

# The Goodland Daily News

**MONDAY**

**July 9  
2001**

**50¢**

Volume 69, Number 133

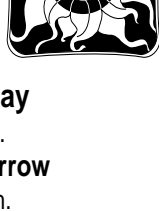
Eight Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

## weather report

**90°**

at noon



### Today

• Sunset, 8:16 p.m.

### Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:29 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:15 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 76 degrees
- Humidity 43 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds south 20 mph
- Barometer 30.10 inches and rising
- Record High 105° (1938)
- Record Low 45° (1959)

### Last 24 Hours\*

High 98°  
Low 64°  
Precipitation none

### Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 65-70, southeast wind 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, high mid 90s, low 65-70, southeast wind 10-20 mph.

### Extended Forecast

Wednesday and Thursday: chance of thunderstorms, high 90s, low 60s. Friday: dry, high 85-95, low 55-65.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## local markets

### Noon

- Wheat — \$2.65 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.40
- Loan deficiency payment — 5¢
- Corn — \$1.95 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.79
- Loan deficiency payment — 20¢
- Milo — \$2.13 hundredweight
- Soybeans — \$4.49 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.34
- Loan deficiency payment — 58¢
- Millet — \$5.00 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$8.10 cwt.
- Oil new crop — \$6.80 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — \$1.96
- Confection current — no bid
- Pinto beans — \$16 (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.

## FBI finds no clues in hair

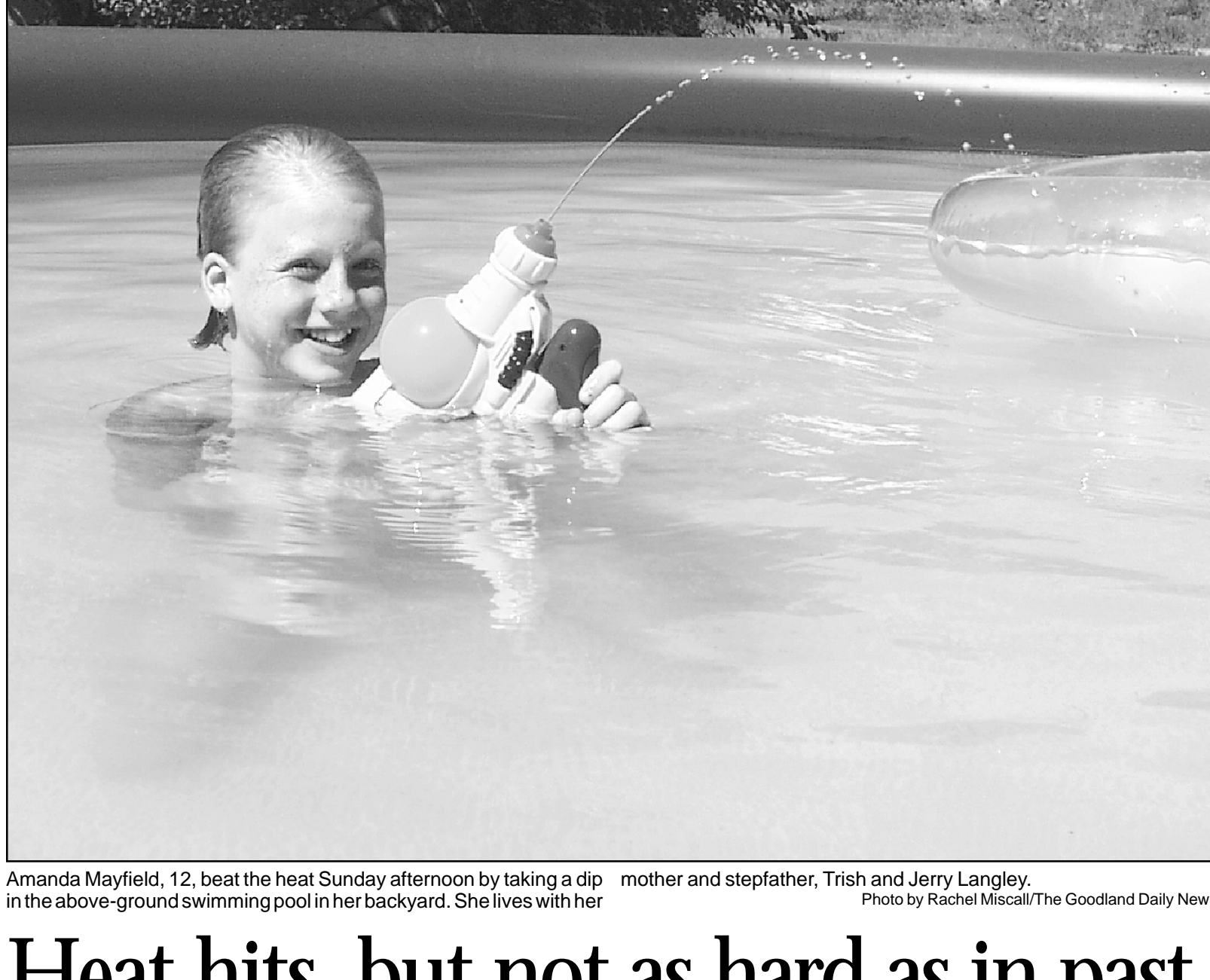
TOPEKA — Authorities in Costa Rica say they will continue to press forward in the case of Shannon Martin, after evidence tested by the FBI yielded nothing.

The FBI examined last week hair found clutched in Martin's hand, concluding that it does not match samples taken from five suspects, Martin's mother said Friday.

The samples were examined this week at the FBI crime lab in Washington to determine if there was a possible match before a more complicated DNA test was performed, said Jeanette Stauffer of Topeka.

Martin, 23, was killed May 13 in Golfito, Costa Rica, where she was completing biological research a few days before she was scheduled to graduate from Kansas.

No arrests have been made, but suspects had been questioned.



Amanda Mayfield, 12, beat the heat Sunday afternoon by taking a dip in the above-ground swimming pool in her backyard. She lives with her mother and stepfather, Trish and Jerry Langley.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

# Heat hits, but not as hard as in past

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

So far, weathermen say, it has been a hot July in Goodland, but no more so than last July, and the high temperatures — though climbing above 100-degrees this weekend — haven't broken any records or made anyone sick.

And while the worst of the heat wave may be over for now, it's still going to be hot this week.

In Goodland, temperatures have been above 90 everyday since Friday, June 22, with highs reaching 102 on Friday and 100 on Saturday. The National Weather Service office here

says temperatures should stay in the middle to lower 90s for the rest of the week. A chance for rain in the early part of the week could cool things a bit, but dry weather is forecast for the weekend.

It's hot, but not as hot as it has been in other areas or as it was in past summers.

Mike Skipper, a meteorologist at the weather office here, said temperatures in McCook, Neb., north of Oberlin, jumped to 111 degrees on Friday and 109 on Saturday, breaking records in that city. Though high, he said, the temperatures in Goodland haven't

broken any records. Skipper said the average temperature so far this month is 80.4 degrees, about 3 degrees lower than the average temperature in July 1934, the warmest month ever recorded in Goodland. However, he said, temperatures have been well above normal.

Skipper said the average temperature for July in Goodland is 75.6 degrees, which is 4.8 degrees lower than what's been recorded so far this month and 7.4 degrees lower than the hottest July on record. If the weather pattern stays the same, he said, this July could

be ranked as the sixth hottest on record, tying with July 1955. Of course, he said, that's not likely to happen. Last July's temperatures weren't record breakers either, but compared to this July, they were higher in the early part of the month.

Skipper said temperatures climbed above 100 degrees four times in the first nine days of July 2000, but only twice so far this month. Last July, he said, temperatures hit 100 degrees five times, and typically Goodland sees six days each year where tem-

See HEAT, Page 4

# Oil boom spurs growth in southwest

COLDWATER (AP) — Next to the lake on the outskirts of this southwest Kansas town, an oil well pumps about 350 barrels of high-quality crude a day.

Swimmers can see it. Nearby residents can hear its continual hum. And Coldwater Mayor Roy Hoffman hears the complaints.

But Hoffman insists the energy industry is giving much more than it takes.

"That's the price you pay to get a 350-barrel-a-day well," he said.

The lakeside well is one of five planned on city property this year, and Hoffman projects direct royalty payments to the city of \$1 million by the end of the year. The city's annual budget is \$2 million.

A classic oil boom is building up

Coldwater — population 800 — located in Comanche County, which boasts 2,000 people and 40,000 cattle within its boundaries. Several strikes in 1998 have made Comanche County and Coldwater the epicenter of Kansas drilling.

So far this year, Comanche County leads the state in drilling permits for new locations.

The city has not spent any of the royalty money, even though its general fund has increased from \$50,000 to almost a quarter of a million dollars during the past six months. It's working on a plan to prioritize what civic improvements it wants to make with the money.

"We need to repair the community swimming pool," Hoffman said.

"We're looking at a five-year project to

upgrade the water system. But so far, we haven't spent it. We haven't spent nothing."

The city wants to spend the money wisely, Hoffman said, because the boom won't last forever. Technology and intense drilling are expected to bring good times to an end.

Rob Patton, head of Lippizzan Petroleum Group, has found several successful wells in the county using 3-D seismic exploration. The newer, computer-aided imaging technique is used in deciding if an area looks promising for drilling.

Since the first finds in 1998, Comanche County has been besieged by lease-seekers, Patton said. Once a lease is secured, many potential drillers will use 3-D seismic exploration to

decide where to drill. The technique has given Lippizzan better than a 60-percent drilling success rate in the past three years — historically a very high percentage.

"We've gone into townships that were pretty much graveyards" in past searches, he said. "We went back using 3-D and found some good wells."

The better technology makes drilling more profitable, but it has one drawback: If someone using 3-D seismic decides an area isn't productive, the odds of someone else coming in to look for more oil and gas are low. So when Comanche exploration is over, it's over.

Besides the direct economic impact on the city from oil and gas, the city is also trying to assess other impacts such as extra taxes and more jobs.

# County may close dirt road

As the last item on their agenda Tuesday, the Sherman County commissioners will travel to Road 21 between road 66 and 67 to help them decide whether the mile of road should be closed.

The City of Goodland has asked that the road, on the east edge of the airport and the county transfer station, be closed. It is little more than a two-track dirt path.

Following the field trip, the commissioners may approve the request to close the road unless they find some compelling reason it should not be closed.

Before taking to the road, the commissioners will consider appointment of three members of the hospital board. They have eight applications for the three positions, and were expected to talk to the people individually over the past week.

The commissioners will receive the annual budget request from the Sherman County Extension Board, and meet with Good Samaritan Center board members to get an update and review possible concerns.

The commissioners will be meeting at 8 a.m. Tuesday in the jury room on the second floor of the Sherman County Courthouse. The next regular county commission meeting will be 8 a.m. Tuesday, July 17.

# Leader says races not equal

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — NAACP president Kweisi Mfume invoked memories of the civil rights group's founding in 1909 as he asked its members today to recommit themselves to fighting for racial equality.

"We found a way to help a nation divided against itself through the confusion and turbulence of the 1960s," Mfume said in his keynote address to the NAACP's 92nd annual convention.

"It is now a matter of having still yet a long way to go."

Speaking to about 4,800 people at a packed convention center hall, Mfume mentioned a lengthy list of issues on which he wants to see progress.

They include making health care affordable to everyone, cleaning up the environment, reforming the electoral system, ending the AIDS epidemic, removing the Confederate flag from public places and stopping hate crimes.

Mfume said Sunday that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People also is preparing to sue the paint industry in an effort to hold it accountable for health problems linked to lead in paint.

He didn't say which companies would be sued and made no mention of

See RACISM, Page 4

# Look inside!

Look inside today's Goodland Daily News for your first issue of American Profile magazine.

American Profile is a slick, four-color publication similar to the "Sunday" supplements carried by many city newspapers. But while it may look a lot like USA Weekend or Parade, American Profile celebrates small-town America. It's content is aimed at a rural audience, and it's designed to be part of small, community newspapers.

We think you'll like this new feature, which will be in every Monday's Goodland Daily except for copies mailed out of the area. First National Bank is sponsoring the magazine here and across northwest Kansas.



Jerry Dean, of the Lockwood Co. of Atchison, placed pages from a Sherman County record book so it could be microfilmed.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Daily News

# Officials' space doubles as microfilming room

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Meetings in the Sherman County commissioner room have had limited seating over the past several weeks as the room is doing double duty for the microfilming of the historic county records.

The microfilm project will provide the county with copies of its oldest records, from pioneer-era commissioner minutes to the historic deed and plat records from the register of deeds' office. There are over 200 books being microfilmed from the register's office, and several from the assessor's office.

Jerry Dean and Jerry Larson of Lockwood Co. of Atchison expect to complete the work by the end of July.

Using only two microfilm machines, they can do about two books each a day.

Dean said each roll of microfilm holds about two of the books, which average 600 pages. They are sent to Atchison for developing and checked for quality.

The project will cost Sherman County about \$30,000.

Dean said he has been doing microfilming for seven years while Larson has done it for about 4 1/2 years.

Dean said he has microfilmed records in Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Colorado.

He said he finds it interesting, and he gets to tour around the area when he is not busy turning pages and pressing the shutter. He said he enjoyed microfilming records last year in Colorado Springs and Boulder, Colo.

In Colorado Springs, he visited the Seven Falls, Manitou and took the incline railway to the top of Pikes Peak.