

**weather report**

**57°**

**at noon**



**Today**

- Sunset, 5:51 p.m.
- Tomorrow**
- Sunrise, 6 a.m.
- Sunset, 5:52 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil Temperature 39 degrees
- Humidity 32 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds north 15 mph
- Barometer 29.93 inches and falling
- Record High 76° (1945)
- Record Low -1° (1958)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High	49°
Low	22°
Precipitation	none

**Northwest Kansas Forecast**

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 25-30, light winds. Tomorrow: Partly sunny, high mid 50s, northwest winds 20-30 mph, low 20-25.

**Extended Forecast**

Thursday: chance of rain or snow, high 35-45, low 20s. Friday: dry, high 45-55, low mid 20s. Saturday: chance of rain or snow, high 40s, low mid 20s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$2.91 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$2.83
  - Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
  - Corn — \$2 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$1.92
  - Loan deficiency payment — 7¢
  - Milo — \$3.22 hundredweight
  - Soybeans — \$4.02 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$3.99
  - Loan deficiency payment — 91¢
  - Millet — \$6 hundredweight
  - Sunflowers
  - Oil current crop — \$6.55 cwt.
  - Loan deficiency prnt. — \$3.16
  - Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.
  - Pinto beans — \$14 (new crop)
- (Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and Prairie Pea and Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

**afternoon wire**

Late news from the Associated Press  
**1 p.m.**

**U.S. soldier made mistake**

WASHINGTON — A U.S. serviceman at the scene of the accidental bombing in Kuwait directed the mistaken attack and then belatedly called on the F/A-18 Hornet pilot to abort the training mission, U.S. officials said today.

Many details of the accident Monday remain unclear. Officials speaking on condition of anonymity today said a forward air controller mistakenly directed the Hornet's bombing and tried too late to call it off.

Five American servicemen and a New Zealand Army major were killed.

It appeared that two of three bombs dropped hit near the forward controller's observation post, Rear Adm. Craig Quigley said Tuesday. Quigley, speaking for the Pentagon, would not otherwise confirm the sequence of events.

## Wheat doing good despite bad start

By Janet Craft

*The Goodland Daily News*

Wheat plants in Sherman County are still young, but they are slowly getting green and don't appear to have much winter kill, an area crops specialist said.

Roger Stockton, crops and soils extension specialist for K-State Research and Extension in Colby, said the wheat seems to be greening up and breaking out of winter dormancy.

He said he was concerned about winter kill earlier in the winter, but doesn't think Sherman County has much of it as the county didn't have

a lot of temperatures below zero and had snow cover to help insulate the crop.

Stockton said there may be 2 to 10 percent winter kill in some fields, but added he doesn't expect very much of it.

He said the amount of moisture received in the area for the wheat is varied and depends on where you live. Goodland didn't get as much moisture as Colby, he said, but missed a few snows that Colby had.

Tom Stewart, operations manager at Mueller Grain, said some wheat plants are small this year because of last year's dry weather.

The plants have had some growth, he said, but are smaller than normal.

Some wheat fields look good, Stewart said, but it depends on when the crop was planted. He said some of the stands of wheat will be spotty because the fields didn't have the best conditions.

However, Stewart said, if plants freeze back down now, it won't necessarily hurt them.

Bob Boyle, weather service specialist at the National Weather Service in Goodland, said Goodland is below normal for moisture so far this month compared to March of last year, but is ahead for the year.

Goodland has had .10 of moisture for the month, he said, which is .32 behind normal, but is ahead by .34 for the year.

Boyle said by March 12 of last year, Goodland was .74 ahead of normal moisture and ahead .94 for the year. Then, he said, a dry spell came along in April, May and June, normally wet months. The drought-like conditions caused the wheat to mature early and killed off a good portion of the crop in Sherman County and across the state.

Stockton said the wheat was planted late be-

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### Let this be a lesson



Karen Gillihan, children's librarian, sang a song, "Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed," with 3- and 4-year-olds during story hour Thursday morning at the Goodland Public Library. Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

## Diversity grew in Kansas

*Hispanic population doubled, census says*

By CARL MANNING

*Associated Press Writer*

TOPEKA — Kansas' Hispanic population doubled in the past decade, increasing diversity in the state and reflecting national increases among minority residents, the Census Bureau reported Tuesday.

Since 1990, Kansas population increased 8.5 percent to 2,688,418 on April 1, 2000, compared to 2,477,574 on April 1, 1990.

The sharp increase among Hispanics came as a surprise, considering 1999 census estimates that projected growth at about 50 percent.

But Tuesday's figures showed the growth in Kansas went from 93,670 to 188,252 for Hispanics of all races. In 1990, Hispanics made up 3.6 percent of the state's population; now they are 7 percent.

"Hispanic" is considered an ethnicity, not a race; people of Hispanic ethnicity can be of any race.

Another growth spurt was in the Asian population, which increased by 47 percent from a decade ago. Asians accounted for 31,750 of the state's population in 1990 and 46,806 now — representing 1.7 percent of the total population.

In the 2000 headcount, people could identify themselves as a member of any of 63 racial categories, up from five in 1990.

Whites still are the majority of the Kansas population, 2,313,944, or 86 percent. The number represents a 3.6 percent increase in the white population.

Meanwhile, 5.7 percent of the state's population — 154,198 — is black. A decade ago, there were 143,076 blacks, also 5.7 percent.

In Kansas, 56,496 residents took advantage of the option to identify themselves as belonging to more than one race.

Meanwhile, census figures also showed that urban population grew while many of the rural counties lost people.

## Early voting starting soon

Anyone who wants to vote early may do so starting Wednesday when advanced voting will begin in the county clerk's office at the Sherman County Courthouse.

Voters may come in to vote from 8 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 5 p.m.

When voters come in, County Clerk Janet Rumpel said, they will have to sign a poll book before they are given a ballot. Then they can vote and return the ballot, which will go into a locked ballot box.

She said advanced voting will end at noon on Monday, April 2.

Rumpel said a person's voter registration number from the poll books is kept track of so that a person can't vote again on election day, which is Tuesday, April 3.

The advanced votes will be counted when the regular election ballots are counted after the polls close at 7 p.m. on election day.

## Graves' plan raises sales, gas taxes for schools

TOPEKA (AP) — Gov. Bill Graves detailed a \$112 million plan today for increasing public education funding, challenging legislators to engage in a "serious and significant" debate on school finance.

At a meeting of the State Board of Education, Graves' plan would raise the sales tax 0.2 percent, from 4.9 percent to 5.1 percent, and increase the motor fuels tax by 2 cents per gallon.

The fuels tax would be transferred to the Kansas Department of Transportation, removing equal amounts of sales tax revenue from the agency budget.

Kansas currently spends \$2.6 billion on K-12 education.

Specifics of the plan include raising the base state aid per pupil from \$3,820 to \$3,930; add \$22 million to special education funding to cover 90 percent of excess costs and phase in all-day kindergarten over five years.

Graves said 10 percent of the new money is earmarked to encourage districts and teachers to strive for excellence through financial incentives.

"We think it is one way for us to encourage and, quite frankly, reward excellence in our classrooms," Graves said.

The governor's proposal showed a dramatic increase from his State of the

State address, where he recommended increasing public education spending by \$68 million, with a \$50 increase in the base state aid.

House Speaker Kent Glasscock, R-Manhattan, said he did not mind the timing of the proposal, coming on the 65th day of a 90-day legislative session.

"It's always a good time to offer up a

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## Boundary study scares small districts, patrons

TOPEKA (AP) — State Board of Education members are hearing rumblings from school districts and their patrons over a consultant's study released in January suggesting that some districts should merge or be eliminated.

In the past two months, board members have heard from districts with small or declining enrollments that were targeted in a study by a Denver firm which suggested that some districts are performing poorly and spending inefficiently.

"If people are getting involved, the study has paid for itself," said board member Janet Waugh of Kansas City. Board Chairman Sonny Rundell of

Syracuse said members have spent the interim weeks trying to allay fears about closings. Wounds are still sore in parts of Kansas from the consolidation movement of the 1960s.

"I went to a meeting in Fowler where there were 120 people who were concerned," Rundell said. "All I could tell them is that no one's going to close their buildings but them."

Dale Dennis, assistant education commissioner and an authority on school finance, said a joint legislative education committee has been discussing the study.

"You name it, they've talked about it," Dennis said.

## Group teaches women's history

By Rachel Miscall

*The Goodland Daily News*

Susan B. Anthony, a nineteenth century women's rights activist, told Central Elementary School students the story of her life on Monday to get them thinking about fairness and equality in their lives.

Anthony, born on Feb. 15, 1820, told the children about a time when women weren't allowed to vote, own land or get a formal education. She

believed men and women should be equal, she said, so she fought for it until her death in 1906.

Looking at the girls sitting in the elementary school's library, Anthony said though times have changed, men and women and boys and girls still aren't always treated equally.

Mary Porterfield, president of a group that promotes women's issues,

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## Working scout



Boy Scout Julian Walls poured a drink for a customer at the annual Boy Scouts' chili feed held Saturday at the United Methodist Church fellowship hall in Goodland. Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News