

weather
report

37°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:27 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:06 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:28 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 61 degrees
• Humidity 69 percent
• Sky cloudy
• Winds north 17 m.p.h.
• Barometer 30.16 inches
and falling
• Record High 87° (2001)
• Record Low 18° (1953)

Last 24 Hours*

High 76°
Low 36°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, low lower 30s, winds east 20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: cloudy, 30 percent chance of rain turning to snow in the evening, high mid 40s, low mid 30s, winds north-east 20 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: partly sunny, high lower 50s, low lower 30s. Monday: clear, high lower 70s. Tuesday: mostly clear, high upper 70s, low mid 30s. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.65 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.55
New Crop — \$2.61
Corn — \$1.81 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.77
Loan deficiency payment — 22¢
Milo — \$1.50 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.11 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.08
Loan deficiency payment — 84¢
Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.05 cwt.
NuSun — \$9.20 cwt.
Loan deficiency prnt. — 85¢
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.

Train driver
tried to stop

CRESCENT CITY, Fla. — The engineer of an Amtrak Auto Train that derailed in Florida, killing four people and injuring more than 150 others, tried to stop the train when he saw that the tracks ahead appeared to be misaligned, a federal official said today.
The engineer hit the train's emergency brakes about an hour into its trip from central Florida to Virginia. The two engines and first two cars stayed on the track, but 21 of the 38 cars that followed derailed.
Investigators planned to look at the wheels of a coal train that had passed shortly before the Auto Train for any signs of damage.
The train is a favorite among tourists traveling between Washington and Orlando's theme parks.
It was going 56 mph in a 60 mph zone when the cars derailed. Four other trains had just passed.

Gov. Graves may call special session

By John Hanna

The Associated Press

TOPEKA — Gov. Bill Graves is warning legislators that they risk being summoned into special session if they take him for granted in budget discussions.
Graves told reporters Thursday he doesn't believe enough legislators are ready now to draft a budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1, or to approve tax increases to fund it.
And he said there's a good chance he'll have

to call the first special session since December 1989 — probably in late June — to get a budget he is willing to sign.
"I'm not sure yet anybody's got the guts to do anything," Graves told reporters. "There's just a lot of posturing going on."
The House and Senate recessed at the end of last week and are to reconvene May 1, with May 11 their target date for wrapping up business. Legislative leaders could not be located or did not return phone calls Thursday seeking reaction to

Graves' statements.
The state must eliminate a projected \$700 million gap between expected revenues and required spending. Both chambers have approved budget plans with revenue shortfalls, and neither has approved any tax increases.
Conservative legislators have maintained the state could balance the budget by cutting spending and using more than \$200 million from reserve funds.
Graves opposes use of the reserves, saying they

are needed to pay bills while government waits for tax revenues.
Graves has proposed \$364 million in tax increases, but the House has rejected every tax proposal put before it and the Senate hasn't debated the matter.
As if to underscore the seriousness of the state's financial situation, Graves said the state delayed an aid payment to public schools for the third time

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Fruity story



Karen Jones, nutrition program assistant at the Kansas State Research Extension Center, read a book about fruit to the children at story time Thursday at the Goodland Public Library. She was a special guest during Library Week.
Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Daily News

Group to bring big brothers, sisters here

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Sherman County children whose parents, siblings or relatives aren't around much, could one day find themselves with a new big brother or sister.
Two leaders of the Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters organization came to Goodland from Wichita this week to help a group build an affiliate program with the goal of matching more Kansas children with mentors.
Nick Mork, president of Sedgwick County Big Brothers Big Sisters, and Bill Hanna, chairman of the state orga-

nization, met Monday with members of a board who have been working for almost a year to start a program in Sherman County.
Big Brothers Big Sisters, a nationwide program first created in 1904, pairs children with adults who volunteer to mentor them.
Separate agencies have existed in Kansas counties for many years, but the state organization wasn't formed until September, after a group running the Sedgwick County program decided it was time to bring everyone under one umbrella.

Mork, head of the Sedgwick County agency, is helping run the state organization. He said it's goal is to increase the current 3,000 matches to 10,000 by 2005 and 20,000 by 2010. The plan is to build a successful Big Brothers Big Sisters program in any county that wants one.
Volunteers here say it's not only a matter of wanting the program, it's a necessity. While no matches have been made yet, they say they've identified hundreds of kids who need a big brother or sister.
Mork and Hanna said Monday they

want to help make it happen.
The group gathered that night at Bankwest's basement meeting room, where they spent nearly four hours discussing what makes a successful Big Brothers Big Sisters program and how to pay for it.
Board members trying to organize the program weren't the only ones to show up.
Bill Hauck, a case manager at High Plains Mental Health Center, said he was a big brother in Pueblo, Colo., and

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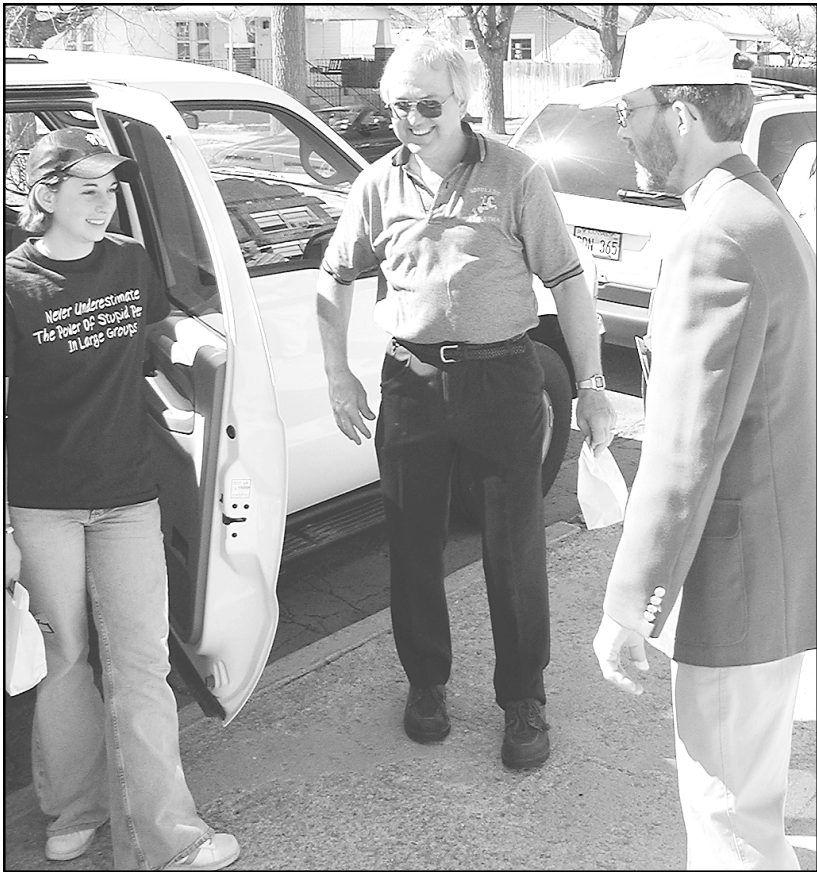
Business students drive 720 miles to nationals

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

Five Goodland High School Deca members headed for a national competition in Salt Lake City Thursday.
Deca is a program that teaches students about business. Students in the program create projects which they enter in the state contest each year. Winners advance to the national competition.
"I think we're going to be successful," said Richard Schwasinger, advisor of the group.
He said it's about 720 miles to the Deca International Career Development Conference. Once there, they should be able to rest their road-weary bodies in what Schwasinger called a "really nice hotel." The group should be back in town by Wednesday.
The members were sent off and given snack packs by the Goodland Ambassadors, a welcoming and support division of the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce.
The Goodland students will compete against an estimated 3,000 students, Schwasinger said. Kids from every state will be there, as well as Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Canada. He said there will be entries from Germany for the first time, and

visitors from other European countries.
"It's really turning into an international event," he said.
With five students entering in three projects, Schwasinger said he thinks they have a good chance.
"Many years, we only send one or two projects," he said. "With three, if we catch a little bit of luck, we ought to do pretty well."
The best the school has placed in the contest is third, in 1983. They have placed in the top 10, Schwasinger said, 15 times.
The school has sponsored Deca since about 1958, he said, and he has been doing it for 25 years. In that time, he said, they have advanced to nationals 24 times, failing to qualify one year by one point.
Bryce Chatfield and Tiffany Schwasinger are entering their free enterprise project, Randi Gray and Timothy Brydich will compete with their learn and earn project and Destiny Wing in a management marketing series.
Gray said she is excited.
"We're going to do great," she said.
Wing said she thought the group was going to do well, but she didn't seem sure about the trip.
"I already miss my mom," she said.



David Branda, a Goodland Ambassador, gave snack packages to Deca members going to Salt Lake City for a national competition Thursday at Goodland High School.
Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Stopping best way to be safe

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

The key to driving safely in near-zero visibility, is not to drive at all, said Capt. Kelly McGuire, commander of Kansas Highway Patrol Troop D.
McGuire said if you feel unsafe and it's hard to see the road or other cars, put on your seat belt, gradually slow down to a safe speed, pull over to the shoulder, turn on your four-way flashers and wait for the weather to clear up.
If you don't do that, he said, you could be breaking the law or, much worse, you could die.
It can happen. Jeff Hopper, a 26-year-old Gem man, died Tuesday after his car hit the back of a semi-trailer rig on I-70 in Sherman County during a dust storm that reduced driving visibility to almost zero. Hopper would likely be alive today if he and the truck driver had pulled over.
McGuire said if dust, fog, snow, smoke, rain or other bad weather reduces visibility to almost zero, there's nothing you can do but stop.
"We're kind of at the mercy of nature at that time," he said, noting that drivers should pull over for their own safety and the safety of other motorists. The captain said don't stop abruptly in the middle of the road because it's illegal and can cause a multiple-car accident.
There was another two-vehicle accident Tuesday night, when a driver slammed on his brakes after lights at the scene of the first accident startled him. No one was seriously injured in that wreck.
McGuire said drivers should stay in their car because they could be hit by another motorist and it's illegal for pedestrians to be on the freeway.
"It's just one of those things," he said. "People will run over you very quickly."
If you feel unsafe in your vehicle, he said, stand at the bottom of the ditch or near the fence, a good distance from the road.
If it's just not possible to pull over, McGuire said, make sure you have your seat belt on correctly.
He said a majority of people who died in highway car accidents last year in this area were not wearing their seat belt.
In Troop D last year, McGuire said, 29 people died in 26 car accidents. He said 21 of those accidents were one-vehicle roll-overs, in which the driver was ejected from the car because he wasn't wearing a seat belt.
Troop D covers 18 counties in northwest Kansas.
Out of four driving-related deaths in the troop this year, McGuire said, three may have been prevented if the person was wearing a seat belt.
"More than likely," he said, "more people would survive the accident if they were wearing a belt."
To work, he said, the belt has to be put on correctly — not under the driver's arm or stuffed behind his back.
"They don't work if you don't have them on," he said, "and they don't work properly if you don't use them properly."