

weather  
report

70°  
at noon

Today

• Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 67 degrees

• Humidity 75 percent

• Sky cloudy

• Winds southeast wind 18 mph

• Barometer 30.20 inches and falling

• Record High 100° (2000)

• Record Low 40° (1954)

Last 24 Hours\*

High 83°

Low 59°

Precipitation 0.02 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, 30 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 60-65, southeast wind 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high mid 80s, low 60s, south wind 10-20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Monday: dry, high 90s, low 55-65.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local  
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.77 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.65

Corn — \$1.87 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.72

Loan deficiency payment — 27¢

Milo — \$3.02 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.13 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.03

Loan deficiency payment — 89¢

Millet — \$5.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$7.30 cwt.

Oil new crop — \$6.25 cwt.

Loan deficiency prmt. — \$2.84

Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$14 (new crop)

(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.

Bush signs tax cut bill

WASHINGTON — Fulfilling his biggest campaign promise, President Bush today signed into law a \$1.35 trillion tax cut bill that will immediately benefit everyone who pays income taxes but require years to take full effect.

The 10-year tax cut was tempered by Democratic and Republican moderates from the \$1.6 trillion plan Bush first began pushing in 1999 but still contains its essential elements, lending a celebratory air to a White House East Room ceremony that was not quite large enough to contain the crowd.

Bush, joined by first lady Laura Bush, members of his Cabinet and a bipartisan group from the House and Senate — as well as 15 families Bush used to illustrate the need for tax relief — said it was “about time” some of the projected \$5.6 trillion budget surplus is returned.

# County may beef up security

**By Tom Betz**  
*The Goodland Daily News*

The county treasurer told Sherman County commissioners Tuesday she thought they needed to increase security at the courthouse.

Treasurer Shelby Miller told the commissioners that she had heard a presentation by Mickey Doll, a former U.S. marshal, about courthouse

security during a recent county treasurer’s meeting.

She said Doll talked about cases he had been involved in where people were killed or maimed that could have been avoided by adequate security. He presented the group with a list of suggestions and recommendations which Miller shared with the commissioners.

“I feel my office needs additional panic (holdup alarm) buttons,” Miller said, “and that maybe we need to look at a better building security system for getting into the building, like a key code or card system.”

She said she wanted to give the suggestions to commissioners now because they are beginning the budget time and that if they wanted to improve

security, they need to work it into the budget. They said they would look at the suggestions.

Miller told the commissioners the Soldiers Memorial Park fund had received \$625 from the Carl Murray Memorial Fund. The fund is used for improvements at the park, also known as Smoky

See COUNTY, Page 7

## McVeigh wants death postponed

*Defense asks for time to review facts*

DENVER (AP) — Saying a federal judge “succumbed to the human tragedy” of the Oklahoma City bombing, Timothy McVeigh’s attorneys today asked an appeals court to postpone his execution again.

The defense said it needs more time to review nearly 4,500 pages of FBI material released in the past month.

A three-judge panel of the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals was appointed to consider the appeal, court clerk Patrick Fischer said. He declined to identify the three.

He said he expected the panel to issue a written ruling without hearing oral arguments, but he did not know when it would be handed down.

Prosecutor Sean Connelly declined comment on the filing and said he had no plans to submit a response unless the court asked for it. “I’ll do what the court tells me to do,” he said.

The defense brief argues that U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch used the wrong standard when ruling Wednesday that the execution should proceed next week, attorney Chris Tritico said.

“All we’re asking for is time to do what we need to do,” Tritico told reporters outside the courthouse.

If McVeigh is still executed at the conclusion of the process, he added, “then we know the system works.”

Larry Pozner, former president of the Colorado Criminal Defense Bar, predicted the appeals court would uphold Matsch’s ruling.

“It’s all uphill after you’ve been convicted. It’s even steeper now that Judge Matsch has added his ruling. At some point, the hill becomes 90 degrees. You just can’t climb it any more,” he said.

McVeigh, 33, is set to die by injection Monday morning at the federal prison in Terre Haute, Ind.

Another defense attorney, Nathan Chambers, met with McVeigh at the prison Thursday morning. Afterward, he said McVeigh was “well” and declined to answer questions.

He would not say if any decision had been made on whether to appeal to the Supreme Court if the appeals court re-

See BOMBER, Page 7



## Building up Goodland

Ben Ramirez of Kanorado (above) put screws into a piece of metal siding Wednesday afternoon at Goodland’s Renner Field. He and other employees of Miller’s Construction in Goodland are building an airplane hanger for Barker Farm Services. Dan and Beverly Barker, formerly of Brewster, are relocating their aerial spraying business here. John Paul McDonald of Kansas City (left) ran a roller over a portion of asphalt after it was put down Wednesday afternoon on the east entrance to Frontier Equity Exchange. McDonald works for Mac’s Asphalt Paving of Garden City, which paves driveways and parking lots and was repairing Frontier Equity’s lot.

Photos by Janet Craft  
The Goodland Daily News

## Partisan fight halts energy bill progress

WASHINGTON (AP) — A partisan fight over price caps on Western electricity sales has brought a halt to House attempts to enact short-term energy legislation aimed at helping California deal with this summer’s power crisis.

House Republicans said they were no longer pursuing the legislation, but would concentrate on putting President Bush’s long-term energy plan into law, beginning with a bill aimed at refinery problems in making gasoline.

“We were no longer going to waste any more time to try to resolve an issue that can’t be resolved,” Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, said in an interview, when asked about the dispute over electricity price caps.

Tauzin dismissed charges by Democrats that he was bottling the legislation, fearing a price cap was gaining momentum and might pass the full House.

“I think we would have prevailed on the floor as well,” said Tauzin, an opponent of the price cap legislation.

With astronomical power prices in California and other parts of the West, there has been growing political pressure in Congress for legislation to force federal regulators to rein in wholesale electricity prices that have been 10 times what they were pre-crisis in 1999.

California so far has paid nearly \$50 billion for power this year, compared to about \$7 billion in all of 1999. Utilities in the Northwest also have sharply boosted prices as shortages in hydro-electric power have forced purchasers to buy on the expensive spot market, driving up retail prices.

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., had planned to offer an amendment to a short-term energy bill that would force the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to peg wholesale electricity prices in the West to cost of production plus a “reasonable” profit. Republicans have rejected the amendment and when negotiations on a compromise failed Tauzin canceled a series of votes on the bill Wednesday.



A pilot prepared to lift his antique biplane into the air last year at the Stearman Fly-In in St. Francis. The 19th annual event will take place this weekend, featuring sky dives and a mass balloon lift-off each day. Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

## Planes and balloons to fill airport

*Annual St. Francis Stearman Fly-In will feature skydives and flights*

**By Karen Krien**  
*The St. Francis Herald*

ST. FRANCIS — The sounds of planes, the flapping of parachutes and the hiss of the hot-air balloons will fill the air this weekend during the 19th annual Stearman Fly-In at the airport south of town.

Scores of pilots fly in to enjoy the spectacle, arriving in all manner of aircraft, including warbirds, experimental and home built planes.

Hot air balloons are expected to launch around 7 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday, but the time will be determined by the speed of the wind. Last year, the weather was perfect for the mass launching, which is a spectacular sight.

Skydiving demonstrations and the Stearman flights take place throughout the day.

The Fly-In will end Sunday after lunch, giving pilots time to get back home before dark.

Stearman rides and tandem skydives will be available to the public.

A tandem skydive allows a novice passenger to share a parachute jump with an experienced skydiver.

Robert Grace, coordinator of the event, reported there could be even more Stearman biplanes at this year’s Fly-In.

He said several owners who were not here last time have contacted him about the fly-in, but a lot will depend on the weather.

“If the weather is good in St. Francis and where the majority of the planes are coming from, we could have more

planes that ever,” he said.

Each year, people flock from near and far to watch the planes and see the hot-air balloons and skydivers. Admission is free, there is food served on the grounds or at nearby restaurants, Grace said, and it is a great way to spend a weekend.

The event features the Stearman aircraft, an open cockpit, fabric-covered biplane powered by a radial engine. The planes were used primarily as trainers in World War II, but many survived in civilian use after the war.

Breakfast and lunch will be served both days on the airport grounds for pilots and spectators. There will also be cold drinks available and seating and shade.

For information, contact Grace Flying Service at (785) 332-2251.