Six Pages

WEDNESDAY April 24

Goodland, Kansas 67735

2002

Volume 70, Number 81

weather report

Today

• Sunset, 7:32 p.m.

Tomorrow

 Sunrise, 5:56 a.m. Sunset, 7:33 p.m.

Midday Conditions

Extreme Fire Danger

- Soil Temperature 61 degrees
- Humidity 26 percent
- Sky clear and sunny
- Winds north 26-35 m.p.h. • Barometer 30.25 inches
- and rising
- Record High 89° (1989) • Record Low 21° (1958)

High

Last 24 Hours*

84° 40°

Low Precipitation none

Tonight: partly cloudy, low around 30, winds variable 5-10 m.p.h. Tomorrow: mostly cloudy and breezy, high lower 60s, low upper 30s, winds south 5-25 m.p.h.

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Extended Forecast

Friday: mostly cloudy and breezy, high mid 60s, low mid 40s, 30 percent chance of rain in the evening. Saturday: chance of showers.

(National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m



Noon

Wheat — \$2.55 bushel Posted county price — \$2.46 New Crop — \$2.53 Corn — \$1.81 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.78 Loan deficiency payment — 21¢ Milo — \$1.50 bushel

Sovbeans — \$4.12 bushel Posted county price — \$4.11 Loan deficiency payment — 81¢ Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$9.10 cwt. NuSun — \$9.25 Loan deficiency pmt. — 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

Cardinals OK

new sex policy

VATICAN CITY — American

cardinals meeting with Pope John

Paul II reached consensus on a

"one-strike-you're-out" policy

that would dismiss any priest in-

volved in a future sex abuse case,

Cardinal Theodore McCarrick

The Washington archbishop

said, however, that there were still

some questions about whether a

similar tough policy should be ap-

plied to cases that occurred in the

past and have now come to light.

listen to the lay people," he told

reporters at the edge of St. Peter's

Square after lunch with the other

U.S. cardinals and John Paul on the

final day of a two-day summit of

Asked if the cardinals were

moving toward agreement on a

one-strike policy, he replied, "Ab-

U.S. church leaders.

solutely.'

"I've got to pray about that and

from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

said today.

Eye on the sky

New guy watching weather

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News Dave Floyd, the new warning coordination meteorologist at Goodland's National Weather Service office, said when he was a 10-year-old in Wisconsin, he would sit on his roof marveling at the clouds floating above.

Pretty soon, he said, he was asking his parents for weather instruments and trying to learn as much as he could about what goes on in the sky.

"I think it's just the extremes," Floyd said. "I like extreme cold, extreme wind, extreme heat, severe thunderstorms.

"I just like watching the atmosphere change. It's really satisfying.'

He said he didn't consider making a career of it until his sophomore year at Notre Dame, where he was studying electrical engineering.

Floyd said a buddy invited him to go meet the Channel 4 weatherman in Milwaukee. "He showed us around," he said.

"Answered our questions. Talked to us for hours. He was a young guy right out of college, so he knew what we were going through." It was such a good experience,

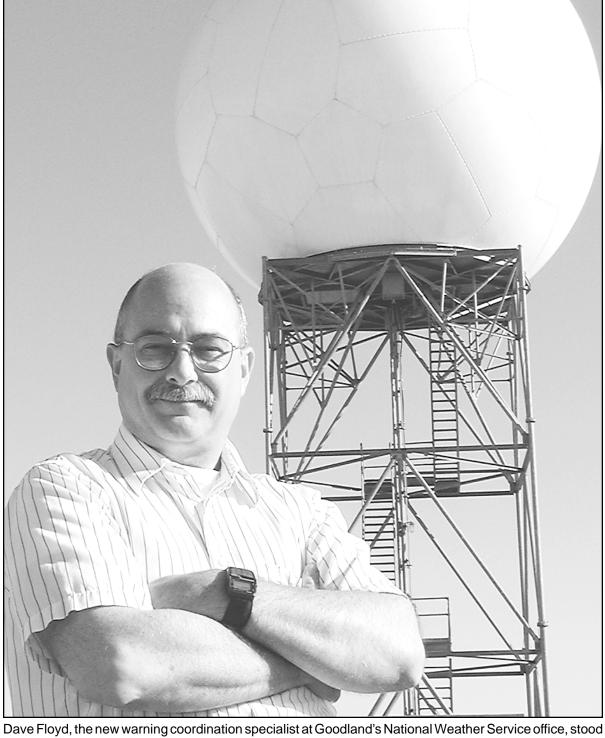
Floyd said, that the next day he and his friend decided to switch their majors to meteorology and transfer to the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Decades later, the 49-year-old's fas-

cination with weather hasn't diminished. He said his favorite pastime is chasing storms. He's been doing it since 1988, and has seen 20 tornadoes, the closest a mile away.

"I was close enough to see it do its thing," he said.

in Goodland, Floyd said he may not gists how to use Doppler radar. have much time for storm chasing this year. He'll be too busy getting accli-

The meteorologist said he moved here in March from Norman, Okla., where he worked for about four years



in front of the Doppler radar tower outside the office this morning. Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Being the new guy at the office and cility in Norman, teaching meteorolo-with emergency crews.

Floyd replaced Kevin Lynott, who of me as the public relations guy." moved to Washington in February to take a hydrologist position at Weather Service headquarters. Lynott had worked here eight years.

Floyd said his new duties include

worked for four years at a training fa-tions on weather safety and working them learn more about the weather.'

"In general," he said, "you can think

He said he wanted the job because it's sort of a combination of his previous two positions as a forecaster and an instructor.

"This job gives me a chance to in-

as a forecaster. Before that, he said, he talking to reporters, giving presentateract with people," he said, "and help

Floyd said his storm-chasing experiences will come in handy. He said the videos and slides he shows during storm spotter training sessions are his own. "It helps when you're giving spotter talks," he said. "You can relate better to people. Tell them what you've seen and experienced."

Courts get more in budget

House negotiators want to raise taxes

By John Hanna

Associated Press Writer TOPEKA—Legislative budget negotiators agreed today on additional money for the state courts and keeping five minimum-security prisons open.

Three senators and three House members were in their second day of conference committee talks on a compromise budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1. The rest of the Legislature is in recess until May 1.

One issue was whether the courts, facing higher payroll and insurance costs, should receive additional tax money or be forced to rely on raising their fees. Judicial officials have said that with-

offices some days. The Supreme Court already imposed surcharges effective April 1, including a \$50 increase in the \$25 fee for a marriage licenses. The House included an additional \$2.2 million for the courts in the bud-

out more money, they might close court

get it has approved, but the Senate did not. The House position prevailed in the negotiations. "We probably didn't appropriately

address it," said Sen. Nick Jordan, R-Shawnee, one of the negotiators. Resolving the fate of the five mini-

mum-security prisons proved even less controversial. The units are in Osawatomie, Stockton and Toronto and separate conservation camps for male and female offenders in Oswego with space for 486 offenders.

The Senate included \$5.6 million for the facilities in its budget, but the House did not. The negotiators agreed to the Senate's position.

During negotiations Tuesday, two House Republicans said they want to produce a budget that would require \$200 million to \$225 million in higher taxes. But Senate Ways and Means Committee Chairman Steve Morris said that would be too small and still require too much cutting to close a projected \$700 million budget shortfall.

Before recessing earlier this month, the House approved a budget plan that is \$108 million out of balance.

Phone company building connections

Workers busy installing cable

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

Workers are digging holes by houses and driving heavy machinery through alleys, as S&T Communications starts installing its new telephone and cable system for Goodland.

The construction began about 10 a.m. Monday, and is expected to last through the summer, said Gary Slough, marketing and sales manager. First, workers are running lines from the alley to homes, then they will lay the main cables down alleys.

"It's a long-term project," Slough said.

A crew from MasTec of Shelvin, Minn., finished installing cable connections for the company between Broadway and Clark and 16th and 17th Streets this morning, and had started in the alley between 15th and 16th.

The workers use a boring rig at the edge of the property line in an alley to tunnel a hole for cable.

The cable is pushed through the ground, and comes out at a hole workers dig at each house where the residents have agreed to have a drop. 'We do it this way so we don't have to dig up the entire

yard," said Eric Swanson, a worker on the site. There are seven workers connecting houses now, including Grady Cloyd of Goodland, but Swanson said there will

be more on the way. Workers are connecting only houses which replied to a letter sent to every home in Goodland asking for permission,

There is no cost to residents, and there is no obligation to use any of the company's services.

The company, based in Brewster, is a subsidiary of S&T Telephone, a co-operative owned by its customers.

The firm will offer local and long distance telephone service, Internet and digital subscriber line connections and cable television.



Matt Riewer, a worker from MasTec of Shelvin, Minn. tunneled a hole with a boring rig at 1521 Broadway Wednesday morning.

Photo by Doug Stephens The Goodland

Construction of new office starts Monday

A shiny ceremonial shovel will get a workout Monday when S&T street at the company's temporary office at 1405 Main, Slough said. Communications breaks ground at the site of its future offices in downtown Goodland.

The event will be at 10 a.m. at the northwest corner of 14th Street and Main Avenue.

There will be some picture taking and a little "thank you" speech by Steve Richards, general manager of the company, said Gary Slough, marketing and sales manager. Mayor Tom Rohr has been invited to say a few words.

After the ceremony, coffee and doughnuts will be served across the an office in Colby.

Work on the office should start next week, he said, and will take about 200 days to finish. The company's services, which include cable,

telephone and Internet, can't start until the building has been finished enough for switches to be moved in, Slough said — probably sometime in fall. Because connections will be done in sections, he said, some parts of town will get service before others.

Between 10 and 12 people will be employed at the Goodland office, Slough said. The company held a groundbreaking Monday for