

The Goodland Daily News

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Eight Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

FRIDAY

February 1
2002

50¢

weather report

34°

at noon



Today

- Sunset, 5:06 p.m.
- Tomorrow**
- Sunrise, 6:53 a.m.
- Sunset, 5:07 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 31 degrees
- Humidity 51 percent
- Sky clear
- Winds west 10 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.32 inches and steady
- Record High 73° (1963)
- Record Low -21° (1989)

Last 24 Hours*

High	25°
Low	8°
Precipitation	.12

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, low near 10, wind southwest 5-15 becoming northwest late. Tomorrow: mostly sunny, high 35-40, winds northwest 10-15 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: sunny, high mid 40s. Monday: clear, high mid 40s, low 15-20. Tuesday: mostly clear, high mid 40s, low 15-20. Wednesday: mostly clear, high mid 40s, low 15-20. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Parole decision not made

Board has not said if killer will go free

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

The Kansas Parole Board has not yet decided whether to grant parole to William Schlicher, a Hoxie man sentenced to life in 1980 for murdering a Sherman County gas station attendant in 1970. Schlicher, who has been denied parole three previous times, met with the board in mid-January.

Colene Seidel, parole board administrator, said a decision legally had to be submitted within 10 days unless members requested more information about the crime or criminal. She said the board wouldn't release its decision until the inmate had been notified.

That was two weeks ago, and the board apparently still has not ruled.

Bill Miskell, spokesman for the state Department of Corrections, said Schlicher is still being held at the Norton Correctional Facility and has not been granted parole. He said the board has not issued a decision, but noted that is not unusual.

"I have seen cases where the board takes several months to make a decision," he said, "but it just varies each time."

Seidel was not available for comment Thursday or today.

In an earlier interview, she said Schlicher would be released on Thursday, Feb. 28, if he is granted parole. That is the day his sentence began.

Even if he is released, she said, he probably won't ever be completely free. She said prisoners with a life sentence usually remain on parole until they die.

After a week-long trial in Sept. 1980, a jury found Schlicher guilty of shooting Wallace Patton to death on Nov. 8, 1970. Witnesses testified that Schlicher and two of his classmates at the technical school in Goodland abducted Patton after robbing the gas station where he worked. Schlicher was the only one to go to jail.

The murder went unsolved for 10 years, until Marvin Dale Seigrist, one of the classmates, received immunity for his testimony. Doctors ruled Charles Kauffman, the third student, was not sane enough to stand trial.



Kids spend day in snow

Chase Sawatzky, Sawyer Burkett, and Austin Burkett (above) stood like kings Thursday on a snow hill during their day off from school. One of them was snow boarding on the pile. Classes were canceled Thursday because of a storm that dropped six inches of snow on Goodland. Auhley and Andrei Ramirez (right) were making a snow man in their spare time.

Photos by Skilar Boland
The Goodland Daily News



Banks key part of city's past

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

There have been as many as a dozen banks in Sherman County since the county was organized in 1888, but today there are only three.

Two have become regional banks, with their main offices in Goodland, and the third is a branch of another regional bank.

Two of the present banks, The First National Bank of Goodland, 202 E. 11th, and Bankwest of Kansas, 924 Main, each suggest they are related to a bank in the earliest Sherman County history.

Records from the Kansas Office of the State Bank Commissioner and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation differ on when the banks actually began.

State records provided by Judi M. Stork, deputy commissioner for the Division of Banking, show First National as opening on Jan. 1, 1886. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation lists First National as opening Jan. 1, 1886, and First National traces its history back to the Sherman County Bank, which opened in 1886 in Eustis.

Based on state banking and federal records, Bankwest of Kansas opened in January 1929. Bankwest historical information shows a connection back to The Kansas Banking Company in the town of Gandy in 1886, and to The Goodland State Bank in 1905 — the first bank to be located at 924 Main where Bankwest stands today.

Western State Bank of Goodland, 815 Center, is a branch office, with the main office located in Garden City.



The building at Main and 11th was the first home of the Sherman County Bank in 1888. The Goodland City Bank purchased the building in 1897, and in 1901 the name was changed to First National Bank of Goodland.

Photo courtesy of High Plains Museum

The Goodland branch traces its history back to 1924, when it was a savings and loan. It then went through ownership by two large bank companies before being purchased by Western State. State and federal records show the main Western State Bank office was opened in June 1973, and the Goodland branch was purchased in 1997.

First National has become a regional

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Armed robber charged

Alleged thief heads to court in April

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

The man who allegedly tried to rob a Goodland liquor store at gunpoint on New Year's Eve and was shot in the process has been charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon.

The alleged robber, 20-year-old Del Ray Dreiling of Sharon Springs, was served with a complaint and summons early this week. County Attorney Bonnie Selby said she thinks arrangements are being made to have a meeting with the family's lawyer.

The complaint alleges Dreiling went into Kamper Liquor Store on Business U.S. 24 on New Year's Eve with pantyhose covering his face. He reportedly pointed a loaded .22 caliber handgun at Marvin Thomas, the store clerk, and demanded money from the cash register.

A statement issued by Goodland Police Chief Ray Smee earlier this month said Jack Kamper, store owner, came out of his office with a handgun and shot Dreiling once in the chest.

Dreiling had been recuperating at St. Anthony Central Hospital in Denver, where he had been flown by helicopter and was originally listed as being in critical condition. He had surgery to remove the bullet from his spine.

Selby said she wanted to wait until Dreiling was out of the hospital before she served with the summons. He left the hospital some time in the past week.

Dreiling has been ordered to appear before the Sherman County District Court at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 2. Selby said the court has a full docket until then.

Kamper will not be charged in the shooting, Selby said. Earlier this month, she said to charge Kamper she would have to believe he had used unjust force against the alleged robber.

Under Kansas law, Selby said, a person is free to defend himself, another person, or his property, as long as he does not use excessive force.

County to restrict semi traffic

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Sherman County Commissioners on Thursday approved a resolution restricting commercial truck traffic traveling across the county on Business U.S. 24.

Trucks hauling aggregate from Lamar to Levant, using U.S. 24 through Goodland, have caused damage to the county roadway.

The new resolution says no commercial traffic will be allowed without county designation, which means trucks must be registered here. The resolution takes effect immediately, and Curt Way, county public works director, said signs should be in place in the next two weeks.

At the final session of the month, Sherman County Sheriff Doug Whitson suggested the commissioners pass a separate resolution setting weight limits and including a fine schedule.

There was a suggestion to restrict weight to 40 tons. County Attorney Bonnie Selby was asked to draft the weight limit and fine schedule resolutions.

The resolution will not affect commercial trucks within the county, but is aimed at outside commercial traffic seeking to use the county road to haul a heavier amount of material.

Way said the state allows 85,000 pounds on secondary roads, but limits traffic on I-70 to 80,000 pounds. He said truck traffic causing the road damage has been rerouted onto I-70 at the

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local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.64 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.47
Corn — \$1.90 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.83
Loan deficiency payment — 16¢
Milo — \$1.62 bushel
Soybeans — \$3.67 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.68
Loan deficiency payment — \$1.24
Millet — \$0.00 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$0.00 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 87¢
Confection current — inquire
Pinto beans — \$25 (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.

Officials ask for high alert

WASHINGTON — Despite U.S. successes in Afghanistan, the Bush administration is cautioning terrorists may be operating in the United States, requiring the nation to stay on high alert for perhaps years.

The call for vigilance came from a variety of officials Thursday, from Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld to the head of the FBI and the White House where the president's national security adviser asserted that countries with links to terrorists have been "put on notice."

FBI Director Robert Mueller told reporters "sleeper cells" of terrorists may well continue to operate in the United States, awaiting orders to attack.

The al-Qaida terrorist network's ability to launch major attacks has been disrupted by more than three months of U.S. military action.