

weather report

77°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:12 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:13 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 78 degrees
- Humidity 34 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds north 23-30 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.78 inches and rising

• Record High 102° (1952)

• Record Low 41° (1997)

Last 24 Hours*

High 98°

Low 67°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, 20 percent chance of rain, low upper 50s, winds northeast 15 m.p.h. Tomorrow: partly sunny, high mid 80s, low mid 50s, winds north 10-20, 20 percent chance of rain.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: partly sunny, high mid 70s, low 50s. Thursday: partly cloudy, high upper 70s. Friday: partly cloudy, high lower 80s, low mid 50s. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.67 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.73
New Crop — \$2.66
Corn — \$1.85 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.84
Loan deficiency payment — 8¢
Milo — \$1.55 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.34 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.59
Loan deficiency payment — 40¢
Millett — \$3.75 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$10.20 cwt.
NuSun — \$10.35 cwt.
Posted county price — \$9.84
Confection current — inquire
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.

Gunman kills two monks

CONCEPTION, Mo. — Three people, including two monks, were killed and two others were injured after a gunman opened fire at a Roman Catholic abbey in northwest Missouri, authorities said.

One of the dead victims was found in a chapel at Conception Abbey Benedictine monastery with two weapons, an AK-47 and a sawed-off .22-caliber rifle, Nodaway County Sheriff Ben Espey said. The Missouri State Highway Patrol said that man, who died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, shot the other victims.

One of the injured was in serious condition at Heartland Regional Medical Center in St. Joseph and the other was in surgery today at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville. The Conception Abbey is a Benedictine monastery and seminary.

Terrorist arrested by U.S.

American accused of building bomb

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government has arrested an American citizen accused of conspiring with al-Qaida terrorists to build and detonate a radioactive “dirty” bomb in this country, possibly in the nation’s capital.

Attorney General John Ashcroft said that Abdullah Al Mujahir, a former Chicago street gang member who also goes by the name of Jose Padilla, was in the custody of the U.S. military and was being treated as an enemy combatant.

A Justice Department official said that under U.S. legal rules, Mujahir can be held indefinitely as an enemy soldier. But there are no plans to impose a military tribunal or otherwise press U.S. criminal charges against Mujahir, said this official, discussing the case only on grounds of anonymity.

Lt. Col. Rivers Johnson, a Pentagon spokesman, said Mujahir would not be eligible for trial by a military tribunal set up under Defense Department rules issued in March because those tribunals are for alleged terrorists who are not U.S. citizens.

Ashcroft, who was in Moscow on other business, made the announcement through a television hookup. He said Mujahir, who converted to Islam, was arrested May 8 as he flew from Pakistan into Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport. The 31-year-old is a native of New York City who moved to Chicago at age 4.

“We have disrupted an unfolding terrorist plot to attack the United States by exploding a radioactive dirty bomb,” he said, adding that the government’s suspicions about Mujahir’s plans came from “multiple, independent, corroborating sources.”

In a picture-taking session with visiting Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, President Bush said in response to a question: “We have a man detained who is a threat to the country and that, thanks to the vigilance of our intelligence-gathering and law enforcement, he is now off the street, where he should be.”

Deputy Attorney General Larry Thompson, asked at a news conference here whether authorities had identified any co-conspirators in the United States, replied, “We’re not going to comment on that.”

FBI Director Robert Mueller said, “Our principal interest is in preventing future terrorist attacks. This instance is an example of prevention.”

Another senior administration official speaking on condition of anonymity said Mujahir was trained by al-Qaida in Afghanistan and Pakistan to wire explosives and to research radioactive dispersal devices. He was not believed to have had a bomb at the time of his apprehension.

“We don’t believe it went beyond the planning stages,” the official said.

Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said officials could not say the nation’s capital was the target.

School meeting

At a Goodland School Board meeting tonight, the board will:

- Hear a report from Superintendent Marvin Selby on district enrollment.
- Recognize Bryce Bahe, a recent Goodland High School graduate.
- Appoint a representative to the Northwest Kansas Technical College board.
- Discuss purchasing power school program.
- Approve the 2002-2003 negotiated agreement.
- Discuss transportation costs.
- Revisit a request from Karla Murray, district technology coordinator, to lease computer equipment.
- Discuss handbooks.

The board will meet at 7 p.m. at the administration office on Main Avenue.

One long ride...

Biking Across Kansas participants spend night here

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Max Jones Fieldhouse looked more like a camping area than a sports center Friday evening.

Outside, multicolored tents dotted the green grass on the football field, and people relaxed in folding chairs or stood in line for grilled hamburgers and baked beans.

Inside, inflatable mattresses covered the gym floors, hundreds of bicycles lined the mezzanine surrounding the main gym and people stood in line to sign up for an eight-day bike ride across Kansas.

More than 900 cyclists from around the state and country came to Goodland on Friday to participate in Biking Across Kansas. The 27th annual bike tour started Saturday morning at the Colorado border in Kanorado and will end on Saturday at the Missouri River in Atchison.

All three routes started in Kanorado this year and made a first stop in Colby, but the cyclists split there and won’t meet up again until Friday in Hugoton, with everyone riding into Atchison together. Each route is about 500 miles long, and the bikers will ride an average of 60 miles per day.

The cyclists were different ages and sizes and had different reasons for wanting to ride across the state, but they agreed the Kansas wind and heat would make it challenging.

“It’s hard to get ready for this,” said Robert Cuevas, a 40-year-old from Muskego, Wis. “We’ve been training in 50 degree weather.”

Robert and his son Zachary, 16, were pitching a tent on the football field about 3:30 p.m. on Friday. They were both sweating in the 95 degree heat and fighting against a strong wind.

“We didn’t see 100 all last year in Wisconsin,” said Robert, adding that it was supposed to reach 100 degrees here on Saturday. “It will be a challenge for us to quickly climatize.”

But Robert and his son said they’ll be able to do it. They said this is the third time they’ve participated in Biking Across Kansas with Robert’s father, a Wichita man who has been doing the tour for 10 years.

Robert said as long as his father participates he will, too. It’s tough, he said, but the sense of accomplishment you feel at the end of each day makes it worthwhile.

“As you’re making your way towards the finish line,” he said, “your legs are screaming and you’re exhausted and you may have a headache from the heat, but you say, ‘I can do it.’”

Terry Hinz, a 44-year-old from Topeka who was arranging items in her tent, said she was a little nervous because this will be the first time she has participated in the tour.

“I’ve been riding, training,” she said, “but nothing like this, especially with wind like this. I guess if it takes me all day, so be it.”

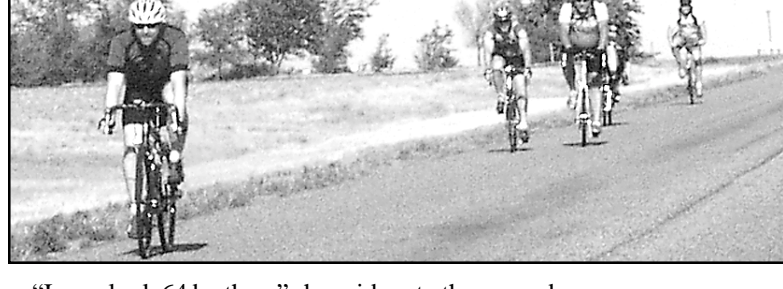
Terry said she’s heard a lot about the tour from her brother Mike, who has been doing it since 1995. She said Mike and his wife Christy, from Emporia, are route directors this year.

Along each route, Terry said, rest areas called “sags” are set up to give bikers a place to sit down, drink water and eat fruit. If a cyclist is unable to keep biking, she said, organizers will give them a ride to the next stop — which is called “saggin’ it in.”

She said route directors try to keep the cyclists motivated.

“They do a lot of pep talks,” she said.

Terry said she was confident she would be able to finish, but said she was expecting to be worn out by Saturday.



“I may look 64 by then,” she said.

The cyclists brought along a variety of rides, including mountain bikes, tandems and recumbent bikes, which have a seat with a back and are lower

to the ground.

Curtis Morris and his wife Gale, from Gladstone, Mo., brought recumbent bikes. Curtis said Gale has a degenerative disc disease and cycling

Curtis Morris, Gladstone, Mo., pushed his recumbent bike across the street in front of Max Jones Fieldhouse Friday evening. He and his wife Gale are participants in Biking Across Kansas, which started in Kanorado on Saturday. Robert Cuevas (left) pitched a tent on the football field behind Max Jones Friday. The cyclists rode out of Kanorado (below) about 7:30 a.m. Saturday.

Photos by Rachel Miscall and Tom Betz

has been part of her rehabilitation. He said they use recumbent bikes because they’re more comfortable to ride and easier on Gale’s back.

Biking has really improved Gale’s condition, Curtis said, and has helped her lose 80 pounds.

“She went from the point of being on her back for six months,” he said, “and now she’s ready to tackle this.”

Harry Bishop, 59, one of four Goodland residents who signed up for Biking Across Kansas, was at his home on Friday evening preparing for the ride. He said this will be the second year he has participated.

Bishop said he has two reasons for cycling.

“One is I love to eat and this lets me do it,” he said. “The other is fitness.”

Bishop said he rides about 5,000 miles a year and participates in several organized bike tours around the country.

He said he likes Biking Across Kansas because it allows participants to meet new people. He said a man he met from Dodge City was planning to stay at his home Friday night.

If you’re in good shape, Bishop said, the ride isn’t that hard. But, he added, the wind can slow you down.

“Let’s hope the wind blows out of the west,” he said.

Phone company problem knocks out Internet

Internet service for customers of **nwkansas.com** “upstream” to the Internet was down for over three hours today, beginning at 10:10 a.m., as engineers for Southwestern Bell worked to fix a “network issue.”

Bell officials said the problem affected customers who were in the

Wichita or Topeka area or connected through those cities. There was no specific indication how long the Internet would be down, but a Bell official said the engineers were aware of the number of customers affected, and were working to resolve the issue as quickly as possible.

The Internet had been slow and erratic much of the day Saturday, with the problem eventually pinned down to a fault on the Southwestern Bell system.

Internet Service Manager Tom Betz came from home and reset a router in Goodland twice in the morning. This seemed to clear up the problem for a

while, but it kept coming back.

The problem was reported to Southwestern Bell, which said it also had a trouble report from one of its people on the main Internet line to Goodland. Saturday evening, this problem was cleared up by Bell, and service to all the **nwkansas.com** system was restored.