

weather
report

84°

at noon

Today

- Sunset, 8:10 p.m.
- Tomorrow
- Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.
- Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 67 degrees
- Humidity 31 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds south 25-30 mph
- Barometer 30.07 inches and falling
- Record High 100° (1969)
- Record Low 39° (1937)

Last 24 Hours*

High	74°
Low	44°
Precipitation	none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly clear, low 50s, winds south 15-25 mph. Tomorrow: Sunny, high mid 90s, low 60-65, winds southwest 10-20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: dry, high 95-100, low 60-65. Friday: chance of thunderstorms, high 95-100, low 60s. Saturday: chance of thunderstorms, high 90-95, low 60-65.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.28 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.18
Loan deficiency payment — 27¢
Corn — \$1.88 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.83
Loan deficiency payment — 16¢
Milo — \$2.78 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.51 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.59
Loan deficiency payment — 30¢
Millet — \$3.60 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$5.90 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.08
Confection current — \$13/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$12 (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.

Mideast talks
move to U.S.

JERUSALEM — Israeli and Palestinian negotiators will return to the Washington area early next week in a renewed drive to break a deadlock on a final settlement due by mid-September.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright announced the shift after meeting in Ramallah, on the West Bank, with Yasser Arafat. She said the Palestinian leader would call on President Clinton at the White House June 14.

Despite the resumption, the outlook remained uncertain.

“We are not close to an agreement,” Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy said in Jerusalem after a 40-minute meeting with Albright.

“Unfortunately, regrettably, there are difficulties and it requires much work,” he said, in a joint news conference with Albright outside his office.

Three charged in shooting incident

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

An apparent squabble between neighbors escalated Friday morning with threats on both sides, leaving one person hurt when a fragment of a bullet shot at his feet hit him in the lower leg.

Exactly what the argument was over is sealed in the three affidavits in court files, and can only be opened by a court order.

Goodland Police and an ambulance, backed up

by Sherman County sheriff's deputies, were called to a trailer park at 919 E. Business U.S. 24, where a shot had been fired, about 9 a.m. Friday.

All three people involved were arrested and taken to the Sherman County Bastille.

Willard M. Borden, 57, of 919 E. U.S. 24, Lot 8, was charged with assault, and was released on his own recognizance Monday, Sheriff Doug Whitson said.

The court file says that Borden allegedly ap-

proached Alan Forsythe in a threatening manner, even though he was repeatedly told by Forsythe and Shirley Cooper not to enter their property.

Shirley Veren Cooper, 55, Lot 11, was charged with aggravated battery and was released on \$3,000 bond Friday, Sheriff Whitson said.

The file says Cooper allegedly fired a .38 special at the feet of Borden, and as a result a fragment struck him in the lower leg.

Forsythe, 38, of Lot 11, was charged with aggra-

vated assault, and was released on \$3,000 bond Friday Sheriff Whitson said.

The court file says that Forsythe allegedly reported that he raised a machete up into a striking position as Borden approached him.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby said preliminary hearings will be held on the cases in the near future, but said she couldn't comment on any details of the sealed affidavits or the subject of the argument.

Coach gets early start on his job

5:30 a.m. session opens summer weight plan for Goodland athletes

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

Goodland High's new football coach got off to a fast start Monday, leading his first weight training session even before the school board had met to approve his contract.

Chris Walters was hired as head football coach and physics and chemistry teacher during a 7:30 a.m. special meeting.

He started with a 5:30 a.m. weight session that day.

Walters said he is offering the weight program for all athletes at the high school and junior high. The program started with 20 athletes working out.

The program runs 5:30 a.m. to 7 a.m. for high school athletes and 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. for junior high athletes. High school athletes can come again from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Walters said his next goal is to establish a time when the weight room can be open to the community, and he hopes to have that by next week.

The program is something the high school wanted to do, said Walters, and something he has done in the past. It was Walters' idea to start the program for junior high students and to open it up to the community.

The coach said the new weight facility is so nice that he wanted to open it up to everyone.

“I thought it was important for the junior high students to get into (the program),” he added.

Walters is from Ness City and attended Garden City Community College and Fort Hays State University. He has been coach and science teacher at Dighton High School the last three years. Dighton is a Class 2A school, which is one reason why he was excited about coming to Goodland.

“I came here for the opportunity of working at a 4A school,” said Walters.

He added that he was also drawn by the football tradition here.

“I want to create a team that the community and school can be proud of,” he said.



Chris Walters

A foundation for summer fun



Construction crews were working on the foundations for the bath house and the equipment building at the new Steever Water Park this week. Rhodes Construction of Goodland has the contract to build the facility,

including a new pool to be started later this summer, and a water play area. The work is east of the old pool, which is closed.

Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News

Elks find lodge already zoned right

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

It turns out that the Goodland Elks Hall was zoned commercial back in 1984, so the lodge can go ahead with plans to open its restaurant to the public.

City commissioners learned Monday that they didn't need to act on a request from the lodge, to get its property rezoned from residential to commercial. The land had already been rezoned commercial in 1984, City Manager Ron Pickman said.

Pickman said city staff research that afternoon had uncovered the discrepancy. In 1997, he said, a new zoning map was printed and the change in zoning was not color coded properly.

Pickman apologized for the mix up, saying that in the future the city would have to try to keep better records.

The Elks are now free to proceed with plans to change the club from a private establishment to a public restaurant.

Also discussed at the meeting was

purchasing insurance for the power plant. As it stands now, Pickman said, the building is insured but none of the equipment inside is. The insurance would cost \$68,216 a year, but Pickman said the policy would pay for itself with one breakdown.

There are eight diesel engines in the building. Over the last five years, three engines have had to be repaired and one has been replaced. He estimated that each repair was in the range of a half a million dollars.

Pickman noted that with new Environmental Protection Agency regulations, the city can no longer purchase used parts for the engines.

The next time an engine breaks down, the city will have to buy new parts that are dual fuel and clean burning. New parts will be more expensive, which establishes an even greater need for the insurance.

The commissioners agreed there was a need for a policy but Commissioner Curtis Hurd said he was concerned about the reputation of the company.

Because of this, the matter was tabled until the June 19 meeting.

“We've done without for this long, we can do without for a few more weeks,” said Pickman.

There were some changes to the plans for the airport roof, the manager reported, adding \$7,790 to the current bill.

Commissioner Jim Mull said he would rather see the job done right. “The commission has spent too much money now to not finish the job properly,” he said.

The commission decided to send a letter of interest for federal hydro power. The city had passed on this opportunity before. With the letter, they will be eligible to purchase hydro power in 2004, but it does not obligate them to buy any.

In other business, the commission: • Approved purchase of a wire puller for the bid of \$40,347. The bid is over the \$32,000 budgeted, so the difference will come from money meant for purchase of a vehicle.

• Approved purchase of a sprinkler system for \$2,950 for the lawn at the City Administration Building from H&H Sprinkler.

• Heard Pickman report that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment had put in four additional water monitoring wells to track underground contamination.

• Heard that bids on the Cherry Street realignment are being put off until October by the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Since it will be hard to get a crew in October, work will probably be held off until spring, Pickman said.

• Heard Commissioner Rick Billinger ask if something could be done about the railroad blocking Cherry while switching.

He said they sometimes block the road, a main entrance to downtown, for 20-25 minutes at a time.

Pickman said trains are not supposed to stand in a crossing for more than five minutes, but when they are switching, they are moving back and forth.

Combines roll as southern Kansas wheat fields dry

By Roxana Hegeman

Associated Press Writer

KIOWA — Custom cutter Kent Braathen had barely finished a test cutting of winter wheat last week when rains halted harvest before it got a chance to gear up.

By Monday, the sun had dried the muddy fields and brought with it the start of wheat harvest in Kiowa.

At the cutters' camp, Braathen and his father, Gordon, stopped by his trailer for lunch before assembling his crew — three generations of family members — and heading out to the fields to work that afternoon. They have been coming here for 30 years to harvest wheat.

Kent Braathen's 2-year-old son, Jace, is on the trip this season for his first harvest run, which for this family begins in Kiowa in June and ends in August at home in Grand Forks, N.D.

“You want to ride in the combine?” the father asks.

Web site explains details of crop

MANHATTAN (AP) — Non-farmers see wheat fields turning from green to gold and think of loaves of bread filling shelves of the local supermarket.

Farmers see long hours of tilling, planting, and maintenance, worrying about everything from rainfall to pests.

A new program uses the Internet to show just what goes into raising a crop, from plowing to harvest.

The program, called “Adopt A Wheat Field,” is offered through the Kansas State University Research and Extension Department's Web site: www.oznet.ksu.edu/pr—

aawf/.

Extension Crops Specialist Jim Shroyer is in charge of monitoring a seed-production wheat field on the Agronomy Farm north of Manhattan.

He periodically takes pictures of the field, then describes in a diary format what the pictures show.

“It's really been a learning experience for me,” he said. “I'm able to watch a meter or yard of row, and I get to watch very closely.”

Shroyer's target audience is children, but he said he has received as much or more response from adults who visit the Web site.

“Not wet?,” the boy asks.

The child's question brings wide grins to both men.

“It doesn't take long,” Kent Gordon says. The grandfather agrees: “It's in his blood.”

It was a question asked again and again in wheat fields across southern Kansas and at grain elevators where farmers bring in samples of their crop to test for moisture content to see whether it is ready to harvest.

The answer — the wheat is ready — brought a noticeable quickening in the pace of life Monday in this otherwise quiet hamlet.

Massive green combines rattled the windows of downtown businesses as they rolled through town on their way to fields. The first wheat-laden semi-trailers began lining up at the OK Co-op Grain Co., where the sign posted on the door told farmers the price of wheat was \$2.38 a bushel.

Inside another sign greets patrons: “It only takes 9 seconds to harvest enough wheat for 70 loaves of bread.”

Within hours of the start of harvest, the elevator had taken in more than 5,200 bushels. It was still too early to tell how the yields would turn out, but

weights were ranging in the standard 60-pound-per-bushel range. Moisture content was an acceptable 13 percent.

“It is going to be above-average yields, but nothing like the last two years,” says Jeff Kimmell, assistant elevator manager. “Overall we are above average, but there are going to be some excellent yields and some terrible yields.”

The difference, he says, depends on whether farmers got their fields fertilized before the March rains that kept farmers out of their fields until it was too late to do much good.

In this southern Kansas town — where a century ago Carrie Nation busted up her first saloon — the wheat harvest sustains the economy for this community of 1,000 people.

The Rev. Bill Dyar, the Methodist minister, also owns the Whistlestop, an authentic 1940s-style diner.

“If there wasn't wheat, this town would not exist,” says Dyar.