

**weather report**

**82°**  
at noon



**Today**

• Sunset, 8:05 p.m.

**Tomorrow**

• Sunrise, 5:43 a.m.  
• Sunset, 8:04 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil Temperature 75 degrees
- Humidity 60 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds variable at 6 mph
- Barometer 30.08 inches and falling
- Record High 104° (1931)
- Record Low 50° (1994)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High 84°  
Low 65°  
Precipitation 0.06 inch

**Northwest Kansas Forecast**

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, low 60-65, light wind. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high 90, low 65, south wind 15-25 mph.

**Extended Forecast**

Sunday through Tuesday: dry, high 90s, low 60s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$2.67 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.55
- Corn — \$2.05 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.90
- Loan deficiency payment — 9¢
- Milo — \$3.30 hundredweight
- Soybeans — \$4.72 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.47
- Loan deficiency payment — 45¢
- Millet — \$5.00 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$8.35 cwt.
- Oil new crop — \$7.10 cwt.
- Loan deficiency prmt. — \$1.32
- 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.

**Bush pushes patients bill**

WASHINGTON — Intensifying his lobbying, President Bush today discussed an impasse over patients' rights legislation with a key Republican lawmaker as the White House signaled its willingness to compromise.

"There's room for flexibility on both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue," said White House spokesman Ari Fleischer, referring to the street that connects the Capitol to the White House.

Earlier in the day, Bush talked by telephone with Rep. Charles Norwood, R-Ga., who is pushing a version of patients' rights legislation that the president has opposed.

Despite Bush's efforts, Republican moderates may force GOP leaders to compromise on patient lawsuits when the House takes up patients' rights legislation next week.

## Air ambulance to come here

By Reagan Smith

The Goodland Daily News

Eagle Med is busy making plans to move a turbo prop King Airplane to Goodland after the Goodland Regional Medical Center board voted to bring the company here on Monday.

The Wichita-based company accepted the board's offer this week, saying it will start looking for employees in this area right away.

Eagle Med has airplanes based in Wichita, Hays, Garden City and Dodge City. While a he-

licopter only provides direct transport from rural hospitals to trauma centers such as Wesley Medical Center and Via Christi in Wichita, the turbo-prop airplanes can fly throughout the U.S. Eagle Med flew 1,300 missions last year and will fly about 2,000 in 2001.

The Goodland-based aircraft will be a community aircraft covering Colby, St. Francis, Atwood, Oberlin, Oakley, and eastern Colorado. Flying at 240 miles per hour, the plane will provide life-saving services for people in northwest Kansas.

"This is something that will benefit not only Goodland but surrounding areas as well," said Jay Jolly, administrator at the Goodland Regional Medical Center. He said the aircraft will almost cut in half the time it takes to get critically-injured people the help and care that they need.

Jolly said the length of time it takes to get that care is literally a matter of life and death. He added the service will provide more people with critical care skills, and thus has the benefit of improving overall care given here.

On August 1, Eagle Med will begin interviews for hiring local people from Goodland, Colby and other areas, to fill the crew positions. The company has already received some applications. Each flight has a crew consisting of one pilot, one nurse and one paramedic.

Iva Ballard, chief executive officer and co-owner of Eagle Med, said the company is looking for at least one or two part-time pilots from

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### Back stage



Hazen Deeds, 9, maneuvered his puppet "the ring master" on Wednesday during a puppet show at the Carnegie Arts Center. Jade Herl (left), 8, reviewed her lines for her puppet "Jaderator." It was the final show for the puppet class, which the art center held as part of its summer art institute. Carol and Joslin Topliff put on the class and the students put on a show for friends and family.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Daily News

## Recent rains help fall crops

### Weeds, bugs pose few problems

By Reagan Smith

The Goodland Daily News

The fall crops in Sherman County were starting to look a little stressed from dry conditions early in the growing season, but crop specialists say recent rains have helped turn things around for the maturing plants.

Fall crops here include corn, milo, sunflowers and millet, and are harvested in early to mid-September.

Tom Stewart, operations manager at Mueller Grain, and Dean Graber, a self-employed crop consultant, agreed that moisture is always a big factor in the health of the crops. They said it's important that the rain come in the right amount, at the right time.

Graber said the crops were showing signs of heat stress early on, but the rains lately have helped a great deal. Stewart said the rain may have come too late for some of the crops planted early, but it came just in time for most of them.

Thunderstorms this month have brought some hail, but, Graber said, from what he's seen there hasn't been a lot of damage done.

"There has been a little leaf damage and bruising of the stalks," Graber said, referring to the corn crop, "which might affect overall yields, but nothing wiped out or a total loss."

Weeds are another constant concern in raising crops.

Stewart said in his opinion the weed control early on was "less than desirable." Graber agreed, saying dry weather at the beginning of the growing season caused some problems of keeping weeds under control, but the fields are looking better now.

Insects are a problem everywhere, but more of a concern to farmers and their crops. This year seems to be no different. Both Stewart and Graber agreed that because of the dry weather, there was pretty heavy insect pressure early.

Graber said farmers had some worm problems early in the season and now the spider mites are beginning to move up the stalks as the corn begins to silk and tassle.

"But I haven't had to recommend spraying yet," he said.

Both said the progress of the crops is positive and even a little ahead of schedule, and more moisture so far this year has been very beneficial to the growth and maturing of the crops. Farmers had to deal with drought-like conditions last year.

Graber said the corn is maturing well, with about half of the corn crop in the county already silking and tasseling.

Of course, he said, all this rain and good growing conditions may have an affect on the prices.

"This is a weather driven market," Stewart said. "What that means is if it rains, somewhere the prices go down, if it doesn't the prices go up."

The price of corn as of Wednesday, July 26, was \$1.91 per bushel, according to a price sheet from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency.

"The prices right now are not real great, but it is all hinged on the weather and they will change a lot between now and harvest time."

Graber said at this point there is good potential for good yields if the rain keeps up and there is no heavy hail.

## Hoof and Mouth disease not big concern at fair

By Reagan Smith

The Goodland Daily News

While Hoof and Mouth disease is still causing problems in the United Kingdom and the U.S. government is taking steps to make sure animals here aren't infected, it's not a big concern in Sherman County as the annual fair approaches.

Hoof and Mouth, also called Foot and Mouth, is a highly communicable viral disease that ef-

fects cloven-hoofed animals such as goats, pigs, sheep and cattle. It is not a danger to humans, but it can be spread from country to country on people's clothing and footwear.

It was eradicated from the U.S. in 1929, but a recent outbreak in the United Kingdom, which led to the slaughter of over 4 million animals there, has once again made it a concern in the U.S.

Government officials have set guidelines on a

national level, including asking people at airports, as they get of international flights, where they have been and if they visited any farms.

An Associated Press article said Jerry Redding, with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, said farm-oriented exchange trips between the U.S. and U.K. have been canceled.

The disease is forcing states to impose extra guidelines at some fairs across the nation. New

York Department of Agriculture and Markets, for example, issued guidelines to be posted at fairgrounds.

Nebraska agriculture officials are considering testing animals before allowing them on fairgrounds; Wyoming rodeo and fair organizers have asked foreign visitors to keep their distance

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## Blue, yellow 'Van Cow' may be coming to city

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

It's a big, blue cow covered in bright yellow sunflowers and a Goodland business owner thinks it would fit right in here.

Larry Minner, owner of Western Insurance Agency in Goodland, said when he spotted the "Van Cow" grazing on the streets of Kansas City, he immediately thought of Goodland.

And why wouldn't he? There are lots of cows here, though most of them are black or brown, and a giant replica of a Vincent van Gogh sunflower painting decorates a lot in south Goodland.

"It fits," Minner said. He said he plans to bid on the cow when it's auctioned in October. If he gets it, he said, he won't send it to the

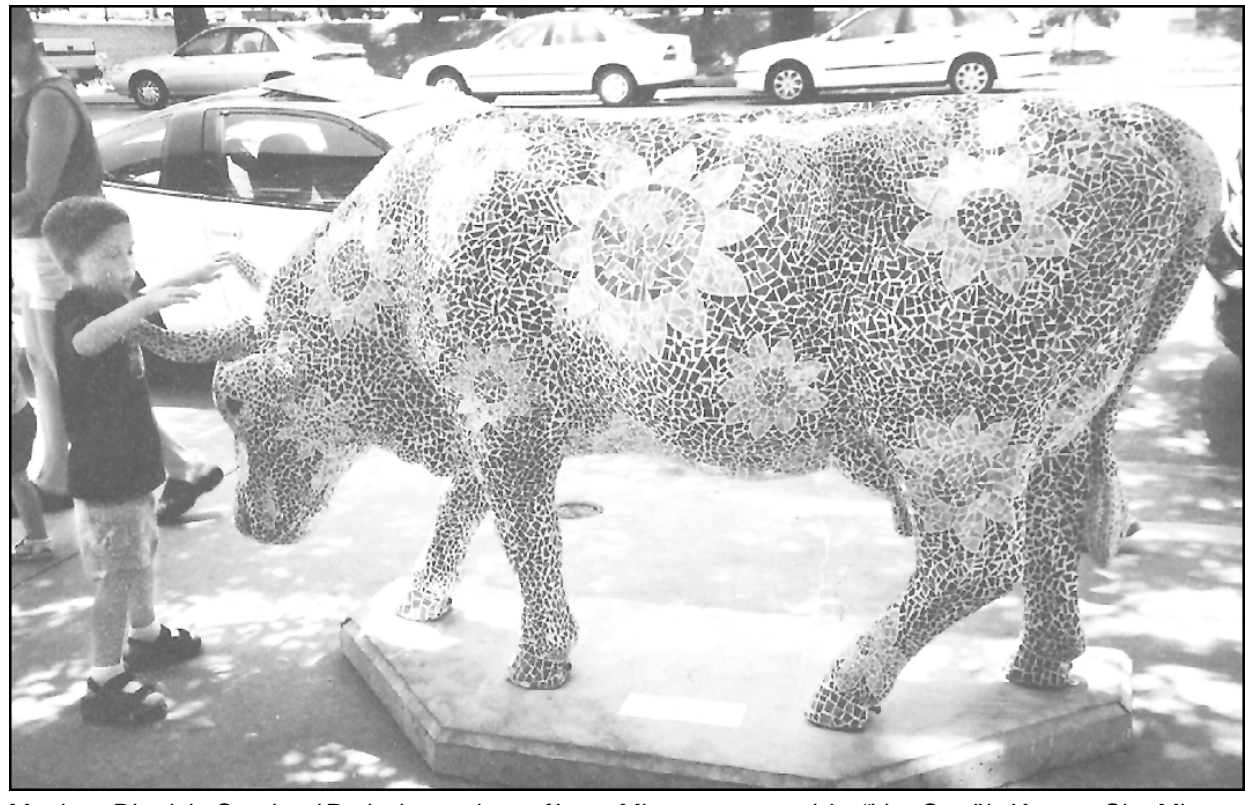
pasture or the butcher, he'll give it to the city to place near the sunflower painting.

You couldn't get a good cut of beef off the cow, anyway.

The life-sized bovine is actually a fiberglass sculpture designed by acclaimed artist Pascal Knapp for CowParade, an organization that brings the cows to cities across the country and world.

The organization picks a city and then finds sponsors and artists there that want to participate in the cow parade. Minner said sponsors pay about \$5,000 for each cow and the artists have two weeks to decorate the animal.

Artists at Blue Valley North High School near Kansas City, one of two



Matthew Dietrich, Overland Park, the nephew of Larry Minner, surveyed the "Van Cow" in Kansas City. Minner, a Goodland business owner, is thinking about buying the piece of art for Goodland. Photo provided by Larry Minner

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