

weather report

78°  
at noon

Today

• Sunset, 7:22 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:14 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:21 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 69 degrees

• Humidity 53 percent

• Sky partly sunny

• Winds northeast 10-17

• Barometer 30.03 inches and steady

• Record High 104° (1990)

• Record Low 42° (1964)

Last 24 Hours\*

High 92°

Low 63°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly cloudy, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 55-60, winds light and variable. Tomorrow: partly sunny, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, high 80-85, low 50s.

Extended Forecast

Saturday and Sunday: chance of thunderstorms, high 80-85, low 50-60.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.66 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.56

Corn — \$2.04 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.92

Loan deficiency payment — 7¢

Milo — \$3.80 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.37 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.34

Loan deficiency payment — 58¢

Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$8.00 cwt.

Oil new crop — \$7.15 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$1.15

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.

Accused killer caught today

CITRUS HEIGHTS, Calif. — The man sought for the killings of six of his relatives was captured in his mother's backyard today after his brother turned him in, ending a 10-day nationwide manhunt.

Nikolay Soltys, 27, was hiding under a desk, Sacramento County Sheriff Lou Blanas said. He was barefoot, dirty and shabbily dressed "and looked like he could have been hiding in a field somewhere," Blanas said. He did not resist when arrested around 8 a.m.

Soltys was on the FBI's 10Most Wanted list for allegedly slashing the throats of his pregnant wife, 3-year-old son and four other relatives during a rampage that spanned several hours and three locations on Aug. 20.

Soltys' brother called 911 today after spotting Soltys, and fleeing with his mother and four other family members, police said.

# Officials identify woman fugitive

**By Jay Kelley**  
*Colby Free Press*

The woman partner in a duo who led police on a chase through Thomas County and held a 17-year-old rural Colby girl was identified today by the Thomas County sheriff as 23-year-old Tina Janice Pearce.

Pearce and her partner, Kristopher Aaron Lambert, 21, have been charged with aggravated burglary, aggravated assault, kidnapping, one count each of felony theft and misdemeanor theft and two counts of misdemeanor criminal damage to property.

The pair have eluded police since they made their way across northwest Kansas earlier this month, stealing cars and threatening the teen-ager.

Pearce is described as a white female, 5'6" inches tall, 135 pounds, with brown hair. Lambert is a white male, 5'11" tall, 150 pounds with sandy hair.

Both are described by law enforcement officials as dangerous. Thomas County Sheriff Tom Jones said anyone seeing the pair should stay clear and contact authorities.

"Any information leading to the arrest of the two fugitives would be greatly appreciated by law en-

forcement agencies," Jones said.

The incident began about 11:30 a.m. Aug. 8, when a couple suspected to be Lambert and Pearce were stopped by deputy Ken Patton on the I-70 on-ramp at Range Avenue in Colby.

The Mazda pickup they were driving matched the description of a vehicle from a gas skip in Grinnell.

They managed to elude Patton by driving off the road, through a fence and into a corn field. While deputies, Colby police officers and state troopers, along with a plane from Shalz Field in Colby, searched for the pair, they ditched their vehicle and

escaped in a stolen 1998 Escort, after holding the young owner hostage for about 30 minutes.

The car was found the next morning at the Hoxie Grain Co., which also reported a 1991 white Jeep Cherokee with Sheridan County license IOB 370 missing.

Jones said Lambert and Pearce were both identified through the combined efforts of the Thomas County Sheriff, Colby Police Department and Kansas Bureau of Investigation.

Jones also said the charges are "merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty."

## Train derails; fire starts

MULVANE (AP) — A freight train carrying hazardous materials derailed in a rural area south of Wichita early Thursday and officials evacuated some nearby residents as thick, black smoke rose from a fire in the wreckage.

Sedgwick County Fire Chief Gary Curmode said between 30 and 40 cars of the southbound Burlington Northern Santa Fe freight train left the tracks. The derailment, between Mulvane and Derby, was reported just after midnight.

Curmode said there were no injuries in the derailment, but that two sheriff's deputies who were among the first people on the scene were taken to a Wichita hospital to be checked after they complained of a burning sensation.

Curmode said officials determined that there were no breathable contaminants in the air, but that people might detect what he described as a sweet or rubbery smell.

As a precaution, officials evacuated people living in the area of the derailment, at first those within a one-mile radius, later expanding it another mile to the north.

As of 6 a.m., 61 people had left their homes, Curmode said.

An evacuation center was set up at the Glorious Life Pentecostal Church in Derby.

"You never want to have a derailment, but if you have to have one, at least this is a sparsely populated area," Curmode said.

Curmode said the train had hit some type of digging equipment that was on the tracks. He did not know how it came to be there and an investigation was

See DERAILMENT, Page 7

## See sports schedules in paper

Fall sports are kicking off today in Goodland, as high school and junior high athletes will face competitors for the first time this season.

Look for your fall sports preview section in today's paper and get ready to cheer for your teams!

Action will start today with the Goodland Invitational Cross Country meet at 4 p.m. at the Sugar Hills Golf Club, a girls golf meet at 2 p.m. at WaKeeney and a tennis meet at 2 p.m. in Larned.

A varsity football game is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday at Cowboys Stadium and the Cowgirls volleyball team begins the season with a home quadrangular at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The sports section includes team pictures for high school football, volleyball, cross country, girls golf and girls tennis. There are junior high football, volleyball and cross country pictures, as well, and a page for the Brewster Bulldogs' team pictures.

Included are team schedules, so you can stay abreast of the sports action in Goodland and Brewster, and a preview story with Goodland High coaches' comments.

The coaches and athletes are looking forward to a great season and would appreciate your support.

## A thank you



John Ledesma, 5, enjoyed watermelon PRIDE volunteers gave away at a picnic in Kanorado Sunday. Program members held the picnic to thank those who volunteer their help.

Photos by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

## Kids donate animals at picnic

**-By Rachel Miscall**  
*The Goodland Daily News*

Kanorado children sorted through their stuffed animals, picking those they would miss the least and carrying them to a park across town, where people ate hot dogs around a play pen filled with bears, bunnies and a Tasmanian devil.

Youngsters dropped their fuzzy companions into the play pen without a sniffle or tear.

They said they realized it was for a good cause.

"I just figured it'd be nice to give them away to another kid," said Jessica Perez, a 13-year-old who brought two frogs, a monkey and the Tasmanian devil, a Disney character, to Briggs Park on Sunday.

"It's not hard to give them up," she said. "I'm past that age anyway."

A lot of kids in and around Kanorado aren't past that age, however, and PRIDE volunteers held a "Teddy Bear" picnic last weekend to collect stuffed toys for the organization's "Twice Loved" toy shop at the Christmas Festival. PRIDE

is a statewide program aimed at improving life in Kansas cities.

Hazel Estes, Kanorado's mayor and director of the PRIDE chapter, said the stuffed animals will be sold for a low price or given away to children who otherwise might not get a toy for Christmas. She said collecting toys was only part of the reason for the annual picnic.

"We do this to show our appreciation for what all of the people in Kanorado do to help the community," she said, adding that PRIDE relies on volunteers to help out with annual programs, including city-wide cleanups and garage sales, Oktoberfest and a community potluck around Thanksgiving.

The public was invited to the picnic, where PRIDE volunteers offered free hot dogs, potato chips, soda and watermelon. More than 20 people from Kanorado and Goodland gathered, with adults setting up lawn chairs and children playing horseshoes. Estes passed out certificates to thank those

See PICNIC, Page 7



Patrisia Ledesma, 4, played horseshoes at the picnic with other children who helped clean up Kanorado last weekend.

## City to open new road

**By Sharon Corcoran**  
*The Goodland Daily News*

With road construction nearing an end, Cattletrail Avenue should get some relief this weekend after being the only route into downtown Goodland for the past month.

The K-27 railroad viaduct opened at 6 a.m. today and Cherry Avenue will open with a ribbon cutting at 8 a.m. Friday. The road construction projects partially blocked access to Goodland for more than a month, irking drivers and business owners.

City Manager Ron Pickman said the ribbon cutting will take place at the intersection of Cherry and Business U.S. 24, where the city built a new section of Cherry, and the avenue will be open to traffic immediately.

Dollar General, along the old Cherry portion, which is now torn up, will have a new entrance on the south, Pickman said, but its parking lot and Pizza Hut's will not be open for 10 days, because both need time to cure. Workers paved the parking lots this week.

Some curbs will need to be replaced, he said, and some clean-up done, but the paving will be finished. He said the striping is being done today.

Andy Hall, project manager for Ritchie Paving, said the railroad viaduct on K-27 opened this morning, opening K-27 from Business U.S. 24 to Eighth Street. The highway is still closed from Eighth to the Cheyenne County line, as workers are rebuilding the road. It's scheduled to open in November.

Hall said more work will be done on the intersection in March.

Cherry was closed last month to build a new street west of the old road and to tear out the old wye. The project caused traffic to be routed to Cattletrail for entrance to downtown Goodland and to Eustis for access to businesses on Cherry.

The state closed K-27 from Cattletrail to Eighth Street at the same time to update the viaduct and repave the highway, again redirecting traffic to Cattletrail.

A new street will be built east of Cattletrail in the spring, Kristin Brands, public relations officer for the Kansas Department of Transportation, said, and will jog over to join Cattletrail. The old part of the avenue will be repaved, she said, and will allow only northbound traffic from K-27.

New traffic lights will be installed at the intersection of K-27 and U.S. 24, she said, and the top lift will be applied to K-27. The highway will not need to be closed, she said, but will have one-lane traffic under a flagman.

## Remains identified

FORT RILEY (AP) — The human remains found at a Fort Riley home have been identified as those of a sergeant's son who was reported missing in July.

A contractor discovered the remains of Scott A. Nichols, 18, on Monday while cleaning up a family quarters that had been destroyed by a fire at the base.

The Kansas Medical Examiner's Office in Topeka used dental records to identify the remains, the Fort Riley Public Affairs Office said Wednesday. The preliminary cause of death is listed as carbon monoxide poisoning.