

weather  
report

86°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:15 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:30 a.m.  
• Sunset, 8:15 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 80 degrees  
• Humidity 49 percent  
• Sky sunny  
• Winds southeast 10 mph  
• Barometer 30.05 inches  
and steady

• Record High 108° (1954)  
• Record Low 51° (1922)

Last 24 Hours\*

High 92°  
Low 67°  
Precipitation .05 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, low 65-70,  
winds northeast 5-15 mph. Tomorrow:  
Partly sunny, 20 percent chance  
for rain, high 90-95, low 65-70, winds  
southeast 10-20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday through Saturday: dry,  
high 95-100, low 65-70.

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

local  
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.43 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.31  
Loan deficiency payment — 14¢  
Corn — \$1.65 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.50  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 49¢  
Milo — \$2.05 hundredweight  
Soybeans — \$3.75 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.18  
Loan deficiency payment — 72¢  
Millet — \$4.50 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$5.65 cwt.  
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.99  
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.

Researchers  
saving water

TIFTON, Ga. — University of  
Georgia researchers are testing a  
technologically advanced system  
designed to change the long tradition  
of spreading water uniformly  
throughout a field.

“You’re putting water where it  
is needed at the rate it is needed,  
and you’re not wasting water,”  
said Calvin Perry, an agricultural  
engineer at the university’s Coastal  
Plain Experiment Station in Tifton.  
“From our viewpoint, we see water  
conservation as a pressing issue.”

With Southeastern farmers suffering  
through their third summer  
of drought, saving water has become  
a major issue. Homeowners in  
Lee County, north of Albany,  
Ga., blamed farm irrigation when  
their private wells ran dry last summer.  
Earlier this year, Georgia lawmakers  
approved a bill that would pay  
farmers not to irrigate.

# Files opened on sheriff investigation

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

The seal was broken Monday on the results of a state investigation of former Sherman County Sheriff Jack Armstrong, who resigned in September 1995 after he was accused of stealing money from the department.

At 10 a.m., District Judge Jack L. Burr ordered Sherman County Clerk Janet Rumpel to release files containing information the KBI gathered in 1995 and turned over to the county in January 1996. The KBI started the investigation to find out what happened

to missing vehicle identification number inspection fees collected by the department.

After the investigation, the bureau estimated that \$4,340 in fees were missing, but they never found out what happened to the money and no one was ever charged with stealing it.

In a letter dated February 22, 1996 from the Kansas Attorney General’s office to Scott Showalter, who was Sherman County attorney at the time, it says, “After a review of those reports (the KBI investigative reports), we are declining to file any charges in this case. While it is our belief that both Jack and

Doris Armstrong are responsible for the loss of this money, I don’t believe it is a provable case.”

Armstrong is seeking the office of sheriff this year, running against Doug Whitson in the Republican primary. The primary election will be held on August 1, with the registration deadline on Monday, July 17. When contacted Tuesday, Armstrong said he was unaware of the files being open, and had no further comment.

A hearing on the closed files was held Monday after a petition was filed at 2:20 p.m. on Friday by TopStar Inc., the firm that runs the Sherman County Star

— a weekly newspaper in Goodland.

Jeffery Mason, of Vignery & Mason, represents TopStar and filed the summons against Clerk Rumpel.

The petition requested the timely release of the files, which the newspaper wanted before the election.

Showalter, acting county attorney while Bonnie Selby is out of town, represented Rumpel and claimed the files should not be released because it would go against state law.

The law states records should be released if they meet any of the following: if it is in the public interest; would not interfere with any prospective law

enforcement actions; would not reveal the identity of any confidential source or undercover agent; would not reveal confidential investigative techniques or procedures not known to the general public; would not endanger the life or physical safety of any person; would not reveal the name, address, or phone number or any other information which specifically and individually identifies the victim of any sexual offense.

Showalter said releasing the files would violate the law, while Mason maintained that the Armstrong files would not violate any of this criteria. Judge Burr agreed with Mason.

# Teens suspected of three robberies

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Three Goodland teen-agers are accused of stealing over \$1,000 in cash and property from a sunflower plant in town and suspected of breaking into a grain elevator and cafe in Brewster, causing over \$900 in damage.

Law enforcement officials say sometime during the night of July 4 Justin Lamb, Andrew Potterf and at least one other juvenile allegedly broke into the Sigco Sunplant, 1701 Industrial Loop, stealing money and other property.

Officers say that same night or early the next morning, the young men are suspected of traveling to Thomas County, where they allegedly stole money and busted up property at the Brewster Frontier Equity Exchange grain elevator and The A Cafe.

The Sherman County Sheriff’s Department arrested Lamb and Potterf on Friday night, after investigating a tip from someone who said they knew who did the break-ins.

Both of the 18-year-old men were taken to the Sherman County Bastille, where Lamb is still being held on a \$15,000 bond. Potterf was released after paying part of his \$10,000 bond.

So far, the teen-agers are each facing three felony charges in Sherman County, including one count each of burglary, criminal damage to property and theft. The charges are considered felonies because there was more than \$500 stolen and \$500 in damage.

Sheriff Doug Whitson said a 17-year-old — whose name was not release because he is a juvenile — is facing the same charges, though he was not arrested.

The young man will instead be given a criminal summons to appear in court, the sheriff said, to avoid the \$125 daily fee the county would pay to hold the juvenile in a detention center in Wakarusa. Juveniles can’t be held in the county jail.

Though no arrests have been made, Thomas County Undersheriff Mike Baughn said most likely Lamb, Potterf and the other juvenile will be accused of the Brewster robberies, along with another adult and juvenile.

That means, the undersheriff said, Potterf, Lamb and the younger man may have had help for the robberies in Thomas County.

Sheriff Whitson said a “concerned citizen’s” tip led them to the teen-ager’s homes, where they found some money and property stolen from the sunflower plant, grain elevator and cafe.

“We recovered most of the property from the Brewster burglaries,” said Whitson.

He said the sheriff’s department here and in Thomas County investigated the robberies together, concluding that they were related.

Though Sheriff Whitson said officers needed to do more investigating before releasing exact figures, Undersheriff Baughn said the thieves stole \$70 from the cafe and did \$900 in damage at the elevator, where they tried to break into the company’s safe and took items from display shelves.

“There was significant property damage,” said Baughn.

Whitson said a preliminary hearing has not been scheduled.

# Manager steps down to help his customers

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

Randy Schoenthaler, general manager of Frontier Equity Exchange, said it’s important to use his most valuable skills when helping customers.

That’s why Schoenthaler said he is stepping down as general manager of the grain elevator and returning to his previous position as office manager. He was promoted to general manager over a year ago.

“My greatest asset to the company lies with my knowledge of the accounting system,” said Schoenthaler.

Frontier Equity installed a new accounting system four months ago, he said, and at the same time a new office manager, Shirley Raile, was hired. Schoenthaler explained that switching the information from the old system to the new system was more complicated than the company originally thought.

“Things didn’t work out as problem free as we had hoped,” he said, adding that as the number of customers grows, so do the computer problems.

He said when Frontier Equity first installed the computer system the company had one-third the number of customers than it has now.

Schoenthaler said while Raile is learning the system, he has the most knowledge and can most quickly and efficiently fix problems that are becoming a hassle for the company and its customers.

He can’t do this from his current position, he said, so he must step down.

While Schoenthaler is taking the office manager position, Raile will continue to work along with Schoenthaler, but does not have a new title yet.

“We always teach our kids about team sports,” he said, “but when it comes down to being a team player, part of that is knowing

where you are most needed. My value to the company is in my old position.”

The move will be permanent, he said. And even after working out the current computer problems, Schoenthaler said, the company wants to find ways to make it easier for customers to access information on their land and crops. He said they want to do this within 5 years.

“There is a lot of information relating to our individual farmers that would be beneficial in managing,” he said. “It would be great to provide this information in a format readily available to them.”

The board is looking for someone to fill the general manager position, in the mean-time Schoenthaler said he will be working double duty.

“This isn’t something the board has asked me to do, this is something that I want to do,” he said.



Chet Boaz (top front) and Rob Reid sat in Boaz’s golf cart Monday afternoon before heading to another hole at the Goodland Sugar Hills Country Club. Boaz (below) teed off at the 10th hole of the golf course.

Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

# Golfer plays 75 holes in a day

## Man celebrates birthday by accomplishing feat

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Chet Boaz celebrated his 75th birthday at the Goodland Sugar Hills Country Club on Monday. The Goodland man didn’t golf his usual 18 holes, but instead spent about 12 hours playing 75 holes.

This is the seventh year he has performed this feat. The tradition began because Boaz wanted to play 69 holes of golf for his 69th birthday.

“Just to see if I could do it,” he said. Now he knows he can.

Boaz’s father, grandfather, and great-grandfather died when they were 69, so he always said if he lived to be that age, he would play 69 holes of golf. Six years later, he’s still alive, and still in great shape.

For this year’s game, Boaz partnered with his son-in-law, Rob Reid of Longmont, Colo.

They began at 5:05 a.m., and expected to be done by 5:30 p.m.

Two of Boaz’s sons, James and Dwain, both of Littleton, Colo., also played 75 holes, but they say they can’t beat their dad.

Barb Reid, Boaz’s daughter, said her husband has been playing golf with her father on his birthday for six years now and still hasn’t beat him, though he’s 20 years younger.

Boaz started playing golf when he was 50. He and his wife, Mary, have lived in Goodland for 10 years. He plays in the men’s and senior leagues at Sugar Hills.

Mary said she asked her husband what he would like for his birthday. He told her he wanted a big party, so Mary planned a banquet for 45 family members on Monday night at the country

club. She said three of their great-granddaughters, Katlyn, Kirsten and Eryn Topliff, would sing at the meal.

July 8 is Boaz’s actual birthday, but he generally plays golf on Mondays because it’s a slower time on the course.

The club house is closed on Monday, Mary said, but the club manager, Penny Livengood, opened it for the birthday party.

Just to see if I could do it.

- Chet Boaz

75-year-old golfer who played 75 holes on his birthday

Mary said her husband suffered a mini-stroke a week ago, but the doctor told him he could play his 75 holes if he felt up to it.

Mary said he ate his breakfast on the golf course, but did come in for 15 minutes to eat lunch. Boaz said he didn’t want to stop because he will lose his momentum and get stiff when he sits down.

On the golf course, Boaz, who is a fan of the Denver Broncos football team, drives a bright orange golf cart.

It has a Broncos flag on one side and a Kansas City Chiefs flag on the other. The Chiefs flag is for his son-in-law, Dennie Finley of Goodland, who is a big fan.

Boaz said this is going to be the last



year. He’s not going to attempt 76 holes next year.

He said he’s trying to get Reid to play with him in the Sweet Swingers Tournament, which is held every June at the country club. Then, he said, they would play 18 holes of golf on Friday and Saturday, rather than 76 holes in one day.

Boaz played in the Sweet Swingers Tournament this year and came in third place.