

weather report

84°
at noon

Today

Sunset, 7:47 p.m.

Tomorrow

Sunrise, 5:57 a.m.

Sunset, 7:46 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 77 degrees

• Humidity 31 percent

• Sky mostly sunny

• Winds west at 15 mph

• Barometer 30.00 inches and steady

• Record High 106° (1934)

• Record Low 47° (1964)

Last 24 Hours*

High 89°

Low 62°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, low near 60, northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

Friday: mostly sunny, high 85 to 90, northwest winds 5 to 15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Monday: dry, lows 60 to 65, highs 90 to 95.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.17 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.13

Loan deficiency payment — .32¢

Corn — \$1.65 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.77

Loan deficiency pmt. — .22¢

Milo — \$2.59 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.76 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.08

Loan deficiency payment — .81¢

Millet — \$4 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$6.60 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$2.74

Oil new crop — \$6.50 cwt.

Confection current — \$17/10 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$13 (new crop)

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and Prairie Pea and Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Board passes compromise

TOPEKA—Education officials across the state are trying to assess the effect of “compromise” science standards that place little emphasis on teaching evolution.

Despite months of debate, the consequences of Wednesday’s vote by the state Board of Education on the teaching of science and testing of students in public schools was not clear, not even to the state’s highest education administrator.

“I’ve got to go put the pieces back together before I can answer that,” Education Commissioner Andy Tompkins said after the board’s 6-4 vote, which took place before about 100 people.

Evolution is the theory all life evolved from common ancestors. People opposed to the theory say it contradicts the biblical account of the creation of life, and they object to the idea human life resulted from a lower life form.

Ride ‘em cowboy!



The Bull Blast provided an action-packed evening Wednesday at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair. This rider came out of the chute determined, but the bull won the round.

Photo by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News

Figures show four-day schedule saves county money

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Savings in labor, utilities and equipment start-up save the county about \$15,000 during the 38 weeks the road and bridge crews worked four 10-hour days a week, Public Works Director Curt Way said Wednesday.

Commissioner Kenny Davis asked about the savings between the regular five-day work schedule and the four-day schedule at the Aug. 3 county commission meeting, and Commissioners Chuck Frankenfeld and Gary Townsend asked Way to prepare a report.

At Tuesday’s meeting, Way presented figures which showed a savings of over \$8,000, but he later revised the figures upward after receiving more specific estimates on the start-up cost of the road equipment.

“I think the problem is the perception in the public eye,” Way told the commissioners, “but the figures do show a savings, and the employees like the four-day week. The savings we get in the summer gives us a cushion to use in the winter for

blizzards and snow removal.”

Davis asked why the figures showed a difference on utilities from the five-day work week to the four-day schedule. The figures show a savings of \$8.86 per day in utilities for the four-day work week.

Way said the savings was partly because the lights are not turned on as much. Also part of the savings was in the four-day week begins in the spring and lasts until October, and there is less use of heaters over that period.

“I did some estimates myself and thought it would be about \$10,000,” said Frankenfeld.

“It seems to be working very well,” Way said, “and I think it is seen as an incentive by the workers. They use the Fridays to schedule doctor appointments and other errands which would otherwise have taken them away from working the roads.”

“So you think there is less absenteeism then?” Frankenfeld asked.

“Yes, they are able to schedule these appointments so they are on Friday,” Way said. “The crews are very comfort-

able with the 10-hour days.”

Davis said when the four-day schedule was first explained, he thought it was to be flexible so that if it rained on Monday the crews would then work on Friday of that week.

“When the crews cannot get out on the roads for a day, they do maintenance and repair work,” Way said. “The men do work on those days and it would be very difficult to continually have them wondering if they were to work on what day.”

“I am not ready to vote on this,” Townsend said. “I want to talk to some of the crews before I vote. When I first got elected, I sent a survey to every employee and asked them about their jobs. When I got them back, the road and bridge crews seemed to have the lowest morale.

I want to talk to them about this because I think the four-day week is working, and I want to hear from the people who are affected.”

“Are we just here to make the employees happy?” Davis said. “We have to be answerable to the taxpayers and the

Teachers attracted to Goodland by community spirit

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

A community small enough that you can get to know your neighbors, and care about them, yet big enough that it can provide excellent facilities, seems to be the biggest attraction to new teachers coming to Goodland.

Out of 304 school districts in Kansas, Goodland ranks 140 in starting salaries for teachers in the 1998-1999 school year.

That could make it a challenge to attract new teachers, but if you ask new and recent recruits to the district, you begin to see a pattern.

Christopher Guillot will be teaching physical education and be the new high school wrestling coach. He moved to Goodland from New Orleans.

Guillot said he thinks people in bigger cities lose touch with their communities and their schools.

“It sometimes feels like people don’t care or try to get along,” he said. “I like the low cost of living, and it is a good family atmosphere.”

Guillot said that he really likes northwest Kansas.

“I believe the community supports this high school,” he said. “There are some of the best wrestlers in the country here. The numbers of kids coming out are great.”

Gunner Whorton will be teaching biology and chemistry, and be an assistant coach for the high school football team.

“I was really impressed with the people I met when I interviewed,” he said.

Whorton is from central Kansas, so he is used to a farming community.

“The people here seem to have strong character,” he said. “I think it is a good fit for me.”

He also said he is impressed with the facilities that Goodland has.

Casey and Carrie Veatch are very happy to be in Goodland. They moved here from Manhattan.

“It’s a nice town, good sized,” said Casey. “It’s a good community.”

When asked what drawbacks there were to coming to Goodland, he said, “None. We have liked about everything here.”

Jon McLean will be the new boys high school basketball coach and teach “at-risk” students. His wife, Lynette, will teach grades one through four at-risk students. They both were teaching, he in Cimarron, she in Spearville.

“If the Goodland job had not opened up for Jon, we would have stayed where we were,” she said.

Jon said that both being able to work in the same district was a big bonus.

“We were impressed with Goodland,” he said. “They have great facilities, good athletes and teams.”

Mike Nelson is ready to start his second year at Goodland. He teaches language arts and math.

“I can’t imagine a better system to work my first job in,” he said.

Nelson said the three teachers he works closely with have been a big support and help to him.

“Most people have been nice and easy to get along with,” he said, “especially the parents of my students.”

Friday Sunflower event begins with breakfast

The second annual Sunflower Celebration will kick off with a breakfast at 7 a.m. Friday at the Goodland Industrial Park, a quarter mile north of the intersection of Business U.S. 24 and K-27, then west at 16th Street.

Events during the day will focus on seminars for sunflower growers. At 8 a.m., a speaker’s forum will begin with:

- Larry Kleingartner, executive director of the National Sunflower Association, speaking on the role of sunflowers in the global marketplace, and on NuSun, a new sunflower oil;
- Ron Meyer, Colorado State University Extension, on sunflower herbicides and weed control;
- Curtis Thompson, Kansas State University Research and Extension, on sunflower crop production practices;

- Alan Schlegel, K-State Research and Extension, on High Plains crop rotations utilizing sunflower production;
- Roger Stockton and Robert Aiken, K-State Research and Extension, on the effects of sunflower planting dates and insect pressure.

At 10:30 a.m., there will be tours of sunflower demonstration and test plots. There will also be processing plant tours.

Sunflower demonstration plot tours, in-field demonstrations, sunflower industry and equipment exhibits and representatives will be available throughout the day.

Saturday, the festival will shift downtown, with community events including a food court, a parade and contests.

of Chapman Securities said.

- Declined a request from Jerry Nemechek on behalf of the City of Goodland, to waive the demolition debris fees at the landfill for the homes and commercial buildings which are being torn down under the housing grant the city is requesting. The commissioners said they would have no objection to waiving the fees if the city was doing the demolition, but since there were private contractors doing the work, they felt the fees should be collected.
- “We are collecting these fees to be able to pay to have the concrete crushed, and we don’t expect these to cover all the costs,” Townsend said.
- Reviewed a prairie dog resolution which was passed in 1980. The commissioners ask Selby to review the resolution to determine if a new one is needed.
- Gave county employees Friday afternoon off to enjoy the barbecue and family day at the fair.

The next regular commission meeting will be 8 a.m. Aug. 31, in the Sherman County courthouse.