

weather report

72°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:58 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:28 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:59 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 61 degrees
- Humidity 36 percent
- Sky partly sunny
- Winds south 34-44 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.90 inches and falling

• Record High 97° (1925)

• Record Low 35° (1945)

Last 24 Hours*

High 76°

Low 45°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly clear and windy, winds south 25-45 m.p.h., low 45-50. Tomorrow: mostly sunny, high near 80, low 40-45, winds west 10-20 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: partly sunny, high near 80, low 40-45, winds west 10-20 m.p.h. Friday: partly cloudy, chance of showers and thunderstorms, high upper 60s. Saturday: high mid 70s. (National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.49 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.47
New Crop — \$2.51
Corn — \$1.86 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.89
Loan deficiency payment — 10¢
Milo — \$1.55 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.23 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.32
Loan deficiency payment — 60¢
Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.55 cwt.
NuSun — \$9.70 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 36¢
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.

Terrorists will get weapons

WASHINGTON — Terrorists are sure to eventually acquire and use nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said today.

Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya and North Korea are developing such weapons of mass destruction and will supply them to terrorists to which they already are linked, Rumsfeld said.

“They (terrorists) inevitably will get their hands on them and they will not hesitate to use them,” Rumsfeld told a Senate Appropriations subcommittee.

Tom Ridge, who heads the White House office of domestic security, said new terror warnings have not prompted U.S. officials to raise the nationwide alert status because the intelligence on possible attacks is too vague.

Rumsfeld declined to discuss specific terrorist threats.



A road guard (above) got ready to hit the road after directing his fellow bikers (below) onto I-70 Sunday morning. About 180 bikers made a gas stop in Goodland on their annual Run for the Wall to Washington, D.C. Photos by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Bikers stop here on run for wall

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

The 180 bikers who rolled into Goodland on Sunday were more than just tourists or a band of roving motorcyclists. They were on a mission.

They were making their annual trip to the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C.

“We ride to honor those who can’t,” said Wally Drittle, a Vietnam veteran living in Albuquerque, N.M. “That’s basically it. Not everyone who went and fought came back. Some were left behind.”

The 14th annual Run for the Wall, a trip to honor those listed as missing in action or prisoners of the Vietnam War, started Wednesday in Ontario, Calif. Those who rode on the central route rolled into Goodland for a gas stop about 10 a.m. Sunday morning, filling every pump at the four stations near I-70.

An hour later, they lined up at the old Texaco truck stop and headed off to Oakley for lunch. The bikers will reach Washington on Friday.

Drittle has made the trip twice. He says when he first came back from southeast Asia, where he served as a corporal in a marine platoon, the reception he received made him embar-



rassed to be an American, ashamed of his military service and drove him into hiding.

“People on the street called me a baby-killer, a fascist, everything you can think of. I didn’t understand it. I was just a kid, 21 or 22 years old, and it scared me, and it made me angry.

“I had gone to one of the nastiest places on earth, and did what I thought

was right, what I was told to do. Rather than thank me, or even respect me, people spit on me. I kept thinking, ‘This is America? This is what I fought for? Why did I bother?’”

Drittle said he went and lived in a small cabin his grandfather owned in Montana.

“I drank too much, beat up on the furniture, and wrote some really bad

poetry,” he said with a laugh. “Finally I got my act together a little bit and got a job, got back into my life.”

While he was able to move on, Drittle said he never got over his experiences in the war, or how he was treated when he got home. Until, that is, he joined up with other motorcycle riders on their way to the Wall.

“Being with other veterans, people who went through the same s — as I did is good,” he said, “but what is even better is the response we get from the people in the towns we pass through.

“This is the reaction I was hoping for when I came back from the jungle way back when. This is what it should have been.”

Many of the riders who stopped in Goodland agreed. They said people wave flags from sidewalks when the motorcycles drive by, and they are offered free meals and sometimes free lodging at many places they stop.

“There are a lot of guys who would not be able to make this trip if we didn’t get help along the way, both financial and emotional,” said Al Turnel of Denver, another Vietnam veteran, who is on his fifth ride to Washington.

“There are a lot of great people out

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City Meeting

At a meeting Monday, the Goodland City Commission:

- Accepted a \$41,000 grant from the Kansas State Historical Society. Story to come.
- Heard from an economic development group. Story below.
- Read a letter from the county about groundwater contamination. Story to come.
- Passed an ordinance to allow people to drink alcohol at the airport administration building from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday. Story to come.
- Chose Jon McLean to mow tall weeds and grass within the city at \$25 per hour. Story to come.

Group asks city for help

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

About 17 people showed up at the Goodland City commissioners’ meeting Monday to talk about economic development in Goodland.

Schlyer Goodwin spoke first for the group’s 25-person steering committee, saying the group was asking for the city’s approval and future financial support.

Steve West, president of Western State Bank and a member of the committee, said many people have concerns about building businesses in Goodland, and said the county’s governments, businesses and farmers need to cooperate to bring people to town.

“A big part of the community sees a need for all of us to work together,” he said.

A way the city could help develop the area’s economy, West said, would be to come up with a set incentive plan for new businesses, for example, waiving certain utility costs.

“We’d like to say, the city will do this, the county will do that, and here’s some cash from us,” West said.

The main reason for coming to the meeting, West said, was to open the lines of communication.

“We still have work to do and need to organize,” West said, noting that the group plans to hire a full-time director.

Responding to a question from Commissioner Dean Blume, Goodwin said the group plans to pay the director \$50,000 to \$60,000 per year plus benefits, and that it will take about \$150,000 per year to run the office.

Blume said the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce runs its economic development division on about \$22,500.

“They have had some successes. Can you accomplish as much in the next 15 years?” Blume asked.

The Chamber has failed at bringing in businesses, Goodwin said, not

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College graduation changing

Three hundred and four Northwest Kansas Technical College students will receive associate of applied science degrees, diplomas or credentials on Wednesday night at the college’s 38th annual graduation ceremony.

The ceremony will start at 7 p.m. at Max Jones Fieldhouse and will feature a commencement address from Floris Jean Hampton, a Kansas Board of Regents member from Dodge City, and the naming of the student of the year.

There will be a few changes in the college’s graduation ceremony this year.

First, Ken Clouse, college president, will be leading the event, a duty that usually went to Larry Keirns, the long-time director who retired last summer. Keirns took charge the year after the school opened and had the job for about 36 years.

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Firefighters teach kids not to fear them

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

A man in a mask and a puffy, yellow suit making loud, raspy sounds as he breathes staggers up to a group of children and leans into the crowd with his mask in their faces.

At first, the children look scared, but then calm down when they realize there’s a nice man behind the noisy mask.

It was part of the fire department’s presentation for Community Helpers at West Elementary School Friday afternoon. Students in the Head Start and pre-school classes went outside to look at the fire truck, “test” the gear and learn about the firemen’s jobs.

Rural Fire Chief Ken Griffith put on full fire-fighting gear, including a face mask and oxygen tank, as firefighter Justin Bentzinger explained to a group of three and four-year-olds that they should not be afraid of a fireman in that gear.

Children need to see a fireman in this gear and realize we make a lot of noise when we breathe with the oxygen tank, Bentzinger said. If they see a man dressed like this, he said, they should go to him.

The temptation of a lot of children is to hide under the bed when the house is on fire, Bentzinger said, and that is a mistake. They hide because they are afraid of the fire, he said, but then it takes longer for the firemen to find



them and get them out of the burning house.

Children may also hide because they are afraid of the fireman in the strange

suit, making a lot of noise when he breathes, Bentzinger said.

Bentzinger told the children they should have smoke detectors in their

homes, and that their parents should test them to be sure they work and so the

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Justin Bentzinger and Rural Fire Chief Ken Griffith (next to the truck) let Carrie Starns’ afternoon Head Start class hold the firehose Friday. From front to back: Cameron Mouchette, Austin Aucone, John Salinas, Gabe Ledesma, Elijah Bohl, Mallory O’Brien, Rogelio Bustillos, Sabre Yarbrough, Marissa Bustillas and Ricky Milke.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran The Goodland Daily News