

weather report

96°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:36 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:10 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 85 degrees

• Humidity 20 percent

• Sky very clear

• Winds south 20 m.p.h.

• Barometer 30.01 inches

and falling

• Record High 109° (1939)

• Record Low 52° (1988)

Last 24 Hours*

High 101°

Low 66°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: clear, low 65-70, winds south 10 m.p.h. Tomorrow: sunny, high near 100, low upper 60s, winds south 10-15 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: partly sunny with 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, high lower 90s, low mid 60s. Monday: mostly clear with chance of thunderstorms, high near 90. Tuesday: slight chance of thunderstorms.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$3.31 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.28

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$2.11 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.08

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Milo — \$1.77 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.08 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.29

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Millet — \$6.00 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$11.75 cwt.

NuSun — \$11.90 cwt.

Loan deficiency prnt. — \$0.00

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.

Congress may expel member

WASHINGTON — For only the second time since the Civil War, members of the House are faced with the decision of whether to expel one of their own. This time, it's Ohio Rep. James Traficant, who has sworn his innocence of ethics violations and vowed not to resign.

A House committee voted Thursday night to recommend that the House eject the maverick congressman for violating ethics rules by taking kickbacks and bribes and evading taxes. A vote by the full House could come next week.

If expelled, Traficant, a Democrat, would join Rep. Michael Myers, D-Pa., who was ejected from the House in 1980 for accepting bribes, as the only member of Congress kicked out in the past century and a half. In its 213-year history, the House has expelled just four members.

Auditor says tax rate is low

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

An auditor who looked over the City of Goodland's books said Monday that employees did a good job of keeping costs down last year, and the city's property tax rate is low compared to other nearby cities.

Every department came in with costs under its budget, said Jim VonFeldt, a certified public accountant with

VonFeldt, Bauer and VonFeldt. The city's general fund, which hold most of the money, ended up almost \$480,000 under budget, he said, with spending about \$300,000 less than in 2000.

"All numbers were positive. It's obvious the city has been working hard to keep costs down," VonFeldt said. "Things were pretty tight a few years ago. They are in much better shape now."

The accountant said he found no major problems with the city's books, and made very few adjustments.

"Ron (Pickman), Mary (Volk) and the staff are doing a very good job," VonFeldt said. "They are very accurate, which means the figures they give you all year are accurate, too."

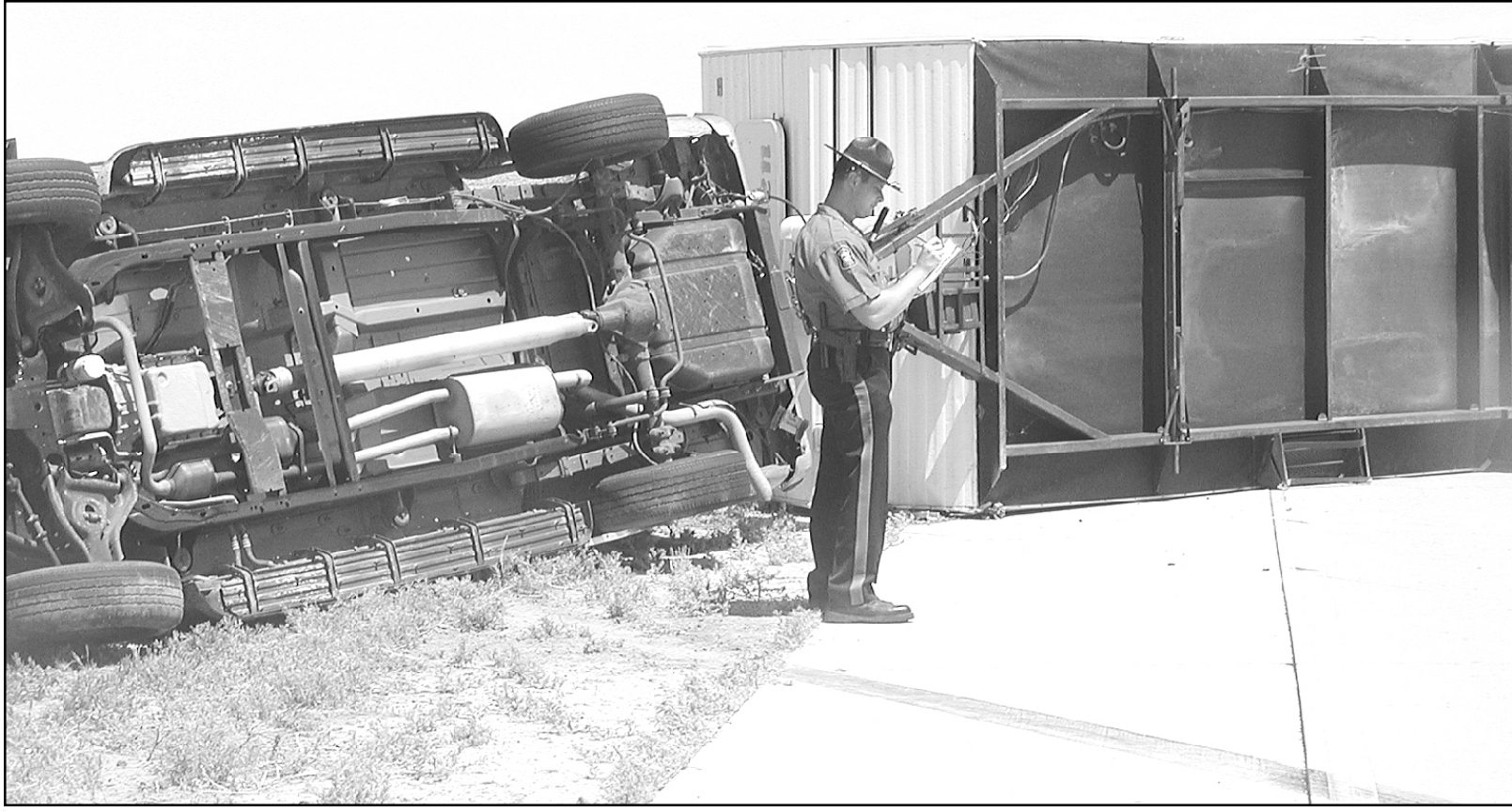
VonFeldt said the city gets 21 percent of its general fund revenue from property taxes, up from 20 percent in 2000,

and 22 percent from sales taxes, down from 23 percent.

"For a city this size," VonFeldt said, "that is a commendable job of not placing the burden on taxpayers."

The auditor compared the property tax rates for Goodland, Concordia, Russell, Colby, Larned and Paola, all cities which VonFeldt said were in

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Trooper Troy Smith of the Kansas Highway Patrol investigated an accident Thursday afternoon on I-70 eight miles east of Goodland. A pickup

and camper turned over when the driver lost control.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Couple's turned-over camper blocks lane

A Florida couple driving east on I-70 Thursday afternoon lost control of their pickup and turned it over along with a camper they were hauling about 8 miles east of Goodland.

Faith U. Tetrick of Lake Wells, Fla.,

68, was driving a 1999 GMC pickup pulling a camper when she caught a draft from a passing truck about 1:20 p.m., the Kansas Highway Patrol says. The camper fishtailed and the pickup and camper turned over on their right

side. The left lane of the Interstate was blocked off by the camper, and troopers and sheriff's deputies directed traffic onto the shoulder of the road until the truck could be taken to Goodland by McB's Motor and Radiator Repair.

Tetrick and her 65-year-old husband, Arthur, could walk around after the accident, but were taken to Goodland Regional Medical Center to be checked out. They were released that day.

Candidate says he'll change regulation

By Rachel Miscal

The Goodland Daily News

Kansas has a reputation for being one of the most difficult states to sell insurance in because regulation practices make it hard for companies to turn a profit, said Bryan Riley, state insurance commissioner candidate.

The state discourages insurance companies from increasing rates because it will hurt the customer, Riley said, but then a company can't afford to stay in Kansas, so it leaves, reducing competition and ultimately driving up premiums.

It's not only hard to be an insurance company in Kansas, said Riley, a conservative Republican from Wichita, but it's also hard to be a customer.

Health insurance costs are rising as companies are leaving, he said, and lawmakers are making some benefits

mandatory, further driving up the price. It's especially expensive, he said, if you're self-employed.

If elected insurance commissioner, Riley said he will change all that by opposing laws that make insurance more expensive, asking legislators to make all mandatory benefits optional and creating smarter regulation rules.

Riley, an independent long-term insurance salesman, stopped in Goodland Tuesday on his campaign tour of northwest Kansas to meet voters. He will face state Sen. Sandy Praeger, Lawrence, and David Powell, El Dorado, in the Aug. 6 Republican primary.

His stop happened to coincide with a campaign reception for two other conservative Republican candidates, Den-

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Bryan Riley, state insurance commissioner candidate, talked during a campaign reception at the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall earlier this week about his goals.

Photo by Rachel Miscal/The Goodland Daily News

Groups work together to make tribute to grand marshals

By Rachel Miscal

The Goodland Daily News

Members of the Lincoln Larks Family Consumer Education club and the 4-H Ambassadors spent more than two years digging up names of past fair parade grand marshals to put them on a large sign now hanging at the fairgrounds.

It was hard work, they say, but it was worth it to create a lasting tribute to the grand marshals, who earned the honor by donating their time and money to the fair and other civic projects.

Jan Lohr, 4-H Ambassador advisor, said when the ambassadors took over the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair parade in 1997, she and her daughter began looking for a list of past grand marshals. She said the PRIDE organization used to run the parade, but quit when the group disbanded.

Lohr said they discovered there was

no record, so they set out to make one. Soon, she said, Virginia Chatfield, a member of the Larks, joined the effort and they decided to paint the names on a sign that would be hung in the fairgrounds pavilion.

Lohr said they felt the parade marshals deserved to be remembered and recognized.

"Most of the people on the sign have made great contributions," she said. "We thought somebody should recognize that fact."

It wasn't easy to track down all of the names, Lohr said, and the group still hasn't found them all.

She said they found most of the names by looking through old newspapers, but if the paper didn't cover the parade that year, there is no record. They are still missing grand marshals for the years 1970, 1971, 1980, 1990 and 1993.

Colleen Duell, a Larks member, said they think the sign itself will help them fill in the gaps.

"We're hoping someone will come up and say they were this year," she said.

Lohr said they believe the first grand marshal was named in 1970, but they could be wrong. She said if anyone knows of someone before that they would like to know.

Making the sign was the easy part, Lohr said. Two Larks did the stenciling and fair board members recently hung it in the southeastern part of the pavilion.

Lohr said this year's grand marshal hasn't been picked yet. She said they are taking nominations until Wednesday, July 24 and will make the decision the next day. The only criteria, she said, is that the nominee have made significant contributions to the community.



Members of the Lincoln Larks and 4-H Ambassadors put in place this week a sign they made to recognize past fair parade grand marshals. (From left to right) Nila Been, Jan Lohr, Virginia Chatfield, Colleen Duell, Lela Wilkinson and Arbutus Topliff. Photo by Rachel Miscal/The Goodland Daily News

Find signs of progress inside paper

Inside today's Goodland Daily News you will find a special section recapping all kinds of progress made in Sherman County during the past year.

"The Progress Edition" features articles on a new telephone company moving to Goodland, a new medical service that has brought better health care, progress made at the Northwest Kansas Technical College and in the school district, a new travel center west of town and highway improvements.

The section also includes short summaries of progress businesses have made, an article about economic development efforts in Goodland and articles about new businesses that have opened this year.

We tried to include every business, asking owners to submit a couple of paragraphs on how their company has grown or improved, but we may not have heard from everyone. If you want to be included next year, please let us know.

Until then, keep making progress!

Kline disputes statement

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Bush administration asked for alternate candidates for U.S. attorney for Kansas last year shortly after Phill Kline's name was submitted, an aide to Sen. Pat Roberts said.

Kline, a former state representative and congressional candidate now seeking the Republican nomination for attorney general, said the aide's statement is false.

A White House spokesman wasn't available for comment and did not immediately return a telephone message.

Leroy Towns, chief of staff for Roberts, R-Kan., made the statement during an interview Friday with The Associated Press.

"We were told early on that the White House questioned his qualifications and said he was not up to the standards of the other U.S. attorneys that they had asked for," Towns said.

Kline, had been recommended to President Bush by Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., in March 2001. Kline said he had both Kansas senators' support.

But he withdrew from consideration for U.S. attorney last Sept. 18. He said at the time he was considering other political opportunities and in light of the terrorist attacks one week earlier. "Washington now has other priorities other than nominees for U.S. attorney, and understandably so."

On Friday, Kline told the AP, "I with-

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