

weather report

69°

at noon

Today

•Sunset, 7:44 p.m.

Tomorrow

•Sunrise, 5:41 a.m.

•Sunset, 7:45 p.m.

Middy Conditions

- Soil Temperature 59 degrees
- Humidity 32 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds northwest 12-18 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.70 inches and falling
- Record High 95° (1934)
- Record Low 30° (1978)

Last 24 Hours*

High 73°
Low 44°
Precipitation none

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the evening, high upper 60s, low lower 40s, winds west 5-15 m.p.h. Wednesday: cloudy with 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high near 60, low mid 40s.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: partly cloudy with chance of showers and thunderstorms from noon on, breezy, high upper 60s. Friday: partly cloudy and breezy, high mid 70s, low upper 40s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.07 bushel
New crop — \$2.72 bushel
Corn — \$2.41 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.22
Milo — \$2.16 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.83 bushel
Millet — \$6 hundredweight
New crop — \$5.50
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.20 cwt.
New crop — \$9.80 cwt.
NuSun — \$9.55 cwt.
NuSun new crop — \$10.15
Confection — \$17/\$7 cwt.
New crop — \$17/\$10 cwt.
Pinto beans — withdrawn
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

More local
news and
views from
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Goodland
Star-News



Kids plant tree, treasure

Mayor Rick Billinger held a time capsule as Central Elementary School students put something in. Then the capsule was planted with a new burr oak tree at Chambers Park on Friday. City officials, tree board members and Central students were on hand for the Arbor Day ceremony. See Page 3.

West School to take over kindergarten

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Kindergarten classes will move to West Elementary next year, and the STEP lab will be moving downtown, the Goodland School Board decided Tuesday.

In his report, Superintendent Marvin Selby said moving the kindergarten from North Elementary to West had been talked about, but that no formal action had been taken.

He asked the board to make the move official and board member Eric Gray made the motion, seconded by board member Ben Duell. It passed 6-0 with board member Mike Campbell absent.

With the move of the kindergarten, all the primary grades, from preschool through second grade, will be at West.

High School Principal Harvey Swager was called forward to talk about the proposal to move the STEP lab out of the high school building and sign a contract with a Hutchinson educational co-op that is proposing to operate the lab.

The lab offers self-paced learning on computers for students who want to complete their education, drop-

outs and students who are having problems in regular classes. Teachers and aides are in the lab to help them with problems.

Swager said he felt the co-operative, known as ESSDACK, the Educational Services and Staff Development Association of Central Kansas, had a good plan, and recommended signing a contract. Swager said he felt a downtown "learning center" might attract more students who have not been in school for several years and do not want to come to the high school.

Selby was asked about the two teachers who operate the lab for the district, and he said the company has agreed to hire both Jon McLean and Jamie Helmut for the new operation. He said they would be half-time teachers at the lab, and would continue to have other teaching duties at the high school.

Tammy Freeman, an aide who helps with the lab, said she thinks the program will be good for the kids.

Board member Ron Schilling made the motion to close the district lab and contract to have the new learning center in place by September. The motion passed 6-0.

Parents, board close the doors

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

About a dozen parents who came to talk to the Goodland School Board on Tuesday where ushered into a closed-door meeting with the board, teachers, the West Elementary principal and the board's lawyer.

When the school board, meeting in the gym at West, reached the public forum part of their agenda Tuesday, they asked board attorney Jeff Mason to explain that any student matter which might reveal names should be held behind closed doors.

Board President Dick Short said there were several people signed up for the public forum and asked if they were all interested in the student matter. When most indicated they were, Short asked if there were any others who wanted to be invited into the closed session.

He told those people that each would be given three minutes to speak to the board.

Mason said there could not be any action taken in an executive session, but that it would be a listening opportunity for the board to hear the complaints without the names of those involved being revealed in the open meeting.

Superintendent Marvin Selby said the office had received calls before the meeting, and that it was his and Short's decision to have Mason present to handle the legal formalities.

A motion was made by Kathy Russell and seconded by Jane Phil-

brick, to go into executive session for 30 minutes, and to include the board members, Selby, Attorney. Mason, West Principal Jerry Burkett, teachers Sandy Jamison and Pat Pickett, at risk tutor Nora Garcia, and parents Kris Cowan, Scott Lockhart, Lisa House, Bob and Lori Juleson, Kim and Ryan Weis, Linda McCracken and Edward and Ashleigh Flodin.

Several parents objected to the three-minute time limit, but Short said that was in district policy and that those speaking need to be short and to the point.

One parent asked if she could take her daughter into the executive session, but Mason said that would not be appropriate.

"If there is any talking, it should be the parents," he said. "We will not subject a young child to this pressure."

The board went into the West library with the people who had been invited, and once there were enough chairs, they closed the door. The board returned about 35 minutes later and reopened the meeting.

A motion was made to go into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss a student matter, this time it was with board members, Selby, Mason, Burkett, Jamison and Garcia.

The board returned after the session and said there would not be any action taken in public session.

After the session was reopened, Mason asked to be excused from the rest of the meeting.

Watch Out!

*Students demonstrate disasters
in North Elementary project*



It works like this:

Disasters from avalanches to volcanoes were explained and demonstrated at the North Elementary Disaster Fair on Wednesday afternoon.

Sixth-grade students of Pam Hardy, Linda McKee, Lori Hayden and Jona Neufeld teamed up to research a disaster they chose at random, and then had to demonstrate the effect of the force behind them.

Debra Dowdy and Devin Mangus (above) were demonstrating a landslide to Precious Gonzales. Each of the four team members had to research a specific disaster linked to their category and develop a time line.

The room was crowded with tables for each disaster. Brett Hatfield (left) used a squirt bottle to show school board member Ron Schilling the effects of a typhoon. Among the disasters were avalanches, wildfires, hurricanes, tornadoes, meteor impacts, collapsing bridges, ship sinkings and epidemics. The teachers said this program took the place of the usual science fair.

Photos by Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

Slither on down to Sharon Springs for roundup

By Julie Samuelson

The Western Times

The 12th annual Rattlesnake Roundup will be Saturday and Sunday in Sharon Springs.

The roundup began in the fall of 1992 as a way to give Wallace County's economic development a much-needed boost, said founder Julie Withers.

"We just wanted to find something to entice people into Wallace County," Withers said. "Since we're 32 miles south of I-70 and not really

on a mainstream highway, we needed a little something extra to get people to come here."

And the plan of the Rattlesnake Roundup Committee has worked well. People have been coming from almost every state by the droves to Wallace County to see Kansas' only rattlesnake roundup.

There's something for everyone this year, even for those who don't want to see snakes. As Withers puts it, "Food, funnel cakes and fun!"

So far, the roundup has games,

crafts, food vendors, snake displays, educational areas, a blacksmith, taxidermist, tomahawk throw and lots of musical entertainment. The musical end of the roundup is "open mic" entertainment provided by local musicians. The Wallace County Sheriff's Department will be on hand, hosting an Ident-a-Kid program, complete with fingerprinting of your child and a current photo.

In the past, there has been a research pit manned by a University of Kansas professor, Dr. Henry

Fitch, and students from Fort Hays State University. There was no one available to do this last year, but sponsors hope the research area will be in operation again this year.

Venom from rattlesnakes has been harvested for use in pharmaceutical research. Studies are being done regarding the use of venom derivatives in the treatment of multiple sclerosis and strokes.

Wallace County Economic Development has put together a Saturday evening with a barbecue and

musical entertainment featuring Oakley resident Margie Broeckelman. Cost for the barbecue and music is set at \$8 per adult, ages 4-12 costs \$4 and children under 3 free.

Economic Development is also sponsoring games for children on the grounds during the roundup. A \$2 fee allows your child to play all day with games, contests and prizes provided. Hula-hoop games, spoon races, "boxing matches," and all sorts of fun activities are planned for kids.