

## weather report

93°

at noon



### Today

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

### Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:21 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 85 degrees

• Humidity 30 percent

• Sky clear and sunny

• Winds southeast 6 m.p.h.

• Barometer 30.03 inches

and falling

• Record High 101° (1950)

• Record Low 41° (1926)

### Last 24 Hours\*

High 102°

Low 69°

Precipitation .03

### N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: mostly cloudy and cooler, high mid 80s, low 55-60,

winds northeast 10-15 m.p.h.

Wednesday: mostly sunny, high near 90, low mid 60s.

### Extended Forecast

Thursday: partly sunny with a slight chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon, high upper 90s.

Friday: partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms in the evening, high 100-105, low upper 60s.

Saturday: mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## local markets

### Noon

Wheat — \$2.88 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.74

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$2.12 bushel

New crop — \$1.96 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.93

Loan deficiency pmt. — 3¢

Milo — \$1.76 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.13 bushel

Millet — \$4.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$8.90 cwt.

NuSun — \$9.50 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — 73¢

Confection — \$17/\$7 cwt.

New crop — \$17/\$10 cwt.

Pinto beans — withdrawn

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

## inside today

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



## Don's newest repair shop

Don Ayers (above), owner of Don's Truck and Auto, 801 Main Ave., worked on the starter of a customer's car during a hot July day. Ayers and his sister Venessa keep the shop going. See story and photos on Page 3.

# Welcome home Saturday for doctor

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The waiting was tough, but Dr. Natalie Griego, who has been serving with an army medical unit in Baghdad, called Friday to say she was in Denver and would be returning to Goodland on Monday.

A welcome home reception is being planned for 7 p.m. Saturday at the Elks Lodge. Brenda Starr, who is helping organize the reception, said people can call her at 890-5314 or 890-8080.

Dr. Griego's husband, Jeff Krall, had said she was going to return to the United States last week, and hoped she could fly into Denver on Thursday or Friday to surprise her mother.



Dr. Griego

Krall said she flew out to Germany and then to Fort McCoy, Wis., before flying into Denver. Griego called Friday afternoon to say she was

in Denver, and that she was glad to be back. She said it was cooler than where she had been.

"I had quite an experience," she said of the service in Baghdad, "and look forward to getting back to Goodland. I have some photos that I need to get processed."

She said it was good to meet Arnold Schwarzenegger, and that she had a great photo of her hugging him.

Griego has been in Iraq for about three months after being called to active duty in

January. She was assigned to Company C of the 109th Medical Battalion, a National Guard unit based in Montrose, Colo. The company is part of an area support medical battalion, which provides emergency treatment, sick call and ambulance evacuation for front-line troops.

She went through some training at Fort McCoy before being flown to Kuwait and then to Baghdad.

Krall and their son Reece, 2, were waiting for her when she arrived in Denver.

## Tagged, but not in time



K-18 third basemen Mark Starr tried to put the tag on a Hill City player in an effort to make a play Friday in the district tournament played here. The man ended up safe, and Hill City went on to win. Goodland lost in the first round to be eliminated from further play. See story on Page 8. Photo by Shannon Davidson/The Goodland Star-News

# Goodland teen gets offer to model in Italy

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

A Goodland teen and his family face some tough but exciting choices, as he has been offered jobs in television and modeling, with a chance to model in Italy, and maybe even a movie.

But despite the pressure, on the trip to Florida for the modeling and talent convention, Chris Baumfalk found time to go to SeaWorld and on amusement park rides with his family, watch fireworks over the water and wrestle an alligator.

Wrestle an alligator? In a manner of speaking.

Baumfalk, son of Virgil and Jackie Baumfalk of McB's Motors, earned three plaques and seven call backs at the Millie Lewis International American Modeling and Talent Convention July 1-8 in Orlando.

The 15-year-old finished second in photography, third in swimsuit and was in the top five overall among 250 contestants for male teen at the convention. His team from Models & Images was first among 50 agencies.

Although he had a grueling schedule of competition and semi-



Baumfalk

closed, but his father said Chris had a bit of an advantage.

The gator's mouth was taped shut, Virgil said, and Chris held his hands over the tape for the picture. But a guy can dream, right?

Modeling, however, is not just a dream. Chris said he got call backs from Elite Men from New York; Fashion, Milan; Harriett Greenspan of Los Angeles; Tony Perkins-Next Management of New York; Elite, Chicago; and Karin Worldwide. And then there's the call back from 20th Century Fox.

Chris said he did a skit about a guy and a girl and may be chosen by the production firm for a teen movie. For some people, it seems, reality is more fun than a dream.

Though talent agents at Fashion,

Milan would like him to be a little older, the agency may call Chris to Italy in a couple of months for photo shoots and maybe some time on the runway. But Fashion, Milan isn't the only agency that would like Chris to be a little older.

Chris said most of those who called him back wanted him to be a year or two older, so he could travel to New York and other places and live on his own for a while. But he was confident it wouldn't be too difficult for him now.

"I could do it," he said. "I wouldn't stay a month or anything, just a week or so."

Although the talent agents thought a 15 year old shouldn't be on his own, Chris suggested that it's his dad who needs supervision. The family squeezed in time for carnival rides during the trip, and Chris said one ride, gravity and his father's large upper body combined to put him in a position where the blood rushed to his face.

"We weren't sure he was going to make it," Chris said.

But Virgil said he enjoyed the trip and made it back to Goodland in one piece.

"It was a fun week," he said.

And he was excited about his son's future.

Virgil said a few agencies gave Chris their phone numbers and said they could give him work. Among them, he said, was Stellar Model and Talent of Miami, which gave Chris their number and said if the family could come to Miami for a month, they could use him.

And the family would all go to Italy if everything works out with Fashion, Milan. Which wouldn't leave much time for a gas station and repair shop.

Virgil said he's considering selling the station to help with Chris' career. The family would need to travel together, he said, for Chris to spend a month at a time so far from home.

And Chris would need to finish school. Schooling is important, Virgil said, but the family doesn't want to put a damper on a promis-

ing career.

Chris said Mary Ann Van Sickle, head of Models & Images, told him she had never in 20 years seen a guy get as many or as high quality call backs as Chris did. Even among those who are now famous, Chris said, Van Sickle said they hadn't had so many call backs at the convention.

And some of those who called Chris back said he had a promising career. Tony Perkins-Next Management said they'd call in a year or two, Chris said, and then said, "Don't give up. You will do very, very well."

And that made the grueling schedule, sometimes from 7 a.m.-11 p.m., of competition and seminars worth it.

"It was stress going through that schedule," Chris said.

Not that he minds.

"I had fun in Florida," he said, "good times."

# City budget includes higher sewer rates

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The Goodland City Commission decided to hold the line on property taxes for next year, but customers may see increased fees to keep utility funds in the black, especially the sewer rates.

The property tax is a big part of the general fund, which pays for city government operations. The utilities — water, sewer and power — each have their own funds, which are expected to at least break even. City Manager Ron Pickman explained the general condition of each of the major city funds during the two nights of budget workshops.

He reminded city commissioners there would have to be at least \$106,000 in reserve to cover the city's share of the grant to replace the

intersections on Main at 11th and 12th Street. He recommended additional money be put into the fund to cover other grants during the year.

The budget recommends a maximum of 5 percent for pay increases, but that is broken into two parts. All employees would receive a 1 percent cost of living increase, and there would be a merit raise of up to 4 percent for employees who receive high performance evaluations.

Looking at the city utilities, Pickman said, "The city is facing a shortfall in revenues in most of the city utility accounts. For the past several years the city has chosen to use carryover funds, reserves, or has cut budgets to deter increases in rates.

"The city has attempted to assist

# Prairie dog meeting Thursday

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Prairie dogs are prompting complaints in Sherman County — especially in the northeast — and county commissioners have set a special public meeting for 8 a.m. on Thursday in the commission room at the courthouse to discuss the issue.

At the commissioner's regular meeting on June 10, Daryl West of the county Noxious Weed Department and County Attorney Bonnie Selby discussed the prairie dog situation and some alternatives.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede and Commission Chairman Kevin Rasure said they have been receiving calls about the prairie dogs, and that

some of the people have been irate, insisting that the county take action.

West said when people call, his department goes out and takes care of what they can. He said there are colonies in McPherson township southwest of Goodland, eastern Voltaire township and Llanos and Shermanville townships northeast of Goodland.

The worst problem is in Shermanville north of Edson, West said. The poison comes in buckets which cost \$52 each and it takes several buckets to treat a prairie dog town. West said his assistant, John Johnson, is the one who handles most of the field work. Johnson said some of the prairie

dog towns are getting to where there is only a couple of feet between mounds, and that with the increase in the dogs, there are more rattlesnakes.

Tiede said he did not think they would ever eliminate all the rodents, but it would be good to thin them down.

"I don't see us winning," Rasure said.

"We are treating and treating and losing ground," Tiede agreed.

"We have to do something with the resolution," Commissioner Chuck Thomas said.

Rasure suggested calling the public meeting to give everyone a chance to be involved and to discuss what the options are.