

weather report

94°

at noon

Today

Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Tomorrow

Sunrise, 5:22 a.m.

Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Midday Conditions

Soil Temperature 76 degrees

Humidity 23 percent

Sky sunny

Winds southwest 20-30 mph

Barometer 30.08 inches and falling

Record High 107° (1971)

Record Low 42° (1968)

Last 24 Hours*

High 101°

Low 69°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, 30 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 65, south wind 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Partly sunny, 20 percent of thunderstorms, high 90-95, low 60-65, south wind 15-25.

Extended Forecast

Thursday and Friday: chance of thunderstorms, high 90, low 60. 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 — \$2.56 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.48

Corn — \$1.72 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.61

Loan deficiency payment — 38¢

Milo — \$2.77 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.05 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.90

Loan deficiency payment — \$1.02

Millet — \$5.25 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$7.45 cwt.

Oil new crop — \$6.25 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$2.00

Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$14 (new crop)

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Over one-third of wheat cut

HAYS — The wheat harvest is 38 percent complete in Kansas, with cutting beginning this past weekend in the northwest.

The Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service said Monday that the harvest is running slightly ahead of the 32 percent normal for this time of year. It is still behind last year's early harvest, when 75 percent of the wheat had been cut by this date.

In northwest Kansas, the harvest has been most active in Rush and Ness counties and the southern half of Ellis County.

"We're pretty much in full swing," said Richard Osterhaus, coordinator for the La Crosse branch of Midland Marketing.

On Monday, the Agricultural Statistics Service rated the Kansas wheat crop still standing as 9 percent very poor, 19 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 25 percent good and 6 percent excellent.

Water park doubles old crowds

Break-ins, price complaints mar first month

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

Since opening May 30, Goodland's water park has had it's share of problems, including two break-ins, controversy over ticket prices, and an unexpected closing, but officials say attendance is high and people like the pool.

The season got off to a shaky start. City Manager Ron Pickman said 10,000 admittance coupons were printed before the opening, but 9,000 sold on the first two days the pool was open. He said another 10,000 were printed up immediately.

The coupons replaced season passes, which the city says people tended to pass around to their friends.

Debbie Lawson, first-year pool manager, said attendance has usually been between 200 and 300 swimmers per day and hasn't fallen below 150, even on the cooler days. Pickman said attendance for 1999 at the old pool, just west

of the new water park in Steever Park, ran between 100 and 200 per day.

Police Chief Ray Smee said three juveniles aged 16, 15, and 12 were arrested on Friday, June 1, for breaking into the water park twice to steal candy and swim.

He said the youths allegedly broke into the water park after the opening on the night of May 30 by crawling in through a window. Smee said they stole under \$100 worth of candy from the concession stand.

A second break-in occurred on the next night, he said, but that was not discovered until the following night. Smee said the teen-agers broke into the water park and shut off the lights so no one would see them swimming.

Pickman said the next night, the security lights did not come on, and an investigation revealed that the lock on the power box had been cut. He said there was no damage other than the bro-

ken lock, but the pool had been used.

Smee said paperwork has been filed with the county attorney's office, but County Attorney Bonnie Selby said that the names cannot be released until charges have been filed.

Lawson said there have been no further break-ins since the arrests. Ed Wolak, public works director, said that security cameras might be installed around the pool.

The only recent report of trouble was slight damage to one of the downspouts on the building. Pickman said it occurred prior to today and is being investigated as vandalism.

On Tuesday, June 19, the pool was closed unexpectedly for work on the pumps. Workers for Associated Pool Builders Inc., of Bismark, N.D., one of the firms which built the pool, came into town to do follow-up but had for-

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The blast of cool water and the thrill of the ride down the water slide at Steever Water Park are a great way to beat the summer heat. Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News

Wheat harvest starts, but just barely

First load dumped Saturday

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

Wheat harvest has begun in Sherman County, with the first load of wheat coming in at Frontier Equity Exchange in Goodland at 3:17 p.m. Saturday.

The load came from Dallas Kuhlman, who has 250 acres of dryland wheat four miles north of Goodland. Kuhlman's first load tested at 56 pounds per bushel with 11 percent moisture, said Merwyn Jensen, manager at Frontier.

Kuhlman lives in Mesa, Ariz., and is a pitching coach for the Phoenix College women's fast pitch softball team. He said the team is a two-time National Champion in the Division II NJCAA Softball Tournament.

Kuhlman, who returns to Goodland to maintain the family farm where his mother Kathryn lives, describes himself as "just a small farmer trying to make a go of it." Kathryn Kuhlman worked eight years in production at The Goodland Daily News and is now retired.



Dallas Kuhlman, who brought in Sherman County's first load of wheat, continued harvest Monday afternoon about four miles north of Goodland.

Kuhlman, who is from Arizona, returns home every summer to help his family with wheat harvest. Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Daily News

Farmer wins harvest contest with good guess

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Keith Hoyt of rural Brewster came within seven minutes of guessing the exact time the first load of wheat cut in Sherman County would be brought into one of the participating grain elevators.

He wins \$50 in scrip as the first-place winner in the Harvest Countdown contest sponsored by area businesses. Hoyt, a farmer who lives 17 miles northwest of Brewster, guessed that the first load of wheat would come in at 3:10 p.m. on Saturday, June 23. The first load was brought in at 3:17 p.m. Saturday at the Frontier Equity elevator in Goodland by Dallas Kuhlman. The wheat was cut from a field about 4 miles north of Goodland with 11.1 percent moisture.

Hoyt, 39, who raises wheat and corn and has a cow/calf operation, said he just thought the wheat would be early for sure.

"I thought there would be somebody who had some wheat dry down by then," he said, adding that he hasn't won much before this.

He said he made his guess at the Frontier Equity office in Brewster, and

doesn't really have any plans on how he will spend the money.

The second place winner was Leland Terry Sr. of Goodland, who wins \$35 in scrip. Sara Bollig of Goodland took third place and wins \$15.

Terry guessed 2:31 p.m. on June 23 and Bollig's guess was 2 p.m. on June 23.

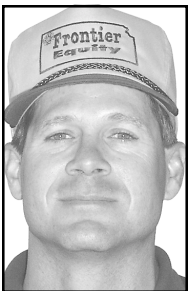
Terry said he entered his guess at Frontier Equity in Goodland, but didn't have a strategy for picking the date. He said he wrote down a figure that popped into his head.

Bollig said she guessed the date and time and entered at Frontier Equity in Goodland.

"I think it's great that we're getting (wheat harvest) done early and I hope it will be a good harvest for everyone," she said.

Contest rules said entrants must be 18 or older and guess the day, hour and minute that a load of Sherman County wheat with a moisture content of 14 percent or less was brought in.

Scrip money can be spent at: Aten Department Store, Mueller Grain, the Feed Bunk, Kanorado Co-op, Frontier Equity Exchange in Goodland, Ruleton, Brewster and Bird City, Grass Roots Lawn Service and The Goodland Daily News.



Keith Hoyt

Harvest office calls woman to Goodland from Florida

By Rachel Miscal

The Goodland Daily News

Gay Nell Helweg drives 2,000 miles from Naples, Fla., to Sherman County every summer to run the state Harvest Information Office, which opened today at Frontier Equity Exchange on Old U.S. 24 in western Goodland.

Helweg said she lived in Sherman County for 30 years, running an irrigation company with her late husband. When the state decided to open a harvest office in Goodland 15 years ago, she said, she was asked to run it because she knew many farmers through the irrigation business.

Helweg said she moved to Florida four years ago to be near her daughter, but didn't want to give up her harvest job, which matches custom harvesting crews with farmers who need help cutting ripe wheat. So, she said, most years she makes the long trip, asking herself each time if it will be the last.

"Every year I think this may be my last," Helweg said, "and then they call me and I get really excited and I decide to come again."

She said running the office gives her an excuse to return home.

Though this year's wheat harvest has barely crossed the start line, Helweg said, a farmer came into the office this morning looking for some custom cutters.

She said she couldn't produce because the few custom harvesters in this area were already hard at work.

Helweg said she called the harvest office in Colby and found cutters willing to travel to Sherman County.

Most of the custom crews, which make their way north across the U.S., following the harvest, are still cutting wheat fields southeast of Sherman County, where work is

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