

weather report

87°

at noon



Today

- Sunset, 8:00 p.m.

Tomorrow

- Sunrise, 5:47 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:59 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 73 degrees
- Humidity 27 percent
- Sky clear
- Winds south 10 mph
- Barometer 30.11 inches and falling
- Record High 107° (1938)
- Record Low 51° (1950)

Last 24 Hours*

High 87°
Low 53°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 60-65, winds south 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, high 90-95, low 55-60, winds southeast 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday through Saturday: chance of thunderstorms, high 90-95, low 55-60.

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

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.34 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.15
Loan deficiency payment — 3¢
Corn — \$2.34 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.47
Loan deficiency pmt. — 52¢
Milo — \$1.96 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$3.61 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.88
Loan deficiency payment — \$1.02
Millet — \$5.00 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$5.65 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.04
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.

Soldiers fight western fires

RIDGECREST, Calif. — Army soldiers headed for the fire lines Tuesday to help out weary civilians battling wildfires in 10 Western states, including a giant blaze in the Sierra Nevada that destroyed seven homes.

Some 50 blazes have blackened at least 663,500 acres of forest, brush and grass in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Washington and Wyoming in the past two weeks.

With at least 10,700 firefighters deployed, resources stretched thin and fatigue setting in, 500 soldiers left Fort Hood, Texas, on their way to Idaho. They were to be given a day of field training before going to work on a 15,000-acre fire in Idaho.

At Camp Pendleton in southern California, about 500 Marines begin classroom training Friday.

Vote today!



Time to make some choices

Shelley Stevens (above) entered the voting booth this morning, while another voter stood in the booth casting her ballot (right). Polls will be open until 7 p.m. tonight.

Photos by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News

‘Die-hards’ change parties

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Even die-hard Democrats in Sherman County were voting Republican Tuesday morning, just to get some action.

They haven’t embraced the Grand Old Party, though; with no major races on the Democratic ballot, they just want to have their say in Republican primary races.

Most Democratic candidates are running unopposed and are sure to make it to the general election in November.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said one die-hard Democrat called last month to ask how to switch his party affiliation to Republican. The last day to do that was July 17.

He spoke in a whisper, she said, and sounded embarrassed. She said she razzed him about it a little.

“He said he’s going to change back tomorrow,” she said, adding that many Democrats have switched temporarily.

Clerk Rumpel explained that in a primary election, people registered as Republicans or Democrats are limited to voting for candidates in their own party. To vote for another party’s candidate, she said, a voter must

change party affiliation.

But voters who are registered as unaffiliated, Rumpel said, can declare themselves a Democrat or Republican at anytime before voting.

While there are Republican races for the 40th District seat in the state Senate, the 121st District seat in the state House of Representatives, Sherman County sheriff and Rumpel’s job, there are none for Democrats.

The county treasurer job was to be the only Democratic primary race, with Deedi Hoss, a former clerk in the treasurer’s office, facing incumbent Shelby Miller.

Last week, however, Hoss said she had taken a new job and is running a minimal campaign.

Of the 4,278 registered voters in Sherman County, 210 voted in advance by mailing in or delivering a ballot before election day.

She said 222 voters requested advance ballots, which are accepted until voting stops at 7 p.m. on election day.

As for voters coming into the courthouse on Tuesday to cast their ballot, Rumpel said there had been a “steady stream.” She said she wasn’t sure what turnout would be.

“Optimistically,” she said, “I’d like to see at least 75 percent.”

4-Hers learn ‘life skills’ by caring for hand pets, cats

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

One young 4-Her, who entered a cat named “Midnight II” in the 4-H hand pet and cat competition, asked his mother what reserve champion meant.

“Does it mean I did second best?” Ryan Irvin asked, looking up at his mom, Jeanne. She shook her head yes, and he said, “I didn’t do too bad then.”

Eleven participants, carrying meowing cat carriers, colorful hamster cages, and glass-and-wire cages holding guinea pigs, paraded into the Good Samaritan Center at 10 a.m. on Monday for the contest.

Residents of the center watched as 4-Hers brought their animals in front of the judge, who looked over the animals while he questioned the owners about their care.

After the judging, he announced which participants would take home titles of overall grand champion, overall reserve grand champion, grand champion or reserve grand champion, and who would get a blue ribbon.



Ryan Irvin and his cat “Midnight II,” were named reserve champions.
Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News

When the judge announced his decision, Irvin’s mom explained to him that reserve champion means a participant

takes second place in the competition, according to their class and age group. Overall grand champion, and over-

Hail damages field-day crop

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Mother Nature has forced a few changes in the Sunflower Celebration 2000 Field Day and Ag Show this Friday, wiping out the carefully tended test plot west of Goodland where the show was to be held.

A hailstorm on the afternoon of July 22 flattened the plot, organizers said, so the show will be held at the Goodland Industrial Park, a half mile north of U.S. 24 on K-27, then west on 16th Street.

The show recognizes the fact that Goodland is the Sunflower Capitol of the High Plains. The National Sunflower Association and area sunflower processors and industry supporters were asked to present this event as a promotional and educational program for farmers and agribusinesses.

Lynn Hoelting, committee chairman for the event, said after the hailstorm hit, the group wanted to focus on the positive. Since over 4,000 flyers had been sent out to growers and suppliers, they came up with another plan rather than have people show up and have nothing to see.

The day’s activities will include presentations by speakers, a tour of area sunflower plots and a lunch.

The forum will begin at 7 a.m. The speakers will be Max Dietrich, production coordinator for the National Sunflower Association; Ron Meyer of Colorado State University Cooperative Extension; and Troy Price and Roger Stockton of Kansas State University Research and Extension.

Dietrich will speak on “NuSun: It’s Role in the Retail Marketplace,” the

sunflower association’s function, and the sunflower check-off program.

Meyer will talk about micronutrients and row spacing. Price will discuss sunflower herbicides, and Stockton will talk on sunflower fertility.

At 9 a.m., a bus will take participants on a tour of sunflower plots in the area. There will be sunflower production and harvesting equipment displayed at the show and sunflower industry personnel will be available throughout the day to answer questions regarding production or marketing. Lunch will be at 11 a.m.

For field day and ag show information, as well as exhibitor information regarding the Sunflower Celebration, call the National Sunflower Association at (888) 718-7033, or the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce at (785) 899-7130.

The storm which hit on July 22 dropped hail in Sherman County between 1:30 and 2:30 p.m., said Meteorologist Randy Coleman, with stones ranging in size from 3/4 inch to 2 3/4 inch.

He said the 2 3/4 inch, or baseball-size hail was reported 15 miles south of Goodland.

Three miles northwest of Goodland there were reports of 3/4 inch and 1 3/4 inch hail. At Caruso, 3/4 inch hail was seen. Seven miles northwest of Goodland, 1 3/4 inch hail was reported.

In Goodland, there were reports of dime- to nickel-size hail and seven miles south of Goodland the hail was 1 3/4 inches.

The storm then drifted south into Wallace and Greeley counties, Coleman said.

Board protects frogs

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Don’t be caught holding a frog at Smoky Gardens.

Sherman County commissioners agreed Monday to ban “taking” or catching frogs at the county lake south of town, effective today, and also approved new fish length and size limits.

Kenny Sanderson, head of the Smoky Gardens board, said the panel was recommending the frog ban for two years to allow the population to increase as part of the revitalization program for the lake.

There is a frog season in Kansas from July 1 to Oct. 31, but the ban at Smoky Gardens will mean that the lake is closed to frog hunters year around.

Sanderson said the ban includes catching, possessing, harassing or molesting frogs.

“We have seen people dip netting frogs, and some young people thumping them with sticks,” he said.

At a previous meeting the commissioners had approved a request to change the fishing limits on bass at the

lake, also effective today.

The new limit for bass will be a daily catch of two and they must be 18 inches or longer to be legal.

The daily limit for channel cat will be five and they must be 15 inches or larger. Limits had been 15 inches for bass with a daily limit of five; catfish limits were unchanged. Possession limits will be eight for bass and 20 for channel cat.

At a recent Smoky Garden board meeting, Sanderson said, the board decided it was time to review the county resolution on the lake and makes necessary changes.

Commissioner Kenny Davis said that sounded okay, but asked Sanderson to have Selby review the changes before presenting them to the commissioners.

Selby said she would review the proposed resolution this week and have it ready for the next meeting Tuesday.

The commissioners also approved appointment of Ken Bennetts, of Good Samaritan Center, to fill a vacancy on the Smokey Gardens board.