

weather report

94°

at noon



Today

•Sunset, 7:56 p.m.

Tomorrow

•Sunrise, 5:51 a.m.

•Sunset, 7:55 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 80 degrees
- Humidity 56 percent
- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds variable at 5 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.02 inches and rising
- Record High 107° (1934)
- Record Low 47° (1974)

Last 24 Hours*

High	94°
Low	63°
Precipitation	.04

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: partly sunny, high lower 90s, low lower 60s, winds north 5-15 m.p.h. Wednesday: mostly sunny, high middle 90s, low middle 60s.

Extended Forecast

Thursday and Friday: partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon, high upper 90s, low mid 60s. Saturday: partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon, high upper 90s, low mid 60s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

*Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$3.07 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.00
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Corn — \$2.16 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.90
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 6¢
- Milo — \$1.80 bushel
- Soybeans — \$5.00 bushel
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Millet — \$4.50 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$8.50 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — \$1.19
- NuSun — \$8.75 cwt.
- 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- Pinto beans — Withdrawn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



Parade officially opens fair week

By Shannon Davidson

The Goodland Star-News

As evening set in Saturday, sidewalks along Main Street slowly filled up with people coming out to watch the 2003 Northwest Kansas District Free Fair Parade.

The parade began at 6 p.m. at 17th and Main. Tammy Weeter of Goodland sang the National Anthem in front of Central School, then the American and Kansas flags were presented. Then the sounds of sirens rang through town as fire trucks and ambulances sounded their arrival.

Those on each of the 85 registered floats and parade participants displayed smiles as they went, giving out waves and candy and even toilet paper all along the route.

Excitement and cheers were heard from children seeing horses, big tractors and an ice cream truck. But the candy seemed to spark the kids' interest the most.

The 4-H Ambassadors organized the parade and announced winners of the parade awards.

First place in the Individual Category went to Demi Mitcheck, 3, driving a pink 2003 electric Harley Davidson motorcycle.

Second place went to Virgil Baumfalk with McB's Motors driving a dragster car.

Third went to Devin Mangus, owner and driver of a 1946 Farmall M tractor. Mangus was pulling the Ruleton Eager Beavers 4-H Club float.

In the Float competition, first place winner went to the Calvary Gospel Church with their float, "The Fruit of the Spirit is a Blast."

Second place went to Cub Scout Pack 142. They made a time machine showing how camping equipment for scouts has changed over the years. Their float was followed by soapbox derby cars made by each of the five dens.

Third place went to County Clovers 4-H Club. The members danced to '50s music and artists in a "Blast from the Past."

In the "other" category, first place going to Mark Wood with Farm Management Association out of Colby. Wood was driving a 1965 John Deere 40 Combine, the smallest self-propelled combine ever made.

Second place went to the Sunflower Riding Club. 4-H Horse Project members and parents rode together, some in costume. Those riding included Greg and Breanna Nemechek, Taylor and Marci



Peden, Amy Anderson, Kevin and Sydney Winston, Chelsey, Brian and Rachel Horney and Koren Dechant.

Third place went to Kelly Morris

with Morris Plumbing in St. Francis. Morris has a flatbed trailer with equipment followed by a new backhoe. They were handing out toilet paper to parade-watchers.

Prizes for the parade were provided by the Sherman County Fair Board. Shad Sheldon provided the sound system. Marty Melia from KLOE/KKCI/KWGB served as the

Hannah Blake of Goodland rode a chopper bicycle (above) that her dad made during the 2003 Northwest Kansas District Free Fair Parade on Saturday. Twins Ethan and Ian Crone, 2, of Garden City, (left) were thrilled by tractors going down Main Street. They were with Nicole Rutherford, 10, of Goodland, and her dad, Gordon Rutherford. The Deeds family (below) celebrated their reunion in Goodland by taking part in the parade. Marty Melia of KLOE Radio, who announced the parade, mentioned what a large family the Deedses must have.

Photos by Shannon Davidson
 The Goodland Star-News

announcer. Parade judges were Dane Scherling, Doug Peck and Arbutus Topliff.

Following the parade, participants and sponsors enjoyed an ice cream social at the county Fairgrounds. The ice cream was provided by Gambino's and served by the Steve Evert family.



West Nile virus case reported in Sherman County

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

An elderly woman from Kanorado may be the first case of West Nile virus in Sherman County, but the state Health Department has not confirmed the case.

Dr. Robert McCullough, the county health officer, said he had a report last week about a positive blood test for West Nile virus taken at the Goodland Regional Medical Center.

"I reported the blood test to Dorando Harrel of the county Health Department and she reported it to the district person," McCullough said. "No matter whether it is confirmed by the state or not, it is good for the people to know there is

a possibility (of contracting West Nile) and to take precautions against mosquitoes."

Dr. Gail Hansen, deputy state epidemiologist, who in charge of handling West Nile virus reports for the state said, in a phone interview Monday morning, said she was not aware of a specific case from Sherman County.

"We have several we are setting up to test today," she said. "We will not know the results until Tuesday evening or Wednesday, as it takes two days for the test to be completed."

"We have one confirmed case in a human so far, and that was in a 38-year-old from Gray County. The person first had signs of meningitis July 20. The patient is recovering.

"That a human case was confirmed in Kansas really comes as no surprise since it has been found in birds, horses and mosquitoes already in the state this year and we had 22 human case last year.

"Even if an infected mosquito bites you, your chances of becoming seriously ill are small. Nevertheless, we are urging Kansans — particularly older adults and people with compromised immune systems — to take seriously the precautions against being bitten by mosquitoes and to make these precautions a regular part of their daily activities and lifestyles."

Dr. Hansen said the state has had several commercial blood tests that have been reported positive for West

Nile, but that when the state has performed a test based on the system used by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the results have come up negative. She said the difference is that the commercial tests are possibly reading a broader number of viruses and that some are similar to West Nile.

Birds tested in Gray County were positive for West Nile virus in early July. Evidence of West Nile virus in animals or mosquitoes has been found in 25 counties so far this year.

West Nile virus is primarily considered a disease of birds. It can be transmitted to humans, horses and other animals when a mosquito bites an infected bird and then bites a human. Usually, the virus only causes

mild illness in humans, but in rare cases it can cause swelling of the brain (encephalitis), the covering of the brain (meningitis) and even death.

Mosquito control and protection is the best defense against West Nile virus, the state says. The Health Department recommends avoiding mosquito bites by wearing long sleeves and pants and using a repellent containing DEET as instructed on the label.

Outdoor activities in the evening, when mosquitoes are most active, should be avoided. People should check around their homes and empty any containers holding water such as old tires, birdbaths, pool covers and buckets to minimize mosquito breeding habitats.

4-Hers show top fashions

Hazen Deeds modeled his suit with style during the Blast from Fashion 4-H Style Revue Thursday. See style revue results and more photos on Page 11.

