



# No lawn watering on Wednesdays.

Watering restricted to three hours a day, six a week.  
Odd addresses Monday, Thursday; even, Tuesday, Friday.

**WEDNESDAY**

**August 14  
2002**

# The Goodland Daily News

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Ten Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

**50¢**

## weather report

**89°**

at noon

### Today

• Sunset, 7:45 p.m.

### Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:59 a.m.  
• Sunset, 7:44 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

**Extreme Fire Danger**

- Soil Temperature 75 degrees
- Humidity 23 percent
- Sky clear
- Winds southwest 12 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.87 inches and steady
- Record High 104° (1937)
- Record Low 50° (1979)

### Last 24 Hours\*

High 78°  
Low 57°  
Precipitation none

### Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: clear, low near 60, winds south 10-15 m.p.h. Tomorrow: sunny, high upper 80s, low lower 60s, winds north 15 m.p.h.

### Extended Forecast

Friday: clear, high lower 90s, low mid 60s. Saturday: mostly clear, high mid 90s. Sunday: mostly clear, high near 90, low lower 60s. Monday: clear, high mid 80s, low upper 50s. (National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## local markets

### Noon

Wheat — \$3.75 bushel  
Posted county price — \$3.63  
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢  
Corn — \$2.64 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.47  
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢  
Milo — \$2.39 bushel  
Soybeans — \$5.46 bushel  
Posted county price — \$5.29  
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢  
Millet — \$10.00 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil/NuSun — \$12.15 cwt.  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 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.

## Missing girl found at clinic

LOS ANGELES — A 4-year-old girl who disappeared from a city park had a joyful reunion with her family after she turned up at a medical clinic complaining of a sore throat. She was dirty and barefoot, and her hair had been cut short, but she was unharmed.

The woman who took her to the clinic was arrested after clinic staff recognized the girl as the missing Jessica Cortez and called police.

"The mother, as you might expect, was weeping hysterically, and little Jessica threw her arms around her mother and began to laugh hysterically. And then after a few minutes, she also began to weep," Police Chief Martin Pomeroy said.

# School to take bids on gym again

By Rachel Miscall

*The Goodland Daily News*

After rejecting a \$15,000 offer from two auctioneers in March, the Goodland School Board decided Monday to take bids on the Edson gym again, giving bidders the option to buy it outright or let the district rent it for part of the year.

Foreseeing major budget problems in the future, the board decided earlier this year to sell the Edson gym, which is about 10 miles east of Goodland, to bring in money. The district uses the gym about 30 days a year, mostly for junior high

sports practices, and pays about \$14,500 a year to heat and maintain the facility.

The highest offer the board received was from Tom Simpson and Tom Harrison, owners of TNT Auction, for \$15,000. Harrison is also branch broker at Homeland Real Estate in Goodland.

They said they planned to hold auctions in the gym and offered to rent it to the district for \$2,000 a year and let the Edson community use the facility. The auctioneers said they planned to spend \$3,000 on a retractable floor covering to protect the wood, about \$10,000 to drill a new well and

possibly up to \$100,000 to tear down the old, dilapidated school next to the newer gym.

On a 4-3 vote, the board rejected the offer, with member Mike Campbell saying he thinks the district could get more money if it advertised the gym as a grain bin. Ron Schilling, Jane Philbrick and Ben Duell voted to sell the gym, while President Dick Short, Kathy Russell, Campbell and Eric Gray were against it.

Talk of selling the gym surfaced again in June, when Duell told the board people were disappointed the district didn't accept TNT's offer.

Duell said the board had a chance to help a viable business, and Russell said she talked with the TNT owners and they said they were willing to negotiate a fair deal with the district.

The board decided to have the gym appraised to find out its value. Shay Realty in St. Francis did the job and Superintendent Marvin Selby said the figures came in at 4 p.m. on Monday.

He said Shay appraised the gym at \$28,700, and advised the district could get the most money if it

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## Surveying the land



Mike Lindquist of Salina used a radio to tell his coworker from Forgy Surveying where to move equipment this morning so they could measure the length of Cattletrail. The road was closed from 17th Street to

just north of 16th on Monday, and the pavement torn out. Dirt work will start Thursday and the road should be open the first week in September.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

# Date of household waste collection set

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Daily News*

Everything has fallen into place for the first collection of household hazardous waste in Sherman County on Saturday, Sept. 14.

People who want to get rid of old half-filled paint cans, batteries, cleaning products or fuel cans sitting around the house or farm will have a chance to do it on that day.

The Sherman County commissioners Tuesday approved a plan for establishing a satellite facility in this county as part of the Ellis County Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program.

Crystal Linsner, the household hazardous waste coordinator, said she will know soon what the hours of the first collection will be. She will be seeking volunteers to help with the collection,

## County roundup

At their meeting Tuesday, the Sherman County commissioners:

- Began reviewing department budgets, looking to hold the line on expenses. Story to come.
- Approved a household hazardous

waste satellite collection program. Set the first collection for Sept. 14. Story to left.

• Extended the countywide burn ban and bought a copier for the clerk's office. Story on Page 4.

and anyone interested can call her at (785) 899-4800.

The commissioners on Friday approved a lease with Kendall and Jackie Cooper on part of the old body shop on South Cherry across from Pizza Hut for a temporary home for the household hazardous waste facility. The county will pay \$400 a month for the east portion of the building.

Linsner said she will begin cleaning up the building and getting the county storage cabinets and shelving ready for the first collection.

"I do not know what to expect, but we will have some help from Ellis County, and will be using their trailer to haul the material away," Linsner said.

She said she is hoping to open the facility at least one Saturday a month,

but may not be open during the winter months. The storage cabinets will allow the county to store some materials between larger collections, as the trailer from Hays will not be available over the winter.

The county facility will accept a number of products that are considered hazardous waste and should not be placed in the trash dumpsters.

Under auto products these items include oil, gasoline, transmission fluid, brake and starting fluids, auto batteries, carburetor and fuel cleaners, waste fuels and solvent contaminated waste oil.

Household products include ammonia-based cleaners, bleach, disinfectants, drain cleaners, floor and furniture polish, general all purpose cleaners, mothballs, metal polish, nail polish and

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# Celebration to teach farmers new techniques

By Doug Stephens

*The Goodland Daily News*

Farmers from across the High Plains will meet for the Sunflower Celebration Friday in Goodland — the sunflower city of the sunflower state.

The agriculture show features tours of sunflower plots and research sites, and will show farmers the most up-to-date ways to rotate their crops, control insects and weeds, space rows and effectively use water. There will be displays of harvesting equipment, and experts will be there to answer questions about growing the crops and marketing them.

"The show is an educational tool for sunflower producers," said Lynn Hoelting, general manager of Mueller Grain and one of the show's organizers. "Current producers are kept up-to-date and resources are made available to

new producers."

Anywhere from 150 to 300 farmers usually show up for the free event, Hoelting said, coming from Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Texas and Wyoming. He said over 3,500 brochures were sent. Buyers and others involved with the industry will be there.

The day starts at 7 a.m. with registration at the Goodland Industrial Park on K-27, west of 16th Street. After everyone is introduced and filled up on coffee and rolls, a tour of sunflower plots starts at 8 a.m. The Kansas State University extension office, working with Colorado State University, the National Sunflower Organization and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, has been testing different farming methods on research plots. Hoelting said. Each plot has different strains of the crop, including NuSun, traditional oil, and differ-

ent confection varieties.

The studies on crop rotation involve sunflowers, wheat and milo — some of the most widely-used crops in the area.

At 11 a.m., the tour busses head back to the industrial park for lunch and discussions.

"This should be a pretty informative tour," Hoelting said. "I'm sure people are going to want to talk about it."

There are similar shows in other parts of the country, but Goodland is one of two market centers for sunflowers, Hoelting said, and this is one of the biggest events.

"Goodland is a kind of focal point," Hoelting said. "We have a lot of producers in the area, and we are right in the middle of it all. We decided to capitalize on our position and start up a great show."

The other major market for the crop

is Fargo, N.D., Hoelting said, which grows different types of strains. The seeds from Kansas sunflowers are larger, he said, and have a good market overseas, including Spain, Taiwan and China, and Mexico.

"There is a lot of opportunity in growing sunflowers," Hoelting said, "and we want people to be aware of all the possibilities."

The show, in its fifth year, is held near the same time as the Sunflower Festival downtown on Saturday, but the two aren't really related, Hoelting said.

"You end up with some of the same people organizing both shows," Hoelting said, "so they end up happening at the same time. The first year we had the ag show, it was actually held in conjunction with the festival, but holding it separately works better for everybody."

# State's rating in trouble

## Budget could hurt financial outlook

By John Milburn

*Associated Press Writer*

TOPEKA — Kansas has been informed that its bond rating could be downgraded if state revenues and expenditures do not improve.

"We've been told we're on a watch list," State Budget Director Duane Goossen said Tuesday. "We're in danger of being lowered."

Kansas has a Standard & Poor's bond rating of AA+. However, last week Standard & Poor's changed the state's financial outlook from stable to negative. That means further deterioration of the state's budget could force the bond rating to be downgraded to AA. Kansas' rating is in the second tier of ratings, with AAA being the highest.

Standard & Poor's has lowered the outlook for Arizona, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Washington, as the effects of the national recession continues to take its toll. Washington, like Kansas, is reliant on the aviation industry which has witnessed numerous layoffs as the demand for new planes has slumped.

Approximately 19 percent of states hold the highest rating, AAA; another 19 percent are rated AA+, and about a third are rated AA. A change in the state's bond rating would apply only to new bonds that are issued, Goossen said, and not any outstanding debt.

Goossen said the notification was a preliminary step toward lowering the

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# District following water rules

By Rachel Miscall

*The Goodland Daily News*

Superintendent Marvin Selby told the school board Monday that the district received two warnings last week for violating the city's new water restrictions, but is trying harder to follow the rules.

After hearing Goodland used more water in July than it ever has, the city commissioners set restrictions on watering lawns last Monday. Residents are only allowed to water their lawns a total of six hours each week, and can only water at certain times on certain days.

The restrictions didn't sit well with either the school district or the Northwest Kansas Technical College, which both have a lot of grass to water.

Ken Clouse, college president, said he plans to approach the city with a less-restrictive plan, which will allow the college to save water while saving its grass.

Selby said the district is conforming to the city's plan, although it's nearly impossible to get all the grass watered

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