

The Goodland Star-News

MIDWEEK

Tuesday, May 8
2007

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Ten Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather
report

56°

noon Monday

Today

• Sunset, 7:46 p.m.

Wednesday

• Sunrise, 5:39 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:47 p.m.

Middy Conditions

• Soil temperature 60 degrees

• Humidity 56 percent

• Sky cloudy

• Winds north at 9 mph

• Barometer 30.18 inches

and rising

• Record High today 96° (1934)

• Record Low today 25° (1917)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday 67°

Low Monday 42°

Precipitation —

This month tr

Year to date 5.65

Above normal 1.52 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy, high near 69, low around 47.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: Partly cloudy, high near 72, low around 46.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, high near 79, low around 48.

Friday: Mostly sunny, high near 79, low around 52.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, high near 82, low around 53.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, high near 80.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

People reach out to Greensburg

By Tom Betz

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Goodland residents were looking for ways to help the people of tiny Greensburg, a southern Kansas county seat nearly wiped out by a giant category EF5 tornado on Friday.

Curtis Duncan, president of the Sherman County Red Cross, said Monday he had not received a call for volunteers yet, but about 300 were on scene from Wichita, Pratt and Oklahoma City.

Duncan said people who want to donate money to the Greensburg relief effort can drop checks at the Red Cross office at 214 17th Street, or call 890-2011.

Schlyer Goodwin of Goodwin Law LLC said he is trying to organize a group of volunteers to go down to Greensburg over the next few months to help with the cleanup and rebuilding.

"It is going to take a year or two to rebuild this town," Goodwin said. "I think we have some churches in town that have buses, and think we should be able to gather enough people to go down on a few weekends to help where we are needed."

He said cleanup of the massive piles of debris will take time, and that he felt it would be good for Goodland citizens to help.

"This could have been Goodland," Goodwin said. "I feel we should be able to reach out and help this community."

Goodwin said people who are interested can contact him through Bankwest at 899-2342 or on his cell phone 821-4653.

Some help from Goodland has been sent to nearby Pratt, the next county seat to the east. Robert and Sandy Vantleven hauled a load of clothes from the Goodland Churches Thrift Shop to Pratt on Saturday. Sandy

Vantleven works at the Thrift Shop, said LaVaughn Beckner, and had a contact in Pratt who could get the clothes to the Greensburg survivors.

Rep. Jerry Moran spent Saturday and Sunday in the area meeting with local officials and residents. Officials estimate up to 95 percent of Greensburg was destroyed in the storm.

"The scene in Greensburg is catastrophic," Rep. Moran said Monday. "There is not a single building left undamaged. My heart goes out to the residents of this community who, in a matter of minutes, lost family members, homes and normal life as they know it."

"We are all thankful that the loss of life was not greater, with the size and scope of the storm. There has been a tremendous response from across the state and nation and we now band together with area residents to begin piecing the community back together."

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius was in Greensburg over the weekend, and said the state would help rebuild the town.

"This is the most damage to a town I have ever seen," she said. "There is a spirit in this community that is resilient, and they will rebuild their town."

President Bush declared parts of the state a disaster area, allowing federal money to be used in recovery efforts, following an expedited request from Moran and other members of the Kansas congressional delegation. Rep. Moran has invited President Bush to Greensburg to view the destruction.

Moran and Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator R. David Paulison were joined Monday by Gov. Sebelius, U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback and officials

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Brits invade to promote soccer camp

By Tom Betz

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Two British Challenger coaches spent Saturday at the soccer fields at North Elementary School, training future players from preschool through sixth grade.

The pair worked with 65 youngsters in three sessions, starting with the youngest in the morning, despite being kept up until 3:30 a.m. by tornado sirens outside their hotel in Norton.

Fifth and sixth graders were the last group, from 1 to 2 p.m., with 15 boys and girls in a busy hour.

Ross Stirling of Hamilton, Scotland, and Grant Leckie of Prestwick, Scotland, showed the younger players a lot about the basics of the game, known as football in most of the world.

Leckie said the two had been in the States for about seven weeks doing one-day clinics and may be back in July, when the Goodland Activity Center plans a week-long soccer clinic.

Stirling showed the kids through a series of exercises, giving each a number. When he called out a number, the players were to execute that exercise. He began with the basics of moving the ball around the field. The second was to have the players stand with a foot on a ball and the third kneeling with one knee on it.

Four was the players putting their head on the ball and stretching as if doing a pushup.

Stirling got the boys and girls going with the fifth, moving the ball while singing the Bee Gees' song "Staying Alive."

Sixth was keeping the ball close, seven was bouncing it off the tip of the foot and up to the knee and then the shoulder, and eight was passing another player and giving them a "high-five."

Nine was to protect your ball and kick all the others out of bounds. The 10th was to do it all again.

The boys and girls got into the swing of it, and after reviewing the



Shyanne Austin (left) have Tanner Jones (right) a high-five as they kicked their soccer balls past each other on Saturday in one of the exercises young soccer players learned. Other players

were Zach Miller (third from left) and Aaron Arteaga (fourth from left), who was about to high-five with Tyler Raby (extreme right). Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

basic points, Stirling had them play a few easy games to work on their skills.

In the first, each player had a jersey tucked in a pocket. The object was to pull out the other guy's jer-

sey and then kick his ball out of bounds. When one or two players were left, Stirling turned all the others loose to get the jerseys and kick the balls out.

In the next game, he had the play-

ers line up on one sideline with their balls, and picked one to be in the center of the field in a version of an old children's game. That player's job was to kick as many of the players' balls out of bounds as possible.

Those who lost their ball joined him in the middle while those who made it to the other side had to try to drive their ball back across the field. It

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Elevator changes name, people, service remain

By Tom Betz

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A constant presence for 58 years, Goodland's Mueller Grain elevator, will be operated as part of an international grain operation, giving farmers what the firm says is a competitive choice.

The Mueller family has signed a lease with the Scoular Co., which began operating the Goodland grain-handling facility last Tuesday, said General Manager Lynn Hoelting.

Hoelting said the family of the late Iron Mueller still owns the elevator, but agreed to lease the operation to Scoular.

Storage in Goodland is around 3 million bushels Hoelting said.

"We have been working with the Scoular people for some time," Hoelting said, "and it came together in a hurry."

"It is a great fit for us and the community. Competition is good in the grain business. Scoular is a company with a similar philosophy to Mueller, and is looking to take it to the next level. This will bring us into another group and make us more

Century-old company is diversified

The Scoular Company has bought, sold, stored, handled and moved grain and other agricultural products for food, feed and renewable fuel markets worldwide for more than a century.

George Scoular opened the Scoular Grain and Lumber Co. in Superior, Neb., back in 1892, according to the firm's website.

The family firm sold to a group of investors headed by Marshall Faith in 1967, who continues as the chairman of the board. Faith earned a Bachelor of Science in milling administration from Kansas State University, and began his career in the grain industry in 1951 with Pillsbury and later Bartlett & Co.

President Randal Linville of Overland Park began working for Scoular in 1984 as merchandising manager in Fresno, Calif. A native of Holcomb, he earned a bachelor's degree from K-State in agricultural economics and business finance in 1976 and a master's in agricultural economics in 1977.

competitive with the big boys."

Hoelting said the customers may not see much of a difference, but there should be opportunities for improvement and enhancements for them and the company.

He said everyone who worked for Mueller was given the opportunity to continue with the new company. Hoelting said he is continuing as manager, and that all but two of the employees decided to keep working.

The company has corporate offices in Omaha, Overland Park and Minneapolis.

Scoular is listed by Forbes as the 174th largest privately held U.S. corporation, with over 490 employees and annual sales of \$2 billion.

The company sells more than 100 products, has 14 merchandising offices, over 30 grain-handling facilities, storage capacity of more than 50 million bushels and an annual handling capacity of over 200 million bushels.

As part of the diversification of the company, Scoular announced in January that its subsidiary Gardenview BioEnergy LLC plans to construct a 100-million-gallon-per-year ethanol plant in Finney County, near Holcomb.

The ethanol plant will be part of the Sunflower Integrated Bioenergy Center, an alliance between the

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and a merchandising office in Overland Park.

"Scoular has a strong interest in continuing the high level of personal service the Mueller family has established," said Neil Holstein, a senior manager who oversees operations at all of Scoular's Kansas facilities. Holstein said Scoular hoped to retain all of the employees.

"We are committed to maintaining a local connection and a positive working relationship with Goodland area producers and the surrounding community," said Holstein.

Scoular and Mueller will hold a Customer Appreciation Day in Goodland on June 1. Hoelting said details will be coming out soon, and expects the event to be held at the 4-H building.

The Goodland plant, capable of loading out 25-car trains or trucks, will be an added asset to Scoular's network serving cattle-feeding operations in central and southwest Kansas with just-in-time shipments of corn, Holstein said. In addition to corn, Scoular will handle millet, sunflowers and wheat.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.60 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.40

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c

Corn — \$3.78 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.65

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c

Milo — \$3.48 bushel

Soybeans — \$6.51 bushel

Posted county price — \$6.25

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c

Millet — \$7 hundredweight

Sunflowers

NuSun crop — \$16.30

Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)

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

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today

More local
news and
views from
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Cowboys third at Colby

Junior Jason Kobya threw the discus 107 feet, 3.5 inches, at the Colby Invitational track meet Friday. The Cowboys finished third, and the Cowgirls tied for fifth. See story, photo on Page 10.