

**weather  
report**

**23°**

at noon



**Today**

• Sunset, 4:54 p.m.

**Tomorrow**

• Sunrise, 7:02 a.m.  
• Sunset, 4:56 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil Temperature 36 degrees
- Humidity 96 percent
- Sky overcast
- Winds south 10 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.12 inches and falling
- Record High 73° (1950)
- Record Low -16° (1930)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High 69°  
Low 21°  
Precipitation none

**N.W. Kansas Forecast**

Tonight: cloudy with mixture of freezing drizzle and flurries developing late, low middle teens, winds south 10 m.p.h. Wednesday: mixture of light freezing drizzle and flurries, high 20-30, low 5-10, winds east 10-15 m.p.h.

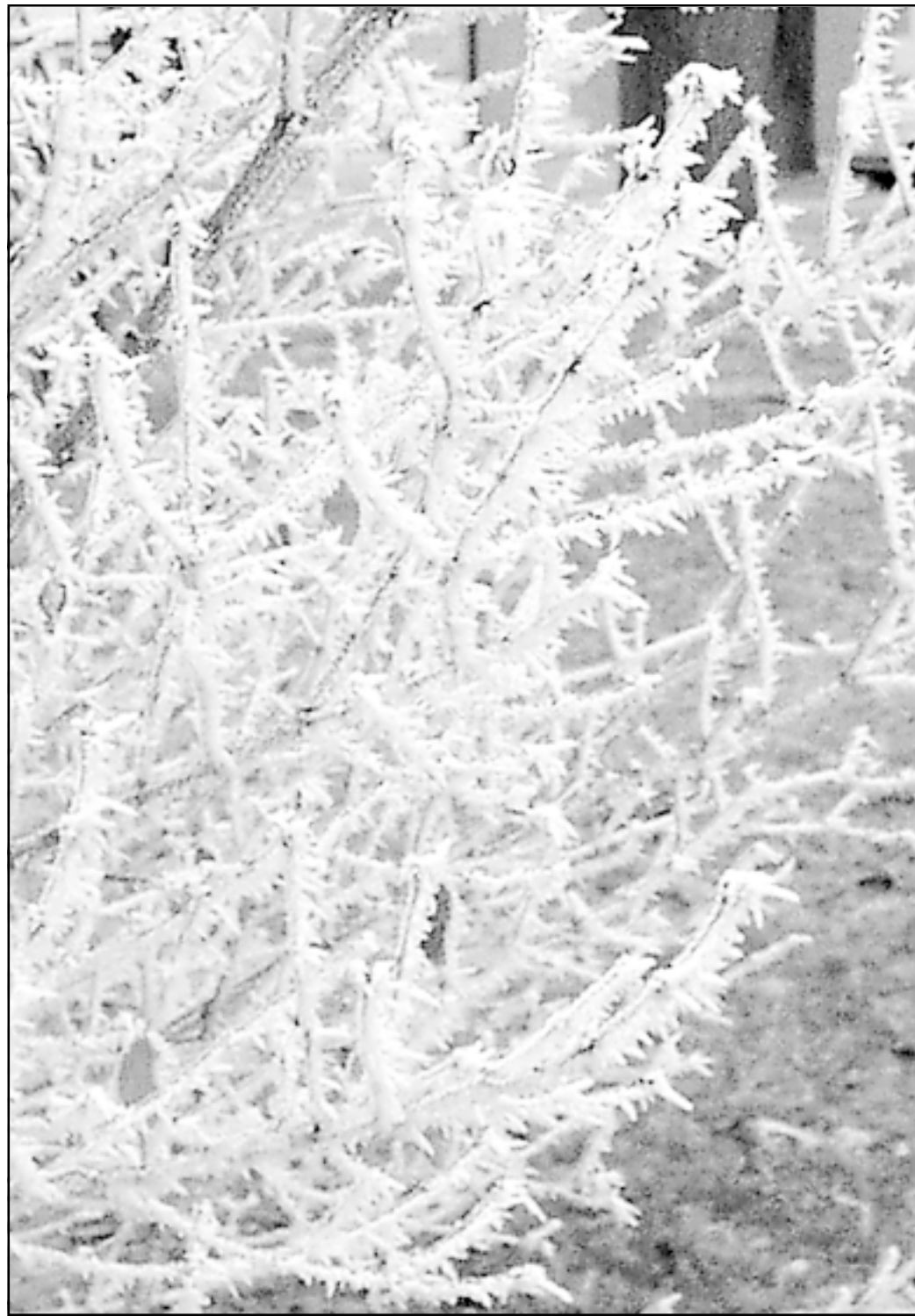
**Extended Forecast**

Thursday: mixture of light freezing drizzle and flurries, high lower 20s, low lower teens. Friday: mostly clear, high lower 40s. Saturday: partly cloudy, high upper 40s, low upper teens. Sunday: mostly clear, high lower 50s.

(National Weather Service)

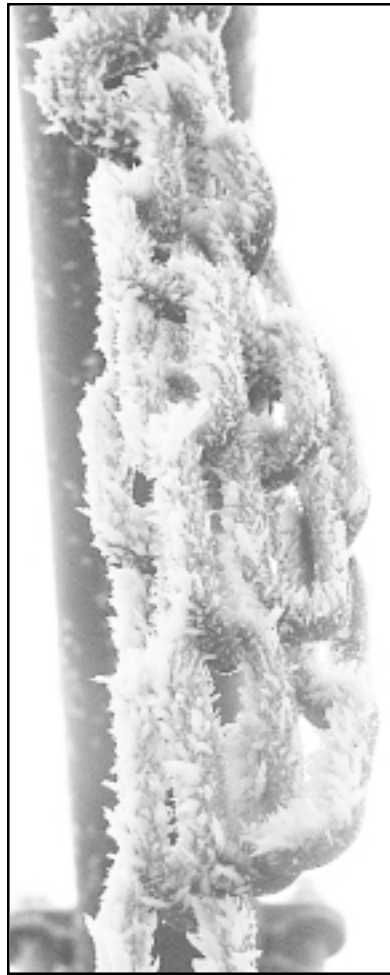
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## Arctic Express arrives



The Arctic Express arrived overnight, dropping the temperature by over 40 degrees and bringing freezing drizzle, fog and ice to northeast Colorado and northwest Kansas. The temperature at noon Monday was 67 degrees and today it was 23, a full 44 degrees lower. The Arctic cold didn't bring much moisture, but what was in the air clung to trees, shrubs and exposed metal, turning Chambers Park into a white wonderland. The cold is expected to last until Thursday, with a chance for snow flurries tonight and tomorrow.

Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News



## Killer to face death

By John Milburn

Associated Press Writer

OLATHE — Nearly three years after his arrest, John E. Robinson Sr. was sentenced to death today for murdering two women and stuffing their bodies into barrels on his rural Kansas property.

During an early morning hearing, Johnson County Judge John Anderson III accepted a jury's recommendation, made Nov. 2, that Robinson become the seventh man sentenced to die in Kansas by lethal injection.

Earlier in the day, Anderson dispensed with post-conviction motions filed by Robinson's attorneys, ruling that the 103 issues raised by the defense did not merit a mistrial. "Is there error in this case?" Anderson asked. "Yes. Did it deny the defendant a fair trial? No."

Robinson, 59, was convicted Oct. 29 for the murders of Suzette Trouten, 27, of Michigan, and Izabela Lewicka, 21, a former Purdue University student. Both were killed after being lured to Kansas by Robinson to engage in sadomasochistic sex.

Their bodies were discovered in June 2000 on Robinson's rural property 60 miles south of Kansas City. Two days later, three more bodies were discovered in barrels in a storage locker rented by Robinson in Raymore, Mo.

Robinson also was convicted of first-degree murder for the 1985 death of Lisa Stasi, 19. Her body was never found. For killing Stasi, Anderson sentenced Robinson to life in prison.

Anderson also sentenced Robinson to five to 20 years for interference with parental custody, a charge related to the adoption he arranged of Stasi's daughter; to 20 1/2 years for kidnapping Trouten; and seven months for the theft of sex toys.

Among those in the courtroom today to hear Anderson's decision were members of Trouten's family, including her mother; Robinson's wife Nancy and his two daughters; and a few members of the jury.

Christy Shipps, one of Robinson's daughters, spoke on the family's behalf, asking Anderson to spare her father's life for the sake of his grandchildren.

"They, your honor, have done nothing wrong," Shipps said.

Anderson rejected defense assertions that the jury was unable to set aside preconceived notions about Robinson's guilt or the death penalty. He also ruled the actions of a juror who brought a Bible to the second of two days of deliberations did not affect the jury's decision.

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**local  
markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$3.35 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.36
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Corn — \$2.39 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.18
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Milo — \$2.16 bushel
- Soybeans — \$5.10 bushel
- Posted county price — \$5.01
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Millet — \$10.00 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$9.50 cwt.
- NuSun — \$10.75 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Confection — \$17/\$7 cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$15
- (Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

## Big Brothers, Big Sisters need more adults to train as mentors

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

After more than a year of planning, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Sherman County is starting to match children with mentors and is looking for more children who need a friend and more volunteers to help them.

Executive Director Dennis Daise said two children are being matched with mentors, and three are scheduled for a personal safety workshop. He started with 21 other referrals, the director said, and is still getting names, though none of the kids can be matched with mentors unless their parents ask for the help. Daise said he has sent information to the families but has yet to hear back from them.

Teachers, health care workers and others who work with children are encouraged to refer children who would benefit from a mentor, Daise said, but anyone can put a name in. Although he emphasized children

of single parent families, Daise said, the program is designed to help all kids who have trouble at home or at school or are just lonely.

If children can't find good role models, he said, they will settle for just about anyone. With Big Brothers-Big Sisters, the mentors are interviewed twice, are visited at home and go through a background check.

Questions about the child's and the mentor's personalities help the agency to match a volunteer with a child whose needs match the volunteer's preferences, abilities and interests, he said.

There is no cost to families, Daise said, or to the volunteers, but it costs money to run the organization. The group will have a "bowl-a-thon" in April to raise money.

Daise said he will have a booth at the health fair Saturday, Feb. 1, to try to find volunteers and children needing help.

The initial board meeting to try to establish the agency here, Daise said, was July 30, 2001. Since then, the group has had a bowl-a-thon in August and hired Daise in October.

He started with the office in his home, but was able to move to a newly remodeled office at 1002 Main, the old Q's building. Though he appreciates the help he got from Justin Bentzinger in getting that office, Daise said, the agency may move to a larger office in March. The current office is just too small, he said.

Big Brothers-Big Sisters says its goal is to change the world one child at a time. The agency estimates that "little brothers and sisters" are 46 percent less likely than their peers to start using drugs, 27 percent less likely to start drinking and eight times less likely to be arrested, and they earn better grades and stay in school longer.

## Moran stops here tomorrow

U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran will stop at the Western State Bank in Goodland from 8 to 9 a.m. Wednesday as a part of his seventh annual "Big First Listening Tour."

Each year since 1996, when he was first elected to Congress, Rep. Moran has traveled to all counties in the 1st District, holding a town-hall meeting in each. Moran says the tour gives people a chance to ask questions and give ideas on national issues.

"With so many challenges in Washington, and difficult times in Kansas, common-sense advice from the people of Kansas is more important than ever," he said.

"It is essential to my job in Congress that I hear the thoughts and concerns of the people I represent."

## Blood tests this week in preparation for Health Fair

By Michelle L. Hawkins

The Goodland Daily News

Blood screening for this year's Sherman County Health Fair will be done all this week at the Goodland Regional Medical Center.

The free health fair will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Goodland Activities Center, but administrator Donna Terry said all blood tests will need to be done this week. People can go to the hospital from 7 to 10 a.m. any day to have blood drawn. They will have four options for tests that can be done.

For \$30, they can get blood chemistries. These are in depth tests which will calculate cholesterol levels and several other things. For \$20, blood work to check prostate or thyroid levels can be done. Terry said the prostate check is important for men, and could catch cancer in its early stages. For \$10, a simple blood test can be done.

The fees for the blood work are



Blood for screening screen tests is being taken all week in preparation for the annual Health Fair to be held Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Goodland Activity Center. The fair is free, but there is a charge for blood work. The fees are discounted, but all blood tests must be done this week at Goodland Regional Medical Center.

Photo by Michelle Hawkins / The Goodland Daily News

discontinued from their normal costs but have to be to be paid up front. On the day of the health fair, doctors will

be on hand to discuss the results.

Free screenings the day of the fair will be blood pressure, oxygen saturation,

height and weight, osteoporosis, and scoliosis and posture. Terry says it is important to have young people screened for scoliosis and posture and encouraged parents to bring their children.

The Topside Lions Club will be performing free vision and hearing screening. Other services will include colorectal screening kits that can be taken home and sent in. This screening helps detect colon cancer. Vial of Life containers will be given out as well. People can put vital health, medical and prescription information in these vials and they can be used when a person is unable to give information in an emergency.

New to the health fair will be Ident-A-Kid. The Goodland Police Department will be offering this service from 8 to 11 a.m. the day of the fair. Any child under 18 and accompanied by adult will be fingerprinted. A digital photo will be taken and put on the card, which is re-

turned to the parent for safekeeping. These cards can be helpful if a child is missing or abducted.

Terry said for the first time, a supervised child care area will be provided to allow parents to participate in the screening and not have to worry about their kids. Children can participate in the screenings that are available to them and then play games and do activities while their parents are finishing.

She said many exhibitors will be at the fair with information on topics including breast cancer and Walk Kansas, an exercise program which encourages people to organize groups and over a course of six weeks, to walk the same mileage they would have if they had walked across the state.

"We are pleased at what we are able to offer the community," said Terry. "We are not trying to take the place of a doctor, but offering people spot checks for early detection."

**afternoon  
wire**

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

## U.S. attack 'any minute'

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Saddam Hussein's government is certain the United States will attack it, despite Baghdad's agreement to expand cooperation with U.N. weapons inspectors, a senior Iraqi official said today.

"It is possible any minute that while the inspectors are still here, the aggression will take place," Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan said.

The Iraqi comments came as President Bush chided allies for their reluctance to wage war against Saddam Hussein's regime, and the White House underlined it was willing to attack without backing from the U.N.

"Surely our friends have learned lessons from the past," Bush said. "This looks like a rerun of a bad movie and I'm not interested in watching."