

weather report

90°
at noon

Today

• Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:35 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 73 degrees

• Humidity 37 percent

• Sky partly cloudy

• Winds west 8 mph

• Barometer 29.97 inches and falling

• Record High 106° (1936)

• Record Low 50° (1972)

Last 24 Hours*

High 97°

Low 66°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 65-70, southwest wind 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, high 95, low 65-70, southwest wind 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday: chance of thunderstorms, high mid 90s, low mid 60s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.74 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.59

Corn — \$2.09 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.97

Loan deficiency payment — 2¢

Milo — \$3.23 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.72 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.66

Loan deficiency payment — 26¢

Millet — \$5.00 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$8.60 cwt.

Oil new crop — \$7.30 cwt.

Loan deficiency prmt. — \$1.56

Confection current — no bid

Pinto beans — \$16 (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.

FBI missing 449 firearms

WASHINGTON — Senators said today the loss of 449 guns and more than 180 computers from the FBI proves the nation's premiere law enforcement agency needs to be reformed. Attorney General John Ashcroft said he still has confidence in the troubled agency.

“There are some very, very serious management problems at the FBI,” said Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., who chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Added Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, the committee's top Republican: “This is simply inexcusable.”

The Justice Department revealed Tuesday that 449 side arms and submachine guns and more than 180 computers — at least one containing classified data — are missing. One of the missing guns was used in a homicide, officials said.

Grocery search getting warmer

By Rachel Miscall
The Goodland Daily News

A study done last year showed shoppers want and the market can support another grocery in this one-grocery city, so an economic development committee went to work and now has two clients who might set up shop in Goodland.

The study done by the Docking Institute of Public Affairs at Fort Hays State University showed that Goodland shoppers spend \$11,384,000 on groceries each year, while people in the five-county surrounding region buy

\$30,421,000 worth of food annually.

Interviewing people in the five county area, which included Kit Carson County, Colo., surveyors found a majority said they would support having another grocery in Goodland, which has only had the Wal-Mart supercenter for nearly two years. Fleming Foods closed the Jubilee store on 11th and Broadway in September 1999, and Mosburg's IGA on 10th and Center shut down in the spring of 1998.

The survey showed 75 percent of people in the Sherman County area want another grocery in

Goodland for a broader selection of food, better customer service and competition, which would drive down prices.

Almost a year after the study was completed, Ron Harding, executive director of the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce, said it has been a useful tool in recruiting another grocery to Goodland.

He said the survey provides clients with information they would have had to spend time gathering, shows the market can support another grocery and gives the clients an idea of how much

money they could make here.

Harding said the Chamber of Commerce economic development committee, which requested the study, has given the survey and other information to two clients, who are sizing up the market and the competition. He said neither has committed to opening a grocery here.

The committee, Harding said, is looking for a client with experience in the grocery industry and lots of money. Otherwise, he said, the new store

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Tearin' up the road



Construction progressed on the railroad viaduct on K-27 today with asphalt being lifted to make room for the new approach slabs. The construction coinciding with the Cherry Street project has caused traf-

fic congestion on Cattle trail Ave. as it is the only entrance to Goodland on the south and the west.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Daily News

Ag secretary orders wheat seed testing

TOPEKA (AP) — Wheat seed must be tested and found free of the Karnal bunt fungus before it can be sold in Kansas, the state's agriculture secretary has declared.

An order signed Tuesday by Secretary Jamie Clover Adams applies to durum wheat and triticale seed as well as regular wheat seed. Durum wheat is used to make pasta, and triticale is a ryewheat hybrid.

Her action means that the 2,200 seed merchants in Kansas will have to send up to 4 pounds of seed to a state laboratory in Topeka. Sellers can submit com-

posite samples from up to 10 lots of seed.

Out-of-state sellers will be required to have their seed tested and certified in their home states.

The order was effective immediately, and Adams set no date for it to expire. Wheat seeding typically begins in September and concludes by early November in Kansas. Last year, the state planted nearly 10 million acres of wheat.

Adams had a teleconference call with agriculture officials from 11 states to notify them of her order. She said she

acted to protect Kansas' \$1 billion-a-year wheat industry.

“The science says seed is the highest-risk pathway for Karnal bunt,” Adams told the other states' officials.

Karnal bunt reduces wheat quality and yield and discolors flour made from the kernels of infected wheat. The disease gives the flour an unpleasant smell and taste. Its impact is mostly economic: 80 countries ban purchases of wheat from infected areas.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has quarantined four counties in Texas at the southern edge of the wheat belt.

There were no reports of the disease in Kansas, but state Department of Agriculture officials feared it could spread north from Texas with custom cutters.

Adams also said the order does not impose a quarantine, only place conditions on the sale of seed.

“We are not asking folks from out of state to do anything that we're not asking folks in the state to do,” she said.

Meeting with Adams were officials from Arizona, California, Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Texas.

Day care children share cookies with seniors

By Reagan Smith
The Goodland Daily News

Children and staff at Western Day Care Center brought smiles to the faces of the seniors at the Senior Adult Center on Monday when they delivered home made chocolate chip and peanut butter cookies.

Monday morning, the day care center was a flurry of activity with staff making the dough and baking cookies, while the children helped out by rolling the dough into balls to place on cookie sheets.

After the cookies were done and placed in pairs in plastic baggies, the group, consisting of ten children and three adults, walked from the day care center, which is in the basement of the Episcopal Church at 121 W. 13th to the Senior Adult Center at 208 W 15th.

They arrived at 10:30 a.m., cookies in hand.

The children, aged 5 months to 6 years, were greeted with smiles as they bashfully thrust a bag of cookies into each senior's hand, making sure not to leave anyone out.

Herbert Heitschmidt, who comes to the senior center everyday for lunch and to play pool, paused his pool game

with Dale Ellison to sample one of the cookies that Brianna White, age 5, had given to him.

Vera Clark, a member of the senior center since it opened, said that she really enjoys it when people from the community do things like that for them, especially when the children come to visit.

Denise White, director of the day care center, said Angella Schroller, a teacher at the day care, came up with the idea as something different for the kids to do during the summer.

With school age kids there, White said, the staff wanted to come up with ideas for them to do that the older kids would enjoy.

So far, this summer, she said, they have gone to the park, the pool and the playground.

She said they are talking about another trip back to the Senior Adult Center, this time spending more time there and possibly bringing board games along to play.

White said that despite the fact that the kids were very shy and hardly spoke while they were there, they did seem to enjoy the whole activity, and she believes that it was a success.



While delivering cookies to the Senior Adult Center on Monday, Denise White, director of the Western Day Care Center, visited with one of the members as Kelsey White, age 2, sat on her lap. Children at the day care baked cookies for the senior center members.

Photo by Reagan Smith/The Goodland Daily News

Transient threatens officers

Hitchhiker arrested here and in Colby

By Patty Decker
Free Press Editor

A 29-year-old transient, released on his own recognizance from the Sherman County jail Monday, was arrested in Colby Tuesday after threatening police with a knife and refusing to leave the dumpster area behind Taco John's restaurant.

Colby Police Chief Randy Jones said the situation Tuesday night was similar to an incident in Sherman County on June 19 involving the same man, George Steven Vassel, address unknown.

On Tuesday around 7 p.m., Jones said Colby Police Officer Tom Leavitt was called to investigate the man rummaging through the dumpster. The chief said Leavitt repeatedly asked for identification as Vassel continued to look through the dumpster, but the man became verbally abusive.

Police Officer Tom Nickols was called to assist, Jones said, as Vassel continued to get more angry.

When Nickols started walking toward Vassel, he said, the man pulled a knife and began to move toward the police.

Vassel asked the two officers to shoot him, Jones said, but before the incident could escalate further, the police were able to apprehend him.

Jones said Vassel is being charged with aggravated assault on law enforcement officers, obstruction of official duty and disorderly conduct. He is being held in the Thomas County jail pending action from the Thomas County Attorney's office.

On June 19, Vassel was hitchhiking along I-70 around 2 p.m. when Kansas Highway Patrol trooper Kevin Winston saw the man and stopped.

Winston said pedestrians are not allowed to hitchhike on the Interstate, so he stopped to ask the man for identification and to give him a ride to a more suitable location.

Winston, who said he has been a trooper for 24 years, said he thought this would be a fairly routine situation. However, that wasn't the case.

“I asked the man for identification and he immediately got belligerent,” Winston said.

In response to Winston's request for identification, Vassel said, “I ain't done nothing wrong...” and continued to walk away from the officer.

Winston said he tried to stop the man, but Vassel turned and hit him in the chest.

After wrestling him to the ground, the trooper said, the man was handcuffed and taken to the Sherman County jail on charges of aggravated battery on a law enforcement officer and hitchhiking.

The Sherman County Attorney's office said Vassel was released from the Sherman County Bastille on Monday after a court appearance on charges of one count of battery on a police officer and obstruction. A court date was set for July 30, a spokesperson at the county attorney's office said.

Since the man refused to produce identification, the police have yet to determine where he originally came from, however, one official said he has an extensive criminal record in the St. Louis, Mo., area.