

weather report

40°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 6:25 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:48 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:23 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 68 degrees

• Humidity 79 percent

• Sky cloudy

• Winds north 10

• Barometer 30.32 inches and falling

• Record High 95° (1947)

• Record Low 23° (1932)

Last 24 Hours*

High 63°

Low 40°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: clear, low 30s, wind southwest 10. Tomorrow: sunny, high upper 60s, low 40s, wind south 15.

Extended Forecast

Sunday and Monday: partly sunny, high 70s, low upper 30s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.49 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.44

Loan deficiency payment — 1¢

Corn — \$1.97 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.78

Loan deficiency payment — 21¢

Milo — \$1.68 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$3.83 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.83

Loan deficiency payment — 1.09¢

Millet — \$3.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$7.05 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$2.54

Confection current — \$13/\$6 cwt.

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.

Killings bend cease-fire deal

HEBRON, West Bank — Israeli troops backed by tanks seized two Palestinian neighborhoods in the divided West Bank city of Hebron today, killing five Palestinians and marking the virtual end of a cease-fire both sides agreed to last month.

The move came hours after Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon responded angrily to a string of Palestinian attacks.

In defiant words aimed at the United States, which has been pushing for a cease-fire as it tries to win Muslim support, Sharon said: “Do not try to placate the Arabs at Israel’s expense. We are not Czechoslovakia.”

It was a reference to a 1938 decision by Britain and France to allow Nazi Germany to take over part of the eastern European country in exchange for a promise of peace that was quickly broken.

Couple raises cash to pay for heart

City gives money for boy’s surgery

By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Daily News

A 12-year-old Goodland boy has endured four heart operations, the last an open-heart procedure on July 17, for which jars have been placed in businesses around town to collect money.

Dustin Zelfer had his second open-heart surgery this summer to replace a valve that was put in when he was 2 and to close a hole between his

heart’s ventricles.

The worst part of this surgery, said his mother Diane, was that the doctors had to go through the scar tissue left by his previous surgery. The surgeon told her it would be dangerous, she said, because when they have to break his sternum again and go through the scar tissue, if one thing was cut wrong, Dustin would not survive.

She was worried throughout the six-hour surgery, but the staff at the Children’s Hospital in Denver was helpful, letting her know when the surgeon was through the sternum and scar tissue and updating her every hour

Dustin Zelfer

on how the work was going.

Dustin hasn’t looked sick since his first open-heart surgery, his mother said, and has been very energetic since his most recent surgery. He has recovered very well.

He was born with all of his organs opposite of how they are in most people, his mother said, a valve for one of the ventricles in his heart was missing and a valve that was supposed to close didn’t.

The left side of the heart is supposed to pump blood to the body, she said, but in Dustin his right side does this work. His aorta (the main artery leading out of the heart) is set on the wrong side, she said, and muscles between his heart’s chambers are missing.

He has undergone two closed-heart surgeries and two open-heart surgeries, the first when he was just 6 days old. Dustin was blue as a baby, his mother said, because his heart wasn’t getting enough oxygen to his body. This led to the first operation, she said, to put a shunt in his heart.

He had seizures following the surgery, she said, so she wasn’t able to take him home from the hospital until he was 3 weeks old. He was doing well, she said, until he got a respiratory virus that put him back in the hospital. The virus weakened his immune system, Diane said, causing him to be very sick for the first two years of his life.

Dustin was not able to get over even minor ill-

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Are there enough supplies?

Specialists question attack preparation

By Lauran Neergaard
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON — If the government ever discovers a bioterrorist attack, it immediately will ship 50-ton packages of medical supplies — antibiotics, IV fluid and other equipment — to local hospitals struggling to contain the deadly outbreak.

But will there be enough, and who gets limited supplies?

Specialists say good supplies against some diseases are being stockpiled. Already on hand are enough antibiotics to treat 2 million cases of anthrax, Tommy Thompson, the nation’s health secretary, said Thursday. Plans call for stockpiling enough for 10 million people.

Also in federal storage are other antibiotics, such as streptomycin and gentamicin, to treat plague and other biological agents.

Those 50-ton packages would be just the first day’s aid. Eight of the caches, each with enough drugs to treat 10,000 to 35,000 people immediately, are stored around the country, ready to ship in 12 hours. The next day, the government would begin shipping more tablets from other stockpiles and manufacturers’ inventories, and emergency production of yet more would begin.

“That’s an important component,” stressed Dr. Margaret Hamburg, who helped set up the stockpile under the Clinton administration. “You don’t necessarily need to have a warehouse full of all the drugs you might need for the long haul. You need to have a mechanism to ensure backfilling of supplies as they’re utilized.”

That may not even be necessary. Four companies make one of the antibiotics that can treat anthrax, and local pharmacies always have a lot on hand, noted Jerry Hauer, a New York City bioterrorism specialist who advises Thompson.

The bigger question is how to ensure the drugs get to the people who really need them fast enough.

First, local hospitals would have to recognize quickly cases of anthrax or smallpox or some other agent — all of which may in the early stages resemble the flu — and call federal health officials for help.

Then, in a panic situation, it must be determined who hands out the drugs and to whom.

Thompson assured senators this week that no member of the Cabinet or Congress would get their own special

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It’s Harvest Time



Steve Rains (in the combine), pastor of the Calvary Gospel Church, helped Sherman County farmer John Hendrich harvest his soybean crop on Thursday north of Goodland. The pastor, who moved here with his family in March, said he had no experience with farming and wanted to learn.

Photos by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

City boy tries hand at harvesting crop

By Rachel Miscall
The Goodland Daily News

Pastor Steve Rains is a city boy who had no experience with farming before moving to Goodland in March with his family. Now he’s finding himself in places he never expected to be — like in the cab of a 30,000-pound combine.

“I’ve never been around harvest,” said Rains, pastor at Calvary Gospel Church, “and I wanted to find out what farming is all about.”

The 30-year-old, who grew up in Colorado and moved here from Missouri, said he asked Sherman County farmer John Hendrich, a member of Calvary Gospel, if he could help him bring in the fall crops. Hendrich said he didn’t hesitate in saying “yes,” because another set of hands is always welcome.

“He said he wanted to help with harvest,” Hendrich said, “and he didn’t have to ask twice.”

Rains has spent the past three days driving a combine across a field of soybeans north of Goodland along K-27, while Hendrich carts the crop to eight grain bins he owns nearby. The pastor said he likes farming, though he’s a little nervous about making a mistake.

“It’s fun,” he said. “It’s just something new.”

Rains said the hard part about driving a combine isn’t the driving, it’s the idea of being responsible for a powerful, expensive piece of equipment.

“It’s more nerve racking,” he said, noting that a combine costs hundreds of thousands of dollars. “I don’t want to wreck it.”



Farmer John Hendrich used a tractor and grain cart to carry soybeans to his grain bins on Thursday, while Pastor Steve Rains, driving the combine in the background, harvested the crop.

on Thursday, and Hendrich said the crop was yielding 60 bushels per acre, which was surprising considering hail damaged the plants in July.

“I’m shocked they’re making this much,” he said, adding that the weather did more damage to last year’s crop, which yielded about half of the bushels.

Hendrich said he’ll begin harvesting his 1,100 acres of corn on Monday, and expects good yields from the irrigated crop, but not the dryland.

“It was too hot,” he said, “too dry.”

It’ll all go into Hendrich’s grain bins, where it will stay until crop prices increase. He said he’s hoping that will happen after the first of the year, when he plans to sell.

Dana Belshe, Sherman County’s agriculture extension agent, said low crop prices are the worst part of harvest this year, as crops are yielding more than farmers thought.

“Prices are the biggest problem with harvest this year,” he said, noting that farmers he has talked to are pleased with their crops’ yields, which are better than last year, but not as good as in past years.

“It’s coming out better than they thought,” Belshe said, “but it’s no bumper crop.”

He estimated 30 to 35 percent of the sunflower crop has been harvested, along with 50 to 60 percent of the soybean crop. He said combines are just starting to roll into corn fields.

Tom Stewart, operations manager at Mueller Grain, which only accepts sunflowers during fall harvest, said

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Remember:

It’s Columbus Day on Monday, so banks, government offices and some businesses will be closed.