

Good bugs

Yogurt makers are touting probiotics. Do they work?

Scene D-1



A YEAR AWAY

Next fall, TU plays its first game in its renovated stadium. Sports B-1

Corporate maintenance

American Airlines promotes its top executive in Tulsa.

Business E-1

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Lottery mandate stirs debate

► The Lottery Commission wants to put more money toward prizes; some lawmakers cry foul.

By **BARBARA HOBEROCK**
World Capitol Bureau

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Lottery Commission is expected to ask lawmakers to remove a mandated 35 percent profit it is required to achieve in its third

year.

Lottery Commission Executive Director James Scroggins said Wednesday that dropping the limit will allow more money to be put into prizes, which will increase sales and revenue the lottery generates

for education.

Lawmakers are divided on the issue.

"Oklahoma voters created the lottery to provide additional funds for education," said Senate President Pro Tem Mike Morgan, D-Stillwater. "We certainly want to see those funds maximized. In doing so, we have to take into consideration the financial realities facing

the Lottery Commission. Obviously, it appears we will need to assess the situation in the next legislative session and work with the commission to find the right solution."

Gov. Brad Henry, when campaigning for his first term, strongly supported the creation of a lottery with proceeds going to education.

"Governor Henry is open to discussing any idea that will boost

funding for education," said Paul Sund, a Henry spokesman.

However, Senate Co-President Pro Tem Glenn Coffee, R-Oklahoma City, said inaccurate projections about lottery profits have created chaos in budgeting for higher education, common education and CareerTech.

SEE LOTTO A-4

The sod squad



Photos by MIKE SIMONS / Tulsa World

Students from Bailey Elementary School and Owasso High School build a sod house at the elementary school on Wednesday as part of an Oklahoma Centennial project. Below, Katie Vrana (right), 9, reacts to the weight and mess of a block of sod she carries with Gabi Henry, 9.

Ground-up history

Owasso fourth-graders get hands dirty in lesson

By **RHETT MORGAN**
World Staff Writer

OWASSO — Enrollees at Bailey Elementary School dug their fingers into a hands-on history lesson Wednesday afternoon.

In cooperation with a group of Owasso High School students, about 100 fourth-graders worked on building a sod house to commemorate the state of Oklahoma's Centennial.

Lilly Lyon, English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher at Bailey, is the engine behind the project, for which she drew inspiration from the school's librarian, Jennifer McCutchen.

"I still remember the sod house we built in fourth grade," said McCutchen, who attended Country Estates Elementary School in Midwest City. "I remember going to my grandpa's backyard and cutting out a square

SEE SOD A-4



'It feels really good to help out. This sod feels really itchy.'

ZOE DAY

BAILEY ELEMENTARY FOURTH-GRADER

Crude oil, gas prices out of sync

► As crude oil trades at record highs, Tulsa gas prices have dropped.

By **JASON WOMACK**
World Staff Writer

Prices for crude oil and gasoline continued to move in opposite directions Wednesday, extending an unusual trend that's been in place for several weeks.

A decline in crude oil inventories drove the commodity to a new trading high of \$82.51 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Crude closed at a record \$81.93, up 42 cents.

Meanwhile, pump prices in the Tulsa area dropped 3 cents at many retailers to \$2.69 for a gallon of unleaded.

The price was a dime below the national average and the state average of \$2.79 per gallon, according to AAA-Oklahoma.

Industry observers noted that the two commodities usually move in tandem, but lately have broken step with each other.

Vance McSpadden, executive director for the Oklahoma Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association, said demand for heating oil and diesel usually climb in the fall. But demand for gasoline wanes following the peak summer driving season.

Refiners also recently switched to winter-blend gasoline, which is less expensive to produce.

In May, the average gasoline price in Tulsa hit a record high of \$3.27 a gallon, while a barrel of oil was trading for \$69.35.

SEE CRUDE A-5

Weather alerts to be focused

► The system is designed to predict when a storm will hit a specific town.

By **ALTHEA PETERSON**
World Staff Writer

The National Weather Service is revamping the way it issues severe weather warnings.

Starting Oct. 1, weather service alerts will no longer be issued along county lines.

Instead, the service will focus on threatened communities, said Tulsa meteorologist Brad McGavock of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Using radar and computer modeling programs, the system is meant to predict the moment a storm will hit a community or even a certain crossroads.

With television graphics, polygonal areas will cover specific storm paths, as opposed to an entire county being lit up on a map, he said.

"In the past, if you had a storm go across the northern part of Tulsa County, the entire county would be warned," McGavock said. "This is to get down the warned area."

Known as storm-based warnings, the new alerts could reduce a warning area from thousands of square

SEE WARN A-5

High 90, Low 66

Mostly sunny

Complete weather on E-6



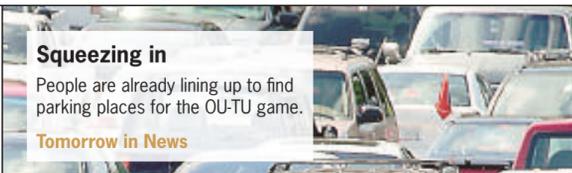
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Squeezing in

People are already lining up to find parking places for the OU-TU game.

Tomorrow in News



Daily - 50 cents



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