

Storms drop rain, but not enough

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Thunderstorms dropped almost half an inch of rain on Goodland Thursday, and more is expected to fall today, but it won't be enough to bring the city out of its "extreme drought" classification.

Randy Coleman, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service office in Goodland, said the city has received .73 of an inch of rain so far this month, close to the monthly normal of .78, but is still almost 9 inches behind for the year. The normal rainfall level for this time of year is 14.66 inches, he said, but Goodland has received only 5.64 inches.

There's a good chance more rain will

County burn ban relaxed

With rain showers Thursday, and forecasts for more moisture over the next few days, the Sherman County Commissioners decided at a meeting today to relax the countywide burn ban to allow trash burning only.

Rural Fire Chief Ken Griffith said county residents can burn trash until Tuesday, but nothing else.

"With the rain, we thought it would be good to give people a chance to burn their trash," Griffith said. "This is only until Tuesday, when the commissioners will meet again."

He said the commissioners are expected to impose the full burn ban again on Tuesday unless there is more rain to reduce the fire danger.

fall today, Coleman said, but a couple days of rain can't make up for several months of drought.

"Nine inches below normal is considerable," he said. "We're much, much drier than we ought to be."

"The ground is extremely dry. It will take several good rains to break the drought."

All of northwest Kansas is suffering from abnormally hot, dry weather, but Goodland has it worse than some.

Meteorologist Jerry Killingsworth said Colby has reportedly received 6.65 inches of rain this year and 5.83 inches has fallen in Hill City. Rainfall amounts usually increase as you move east, he said.

That's apparent, as Burlington, west of Goodland, has received only 4.86 inches this year, and got only .1 of an inch on Thursday.

Coleman said Thursday's thunderstorms were caused by a cold front.

which moved in that afternoon. He said the front is currently sitting over an area extending from southwest of Goodland all the way up to McCook, Neb., and is expected to cause more thunderstorms to develop today.

The system should move out to the east by Saturday, Coleman said, leaving partly cloudy skies on Saturday and highs in the upper 80s.

He said it's hard to say how much moisture Goodland will get today, because thunderstorms tend to drop different amounts of rain in different areas. Part of Sherman County could get a half inch of rain, he said, while no moisture drops at the airport, where the weather service measures rainfall.

REMEMBER!

Today even addresses can water from 7-10 p.m. No watering on weekends or Wednesdays. Monday and Thursday are odd days, Tuesday and Friday even. Watering is restricted to three hours a day and six hours a week.

weather report

70°

at noon



Today

Sunset, 7:51 p.m.

Tomorrow

Sunrise, 5:55 a.m.

Sunset, 7:50 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 81 degrees
- Humidity 84 percent
- Sky overcast
- Winds southeast 8 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.19 inches
- Record High 108° (1937)
- Record Low 53° (1965)

Last 24 Hours*

High 97°
Low 69°
Precipitation .44

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly cloudy, low upper 50s, winds northeast 10-20 m.p.h.
Tomorrow: sunny, high upper 80s, low near 60, light and variable wind.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: mostly sunny, high upper 90s, low lower 60s. Monday: mostly clear, high upper 70s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$3.58 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$3.42
 - Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
 - Corn — \$2.33 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$2.28
 - Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
 - Milo — \$2.00 bushel
 - Soybeans — \$5.04 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$4.91
 - Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
 - Millet — \$7.00 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$11.90 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency prnt. — 0¢
 - Confection current — inquire
 - Pinto beans — \$25
- (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.

West Nile found in state

WINFIELD — A horse in south-central Kansas has become the state's first known case of West Nile virus.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment said an unvaccinated horse in Cowley County died Wednesday.

Dr. Gail Hansen, state vet, said tests confirmed the disease.

"The fact the virus has appeared in Kansas really comes as no surprise as it's been found in states bordering Kansas," Hansen said. Cowley borders Oklahoma.

Fair offers family fun

Carnival's success keeps growing

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Jade Herl, 9, and Brandon Zelfer, 14, laughed and squealed as they swayed in a red-and-white, bullet-shaped compartment, suspended about 15 feet above the ground.

Josh Hall, 13, positioned himself behind a red line painted on fake grass and used a putter to tap a golf ball into a hole a couple of feet away. After he sank the put, Bernice Tedford handed him a token and asked if he wanted another try.

Michelle Wear stood near the Merry-Go-Round watching her 3-year-old daughter Alyssa go up, down and around on a black wooden horse. "Hold on Alyssa," she called out.

It's evening at the Sherman County home-owned carnival, which runs through Saturday night at the fairgrounds in conjunction with the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair.

This is the sixth year volunteers have run the carnival — fair board members used to bring in a traveling company — and they say it's getting bigger and better every year.

Merwin Jensen, president of the 18-member carnival board, said there are three new rides this year, the Sizzler, the Bullet and La-Go-Go, and a new booth, the Baseball Throw.

Jensen said there are now 12 rides at the carnival and the board has actually run out of space at the fairgrounds.

"There isn't room for more rides out there now," he said, noting that stands where people can buy cotton candy, popcorn and other foods also take up space.

Jensen said there is still room for more booths. There are 12 booths featuring various contests and games, he said.

"We will take more booths any-



Jade Herl, 9, and Brandon Zelfer, 14, laughed and squealed as they hung in mid-air on the Bullet ride at the Sherman County home-owned carnival Tuesday night. Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

time," he said. "Anyone who is interested, we are glad to have them."

As board president, Jensen said, he is at the carnival every night just to make sure everything is running smoothly. He said it seems like atten-

dance has increased this year.

More people probably know about carnival, he said. Businesses and organizations volunteer to run rides and booths, and the more booths and rides they have, the more people attend the

fair.

"It seems like the more people that get involved, the more people come out," he said.

See CARNIVAL, Page 4

'Fun Night' provides some friendlier competition

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

The competition was a little less intense at the fair Thursday night than it had been the rest of the week. Instead of horse shows and rodeos, there were turtle races and pedal tractor pulls.

It was Family Fun Night at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair, where families are encouraged to come out, spend time with each other and just have fun. The event started with a hot dog feed at 5 p.m.

After the free food, the pedal pull started with 6 year olds seeing how far they could pedal their tractors. Contestants got on a tricycle shaped like a tractor and pulled a trailer with a weighted box on it. As they pedaled, the box was pulled up the trailer towards them, making each turn of the pedals a little harder.

Some youngsters took their tractor more than 20 feet down the course, while a few couldn't go more than six, but every kid was smiling as they finished up their turn.

Each progressive age group pulled a little more weight behind their trac-



A 7-year-old boy competed in the pedal tractor pull during Family Fun Night Thursday at the fair. About 90 people, from 6-year-olds to adults, entered the friendly contest. Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

tors, until the 13-year-olds were pulling 130 pounds. Boys and girls competed against each other, and the first and second place finishers in each age division won a model tractor and the chance to enter the event at the state fair on Monday, Sept. 2, in Hutchinson.

The tractors came in three sizes, the smallest for the 6-year-olds, and the largest for people 14 and over, who competed in the adult divisions. Men and women entered separate contests, and the mens' was divided into younger and older groups. This was the first year an adult contest was

See FUN NIGHT, Page 4

R.I.O.T. coming to town

Ball player-turned-pastor to inspire

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

Goodland teen-agers are bringing in a former professional baseball player-turned-pastor to give students an inspirational message before school starts.

Amy Anderson, a Goodland High School junior, has worked with about 10 other students all summer to organize a Christian youth rally with a definite sports theme.

The R.I.O.T. — Righteous Invasion of Truth — is coming to Max Jones Fieldhouse at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 17.

Doug Loman, a pastor in Colorado Springs and former pro ball player, will talk to the audience, and a Christian rock band from his church will give a mini-concert. Loman played with the Milwaukee Brewers for parts of the 1984 and '85 seasons, and was in their farm system for eight years.

He finished up his career in Japan, playing for the Yokohama Taiyo Whales in 1986, and is now the senior pastor of Summit Christian Fellowship.

Anderson said she got in touch with

See RIOT, Page 8

Sunflower bake-off gets boost

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Jo Simmons attributes the success of this year's sunflower bake-off to the fact the contest was moved to the open class competition at the fair and participants were able to get sunflower oil and seeds beforehand.

Simmons, the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce office manager, said there were 65 entries in the bake-off this year, including six gift baskets filled with goodies made from sunflower products.

She said that was a major improvement, considering there were only 23 entries made last year — the second year the Chamber has held the bake-off.

The first year, Simmons said, there were 47 entries. That number may have been lower because people didn't know about the contest, she said, adding one reason for the big drop the second year was because bakers couldn't buy sunflower oil or seeds in Goodland.

Simmons said Wal-Mart hasn't been able to find a distributor from which to buy the products.

She said the Chamber boosted participation this year by offering bakers free sunflower oil and seeds donated by Northern Sun and Sigco Sun Products.

The contest was also moved from the Flatlander Fall Festival to the fair, where Simmons and fair volunteers

See SUNFLOWER, Page 4