

## weather report

46°

at noon



### Today

• Sunset, 7:16 p.m.

### Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:19 a.m.  
• Sunset, 7:17 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 50 degrees  
• Humidity 93 percent  
• Sky overcast with fog and drizzle  
• Winds northeast 18-24 m.p.h.  
• Barometer 29.98 inches and rising  
• Record High 82° (1930)  
• Record Low 12° (1973)

### Last 24 Hours\*

High 66°  
Low 44°  
Precipitation trace

### Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly clear, low mid 30s, winds east 10-15 m.p.h. Tomorrow: mostly sunny and warmer, mid 70s, low lower 40s, winds south 10-20 m.p.h.

### Extended Forecast

Wednesday: mostly sunny, high upper 70s, low lower 40s, 30 percent chance of rain. Thursday: mostly cloudy with chance of shower and thunderstorms, high lower 60s. (National Weather Service)  
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## Officials pushing clean-up

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Daily News*

County Commissioner Kevin Rasure proposed eliminating the fees for construction and demolition material at the county landfill for the rest of the year Tuesday to encourage a clean up for Goodland and Sherman County.

His suggestion was endorsed by Commissioners Chuck Frankenfeld and Mitch Tiede, and they will take a vote on the proposal at Tuesday morning's meeting. The change might also help keep the debris out of city trash dumpsters, which has caused problems over handling city trash.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby was asked whether the commissioners needed to pass a resolution to change the fees, but last year Selby told the commissioners that a resolution was not required to set them.

The proposal calls for waiving construction and demolition fees to all persons and businesses in Sherman County, including the city and Kevin Butts' trash service. The charges for tires, freon recovery and slabs of concrete would remain in effect.

Rasure wants the city and county to establish a special seven-person committee to come up with proposals to help stop construction and demolition items for going into the city's trash dumpsters. Rasure said the committee would comprise one county representative, one city representative, two citizens appointed by the city and two by the county and the seventh selected by the other six.

"We realize the days when we could take all of our trash to one big hole and bury it were much easier on everyone," Rasure said. "However, we need to keep in mind that as we continue to create more and more trash, we need to learn to deal with it more responsibly, not only for ourselves, but for our children and future generations.

"We have contaminated our groundwater at too many locations, including the old city/county landfill.

"Let's all try to make our trash system work better for us and the people of tomorrow."

Rasure said a copy of the proposal has been given to the city, and while the city commissioners do not meet until Monday, April 15, he said response has been positive from those he has talked to.

"We know that most of the people are really trying to make it work," Rasure said, "and that means 90 percent plus are doing the right thing. But we need to find a way to deal with the small percentage who are not helping."

Rasure said he was encouraged by the first figures from the new recycling program.

"This will pay for itself, and is a positive for both the city and the county," he said.

Figures from Ray Lariviere, executive director of the multi-county recycling program, show the collection of newspaper and paper in March was 57.5 cubic yards which means about 8.25 tons of material did not go to the county landfill. At the rate of \$32 a ton, the city save \$264 on tipping fees.

Lariviere said he was glad to see the city was adding two more paper containers. He said the pickup records show that the paper containers at the city shop and near Rasure Lumber were full every week, and that the container at Wal-Mart was slower getting started, but that in the past few weeks it has been full. He said the glass and aluminum containers have not been as full, but that the amount is growing steadily.

"The easiest thing for people to recycle is the paper," he said. "The other materials will increase over time, but since the paper is 38 percent of the total, it will always be higher."

Other items on Tuesday's agenda include:

- A decision on lease or purchase of loader for the landfill.
- Replacement of a tractor for use at fairgrounds and courthouse.
- The Rev. Steve Rains, Calvary Gospel Church, will talk to the commissioners about plans for National World Day of Prayer.

The commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. in the commission room on the main floor of the courthouse.



Todd Rose, a Northwest Kansas Technical College student, lifted weights on Sunday at the college's fitness center, which opened last

May. Rose is one of three students who work at the center.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

## New fitness center does its job

### Students lift bars, not beer

By Rachel Miscall

*The Goodland Daily News*

Administrators and students say the fitness center which opened on the Northwest Kansas Technical College campus almost a year ago is doing just what it was meant to do.

They say it's attracting new students to the college, keeping the ones already there in shape and away from drugs and alcohol, and encouraging kids from different departments to interact.

"It's great," said Todd Rose, one of three students who work at the fitness center south of the college campus. "It gives us something to do at night and we definitely need something to do."

Floyd Ogden, another student who works at the center, said an average of 35 students visit every day to lift weights, run on the treadmills, play racquetball or shoot pool. He said attendance takes a big jump when intra-

mural sports tournaments are held in the center's gymnasium.

"It keeps a lot of students from partying as hard," said Ogden, a 20-year-old enrolled in the electrical program.

That was one purpose of the fitness center, said Larry Keirns, long-time president of the college who the \$1-million center was named after. Keirns retired last summer and Ken Clouse, former president of the Northeast Kansas Technical College in Atchison, was hired to take his place.

"We wanted it to give students an outlet for their extra energy," Keirns said. "I think it has met that need effectively. I'm quite proud of it, of course."

He added that students and their parents and families are impressed with the center, too.

The new president agreed.

"Parents say 'Wowee! This is neat,'" Clouse said, noting that no other technical college in the state offers the same type of facility.

The center opened in early May and features an exercise room with weight lifting machines, treadmills, stair steps, stationary bicycles and a television; two racquetball courts with glass

front walls for spectators; a gymnasium; locker rooms and a lounge with a pool table and snack machines.

Clouse said part of the \$90 activity fee students pay each year is used to run the center. He said the fee will be increased to \$115 next year, partly because the college wants to supply caps and gowns for its graduation ceremony.

Only college students and faculty are allowed to use the center, Clouse said, so it doesn't compete with the public fitness facility in Goodland and there is not much need to supervise children. He said administrators have discussed opening the center to students' parents and families.

Ogden said a few students were abusing equipment and causing trouble when the center first opened, but that died down quickly. Clouse said a rotating video camera that monitors the center helps keep things in check.

The president said he thinks the center has convinced some students to enroll.

"It's not the only reason," he said, "but it's a determining factor."

Rose, who finished the diesel me-

chanics program and is now enrolling in auto body, said when he's done working at the center, he uses the exercise equipment to work-out.

Ogden, who works-out on his break, said many students come in to run or lift weights, but the racquetball courts and the gymnasium are the most popular.

"So many people wanted to play racquetball," he said, "that we had to start a sign-up sheet."

Clouse said the center has allowed the college to expand its intramural sports program because the students now have a place to practice and play games and tournaments. Ogden said there have been basketball and volleyball tournaments so far.

He said the center allows students in different departments to meet and get to know each other.

Ogden said he feels like the center is his second home because he spends so much time there and put so much work into it. He said students in most different departments, from electrical to carpentry, contributed to the construction of the center.

"Almost everyone on campus had a hand in building this," he said.

## local markets

### Noon

Wheat — \$2.63 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.57  
New Crop — \$2.60 bushel  
Corn — \$1.84 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.80  
Loan deficiency payment — 19¢  
Milo — \$1.53 bushel  
Soybeans — \$3.91 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.04  
Loan deficiency payment — 88¢  
Millett — \$3.25 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$8.55 cwt.  
NuSun — \$8.70 cwt.  
Loan deficiency prnt. — 56¢  
Confection current — \$16/\$8 cwt.  
Pinto beans — \$28  
(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. U.S. demands won't halt war

NABLUS, West Bank — Israel's offensive in the West Bank will continue, despite U.S. demands for an immediate troops withdrawal, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon told parliament today, as helicopter gunships pounded a Palestinian refugee camp and a fire broke out during fighting near Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity.

Addressing a special session of the Knesset, Sharon said he has promised President Bush to expedite the campaign, now in its 11th day.

Turning to the Arab world, Sharon said he was willing to meet with Arab leaders without preconditions to discuss a comprehensive peace agreement. Sharon branded Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat the head of a "regime of terror."

U.S. envoy Anthony Zinni met with Sharon today, officials said.

By Doug Stephens

*The Goodland Daily News*

"The Wizard of Oz" may be a fantasy, but if watchers pay attention, they can learn a little weather safety.

A storm spotter class Thursday at the National Guard Armory started with a clip from the movie. Meteorologist Brooke Taber explained how in the old days, before radar and radio-equipped spotters, farmers knew a tornado was on its way, and how they had a plan to hide from it.

Taber and Aaron Dorn taught the class to about 90 people. It was a send-off of sorts for Dorn, who has been promoted and left for Aberdeen, S.D. on Sunday. About 70 who went to the class volunteered to be certified as official storm spotters, who promise to call the weather service and report severe weather.

The class taught safety tips for severe weather, talked about tornadoes, explained why storm spotters are important, and described how storms are formed.

It is important to know where to go in the event of a tornado, Taber said, and to practice evacuation routes.

"Use your head. Common sense. Don't do anything stupid," he said.

Tim Duncan of the American Red Cross talked a little bit about the organization and showed a video which showed how to prepare for severe weather.

Tips included being aware of the weather, reviewing insurance policies



The National Weather Service held a storm spotter class Thursday. Meteorologist Brooke Taber showed an audience member graphics on a computer after the class.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

to make sure they cover weather damage and developing safety plans.

Plans include designating an out-of-

town person to contact in case a family is separated, setting up a place for the family to meet and making sure to keep

a supply kit of food, water, radio, flashlight, first aid kit and batteries all in one place so it can be reached in a hurry.

Taber showed a chart that showed the number of tornadoes in Kansas from 1951-2001. May and June were the big months, with 862 and 659 respectively. January is the only month that never had a reported tornado. Taber said 84 percent of all tornadoes in northwest Kansas happen between May and July, and 74 percent between noon and 8 p.m.

The number of tornadoes reported has gone up in recent years, he said, mostly because there are more spotters in the field.

Dorn described how tornadoes are rated on the "F" scale. An F-0 is the weakest kind and may last for only a few minutes, while an F-5 is the strongest and can last for over an hour. Throughout the country, Dorn said, there is a 60 percent chance of an F-5 every decade. Tornadoes are rated after they have passed, he said, based on how much damage they cause.

Everything that twirls is not a tornado, the class learned. "Gustnadoes" look like tornadoes, Dorn said, but they are just "glorified dust-devils." They aren't connected to a cloud, and while they aren't as dangerous as tornadoes, he said, a person should be careful around them.

Spotters are sometimes the only source of information for the weather service, Taber said, because radar has