

weather report

66°

at noon



Today

- Sunset, 7:51 p.m.
- Tomorrow**
- Sunrise, 5:34 a.m.
 - Sunset, 7:52 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 54 degrees
- Humidity 25 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds north 7 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.39 inches and falling
- Record High 97° (1941)
- Record Low 25° (1953)

Last 24 Hours*

High 58°
Low 40°
Precipitation trace

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly clear, low mid 40s, winds southeast 5 -10 m.p.h. Tomorrow: partly sunny, high lower 80s, winds south 15-35 m.p.h., low lower 50s, 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the evening.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: partly sunny, 20 percent chance of rain, high mid 70s, low upper 40s. Thursday: high upper 60s, showers likely till midnight. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.54 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.39
Loan deficiency payment — 6¢
Corn — \$1.89 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.83
Loan deficiency payment — 16¢
Milo — \$1.58 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.13 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.11
Loan deficiency payment — 81¢
Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.25 cwt.
NuSun — \$9.40 cwt.
Loan deficiency prnt. — 66¢
Confection current — \$16/\$8 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$27
(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.

Carter visits Cuban lab

HAVANA — Former president Jimmy Carter visited a major biotechnology lab with Fidel Castro today, just a week after U.S. officials accused Cuba of trying to develop biological warfare.

Traveling with his wife and a small group of executives and staff from his Carter Center, the former American president had no biotechnology experts in his delegation. Carter has a science background, but in nuclear technology. Castro has denounced the American charge as a lie.

He traveled to the Center of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology on the outskirts of Havana after meeting two leading Cuban dissidents, who briefed him on Cuba's human rights situation.

A White House spokesman said today Castro should give his own people the same freedom to travel as he has given Carter.

College to raise tuition

President says they have no other choice

By Rachel Miscal

The Goodland Daily News

The board that runs Goodland's Northwest Kansas Technical College has approved a plan to charge students 25 cents more for each instructional hour, a 36 percent increase in tuition for the next school year.

If the Kansas Board of Regents approves the hike, said Ken Clouse, college president, the increase will take effect on July 1, when the college's new fiscal year begins. He said the Regents will probably discuss the increase at their meeting next month.

Clouse said students currently pay 70 cents per instructional hour and will pay 95 cents after the increase. He said the increase will affect most students, except those who are graduating or are in their last semester.

Depending on the program, Clouse said, students will pay \$270 to \$350 more for their education next year. He said the college's 13 programs range in length from 1,080 to 1,500 hours.

Clouse said students have told him that they don't want tuition to go up, but understand why it has to.

The state isn't going to give technical colleges more money next year, he said, but the cost of education will go up. Someone has to fill in the gap.

"I've talked to students," Clouse said. "They realize tuition is going to

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Parade for vets

Jean Windell and Marilyn Ball (above) braved the wind Friday to show their spirit for the Settler's Day parade saluting veterans of World War II. Cara Daise (right) turned back and waved to the crowd from the Goodland Ambassador's float featuring with two World War II messenger scooters.

Photos by Tom Betz
The Goodland Daily News



Crew films snake show

National Geographic was on scene

By Rachel Miscal

The Goodland Daily News

People of all ages filled metal bleachers on either side of a stage to watch snake handlers perform with the prairie and diamondback rattlers over the weekend at the 11th annual Rattlesnake Roundup in Sharon Springs.

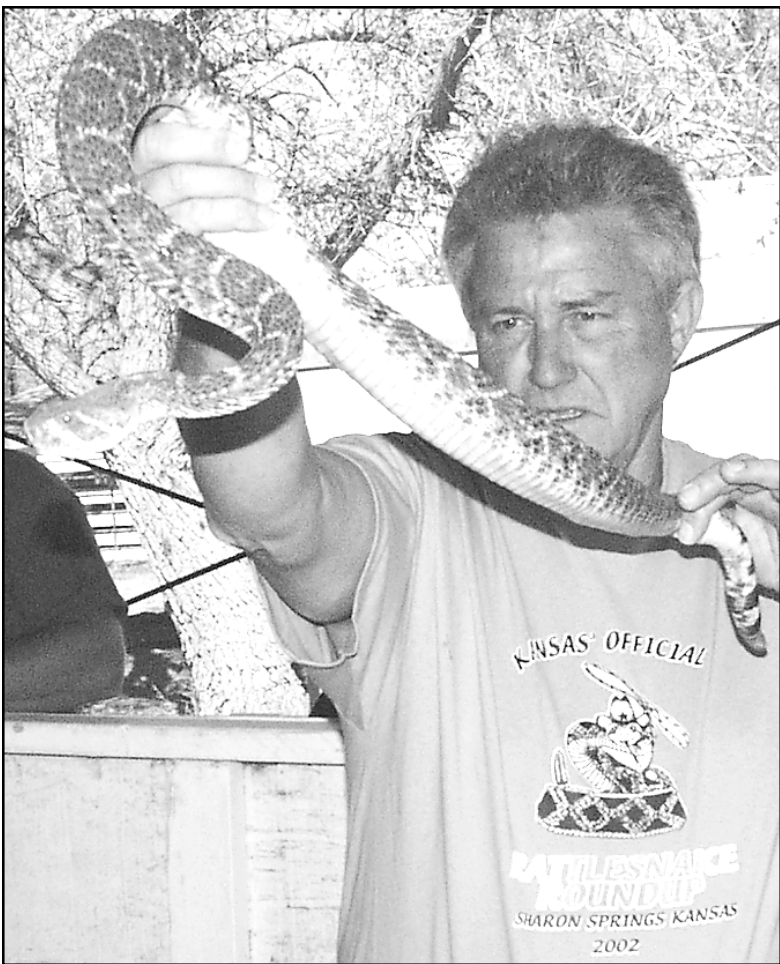
Licensed snake hunters went out to catch prairie rattlers, which were brought to the Wallace County Fairgrounds and placed on the raised stage enclosed by mesh wire and clear plastic.

On the stage, the handlers laid down in a serpent-filled sleeping bag, walked down a snake-lined path without shoes, let the rattlers flick forked tongues close to their face and pried open the poisonous animals' mouths to show the crowd their fangs.

After the performance, people either gathered around a smaller pit where they could peer down on the snakes, went to a booth where a man dissected a rattler or tasted a fried "snake snack." For those who couldn't stomach snakes, there was shopping, a rock climbing wall and musicians playing.

A film crew with National Geographic captured it all.

Judy Withers, one organizer for the event on Saturday and Sunday, said the rattler numbers were down be-



Gary Bliss, a snake handler from Downs, carefully stretched out a rattlesnake during the Rattlesnake Roundup in Sharon Springs this weekend.

Photo by Rachel Miscal/The Goodland Daily News

cause of dry weather, but attendance was up as more people hear about the snake show.

Withers said National Geographic is doing a television documentary on snakes in the U.S. and called her about a month ago to ask if they could attend the roundup. She said a four-

man crew arrived on Saturday and filmed every aspect of the event, including capturing and weighing the snakes.

Withers said the director was from New York, the assistant director was

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House deadlocked; session at 103 days

By John Hanna

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — Large cuts in spending loomed, but the House remained deadlocked over tax issues as the Legislature's session entered its 103rd day today.

No session in state history has been longer, though the one in 1991 also lasted 103 days. Legislative leaders have been frustrated by their inability to get tax increases approved.

Gov. Bill Graves said he planned to meet with legislators to discuss the impasse. He also planned a late-afternoon news conference to discuss budget issues.

"No one has approached me yet and said, 'I have the solution,'" he said today.

House members, divided into three camps, have rejected every significant tax proposal to come before them. They forced more negotiations Saturday.

Three senators and three House members drafted a package that would raise \$283 million by increasing sales, inheritance, cigarette and liquor taxes but tie those proposals to some business tax breaks.

But House Republican leaders weren't confident any plan would win approval because of disagreements among Democrats and moderate and conservative Republicans.

The House was to vote today on the latest plan.

"We're going to make a hell of a run at it," said House Speaker Kent Glasscock, R-Manhattan.

Legislators must close a \$290 million hole in a \$4.4 billion budget for the state's 2003 fiscal year, which begins

Longest sessions in history

By The Associated Press

YEAR	WRAP-UP	TOTAL
2002	13 days	103 days
1991	12 days	103 days
1990	10 days	100 days
1992	10 days	100 days
1988	7 days	98 days
1989	7 days	98 days
2001	13 days	98 days

2002 wrap-up still in session Monday.

Sources: House and Senate journals, AP archives.

July 1. Graves plans to sign that budget this week but is preparing to cut it at the rest area each year.

The tourism division says travelers who stop at information centers generally spend an extra half-day in the state, which Crotinger said will help pump money into our economy.

"They may not spend their money in the Goodland area," Crotinger said, "but money spent anywhere in the state does help us. There are a lot of benefits of tourism people don't see."

Senate President Dave Kerr also said senators could volunteer to give up their \$78.75 daily salary.

Travel center grand opening ceremony coming Tuesday

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

The folks at the state travel and tourism center west of Goodland are getting settled in to their new building and are ready to celebrate with a grand opening on Tuesday.

A ceremony will mark the opening at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the center, at mile 7 on the eastbound (south) side of I-70.

To get to it from Goodland, go to Kanorado and turn back.

Tours will be given of the new building, refreshments will be served, and the Goodland High School band will provide music.

Lt. Gov. Gary Sherrer and Dean Carlson, Kansas secretary of transportation, will speak. The center opened its doors last month.

The \$1.6 million center, built over the last year by the Kansas Department of Transportation, is operated by the Travel and Tourism Division of the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing, headed by Sherrer. It replaces smaller build-

ings put up in the 1980s in the same location, said Julie Crotinger, supervisor of the center.

Until the new building opened, Crotinger and her crew had been operating out of a trailer in a parking lot just south of I-70 on K-27.

The lobby of the new center will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Crotinger said, and the information section will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the tourist season and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. the rest of the year, except holidays.

Crotinger said the center should average

150,000 to 170,000 visitors a year, about a third of what the transportation department says pause at the rest area each year.

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