

weather report

55°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:10 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:20 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:54 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 66 degrees
- Humidity 77 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds north northwest 25-35
- Barometer 29.80 inches and rising
- Record High 102° (1971)
- Record Low 39° (1956)

Last 24 Hours*

High 94°
Low 50°
Precipitation .32 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: cloudy, 30 percent chance thunderstorms, low 45-50, winds north 10-15. Tomorrow: cloudy, 40 percent chance thunderstorms, high 60-65, low 40s.

Extended Forecast

Sunday and Monday: sunny, warmer, high mid 70s, low 40s.

(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 — \$2.55
Corn — \$2.02 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.88
Loan deficiency payment — 11¢
Milo — \$3.15 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.21 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.17
Loan deficiency payment — 75¢
Millet — \$3.50 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$7.45 cwt.
Oil new crop — \$6.95 markets
Loan deficiency prmt. — \$1.71
Confection current — no bid
Pinto beans — \$20 (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.

Some angered by Bush move

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration's decision to drop efforts to break up Microsoft Corp. sparked accusations that the White House was reluctant to pursue legal actions against big corporations that earned praise from those who believe the antitrust lawsuit should be resolved quickly.

Critics of the decision, which the Justice Department announced Thursday, pointed to a similar Bush administration move: the Justice Department's determination in June that it should seek to settle a long-simmering civil lawsuit against the tobacco industry brought by the Clinton administration.

In both cases, the White House has altered course in Clinton-era suits against large corporations, reflecting the new administration's philosophy that lawsuits are not the best to resolve disputes.

Low yields, prices shaping harvest

Some crops already coming in

By Reagan Smith

The Goodland Daily News

Farmers are watching the weather, cleaning harvesting equipment, hiring extra help, and of course, watching market prices as summer turns to fall and harvest begins.

All summer, they have been tending fields of corn, milo, pinto beans, sunflowers and millet. Now it is almost time to cash in.

Tom Stewart, operations manager at Mueller Grain, said there is no official start to harvest season. Millet is coming in now and sunflowers are beginning to come in.

"But we should see harvest in full swing in the next few weeks," he said.

Harvest of high moisture corn will begin any time, he said, but it will probably be another month until dryland corn harvest begins.

Marvin Duell, who has a farm three miles north of Ruleton, said he will probably pick his 120 acres of pinto beans next week if it doesn't rain, and will begin harvest of 500 acres of irrigated corn the first of October.

Stewart said there has been quite a bit of drought stress and yields are down. Ed Cook general manager of Collingwood Grain, agreed, saying that

dryland corn yield is definitely down.

"There has been days where I had to rearrange my schedule due to muddy fields," said Dean Graber, a self-employed crop consultant, "but this is the first year since I can remember I haven't had to call off work due to rain."

Graber also said that even though a rain now wouldn't necessarily benefit the crops much, it would definitely soften the ground and make harvesting easier.

Irrigated crops, however, are looking about average. Duell said his corn has produced an about average yield.

In addition to being hurt by low yields, farmers are disappointed by the prices this year, which, they say, are even lower than last year. Wednesday's market showed corn was at \$2.04 per bushel, which is down compared to the day before but up 3 cents from this time last week. However, prices are actually the same and even a little higher compared to last year. At this time last year corn was at or around \$1.80. Wheat last year and this year are about the same at or around \$2.59.

"But," Stewart said, "they seem to be going down every day. People start

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This sunflower in a field on west Eighth, like many in Sherman County, was in full bloom and ready for harvest. Harvest should be in full swing in the next few weeks. Photo by Reagan Smith/The Goodland Daily News

Officers recover stolen car

Jeep fugitives stole is found in Utah

By Patty Decker

Free Press Editor

Authorities are still tracking a couple who eluded police in Thomas County over one month ago during a high-speed chase that involved accosting a teen-age girl at knife point and stealing a car here and in Sheridan County.

The most recent break came when the 1991 Jeep Cherokee that was stolen in Hoxie was recently found in Tremonton, Utah, said Thomas County Sheriff's Investigator C.D. Hopper.

Following the recovery of the Jeep on Thursday, Aug. 23, he said, the couple is believed to have stolen another car parked about 100 yards away from where the Jeep was found in Utah.

Authorities in Tremonton, which is in northern Utah, called Sheridan County Sheriff Jim Johnson to notify him and, as of today, the Jeep is still in Utah.

"When the police in Tremonton are done with their investigation," Johnson said Thursday, "the owners of the Jeep will then have to get to Utah and get their car back."

"Less than one week after police found the Jeep," Hopper said, "we got another call — this time from the Ogden Police Department, about 100 miles south, saying they had recovered the car stolen in Tremonton."

Hopper wouldn't talk about specific details on the two newest stolen vehicles, but did say he was fairly sure the thefts were linked to the same two people.

"We are still trying to find out if any other cars were stolen in the Ogden area after police found the other car from Tremonton on Monday, Aug. 27," Hopper said, adding he hoped to hear something back from the Ogden authorities Thursday or today.

During the past few weeks, both people have been identified from fingerprints left on the first stolen vehicle involved in the high-speed chase, a 1993 green Mazda pickup.

The man, Kristopher Aaron Lambert, 21, of Mississippi, is described as white, 5'11" tall and 150 pounds. His companion, Tina Janice Pearce, 23, also from Mississippi, is white, 5'6" tall with brown hair and a noticeably freckled face.

Hopper said the lead agency in the investigation is the Thomas County

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Booming business



Jamie Gittinger took a check from a customer as she served as cashier in her parents' store, Bob's Meat Market, Thursday after school. She also marked prices on some of the items sold in the store and stocked shelves. Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Daily News

Business fills some demand of grocery

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

While most Goodland residents say they would like to have another grocery in town, one downtown business owner is benefiting from there only being one grocery in the city.

Bob Gittinger, owner of Bob's Meat Block, 1614 Main Ave., is enjoying a booming business as he is offering some items customers would find at a bigger grocery.

Also, his business is downtown, and more accessible to people who don't want to drive out to the highway to shop.

While he says his business is doing well, Gittinger adds that he isn't deliberately competing with other businesses in town.

He said he bought the shop, which used to be called Johnnie's Meat Block, last June and has operated the business for over a year.

His sales for August were up almost 33 percent from last year, he said, despite his having closed the store for a week to go on vacation. One reason for this, Gittinger said, is that he has been adding more and more items to his inventory all the time.

Along with meat, he said, he now sells milk, bread, spaghetti and sauce, ketchup, soda pop and several other items. He said he would like to add a few more items if he can find suppliers to deliver to him at a reasonable price.

Jubilee Foods, on the corner of Broadway and 11th, closed about two

years ago, leaving Wal-Mart Supercenter, on K-27 north of I-70, the only place to buy groceries. A poll showed most people in Goodland would like another grocery downtown, and for many Bob's is closer than Wal-Mart.

Gittinger said the store is busy most of the time, but he isn't trying to compete with other businesses. If people want to come in, he said, it's great, but he hasn't tried to take business away from anyone.

The meat block is in an old building that used to be a drug store many years ago, he said, and is decorated with antiques that were there when he bought it. A brass clock hangs on the south wall and an old scale that weighs people for a penny sits on the east side

next to the front door. An old gas pump, a gumball machine and several old tins also adorn the store.

Like many stores that operated in the time the antiques were the latest technology, the meat block is a family-owned and operated business. Gittinger and his wife, Catina, own it and have their seven-year-old daughter Jamie as a helper, stocking shelves and running the cash register.

The Gittinger's nephew, Tim Gittinger, cuts meat, and Bob Gittinger said the couple also receives help from Hank Elliott, when he is not golfing.

The meat block features fresh cuts of steak, pork chops and hamburger. The hamburger sells really well along with the patties, Gittinger said, and the deli meats.