

### weather report

77°

noon  
Thursday

Today

- Sunset, 7:53 p.m.
- Sunrise, 5:33 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:54 p.m.

#### Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 64 degrees
- Humidity 29 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds variable at 4 mph
- Barometer 30.09 inches and steady

#### Last 24 Hours\*

- High Wednesday 75°
- Low Thursday 49°
- Precipitation —
- This month tr
- Year to date 5.65
- Above normal 1.21 inches

#### The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny, high near 83, low around 53.

#### Extended Forecast

Saturday: Sunny, high near 84, low around 53. Sunday: Mostly sunny, high near 88, low around 53. Monday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, high near 87, low around 49. Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, high near 73, low around 47.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400.MHZ.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

### local markets

#### Noon

- Wheat — \$4.48 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$4.36
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
  - Corn — \$3.53 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$3.34
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
  - Milo — \$3.23 bushel
  - Soybeans — \$6.51 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$6.52
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
  - Millet — \$7 hundredweight
  - Sunflowers
  - NuSun crop — \$16.15 cwt
  - Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)
- (Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

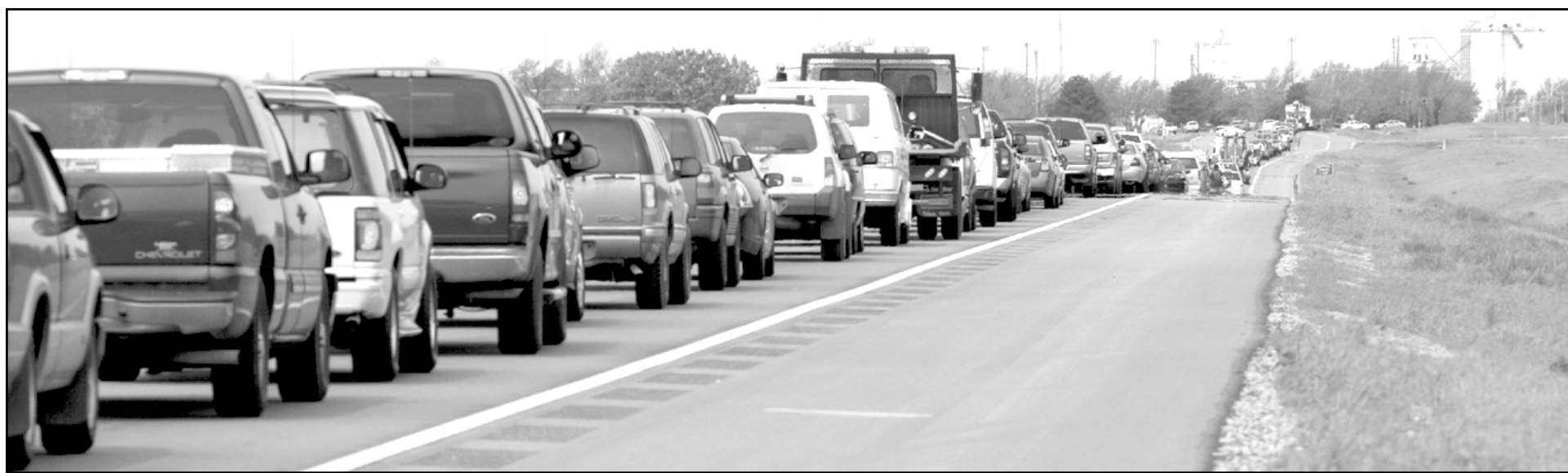
### inside today

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



## Cowgirls to face Pratt

Cowgirl third baseman junior Andrea Wolak watched senior Nicole David throw a pitch in the first game on Thursday against Scott City. The Cowgirls face Pratt on Monday in the Class 4A playoffs. See photo, story on Page 11.



Cars were lined up outside of Greensburg on Tuesday as residents and volunteers tried to get into the tornado devastated town. President George Bush visited the town on Wednesday and said the pictures he had seen did not come close to the magnitude of the damage the EF5 tornado did on Saturday. Photos by Cort Anderson/Kansas Press Association

# Help being organized for victims

By Tom Betz

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Less than a week after the town of Greensburg was devastated by an EF5 tornado the town is beginning to look ahead, and Sherman County people and organizations are coming up with ways to help.

Church groups are putting together things for the kids who are in the shelters, and a collection is beginning to fill a semi trailer with household goods to be delivered to those who lost their homes.

Sherman County Red Cross President Curtis Duncan said people who want to donate money to the Greensburg relief can drop their checks at the Red Cross office at 214 17th Street, or call (785) 890-2011.

Judy McKee, assistant for emergency management in Sherman County said Thursday the state is trying to coordinate the effort in Greensburg, and is asking people to coordinate their efforts through the emergency management offices.

McKee said people who are trying to put volunteer efforts together should contact her or Gary Rogers, regional emergency management director, to help coordinate the efforts. People can call Rogers at (785) 332-8522 or McKee at (785) 890-5188.

The Kansas Adjutant General's Department is reporting that money is the top needed for those impacted by the storm. Donations can be made through the American Red Cross at (785) 234-0568 or the Salvation Army by calling 1-800-SAL-ARMY or at www.armykettle.com. Contributions of clothing and other commodities are not needed at the present time said Sharon Watson director of public affairs for the adjutant general.

Watson said the United Way in



The Greensburg Fire Department was one of the many buildings destroyed in the tornado on Saturday.

Kansas has a call center for persons wishing to donate or volunteer. In Kansas, dial 211 or call 1-888-413-4327.

Another way to help is to make an appointment to donate blood at the Red Cross blood drive Wednesday in honor of Derrick Lutters, who died two years ago in Iraq. Luella Richardson of Kanorado, who helps coordinate the blood drives in Sherman County said the Greensburg tornado has left the blood supply nearly 200 pints short.

The blood drive Wednesday will be from noon to 6 p.m. at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at 11th and Sherman. She said people can make appointments by calling 1-800-GIVE-LIFE, and walk-ins will be welcome.

Part of the shortage was created because planned blood drives in Greensburg and Chase were canceled due to weather.

A worker for FedEx, who lives in Goodland and his family are helping spearhead a collection of house-

hold goods to be delivered to those in Greensburg.

Amie Reicks, who grew up in Greensburg, and her husband Brian, who works for FedEx have been working with relatives from Greensburg and are organizing the collection effort to fill a semi trailer being donated by FedEx. She said she and her husband and daughter Telanie, 9, and son Landon, 6, have been in Goodland for six years.

Reicks, who graduated from Greensburg High School in 1995, is

a teachers aid at West and North Elementary, and said her grandmother, aunt and uncle lived in Greensburg and her grandmother's house was destroyed.

"My aunt and uncle had homes right next to each other," she said, "and they are still standing. They both told me they got to go back to their homes on Wednesday after the anhydrous ammonia leak was fixed in a rail car about a block and a half

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# City alcohol policy to remain unchanged

By Tom Betz

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The City Commission reviewed its policy on alcohol use, which came under fire in January after the resignation of 12 volunteer firemen, at a work session Monday but agreed not to make any drastic changes.

After the regular meeting, the commission stayed to meet with City Attorney Jeff Mason and review personnel policies.

Commissioners John Garcia, Dave Daniels, Josh Dechant and Annette Fairbanks were at the meeting, while Mayor Rick Billinger was absent. City Manager Wayne Hill, City Clerk Mary Volk, Rich Simon, public works director, and Rod Blake, power plant superintendent, also stayed for the work session.

Mason opened the session saying the commissioners should start with reviewing the city alcohol policy, as it seemed to be the most controversial and had drawn a lot of public interest.

In January, Fire Chief Scott Gilmer was responding — as a passenger in a rescue vehicle — to a traffic incident during a blizzard when several people notice alcohol on his breath. He was asked to stop and was taken to the sheriff's office for a breath test. Because he tested positive — the test showed an alcohol level of .026 — he was sus-

## Street projects moving ahead

By Tom Betz

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Street projects on Caldwell and 17th Street are moving ahead despite recent rainy weather, and the city commission was given an update at the meeting on Monday.

Darin Neufeld, engineer from Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates who is handling the city projects, said the first portion of the Caldwell project has been completed with the finalization of the intersections at Eighth and Caldwell and Armory Road plus some drainage work by Bryant and Bryant of Great Bend.

He said when the change orders are completed, the cost will be real close to the budgeted \$322,000, but will not go over.

Neufeld said APAC Paving of Hays plans to start the mill and overlay portion of Caldwell after Memorial Day from Eighth to Toelkes.

He said APAC will start working on base work on

the section of Caldwell from Toelkes north to the airport after the mill and overlay are completed. He said APAC will start on the county project on old U.S.24 at the county line with Thomas County and feels they should be close to Goodland to pave the north section of Caldwell.

Neufeld said the north section of Caldwell will probably be closed for about five weeks, and APAC hopes to reopen it by the end of June. He said because the intersection at Armory has been completed the weather service and businesses will not be landlocked.

On the small section of Eighth between Cattletrail and D'Lao Drive Neufeld said Midland Contractors will start work on the water lines in front of the county shop before that is ready to be replaced with concrete.

He said the work on 17th Street is moving well,

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ended without pay for 30 days. When he refused to resign, the 12 volunteer members of the fire department quit in protest.

At that time, some called for the city to adopt a "zero tolerance" policy, and Hill promised the alcohol policy would get attention as part of a full review of the city personnel policies.

Mason and Hill handed out copies

of the current city policy, the county policy, the Kansas Department of Transportation policy, the Kansas Highway Patrol policy and a policy from an unidentified corporation.

Mason said the city could not be less restrictive than the state Transportation Department policy, but could be more restrictive. The state policy says that if an employee is found to have an alcohol level of .02

but less than .04, the person will be removed from duty for 24 hours, and that additional action, including termination, is possible.

Volk said since the city policy was questioned, she has been surveying cities around the state, and found that about 75 percent have policies similar to the current city policy with the other 25 percent have a zero tolerance policy.

"The Kansas Highway Patrol policy is a lot more vague than what we were told," Mason said, adding that the patrol does not have a specific level, and does not say an officer would be immediately fired.

Lt. Kevin Winston, during a meeting with the Sherman County commissioners in March, said the patrol policy was zero tolerance, but Mason said he believes Winston was interpreting the policy to say he would not tolerate any of his officers coming to work after having been drinking.

Hill said the policy from the unidentified company was similar in the levels to the city policy, which has a .02 level.

"The question is do we want to change to a zero tolerance or stay with what we have in place?" Hill asked.

"I am not always in favor of zero tolerance," said Daniels. "There are things that happen and circumstances can cause problems. Say a man takes a drink on Sunday night and then gets called into work. He says he is not going to because he has had a drink. What if he takes a drink every Sunday?"

"I feel most people will not go to work if they feel they are not fit to handle the job."

"People are going to make a mis-

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