

weather report

77°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:36 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:10 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 73 degrees

• Humidity 59 percent

• Sky sunny

• Winds light and variable

• Barometer 30.20 inches

and falling

• Record High 106° (1934)

• Record Low 52° (1950)

Last 24 Hours*

High 92°

Low 59°

Precipitation .20 inches

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, chance of thunderstorms, low 60-65, winds southeast 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, chance of thunderstorms, high 80-85, winds south 10-20 mph, low 60-65.

Extended Forecast

Friday: chance of thunderstorms, high 80, low 60-65. Saturday: chance of thunderstorms, high 80s, low 65-75. Sunday: dry, high 90s, low 65-75.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.37 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.16

Loan deficiency payment — 29¢

Corn — \$1.52 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.48

Loan deficiency payment — 51¢

Milo — \$1.99 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.69 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.05

Loan deficiency payment — 85¢

Millet — \$4.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.60 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.06

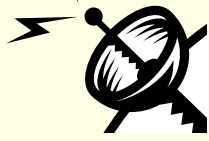
Confection current — \$13/\$7 cwt.

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.

Talks delay

Clinton's trip

THURMONT, Md. — Sending the Camp David summit into overtime, President Clinton delayed his departure for Japan by a day to give Mideast negotiators a last chance to break their deadlock.

While Clinton met with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Israel said "it seems" Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak had decided to stop the talks and return home. The White House said it had not been informed anyone was planning to leave.

"There is a lot of stuff that flies around the air that's not worth a lot ... but just has no reflection of what's going on," presidential spokesman Joe Lockhart said at the midpoint of the talks' ninth day.

Explaining Clinton's decision to delay his trip, Lockhart said, "It's a judgment the president made that it was useful and in the interests of the peace process to do that, but it's not an open-ended commitment."

Firemen respond quickly to house fire ...



Goodland fire fighters rushed to a rental house at 311 West 11th about 12:35 p.m. today after neighbors reported the house on fire. Volunteers quickly knocked down a blaze which was sending smoke across the area, capping damage to the immediate area. Fire Chief Dean

Jensen said it looked like an electric fan had caught fire, with the flames spreading around the room. A chair had to be carried out to be doused in the yard.

Photo by Steve Haynes and Evan Barnum/The Goodland Daily News

Study focuses attention on positive lightning

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

With clouds swirling and lightning flashing outside, in the mobile office of the 3-D lightning mapping system, the radar is creating a churning polka-dot picture that serves as a life history for a dozen lightning bolts.

The lightning mapping system is in Goodland with the Severe Thunderstorm Electrification and Precipitation Study. This part of the work will be here through next month.

To study the lightning, the crew, including Paul Krehbiel, director of the program, and two graduate students, Ron Thomas and Tim Hamlin, reads the

static created by lightning on television channel 3.

The readings from the static create a map of the lightning in the form of small colored dots, Krehbiel said, with the colors showing intensity and distance.

He explained that lightning is caused when ice particles or small hail stones in a thunderstorm collide with one another, forming static electricity.

Lightning can have a positive or negative charge. Positive lightning is caused by smaller particles colliding with one another, he said, and forms higher in the clouds. Negative lightning is caused by the collision of hail stones, and forms lower in the clouds.

The lightning mapping system focuses mainly on positive lightning, which has been researched less than the more common negative lightning. The study is focusing on positive lightning for several reasons.

"Positive lightning is more likely to be found in a severe storm," said Thomas. "If we can see the positive lightning and identify it, then we could predict the more severe storms."

There is a basic scientific interest in the lightning also, he explained, because not much is known about positive lightning at this point.

Something discovered during the lightning study was that when a cloud

is churning during a storm, as it often does when there is going to be a tornado, the lightning will strike in a circular pattern also.

The mapping system was in Oklahoma for two years before it was moved here for the current study.

The lightning monitoring systems are set up in a circle around the areas of Goodland, Burlington and Idalia which is the focus of the storm study.

Summer heat requires constant monitoring of the equipment, Thomas said. The temperature inside the box can get up to 130 degrees, and the computer equipment inside suffer because of it.

Forum features county, state candidates

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

More than 50 voters crowded into the Elks Hall on Tuesday to listen to candidates for the upcoming primary election speak their minds.

The forum, put together by the Sherman County Farm Bureau, drew all candidates running for county offices, the House seat for the 121st District and the Senate seat for the 40th District, except one candidate for treasurer and Quinter Democrat Billie Flora for the Senate seat.

The format for county positions was to ask two questions of each candidates and then allow each a two-minute closing.

With the legislative seats, candidates were allowed a two-minute opening statement, were asked three questions and then allowed a four-minute closing.

The first candidates were the two for county clerk, Janet Rumble and Judith Siruta, both Republicans

When asked why she was running and what skills she would bring to the position, Rumble, the incumbent clerk, replied that the position was challenging and demanding.

She said that it required experience and knowledge, and that she enjoys her job and that is why she is running.

Siruta said she would like to be county clerk.

"I was always taught that if you want something and don't ask for it, then you will never know if you could have it," she said.

Siruta said she was qualified because of her success in her business that she owned in Denver, talking about her nomination as Colorado Business

Woman of the Year.

When asked what strengths and challenges the office held, Siruta said one of the challenges would be bringing unity between the department heads and the commission, and the No. 1 duty of all public servants was to represent the tax payers.

Rumple responded that the biggest challenge is to keep up with all the laws that are constantly changing.

In closing, Siruta said she would like to make things happen in the community.

"Remember when you go to the polls, you are acting as an employer," said Rumble in closing. She urged the voters to look at her qualifications and experience.

County treasurer was next, but there was only one candidate present, incumbent treasurer Shelby Miller. Deedi Hoss was not available for the forum. Both are Democrats.

The same questions were asked of Miller as the clerk candidates.

Miller said that she has had 19 years' experience in the position, and she doesn't know what she would be doing if she didn't have this job.

One of the challenges of her job, she said, is to create unity between the staff and the customers.

She said that she likes the people and the work, and wants to continue one more term.

There are four candidates for sheriff, and all four were present.

"Law enforcement is in my blood," said former Sheriff Jack Armstrong when asked why he was running and what skills he would bring to the office.

The Republican cited his 28 years of

service in law enforcement, including time as a U.S. marshal and as sheriff here, for his skills. He said that he wants to bring the officers back into the town rather than having the out working traffic.

Doug Whitson, a Republican and the current sheriff, agreed with Armstrong about law enforcement getting into your blood. He said that he loves his job, and feels that the county has a good department now and the officers are in tune with the community.

Richard Miller, former jailer with the department and a Republican, jokingly said he doesn't have a clue why he is running. He said he has had 12 years in law enforcement and is looking forward to the challenge of bringing the officers together to do something more challenging.

Arthur Albers, currently the undersheriff and a Democrat, stressed the importance of reaching children. He said if he was elected he would hire a Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education officer for the schools.

All three of the candidates seemed to agree when asked what the three biggest problems in Sherman County are. They all listed drugs, alcohol and domestic violence connected to alcohol abuse, and education.

"The future is at hand," said Miller in closing, "and I want to and am willing to make the changes needed."

Albers stressed the need to reach the students in his closing, he said, if elected, that he would like to hire a school resource officer.

His 28 years in law enforcement, said Armstrong, has afforded him the vast experience and knowledge, more so

than any other candidate.

Whitson reminded the audience that on Aug. 1, they are the employers and have to pick the best servant for the public.

"The choice is yours," said Whitson. The forum then proceeded to the state seats.

The first candidate to speak was Harlan House of Goodland, running as a Republican for the House position in the 121st district.

"Sherman County knows what I stand for," said House. "I stand for kids and roads."

Rep. Jim Morrison of Colby, the incumbent in the district, opened by saying that he was "born into public service" and believes that he can honestly make a difference if he remains a representative.

The candidates were asked where they stood on school financing and the current weighted system.

House said that financing for schools has always been tough. He thinks that the state money should be turned over to the school board for them to distribute where they think it is needed.

"It is important to teach kids so that they can compete in the job market with kids from other areas," said House "Kids here need the same level of education that they are getting in the city."

Morrison said that the current weighted system, where smaller and poorer school districts get more for each pupil, is the only one that works right now with the low enrollment numbers. But, he said, the state needs to get away from the "use it or lose it" idea, and let schools save money.

He said that students in this area are

Landfill project at bid stage

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Sherman County commissioners decided Tuesday to seek bids will for excavation of the new landfill south-east of Goodland, with construction to begin as soon as possible.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby told Commissioners Chuck Frankenfled and Kenny Davis that she had talked to the engineers at Terranext and had reviewed the contract documents. She said Terranext told her the document was their standard contract for Kansas.

Frankenfled moved to have Curt Way, road and bridge supervisor, proceed with advertising for bids for the landfill.

John Eisenbart, of J & J Commodities met with the commissioners to ask for a raise in the fee for hauling trash to Garden City. He said with the recent fuel price increases and insurance costs, the price from 1998 is no longer workable.

Eisenbart asked for the rate per ton per mile to be raised to 6.5 cents over the current rate of 4.6 cents, a 46 percent increase.

While discussing the issue, it was discovered that the 1998 contract, which the commissioners had approved and signed, had not been signed by Eisenbart. He told the commissioners there was a problem with a section of the contract his insurance company would not approve.

Eisenbart said he had just lost a driver, and without the increase from the county, he did not see how he would be able to continue hauling trash. He said he is having problems with all the requirements and liability with the insurance, and is having trouble finding drivers.

Without a written contract in place, Davis said he felt it was best to approve a temporary agreement with J & J, and re-advertise for the contract. A motion was approved to set the rate at 6.5 cents through Aug. 15, and to advertise for new bids for the transportation after that. Bids are due to the county clerk's office by Aug. 14.

The next commissioner meeting will be 8 a.m. Monday, July 31, in the commissioners room on the main floor of the courthouse.

learning better than in any other because they don't have to worry about their safety.

The state setting county-level water regulations was the next topic of discussion.

Morrison said that this district used to have an equal voice in Topeka and now it doesn't. For this reason, he is more in favor of local control of regulations.

House replied that water regulations need to be tougher elsewhere, but it could be different here, so it would be difficult for the state to set regulations without knowing a county's individual situation.

A passage was read about individual's right to freedom, and the candidates were asked to defend or disagree with the passage, and tell how they would help to ensure freedoms if elected.

House said that we should be free, but with freedom comes responsibility. He said that with every right, we have a responsibility that comes along with it.

"Each individual should have the right to succeed or fail," he said.

Morrison said that everyone should be free to pursue whatever endeavor they want to, and should have the freedom to make mistakes.

"The government can help people to have this freedom," he said, "and to hold people accountable for their freedom."

In closing Morrison said that he feels he has done a good job with communicating with this district through the radio.