

weather report

44°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 6:28 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:46 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:26 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 54 degrees
- Humidity 96 percent
- Sky cloudy and light rain
- Winds southeast 10 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.90 inches and steady
- Record High 93° (1967)
- Record Low 32° (1959)

Last 24 Hours*

High	46°
Low	40°
Precipitation	.50

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: cloudy with 30 percent chance of rain, low lower 40s, winds southeast 10-20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: cloudy, high lower 60s, low upper 30s, winds north 10-20 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: cloudy, high lower 60s, low lower 30s. Sunday: mostly clear and breezy, high lower 60s. Monday: mostly clear, high upper 60s, low mid 30s. Tuesday: cloudy, high upper 60s, 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 — \$4.41 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.55
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Corn — \$2.53 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.34
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Milo — \$2.28 bushel
- Soybeans — \$4.75 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.83
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Confection current — \$17/\$7 cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$18

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

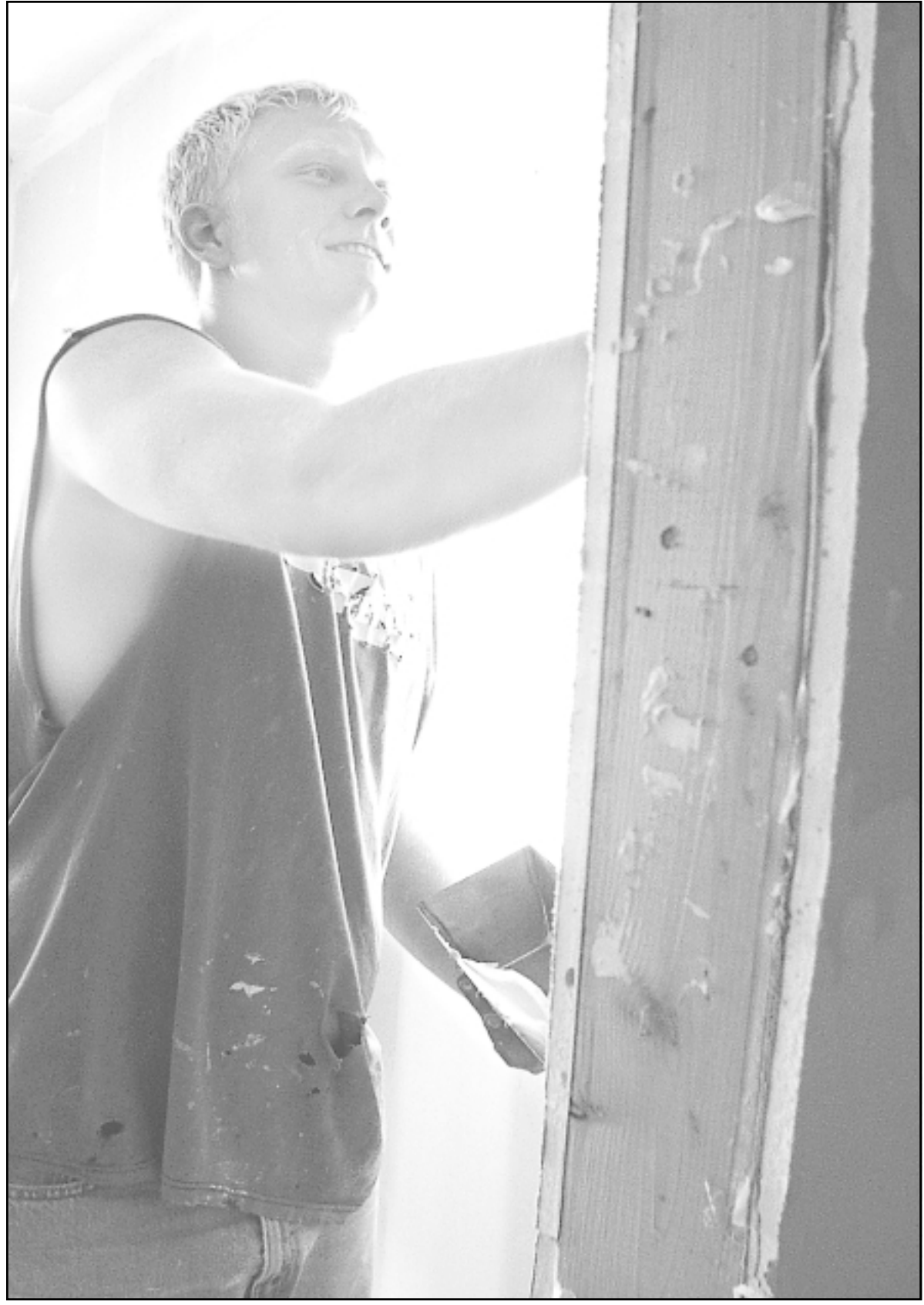
afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Hurricane's fury weakens

NEW IBERIA, La. — Less powerful but still dangerous, Hurricane Lili pounded low-lying Louisiana coastal towns with heavy wind and rain today as it washed inland. Nearly a half-million people had been urged to flee. The storm shut down the region's resort towns, all 12 of Mississippi's Gulf Coast casinos, NASA's Mission Control in Houston and the nation's biggest oil import terminal. President Bush declared all of Louisiana a disaster area, setting the stage for a variety of federal aid. Federal Emergency Management Agency director Joe Allbaugh was on his way to Louisiana. By daybreak, Lili had surprisingly weakened to a Category 2 storm, with top sustained winds of 100 mph; at midday its winds were down to 75 mph.



Levi Schlosser with WW Construction of Goodland spackled sheet rock at the new Peoples State Bank branch on the southwest corner of 13th and Main on Tuesday afternoon. The bank, which is being transformed from an old filling station, is expected to open by Nov. 1. Photo by Rachel Hixson/The Goodland Daily News

New bank on track to open

By Rachel Hixson

The Goodland Daily News

The new Peoples State Bank branch on the southwest corner of 13th and Main should be open by Nov. 1, as workers are busy building walls, painting, laying carpet and putting up pillars at the former gas station building. Workers started transforming the filling station, which first opened in 1926 and has been remodeled a couple of times, in early September, replacing the large front window with smaller arched ones, extending the awning and building a triangle-shaped addition onto the north side.

Jon Pope, president of Peoples, which has banks in McDonald, Colby and Hoxie, said he's hoping the new bank will be ready to open its doors by the end of the month. Even if there are delays, he said, the branch should open by Jan. 1 at the latest.

WW Construction workers have built new offices and hung sheet rock in the old station, Pope said, and will be painting, laying carpet and building teller counters in the next few weeks. He said a dark maroon metal siding will be installed on the outside of the building and white columns will go up in front to give the bank a colonial look. It will be a full-service bank, Pope said, as the branch received approval from the state and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation on Friday to offer savings and checking accounts. Without the approval, he said, the bank wouldn't have been allowed to directly deposit money, but still could have opened accounts and granted loans. Pope said the approval process took about 90 days, which was shorter than he expected.

An addition was built onto the north side of the building, he said, to make sure the drive-through window going in on that side is easily accessible. The bank had planned to direct traffic over a good portion of a parking lot the school district owns on the west side of the building and pave a new lot next to St. Paul's Episcopal Church across the alley. But, Pope said, that plan didn't work because the church board didn't want the lot south of the church paved.

"The church actually did us a favor," Pope said, noting that the bank will use less of the district's parking lot and it will have more space with the new addition. Plus, he said, it will be better for customers.

"I think it will be real convenient for them," he said, adding there will be an automatic teller machine and night deposit box near the drive-through.

Pope said people in Goodland have welcomed the bank and if the branch is successful Peoples plans to build a new bank in four to five years.

There are already three banks in Goodland, Western State, Bankwest and First National, but Pope said there's room for another. He said Colby, which has a slightly bigger population than Goodland, currently supports six banks.

"If Colby can do it," he said, "Goodland can surely do it."

It's easier to open a branch than a stand-alone bank, Pope said, because the overhead costs are much lower. He said Peoples may expand into other cities in the future, but won't go outside northwest Kansas.

"We don't want to get too big," he said. Pope said he and other investors bought Peoples State in McDonald in Nov. 2000 and had opened branches in Colby and Hoxie by the end of that month. Before that, he said, he was president of the Gold Bank branches in Colby, Oberlin, Norcatar and Rexford.

He said Peoples has been in McDonald since 1930 and was owned by the Wingfield family. Owen and Phyllis Wingfield, who were the previous owners, are still shareholders and Owen is still on the board of directors. Pope said at first there will be two full-time employees in Goodland and senior officers from other branches will take turns working here. Within a year, he said, the Goodland branch hopes to employ four to five full-time employees, but it depends on the number of customers.

Pope said Peoples has a large customer base and rarely loses customers.

"We try to give excellent customer service," he said.

Congress near war approval

By Jim Abrams

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON—President Bush, nearing congressional approval to wage war, said today the United Nations must stand with the United States to disarm Saddam Hussein — or stand aside.

He challenged the United Nations as Russia criticized a U.S.-sponsored U.N. resolution on Iraq and momentum built in Congress for a measure authorizing use of force against Saddam. Though the Senate remains divided, Bush reached agreement with House leaders Wednesday and is expected to win congressional approval as early as next week.

"When it comes to defending our freedom, the United States of America will stand united and stand strong," Bush told Hispanic leaders in Washington.

"The choice is up (to) the United Nations to show its resolve. The choice is up to Saddam Hussein to fulfill his word," Bush said. "And if neither of them acts, the United States in deliberate fashion will lead a coalition to take away the worlds worst weapons from one of the world's worst leader."

To keep the pressure on Congress and the U.N., Bush planned to outline the threats posed by Saddam in an address Monday in Ohio, senior White House officials said. Debate on the congressional resolution begins next Tuesday in the House. The Senate, while still wrestling over the language of that resolution, also is taking up the issue.

House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., said he expected the resolution, the product of several weeks of negotiations with the White House, to be approved with a strong bipartisan vote

next Wednesday or Thursday.

"The moment of truth has arrived for Saddam Hussein," said Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., at a White House Rose Garden event Wednesday to mark agreement on the resolution.

With the support of Congress, Bush said Wednesday, Iraq "will know that full compliance with all U.N. security demands is the only choice, and the time remaining for that choice is limited."

America's willingness to use force, he said, is the "best way to ensure compliance and avoid conflict." But if Saddam "persists in his defiance, the use of force may become unavoidable." As Congress prepared for what Hastert said would be one of the "most somber and important" debates of this decade, U.S. intelligence was providing lawmakers with a formal assessment of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

The classified National Intelligence Estimate was delivered on Tuesday, and intelligence officials are preparing a second estimate examining Iraq's capabilities in conventional warfare.

Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., had asked CIA Director George Tenet for a reporting outlining a consensus of intelligence agencies about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. "If we are about to make a decision that could risk American lives, we need full and accurate information on which to base that decision," Durbin wrote. Congressional action on the resolution cleared Bush to concentrate on the second front — persuading members of the U.N. Security Council to accept a U.S.-British proposal for a tough new resolution forcing Iraq to comply with inspections and disarm or face consequences.

Octoberfest has parade, games

By Rachel Hixson

The Goodland Daily News

Kanorado's annual Octoberfest is coming this weekend, featuring a parade to honor American heroes, music, games, food, crafts and a free concert.

Mayor Hazel Estes said the celebration, which is sponsored by the P.R.I.D.E. committee, will kickoff on Friday evening with a chili cook-off at the Kanorado Senior Center, 212 Main. Participants are asked to bring a pot of chili and the recipe to the center at 6:30 p.m. First place will receive \$125, second \$75 and third \$50.

People will start flooding Main Street on Saturday morning, as craft booths will open at 9 a.m. and organizers will start preparing for the parade, which will roll down Main at 10:30 a.m. At 10 a.m., the Little Butterfly Cafe on Main will open and Cal Zimelman, a disc jockey from Burlington, will start playing music.

This year's parade theme is Heroes of America — Past and Present, and Estes said participants have made costumes and built floats according to that theme. The parade will also feature antique cars, trucks and tractors, motorcycles and decorated bicycles.

Estes said the Burlington sixth grade band, led by Andy Salvador, and the Sharon Springs junior high band will perform during the parade. The top floats in six categories will receive \$20

each and second placers will get \$10.

Estes said the parade always attracts many participants and a good crowd. "We usually get a lot of kids in it," she said.

After the parade, there will be a cake walk at the fire house, a volleyball tournament on Main and game and food booths on Main. The museum will be open and a quilt will be given away at 1:30 p.m.

At noon, Collingwood grain is sponsoring a been feed at the senior center and pie and ice cream will be served.

Estes said a new event this year will be a Pedal Tractor Pull for children 12 and under on Main. Participants can sign up at the P.R.I.D.E. booth on Main and the pull will start at 1:30 p.m.

Street games on Main will start at 2 p.m., Estes said, and the always-popular Horseshoe Tournament will get going at 3 p.m. at City Park.

The celebration will wind down Saturday night with a free concert at 7 p.m. at the Kanorado United Methodist Church.

The McCullough family from Vona, Colo., and the church's music group will perform.

Estes said hundreds of people usually attend Octoberfest, filling Kanorado's usually-quiet Main Street. She said she's expecting the same this year.

"I'm hoping we will have a real good-sized crowd," she said.

Up to 150 people expected to enter memorial gymkhana

Up to 150 people are expected to enter the annual Kara Linnet Bentzinger Memorial Gymkhana on Saturday at the Sherman County Fairgrounds. The small rodeo will feature barrel racing, pole bending, flag races, key holes, and goat tying. Registration will be at 9 a.m., with the show starting at 10 a.m. A barbecue is planned for noon, and awards will be given to the winner in each event and the person with the most points in each age division. The rodeo is held in memory of Kara

Bentzinger, a Goodland girl who died when her car rolled over south of Ruleton in 1992. She was 17. Her brother, Justin Bentzinger, helps manage a memorial foundation in her name. "She loved anything having to do with horses," Justin Bentzinger said. "She trained them, gave lessons and rode in gymkhanas. We wanted to do this to honor her and keep her memory alive."



The foundation took over an existing gymkhana in 1992, he said, which was dying out. The rodeo usually draws 100 entries from the area, he said, but this year he expects 150. About a dozen people have already registered, he said, one of them from St. Louis. "That's further out than what we usually get," Bentzinger said, "but we are getting bigger and better every year." The memorial foundation also gives a scholar-

ship each year to a graduating senior who plans to major in science, and is now trying to raise money for an indoor arena and boarding facility. The group gained non-profit status a few years ago, Bentzinger said, and bought land west of town for the arena. When finished, the group plans to hold a gymkhana every month, and occasional bigger rodeos. "There is a lot of ambition in our youth," Bentzinger said, "and a lot of potential. We thought something like this would give kids something to focus on."