

The Goodland Star-News

MIDWEEK

**Tuesday, Sept. 9
2003**

75¢

Volume 71, Number 85

Ten Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

65°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:07 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:23 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:05 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 72 degrees
- Humidity 78 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds south 15-20 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.97 inches and falling

- Record High 102° (1931)
- Record Low 34° (1941)

Last 24 Hours*

High 79°
Low 58°
Precipitation none

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. high lower 80s, low near 60, winds west 10 m.p.h. Wednesday: mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms, high near 80, low 50-55.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: partly cloudy, high mid 70s. Friday: partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms during the night, high near 80, low lower 50s. Saturday: a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms during the day.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.08 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.10

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$2.36 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.12

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Milo — \$2.06 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.72 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.59

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Millet — \$5.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$9 cwt.

NuSun — \$9.25 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$1.04

Confection — \$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Pinto beans — Withdrawn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
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Star-News



Aguilar wins 3-mile race

Cowboy senior Speedy Aguilar led the boys junior/senior cross country race from the start, and won for the second year in a row, finishing in 18.08. See story, photos on Page 10.



The bottom of Smoky Gardens lake (above) was dry enough to allow people to walk along looking for salvageable items by Sunday afternoon.

Dead carp up to two feet in size (below) lay near the outlet after the fish salvage on Saturday.

Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Star-News

Smoky Gardens drained Saturday

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Smoky Gardens lake was mostly a mud hole by Sunday, with dead carp lying along the bottom as people walked along to see if there was anything to salvage.

The last of the fish were taken on Saturday and the valve opened to drain the lake. Kenny Sanderson of the Smoky Garden board said this was the second time in 27 years that the lake has been drained.

While it is empty, the board hopes to deepen some of the areas and improve the fish habitat before it is refilled and restocked.

The low water and heat had concentrated the fish, and they needed more oxygen and food. The hot water wasn't able to hold enough dissolved oxygen to sustain normal growth, state biologists said.

Sanderson said the concentrated fish were stirring up bottom sediment. Game fish such as bass, bluegill and crappie couldn't feed in the muddy water.

District Fisheries Biologist Lynn Davignon had estimated that 75 percent of the legal size bass had died due to starvation and high temperatures, which allowed smaller carp to grow unchecked.



With no bass to eat them, the carp population would continue to explode unless the problem could be taken care of immediately, he said.

If the lake was not drained, it would freeze over the winter, killing off the entire fish population anyway.

Plenty of people were on hand over the last week to salvage what good fish and fresh water clams they could find before the lake drained.

By Sunday afternoon, the bottom was beginning to dry in several places, allowing people to walk along the islands in the middle.

Second 9-11 remembrance at 7 p.m., Thursday

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The second anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington will be remembered at 7 p.m. Thursday at a special ceremony at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

People will gather to recall the thousands of Americans killed by terrorists two years ago and salute

the police officers, fire fighters and other Sherman County emergency workers who keep us safe.

The Goodland Ministerial Alliance, comprising Goodland church leaders, is planning the service, inviting people to sing patriotic songs, honor those who died in the attacks and listen to community leaders talk about what it all means.

Bud Chester, pastor at the First

Baptist Church and a main organizer of the Sept. 11 service, said the ministers have been planning the event for about two months.

Chester said the program will open with the National Guard presenting the colors, a Boy Scout salute and speeches by teachers, students and club leaders.

There will be a special salute by Eagle Scout Lance Siruta and a med-

ley of patriotic songs by junior high student Hannah Blake.

He said the Goodland High School show choir, the X-Pressos, under the direction of vocal teacher Randy Berls, will perform patriotic songs.

Fire fighters, police officers and other emergency workers will be honored, he said, and people killed in the terrorist attacks will be recognized.

It won't be a fancy program,

Chester said, but it will be effective.

"It's just a little simple program,"

he said, "to say out there 'Yes, we

remember these guys.'"

The opening prayer will be by Steve Rains, pastor of the Calvary

Gospel Church, followed by the patriotic songs.

See CEREMONY, Page 3

Gov. Sebelius opens education forums Thursday in Goodland

The first of Gov. Kathleen Sebelius' Education Policy Forums will be held in Goodland, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Best Western Buffalo Inn convention center on Business U.S. 24.

With classes starting for the fall, the governor has scheduled seven of the forums across the state to gather ideas for improving education. They are open for public comment and participation.

"My goal is for Kansas to be a leader in education in the nation," the governor said, "but to reach that goal, it will take participation from parents, teachers, individuals, and business leaders across the state. We must be committed to investing in the future of Kansas."

The governor assembled a 27-member task force of people from around the state under the leadership of Sylvia Robinson to work on three areas: academic performance, education leadership and cost and efficiencies. This group worked on its own from February through June and now will concentrate on the forums.

"Excellence in education spans early childhood education through post-secondary education," the governor said.

"Research shows that we must not only provide an excellent K-12 education, we also must support quality early education programs to help young children enter school prepared to succeed. Our education system needs to prepare high school graduates to pursue the higher education demanded by today's job market.

"An excellent education system fuels a thriving economy. Having one of the best education systems in the nation gives Kansas a competitive advantage to attract new businesses to our state. We must work together to ensure that all Kansas children receive the highest quality education."

The forums are open for anyone to attend and participate.

Other sessions will be held Friday in Garden City and later this month in Kansas City, Kansas, Overland Park, Topeka, Pittsburg and Wichita.

Cowboys win opener, 35-16



Jordan Bedore eluded Hoxie's Jordan Vickers (No. 7) in the second quarter of the game on Friday. Bedore had 156 rushing yards in 24 carries as the Cowboys won their opening game over the Indians, 35-16. See story and photo on Page 9. Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News