showed Mark and Tohna had joint residential custody. Mark may have violated a court order (not to take the children out of state), Warren said, but that does not rise to the level of a 7-person felony.

Warren questioned whether the court had the jurisdiction to make those orders and said there was no proof Mark did not intend to come back to Goodland with the boys.

Tohna, who cried during her testimony, showed obvious relief when she

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SUMMER COLORS



Summer is alive in Bud and Pat Perry's front yard at 804 Harrison Ave., where roses, irises and columbines are in full bloom. Goodland is growing more colorful everyday, as flowers are opening up.

Photos by Rachel Miscall The Goodland Daily News

Legislators end longest session in state history

By John Hanna

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — The longest legislative session in Kansas history finally ended today.

Legislators had returned to the Statehouse for their adjournment ceremony after spending 106 days in session. But they found work waiting for them.

The wrong version of a bill on natural gas exploration had gone to Gov. Bill Graves who signed it. The House and Senate quickly passed the correct version with little debate and sent it to him.

The bill would permit the use of a process to pull natural gas out of coal beds. Lawmakers wanted to pass it because industry officials believe there are promising gas reserves in southeast Kansas.

"They can't proceed without this

bill," said Sen. Stan Clark, R-Oakley.

But Graves received and signed the version introduced in the House, not the version finally approved by lawmakers earlier this month. The only way to correct the mistake was to pass another bill with the correct language.

That bill passed 33-0 in the Senate and 99-1 in the House.

Senate Democrats then mounted an unsuccessful effort to override Graves' veto of a provision of the state budget that would have prevented spending money to reinforce the Statehouse dome to support a statue of a Kansas Indian.

Reinforcing the dome would be necessary to add a statue of a Kansas Indian. The 20-foot bronze statue is "Ad Astra," by Salina sculptor Richard Bergen. But the project would cost \$750,000.

"It's a frivolous waste of taxpayer dollars," said Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley, D-Topeka. "In a tight budget year, we need to save money anywhere we can find it."

Some Republicans noted the Department of Administration hasn't identified money for reinforcing the dome. Others saw the override effort as an attempt to embarrass Graves, a Republican who has never had a veto reversed.

The vote was 20-13 — seven short of the two-thirds majority needed to override. Clark voted to override the veto.

"I think it was an unnecessary gesture of ill will toward the governor," said Senate Majority Leader Lana Oleen, R-Manhattan.

The Senate's action prevented the House from voting, a disappointment to some of its members. When House members began debate the natural gas

legislation, Rep. Ted Powers, R-Mulvane, asked, "Is this the put-the-Injun-on-the-roof bill?" He was told it wasn't.

The sculpture was chosen in a design contest sponsored by the Kansas Arts Commission in 1988. Its name comes from the state motto, "Ad astra per aspera" — "To the stars through difficulties." A replica now stands in the first floor rotunda of the Statehouse.

A dedication of the statue originally was set for July 4, 1990. However, opposition from legislators and others and the cost of reinforcing the dome has prevented the statue from going up.

A 1,000-watt light bulb now adorns the top of the Statehouse. A 1901 plan called for a statue of Ceres, the Roman goddess of agriculture, but legislators objected, saying the state doesn't want to honor a pagan deity.

City meeting

At a meeting Monday, the Goodland City Commission will:

- Listen to Schyler Goodwin give a report about the grant writing program. The program recently hired Penny Nemechek as its grant writer.
- Make two appointments to the construction and demolition debris committee.
- Go over a federal drug and alcohol testing policy.
- Hear a report from Manager Ron Pickman about the Municipal Leadership Academy training class in Goodland on June 28.