

weather report

56°  
at noon

Today

- Sunset, 7:43 p.m.

Tomorrow

- Sunrise, 5:43 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:44 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 49 degrees
- Humidity 23 percent
- Sky Mostly cloudy
- Winds NW 36-45
- Barometer 29.88 inches and rising
- Record High 95° (1934)
- Record Low 30° (1978)

Last 24 Hours\*

High	60°
Low	40°
Precipitation	—

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: High wind warning until 6 p.m.; mostly clear; low 35-40. Tomorrow: Sunny; NW winds 10-20; highs 70-75.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Monday: Warm and dry on Saturday, highs near 80; lows near 40. Sunday and Monday a chance of thunderstorms; highs near 75; lows in the 40s.

(National Weather Service)  
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.19 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.12  
Loan deficiency payment — 32¢  
Corn — \$1.77 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.73  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 10¢  
Milo — \$2.50 hundredweight  
Soybeans — \$4.19 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.08  
Loan deficiency payment — 81¢  
Millet — \$4.00 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$8.60 cwt.  
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$1.10  
Oil new crop — \$8.85 cwt.  
Confection current — \$17/10 cwt.  
Pinto beans — \$12 (new crop)

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and Prairie Pea and Bean.)

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Haysville will receive aid

HAYSVILLE — The government will give \$5.7 million to hire people to help with the cleanup of tornado-ravaged south Wichita and Haysville, Vice President Al Gore said today.

The money will come from the U.S. Department of Labor, said Gore, as he looked at the damage.

The tornado damaged 8,500 buildings, destroying 1,200, and killed five people.

Gore met behind closed doors at a church with the people of Haysville. He then strolled through neighborhoods, hugging children and people who lost their homes.

The tornado Monday caused \$142 million in damage as it cut a 12-mile path of destruction.

U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, Congressman Todd Tiahrt and James Lee Witt, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, traveled with Gore.

# Three-phase project planned at Gardens

By Tom Betz  
*Goodland Daily News*

Placing trees to improve fish habitat, removing bottom silt and a plan to reduce the carp population were among the plans explained by Lyn Davignon, region fish biologist from the Kansas Department of Wildlife.

He spoke to a group of about 20 citizens during a public hearing last night at Butterbly Aviation. Members of the Smoky Gardens board, county commissioner Gary Townsend and other interested citizens were present.

Davignon said he had met several time with the Somky Gardens board over the past nine months as they looked at the best way to improve the quantity and quality of the fishing at the lake.

Originally a plan was discussed to drain the lake and removeall the fish, but Davignon said it was evident there was no funding available for this massive effort. He said the cost had been estimated to be near \$250,000 for this approach which would have taken several years, and there was also a concern about having enough water to refill the lake.

The second approach considered was to chemically kill the fish and then to dredge the lake, but Davignon said the feeling was this was not a good solution.

“With the efforts of the Smoky Gardens board, and some very welcome donations the current three phase plan has been developed.” he said. “The use of a crane will allow the removal of silt, increase of depth and allow for the placing of about 40 cedar trees for fish habitat. Then the silt will be used to create fishing piers.”

While the plans will improve the fish habitat Davignon said there was no method to deal with the increase in carp



Smoky Gardens is about to get a facelift under plans explained at a public hearing held last night. The plans include improving fish habitat, removing

silt from portions of the lake and removal of a large portion of the carp population. Photo by Tom Betz/Goodland Daily News

population until he talked to Ron Martini who was experimenting with a new method of controlling fish populations. Dr. Jim Fate, who is a research chemist for Prentice, has developed a new product which incorporates rotonol with fish food as a means to kill unwanted species of fish.

“At a meeting in February I met with Dr. Fate and told him about the Smoky Gardens situation,” Davignon said. “He indicated he was willing to donate two bags of the special feed to help kill the carp in the lake as long as there is some documentation of the results.”

To use the treated feed Davignon said feeders will be placed in the lake about the middle of May and the carp will be fed on a regular basis until they have become used to the process. Then about mid June they will slip in the treated feed and be prepared to remove the dead fish.

“This may take longer than four weeks, but it should help remove a large number of the carp which are degrading the water quality,” he said. “I think this will encourage the other fish species to increase and we will not need to stock for bass.”

Estimates for the total cost of the project are about \$29,000 and Davignon said Kenny Sanderson had help put together a grant application for the Community Lake Assistance Program asking for \$5,600 to help with the project.

“I am happy to announce that this project tied with two others for first priority,” he said, “and Sherman County will get te \$5,600 to help with this project.”

Much of the other costs involved in the project are being donated according to Sanderson including much of the expense of the crane which is owned by Rod Wilkinson.

Some of the trees have already been placed in selected spots, and other work will be done over the next six weeks, but Davignon said the official project will begin July 1, and the grant allows for a full year to complete the project. He also said if necessary an extension could be requested.

“This will not happen overnight, and it may take a year or two before we see a real improvement in the fish populations, but with some help from the fishing public Smoky Gardens can again be a great fishing resource,” he said.

# Farmers head to fields

By Keith Lippoldt  
*Goodland Daily News*

Rain. Rain. Go away...

Such is the sentiment being expressed by area corn growers as they play the waiting game before planting their crops.

Wet weather has delayed the planting throughout northwest Kansas and northeast Colorado and local farmers are just now getting the seed into the ground. Statewide, 21 percent of the crop has been planted compared to 36 percent for this time last year.

“Some farmers got started planting around April 20 and they were able to get 10 to 15 acres in the ground before this wet spell hit,” said Doc Schwemmer, credit manager at Frontier Equity of Goodland. “Wednesday was the first day they have been back in the fields since.”

In Kansas, the ideal planting dates are between April 15 and May 10. At the current rate, the area farmers will not be completed with their planting chores until May 15 to May 20. The best crops are usually in the ground before the first half of May so the plant is able to use the full growing season. Maturity is reached earlier and their is a reduced risk of fall frost damage.

Although the weather has been wet in Colorado, Rick Weber, manager of Fort Morgan based Bath Farms and Feedlots, says that things are looking positive in that area.

“Northeast Colorado is wet, extremely wet,” Weber said. “We are 40 percent planted. Normally, we would be 80-85 percent. As a rule of thumb in this area, any corn planted after May 10 will result in a decrease in yield because of a shortened growing period.”

Lynn Hoelting, manager of Mueller Grain of Goodland, believes that although the efforts of the farmer have been slowed by the weather, it is no time to panic.

“They are a little behind schedule, but it is nothing critical,” Hoelting said. “In reality, the corn will catch up relatively quickly because of the moisture and ground temperature.”

If the above average moisture should continue, farmers have several options open to them. Among these are planting a shorter season variety corn or switching to a different crop such as soybeans or sunflowers that require less growing time.

Ideal growing conditions for a corn crop resemble those found in a tropical rain forest.



Area farmers have had their eyes in the skies the past few weeks as late April and early May have brought unusually wet weather to northwest Kansas. The weather service is calling for a break in the precipitation which allow farmers time in the fields.

Photo by Keith Lippoldt/Goodland Daily News

“In Kansas we need hot, wet weather,” Hoelting said. “These plants thrive in near-tropical conditions. Ideally, we would receive 18 to 24 inches of rain and a lot of hot days during the growing season.”

“Out here, we don’t really want any rain in the summer,” Weber said. “All it does is mess up our irrigation schedule. We prefer hot, dry weather and let our irrigation do the watering. I’m sure that Goodland is probably a little different.”

Bath Farms is responsible for 2,500 acres of irrigated corn and feed 12,000 head of cattle on any given day.

Despite the delay, Schwemmer is

# Restrictions on limits should help fishing

By Tom Betz  
*Goodland Daily News*

Improving the fishing conditions at Smoky Gardens is the goal plans being developed by the local board members and the Kansas Department of Wildlife, but to insure the longterm improvement will require the help of those who are fishing at the lake.

“We can complete the project, but without the help of the anglers we will not be able to keep the improvement over a longterm,” Lyn Davignon, regional fish biologist said.

Restrictions on the catch limits and size are part of the effort to improve the quality of the fish population he told a meeting last night.

“There is a lot of pressure on the lake, and we need to inform the public that what they do has an impact on the efforts to improve the lake,” he said.

“This will not happen overnight, and we will need to look at the regulations in two to three years,” he said. “In our drive to improve the quality

of the bass we will also improve the sunfish and crappie populations.”

He said the state will continue the efforts to stock catfish and the winter trout programs, but will not stock any other fish at this time.

“We have plenty of fish in the lake, and with an improvement in the water quality and help from the anglers we can again see trophy bass in Smoky Gardens,” Davignon told the group.

“It is illegal to dump or import fish into any lake,” he said. “I know people think it is good to dump their left over bait into the lake, but what they don’t realize is the actual damage these ‘minnows’ cause when they grow up.

“The best thing to do with these fish is to return them to where you got them, or to dump them in the trees where they will become fertilizer,” he said.

Currently the limits at Smoky Gardens are two bass per day and five catfish per day both with a length minimum of 15 inches.

# Education, prevention aim of organizers

By Keith Lippoldt  
*Goodland Daily News*

Would you give up 24 hours of your life if it could help lead to a community free from violence, alcohol abuse and drugs?

In a nutshell, that is the mission for participants in the Topside of Kansas 24-Hour Relay Challenge set for June 5-6 at the Goodland track.

“My hope is that the community will come together to support this event,” said Rhonda Williams, relay director. “From my perspective, kids have been getting some pretty negative publicity lately. The media, educators and parents are sometimes too quick to point blame. We have some awesome kids in Goodland. This weekend is for them.”

The organizing committee got one of 17 state grants awarded across Kansas. That money, \$58,000, plus the money raised by the event, will be used for programs aimed at drug, alcohol and violence.

Williams says that activities are being planned throughout the weekend and relay teams are needed to make it successful.

“Basically, you need to be a part of a 10-member team that can be made up of friends, family, co-workers or anybody else for that matter,” Williams said. “We need teams and lots of them. Somebody from your team will be walking, crawling or running on the track at all times for 24 hours.”

Guests, food, music, games and other activities, a big community picnic if you will, are planned to keep the team members busy when they are not on the track or catching up on their sleep. Appearances by House Majority Leader Ken Glasscock and the Denver Broncos cheerleaders have been confirmed, with more in the works.

A spaghetti dinner and team entertainment show for the participants is