


weather report

81°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:15 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:19 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:13 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 79 degrees

• Humidity 42 percent

• Sky partly cloudy

• Winds south 19

• Barometer 30.09 inches and steady

• Record High 104° (1931)

• Record Low 40° (1961)

Last 24 Hours*

High 91°

Low 52°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, chance of thunderstorms, low 60s, wind south 20. Tomorrow: partly sunny, breezy, chance of thunderstorms, high 90-95, low 60s.

Extended Forecast


Friday and Saturday: chance of thunderstorms, high 70s, lows 50s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.61 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.56

Corn — \$2.04 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.93

Loan deficiency payment — 6¢

Milo — \$3.19 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.28 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.29

Loan deficiency payment — 63¢

Millet — \$3.75 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$7.70 cwt.

Oil new crop — \$7.05

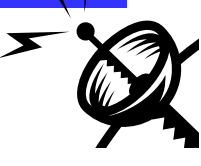
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$1.45

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.

Rain brings firemen relief

WEST GLACIER, Mont. — Firefighters battling a wildfire that burned into Glacier National Park got their first real hint of relief today: rain.

But fire bosses warned that the early morning showers were not enough to drown flames that have so far burned 64,000 acres in northwestern Montana, including more than 14,000 acres in the park.

Still, the rain and cooler temperatures were a welcome change to the more than 1,000 firefighters whose efforts to beat back the flames have been hampered by hot, dry weather and strong winds.

On Labor Day, fire bosses yanked all firefighters off the lines and grounded their air attack because of fears about high winds.

The blaze, which began outside the park on Aug. 14, is still considered only about 5 percent contained.

Cherry section open

City solves problem that plagued town for 60 years

By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Daily News

A problem that plagued Goodland for 60 years was put to rest when the new section of Cherry Avenue opened following a ribbon-cutting featuring state, county and city leaders..

City Manager Ron Pickman thanked the state Department of Transportation for the money for the project, and the businesses along Cherry and the people of Goodland for putting up with the inconvenience caused by the project.

Pickman and Ron Harding, executive director of the Goodland Chamber of Commerce, both expressed relief at the ceremony Friday that the avenue is open to traffic and praised the progress Goodland has made in ending a long-term problem.

Following talks, Mayor Tom Rohr and City Commissioner Curtis Hurd cut the ribbon. The crowd on hand then

got into vehicles for a parade down Cherry, stopping at Steever Park for a breakfast of coffee and doughnuts hosted by the Goodland Ambassadors. The parade was led a police escort and included three convertibles, the Topside Tour bus, a school bus, a fire truck and other vehicles.

State Rep. Jim Morrison, a Republican from Colby; State Sen. Stan Clark, a Republican from Oakley; Commissioner Dean Blume; Darren Neufeld, the engineer who designed the new street; Donna Price, assistant director of the Convention and Visitors Bureau; and Jona Neufeld's class of fifth and sixth grade students were on hand for the event.

The old wye in Cherry had been unpopular, Pickman said, and had caused discussions over the past 60 years to

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State Rep. Jim Morrison rode on the back of a convertible in the parade down Cherry Avenue after the ribbon-cutting for the new section of the street.
Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Daily News

Street closure causes businesses big loss in revenue

By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Daily News

Businesses on Cherry Avenue south of the tracks have been nearly inaccessible, suffering a severe loss of revenue as construction on Cherry Avenue forced road closings that finally ended with the opening of the new street Friday morning.

Pizza Hut initially lost well over half of its sales, said Sherrie Rutherford, assistant manager for the restaurant, but recovered some when signs were posted making the detour route more clear.

The restaurant had an increase this weekend with the avenue open, Rutherford said, but business is not quite back to normal. Their front entrance is not open yet, she said, forcing customers to go through the parking lot at Dollar General to get to Pizza Hut.

"It will be really nice when the whole project is done," she said.

Dollar General has lost about 65 percent of its sales during the construction, General Manager Dean Terry said, and has had a hard time paying regular expenses such as utilities and payroll.

The Labor Day weekend was excellent, he said, with sales on Saturday being within \$40 of last year's Sept. 1. Sales are almost back to normal, Terry said, and will be better when the front entrance to the parking lot is open.

"I will be glad when the whole project is done," he said, "and we can get our volume back up where we can meet our budget."

The construction and losses incurred by the business caused rumors to circulate that the store is closing, Terry said, and that is not true.

Dollar General has 5,000 stores nationwide and

is growing all the time, he said, and he is putting more and more merchandise into the store in Goodland. The store will also be open for more hours now than before the construction, though.

"I would like to thank the customers who made the extra effort," he said, "to come on Eustis to the store during construction."

Rich Miller, owner of Grass Roots, said he is conflicted about the project, agreeing that it is good for the city but angry at the losses his busi-

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County makes job, promotes manager

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Daily News

County commissioners Friday created the position of manager of public works and promoted road superintendent Curt Way to the job, saying he already was handling two jobs for the county.

Way has been road and bridge supervisor as well as being the landfill supervisor for over two years. The commissioners said they felt that with the two jobs, there should be a title and salary to match the duties.

Commissioner Chuck Frankenfeld made the motion to create the position with a salary range of \$35,000 to \$55,000. Commissioner Mitch Tiede seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with Commissioner Kevin Rasure voting in favor.

Tiede then made a motion that half of the salary for the position come from the road and bridge budget and the other half come from the solid waste budget. Rasure seconded the motion and it also

passed unanimously.

Rasure then made a motion to increase the pay of Road Foreman Butch Vandiver by \$1 per hour, Shop Foreman Steve Goodman by 50 cents per hour and set the salary for Way at \$46,000, up from \$36,000, all effective as of Sept. 1. Frankenfeld seconded the motion, and it also passed unanimously.

Way got congratulations on the change in title, and he said the new job looked like quite a challenge.

"I have been doing both jobs for quite a while," Way said. "I'm spending a lot of my time on the new landfill."

The word administrator never came up at the meeting. The county has been without an administrator for nearly three years, though commissioners interviewed for the job earlier this year. With the new position for Way, the job may go unfilled, though commissioners voted to create the job of administrator last year. At present, there is no

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Mexican president asks for agreement this year

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a surprise move, Mexican President Vicente Fox opened a state visit today by challenging President Bush to work out a bilateral migration agreement before the end of year.

Joined by Bush on the White House South Lawn, Fox said he envisions an agreement that will allow him and Bush, before the end of their respective terms in office, "to make sure that there are no Mexicans who have not entered this country legally in the United States and that those Mexicans who have come into the country do so with the proper documents."

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said he did not know what Fox meant by setting a year-end goal for an agreement. He said he hoped to find out in the meetings between U.S. and Mexican officials, which were being

held after the welcoming ceremony.

Mexican embassy officials said they were equally puzzled by Fox's proposal.

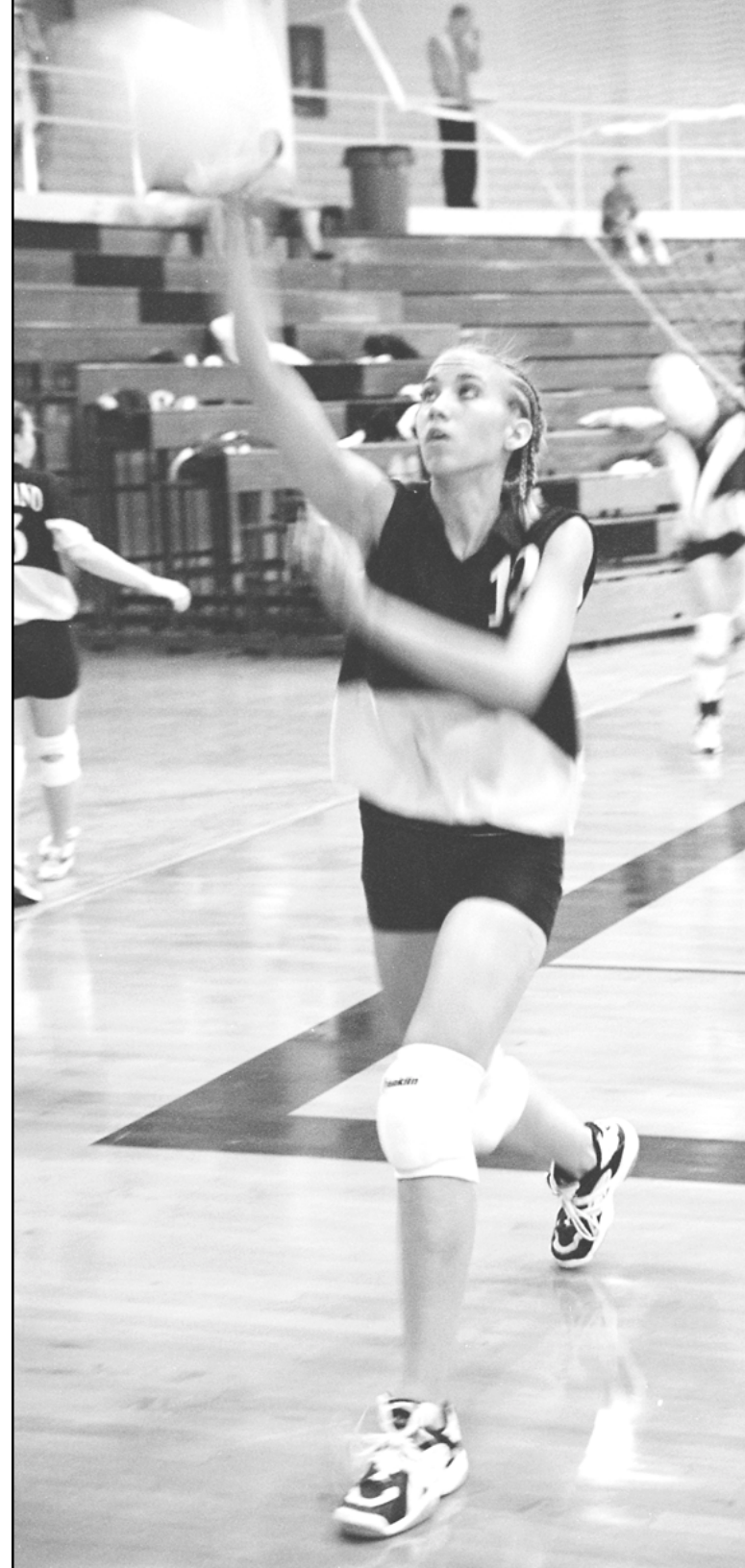
Bush, asked later during a photo session whether Fox's timetable was too ambitious, pretended not to understand the question and joked in Spanish, "I can't hear."

Fox appeared to be calling for an agreement that would be ready for consideration by the respective legislatures of the two countries before the end of the year. But U.S. officials have said that details such as timetables and the numbers of Mexicans who would benefit under an agreement have not yet been broached.

Later, Attorney General John Ashcroft said he could not predict

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Ready to win?



Cowgirl Tess Schultz warmed up before the varsity volleyball team played Garden City at a quad match Tuesday night. The Cowgirls beat all three teams they faced, starting the season undefeated again. See picture and stories on Page 8.

Photo by Rachel Miscal/The Goodland Daily News

Washtub says when to water

TIFTON, Ga. (AP) — Farmers traditionally relied on gut instinct and experience to decide when to water crops. Over the years, many have turned to technology to help them keep up with field conditions.

This summer, a few south Georgia farmers are going decidedly low-tech — a toilet float bobbing in a wash tub tells them when it is time to water their crops.

The UGA EASY Pan Irrigation Scheduler, a moisture indicator, is the result of about 10 years of research by two University of Georgia agricultural engineers.

The wash tub collects water from rain and irrigation and the float moves up and down as the water level changes. A rod connected to the float moves a pointer across a metal backboard with lines. When the pointer aligns with the red line, it's time to irrigate.

"It's just like the gas gauge in a car," said Kerry Harrison, one of the developers. Twenty of the unimposing units are already in the fields in Georgia and its inventors believe it could be used in other Southern states.

While perfecting EASY Pan, the two engineers and some of their colleagues had to consider many factors, such as the water-holding capacity of soils, the evaporation rates for various crops and the water needs of crops such as peanuts and cotton.

The top of the wash tub is covered with screen wire to compensate for differing evaporation rates. The density of the screen can speed up or slow evaporation. For peanuts, they use chicken wire; for cotton, window screen.

"A farmer might be embarrassed to put it in the field for the first time, but then he will realize, 'Hey, this is helping me to keep track of the water needs of the crop,'" said co-developer Dan Thomas.

About half of Georgia's cropland — 1.5 million acres — is irrigated and certain high-value crops such as vegetables and tobacco are totally irrigated.

Irrigation is especially important with the current low commodity prices.