

weather report

71° at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:09 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:38 a.m.  
• Sunset, 8:09 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 74 degrees  
• Humidity 68 percent  
• Sky partly cloudy  
• Winds southeast 15 mph  
• Barometer 30.15 inches and rising

• Record High 105° (1934)  
• Record Low 50° (1958)

Last 24 Hours\*

High 85°  
Low 56°  
Precipitation 1.38 inches

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, 70 percent chance of thunderstorms, flash flood watch in effect, low 55-60, winds 10-20. Tomorrow: Early fog, mostly sunny, high 80-85, low 55-60.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: chance of thunderstorms, high 90, low 55-60. Monday and Tuesday: chance of thunderstorms, high 90s, 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 — \$2.40 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.20  
Loan deficiency payment — 25¢  
Corn — \$1.58 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.52  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 47¢  
Milo — \$2.10 hundredweight  
Soybeans — \$3.80 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.04  
Loan deficiency payment — 86¢  
Millet — \$5.00 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$5.70 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.

Senate passes couple tax cut

WASHINGTON — A Republican election-year tax cut for married couples won final Senate approval today, sending the bill to the White House, where President Clinton said he will veto it.

Prior to the 60-34 vote, GOP sponsors sought to portray their confrontation over the "marriage penalty" bill with Clinton as a choice between more government spending and a return of growing tax overpayments to taxpayers.

"The issue is whether he will or won't grant America's families the tax relief they deserve," said Sen. William Roth, R-Del., chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. "Let's divorce the marriage penalty from the tax code once and for all."

In a written statement, Clinton said the bill was "one part of a costly, poorly targeted and regressive tax plan."

Market opens for sunflowers

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

Growers around Goodland have gained a new market for NuSun sunflowers.

Procter and Gamble has decided to buy NuSun oil for the production of Pringles brand potato chips, the company announced at the National Sunflower Association's NuSun committee meeting.

NuSun is a variety of oil that is owned by the growers. It is lower in cholesterol and creates a longer shelf life for the products that are fried in it, said Ron Harding, Goodland Chamber of Commerce director.

The NuSun oil comes from the Mid/oleic sunflower and is a superior oil to other varieties of sunflower oil in fat content and shelf life, said Harding.

Last year 6,000 acres in Sherman County were planted with NuSun, he said. The oil was processed by Northern Sun here to use on a trial basis.

This year, 45 percent of the million acres planted with oil-producing sunflowers were NuSun, said Harding. The goal is to convert the majority of fields in the county to NuSun.

"This is fantastic news for the industry," said Lynn Hoelting, general manager of Mueller Grain Co. "This should encourage a larger production of NuSun sunflowers locally."

"I can tell you this is a major commitment for Pringles with NuSun," Joel Evans, a supervisor with Procter and Gamble said. "We expect to be the largest buyer of NuSun."

Hoelting said having a new domestic market is an advantage because there isn't as much transportation and handling in a domestic market as in an overseas market, making the cost for everyone less.

"In economic theory," he said, "the buyer should be able to pay the producer more this way," he said. "The profits should trickle down to the producer."

Farmers get chance to ask about growth

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

There is a lot growing around Goodland that many people may not know about, but on Aug. 4 everyone will get the chance to find out.

The third annual Sunflower Celebration Field Day and Ag Show will be held northwest town at a plot of land known as the High Plains Research and Technology Center.

Farmers will have a chance to ask questions of seed companies, marketing companies and equipment representatives, as well as looking at results of experimental planting on 30 acres.

"Usually these experiments are done on smaller plots of land," said Lynn Hoelting, general manager of Mueller Grain Co and an ag show organizer, "but this plot is large enough to closely resemble real farming, and small enough that you can walk it."

The day will start at 7 a.m. with a presentation from Max Dietrich, the National Sunflower Association production coordinator. Next, producers will get a chance to tour the sunflower research fields and get a demonstration at 7:30 a.m. At 9:30 a.m., a tour will be given of the plot again, focusing on the sunflower varieties. At 11 a.m., a producers lunch will be held.

Throughout the day representatives will be available to answer questions on fertilizer, herbicides, seeds and marketing. Also, an equipment display will be set up all day with representatives available to answer questions.

Kansas State University, Colorado

ducer."

"Right now farmers get a \$10 premium per acre for planting NuSun," said Harding, "the new contracts will hopefully push the premium up to \$30 per acre."

Procter and Gamble also has a production plant overseas that the oil will be used in, said Hoelting.

The firm began using NuSun oil for the chips on July 1, but is still using other kinds of oil, mainly corn oil, in the production of chips right now, said Evans.

Hoelting said there are several advantages to using sunflower oil. One is the oil has a lower flash point, meaning there is less evaporation and the oil will last longer in fryers.

Another advantage, he said, is health.

Sunflower oil is lower in fatty acids and won't clog the arteries as much as other oils.

"Pringles can reduce the fat grams by half on the labels of the chips fried in sunflower oil," Hoelting said.

Another benefit of the sunflower oil to Procter and Gamble, said Hoelting, is that it is a healthy oil that can be bought on the domestic market. He compared it to the olive oil market overseas.

Olive oil, comparable in fat content to sunflower oil, is cheaper overseas than here, said Hoelting, because there isn't the cost of shipping and handling and it is more abundant.

The same is true domestically for Procter and Gamble purchasing sunflower oil.

Testing is still being done, said Harding, but the hope is that NuSun will turn out to be equal or superior to olive oil in the health benefits.

The bright red canisters of Pringles potato chips made with NuSun oil will soon be in stores, said Evans.

The product should be reaching local consumers in 30 to 60 days, said Harding.

State University, and DuPont are experimenting, he said, on the effects of different herbicides at different levels, nitrogen based fertilizer, micro-nutrients already existing in the soil and the effect it has on crops, and row spacing.

The experiment was set up this year, said Hoelting, and hopefully will continue perpetually.

"The owners have been kind enough to let us use this land to simulate High Plains rotation," said Hoelting, "and hopefully it will yield something for them, too."

Each research group will harvest its own sunflowers and collect the data on how it is growing. Weather has played an important role in the study.

"We are at the mercy of mother nature," he said, "and in a way it was good for the experiment that this has been a dry year."

"We can find out how all of these factors work in dry years to this way."

This is one of the first research centers at this elevation and moisture level will show researchers what it is like to farm in the High Plains. This year, 49 varieties of oil producing sunflowers were planted, and 10 varieties of confection sunflowers. Corn and summer fallow were used in order to set up a four-year crop rotation schedule.

The fields feature NuSun, traditional oil, and confection sunflower varieties planted in no-till and till environments.

This is a good chance for producers to see actual results, and for companies to put their products to the test in competition, said Hoelting.



Artist Socorro Maia smiled as her husband, Jack Hart, talked with Rebecca Downs and Maxine Rauscher of the Carnegie Arts Center about Maia's paintings on Tuesday. A sample is shown below.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Brazilian painter visits plains 'Sunflower Capital'

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Socorro Maia of Brazil said she loves to paint sunflowers and came to Kansas because she heard it was the "Sunflower State."

Maia and her husband, Jack Hart, were at the Carnegie Arts Center in Goodland Tuesday afternoon and visited with Director Rebecca Downs, and two Goodland Arts Council members, Connie Hatcher and Maxine Rauscher.

Maia speaks very little English, so while the couple was at the center, her husband interpreted for her.

She does oil paintings and some pencil drawings, but those are in preparation for the paintings.

Her husband told the story of how Maia came to be an artist and Maia showed photos of many of her paintings to the women.

The couple are from Maceió, Brazil, and have a son who is 9. They live in Brazil for most of the year, but also have a home in Prescott, Ariz. They drove from Prescott to Colorado and then to Kansas.

When Maia was young, she dreamed of being an artist. Born into a poor family, she was the youngest of 12 children and grew up on a farm near a tiny village in Brazil.

Her mother died in an accident when she was 12. That day, she said, she went outside, shook her fist at the sky and told God that he wouldn't decide her life and poverty wouldn't keep her from being an artist.

When she was grown, she became a nurse to earn a living. Then six years ago, she said, she knew it was time to begin painting and went to school to study art.

Around that time, she had a dream that she was being told that she was going to be an artist and given a blue box, that the box held her secret. When she opened the box, there was light inside. In the dream, Maia felt she received permission from God to develop her art.

After she had attended art school for about a year, her teacher wanted her to exhibit some of her paintings. She won first place. When she received the prize, she said, it was a blue box and



inside was a gold medallion.

Hart told a Greek myth about the sunflower. Apollo, the god of the sun, was having a romance with the goddess of water. However, he betrayed her. She was sad and turned herself into a sunflower so that she could still be connected with the sun. That's why, he said, the sunflower's head follows the sun.

Maia also has a fascination for gnomes and includes them in many of her drawings. She said they have a respect for the earth and show kindness. She loves the culture of gnomes, which is very widespread in Brazil, her husband said.

She paints almost every day when there aren't other activities going on.

Her first painting sold in the United States was of a sunflower with the shape of Brazil behind it. It is called "Flor de girassol," which means flower of sunflower.

Recently, Maia had another dream in which she walked into a field of sunflowers where she and her husband embraced. There was a connection of light between the sun and the center of the field. To Maia, it was a confirmation about Kansas being the origin of the sunflower and for her to come here.

The couple wanted to attend Goodland's Sunflower Festival next month, but it won't work out for them this year. They said they hope to attend next year's festival.

Man and woman arrested for similar crimes in separate incidents

Goodland Police arrested a man and woman early this morning on similar charges — including aggravated battery, criminal damage to property and disorderly conduct — though the time and place were different.

John M. Mulls, 20, was arrested at 12:15 a.m. near the Northwest Kansas Technical School after he left 517 E. 10th, where he is accused of damaging property and fighting with others.

Glenda Luna, 26, was arrested at 2:36 a.m. at

216 East U.S. 24, where she allegedly committed the same type of domestic violence.

Neither lives in the place where the crimes took place, and both are still in jail awaiting a hearing. County Attorney Bonnie Selby said Friday that

charges hadn't been filed nor bonds set.

On top of the charges Mull and Luna both face, Mull will be charged with one count each of battery and obstruction, and Luna is facing a charge of aggravated assault.