

weather
report

66°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 5:49 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:02 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:51 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 32 degrees

• Humidity 15 percent

• Sky mostly cloudy

• Winds southwest 10 m.p.h.

• Barometer 29.91 inches
and falling

• Record High 79° (1933)

• Record Low -6° (1932)

Last 24 Hours*

High 56°

Low 28°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly cloudy, low mid 30s, winds south 10-15 m.p.h. Tomorrow: partly cloudy, 40 percent chance of rain, high mid 50s, low mid 30s, winds northeast 15 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: mostly cloudy and breezy, high mid 40s. Friday: partly cloudy, high mid 40s, low mid 20s. Saturday: partly cloudy, high lower 50s, low lower 30s.

(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 — \$2.45

Corn — \$1.91 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.89

Loan deficiency payment — 10¢

Milo — \$1.64 bushel

Soybeans — \$4.03 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.96

Loan deficiency payment — 96¢

Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$9.35 cwt.

NuSun — \$9.50 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — 30¢

Confection current — \$16/\$8 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$26

(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.

Troops begin
'final' sweep

GARDEZ, Afghanistan — Hundreds of U.S.-allied Afghan troops swept into the frigid mountains today to battle al-Qaida hold-outs even as Afghan leaders were considering a plan that could allow enemy survivors to leave the area unharmed. U.S. officials said, however, that any halt in fighting was unacceptable.

High-flying U.S. B-1 bombers pounded remaining al-Qaida and Taliban positions on a ridgeline that U.S. officers dubbed "the whale" as Afghan fighters moved tanks into position for what commanders described as a final push to eradicate al-Qaida fighters hunkered down for a last stand.

U.S. CH-47 Chinook helicopters flew what appeared to be small tanks into the battle area of Operation Anaconda at the base of the Shah-e-Kot mountains of eastern Afghanistan.

Joint effort boosts gasohol

By Rachel Miscal

The Goodland Daily News

Drivers can save some money, do something good for the environment and help the farm economy with a trip to the Frontier Equity Exchange gas station starting today.

Sherman County Farm Bureau and Frontier Equity, 1202 W. Hwy. 24, are working together to promote farm-based ethanol fuel by selling it at a reduced price for 90 days and offering free fill-up service with each tank.

Valerie Kaup, farm bureau coordinator for Sherman, Rawlins and Thomas counties, said the promotion will start today and end Wednesday, June 12.

Today, she said, Farm Bureau employees will be at the station to fill up drivers' vehicles with ethanol fuel — actually a 10 percent blend of ethyl alcohol with regular gasoline. Kaup said the premium-grade fuel, usually priced about 5 cents above unleaded, will cost the same as unleaded for 90 days. After today, she said, Frontier Equity employees will pump the fuel.

Kaup said Farm Bureau offices in Cheyenne and Thomas counties are doing the same promotion with Frontier Equity stations in Bird City and Brewster, and all will start today. One big selling point is that the alcohol (the same stuff found in beer and wine) is made mostly from corn.

Farm Bureau and Frontier Equity started the event last year to let drivers know about the economic and environmental benefits of using ethanol. All of the farm bureau offices participated, Kaup said, but the promotion lasted only one day and was held on different dates in the different cities.

Because it was a success, she said, they decided to expand the promotion to 90 days, and Frontier Equity agreed

to reduce the price of ethanol for that time.

"We're thankful Co-op has agreed to do a 90-day promotion for us," Kaup said, noting the cooperative has said it will consider keeping the price of ethanol down if more people start buying the fuel. (Some area co-ops already sell the alcohol-based fuel at the same price, as do a few convenience stores.)

Kaup said it's hard for her to understand why more people don't use ethanol because it won't hurt your car and it helps the environment and the farm economy.

"It's an American-made product," she said. "It helps reduce our dependence on foreign oil. It's an agricultural product. It helps farmers and our economy."

She added ethanol is considered a super unleaded fuel because it offers a higher performance than regular gas, usually two octane numbers above regular.

Maybe it's just that people don't know those things, Kaup said.

"We want to educate people," she said. "We think there's a lot of misconception out there."

Kaup said motorists can pick up information about the benefits of ethanol when they fill up at Frontier Equity.

She said they'll learn the U.S. imports 54 percent of its oil. Production of ethanol reduces the amount of foreign oil needed by 90,000 barrels each day, she said.

The more ethanol is used, Kaup said, the less the U.S. will need foreign oil.

"If we can encourage more and more people to use ethanol," she said, "it can really make a difference in the amount of imports."

As for the farm economy, she said, the production of ethanol is the third



Today marked the opening of a 90-day ethanol promotion at Frontier Equity Co-op, and lucky customers had their tanks filled — full service — by Valerie Kaup and Marsha Schilling of the Sherman County Farm Bureau. During the promotion, the price of ethanol will be reduced to the same price as unleaded to encourage people to give it a try.

Photo by Bill Wagoner / The Goodland Daily News

largest use of U.S. corn. She said 600 million bushels of corn are used each year to make the product, and that accounts for 4.5 billion in farm revenue.

It's not mandatory in Kansas, Kaup said, but Colorado gas stations are re-

quired to sell the ethanol blend because it's better for the environment.

A flier farm bureau is distributing says ethanol reduces the amount of carbon monoxide and other pollutants emitted and helps keep fuel injectors

clean. Also, the fuel is biodegradable and won't contaminate ground water.

Kaup said farm bureau wants drivers to give ethanol a chance.

"It's a much better product now than it was 20 years ago," she said.

House refuses to raise income taxes to cut shortfall

By John Milburn

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — House leaders can scratch income tax increase off their list of potential sources of new revenue for solving the state's budget woes.

In fact, the House approved an income tax bill today that would make the state's revenue shortfall worse by \$1.4 million. A 75-47 vote sent the measure

to the Senate.

The bill would give about 6,900 low-income senior citizens a tax credit equal to a percentage of their property taxes.

"We're a long way from solving the budget crisis," House Speaker Kent Glasscock, R-Manhattan, said Monday, following a debate on the measure.

Glasscock said it would take some time to educate members about the se-

riousness of the state's nearly \$680 million budget shortfall and the need to find realistic solutions. The problems weren't solved in one day, he added.

"But we have started the debate," he said.

The 125-member chamber is scheduled for a week's worth of debate on tax policy, intended to identify which

method of raising new revenue has the

most support. Passage requires 63 votes in the House and 21 in the Senate.

Monday's focus was income taxes, with today to be devoted to property taxes, Wednesday to sales taxes and Thursday to alcohol and tobacco "sin" taxes.

The 115-7 defeat of the day's only proposal to raise the income tax rate summed up House opposition to new

taxes. The plan would have increased the rates for taxpayers filing single and married returns, generating \$93.2 million in fiscal 2003, which starts July 1.

Opponents said the increases targeted middle-income Kansans who earn \$30,000 to \$60,000 and file joint returns, or \$15,000 to \$30,000 and file

See STATE, Page 4

Boy Scouts serve great chili



Kay and Bill Thornburg were among the many citizens who ate chili served by the Goodland Boys Scouts on Saturday. The Methodist Church Fellowship Hall was filled with people for the annual Boy Scouts chili feed. Scoutmaster Dennis Saint said the rush started about 10:30 a.m. and lasted well into the afternoon. He said the Scouts had made 70 gallons of chili, and expected to serve nearly all of it.

Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News

Seminar helps students be bigger, faster athletes

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

Professionals are coming to town to make our students — and their families — better, healthier athletes.

Goodland High School is sponsoring a sports seminar 7 p.m. Friday at the school auditorium, and an all-day weight training seminar starting at 9 a.m. Saturday in the weight room at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

The program is called "Be an 11," and subtitled "On a scale of 1 to 10, if 10 is the best, be an 11."

Everyone is welcome at the program, said Dick Leiss, assistant principal and activities director. The cost is \$10 per family, to cover the costs of the booklet and other materials they will get at the seminar.

Coaches and parents ought to get as much out of the seminars as the students, he said, adding that the seminar on Friday is especially for families.

"The kids will get more out of it if their parents support them," he said.

The seminar is being given by Bigger-Faster-Stronger, or BFS, a firm out of Salt Lake City, said Leiss. The school is trying to get students to use the weight room more often and more effectively, he said. They haven't had the facility for very long, Leiss said, and it isn't being used very much.

"We want to get more production out of it," he said.

The seminar will stress the importance of weight training and developing a habit of it, Leiss said, because students who lift weights become better athletes.

"This seminar will be awesome," said . "The name itself says it all."

Younger students, junior high or even younger, can get a lot out of this seminar, Leiss said. It is important for younger kids to learn proper weightlifting techniques, he said.

"These people are professionals," Leiss said. "They know younger kids should not try to lift massive weight. This will help them so they don't have to start at ground zero when they get to the freshman level."

Everyone can be helped by this seminar, he said.

"Some of the high school kids need this too," he said. "Some of them have never been exposed to it."

This is the first year the school has held this seminar, Leiss said, so he doesn't know how many people will show up, but he is hoping for a big turnout. The seminar was scheduled away from spring break, Leiss said, so kids wouldn't be out of town.

"Any date we pick is going to have some kind of conflict," he said. "Our turnout will be an indicator of how seriously people in this town take their athletics."

"The only thing we can do is make it available, and it's up to them to take advantage of it."

Other schools in the area have held the seminar, Leiss said.

"They really enjoyed it and got a lot out of it," he said.

"We tried to get all of this out as soon as we knew about it," Leiss said, "so people would know about it ahead of time."