

**weather
report****94°****noon Monday****Today**

• Sunset, 7:45 p.m.

Wednesday

• Sunrise, 5:59 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:44 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 81 degrees

• Humidity 34 percent

• Sky clear

• Winds south 10 mph

• Barometer 30.13 inches

and falling

• Record High today 104° (1937)

• Record Low today 47° (1920)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday 97°

Low Monday 66°

Precipitation —

This month 1.81

Year to date 10.33

Normal -4.69 of an inch

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny, high around 100.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low in the

mid 60s. South wind 10 to 15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: Sunny in the morning, partly cloudy in afternoon with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. High in the upper 90s. Low in the 60s. Thursday through Sunday: Partly cloudy. Highs 91 to 96. Lows in the lower 60s.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local
markets****Noon**

Wheat — \$5.80 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.75

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$3.34 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.07

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Milo — \$2.99 bushel

Soybeans — \$7.65 bushel

Posted county price — \$7.35

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Millet — \$7 hundredweight

Sunflowers

NuSun crop — \$17.90

Confection — Call

Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)

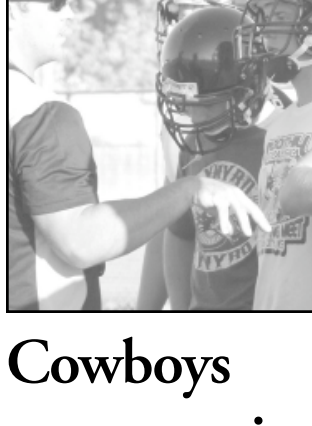
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun,

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



Cowboys start practice

Cowboys coach Jonathan Dansel talked to his defensive line about their assignments for different formations Monday morning. About 50 young men showed up for the first football practice. See photo on Page 10.

Goodland couple wins jackpot

Larry Ketler called his wife, Marta, at work Saturday night.

“Are you ready to retire?” he asked.

The Goodland couple were in Topeka on Monday to claim a prize of more than \$1.5 million in the Super Kansas Cash Jackpot.

Marta Ketler called on her cell phone and said the couple were on their way home after filling out the paperwork. She expected to be back in Goodland by Monday evening. She said they would have to wait 7 to 10 days for the certified check to arrive.

The Ketlers hit the jackpot in the Saturday drawing by the Kansas Lottery, matching all five numbers plus the Cashball on a \$5 Quick Pick ticket to win \$1,582,922.

“We play Super Kansas Cash every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday,” said Larry. “After the drawings, I look up the winning numbers on the Kansas Lottery website to see if we’ve won anything.”

“On Saturday night, I looked up the numbers and the website said someone from northwest Kansas had won. I figured it was someone from Hays. I never thought it would be us.”

After realizing he was holding the winning ticket, Ketler said, he called his wife at work. Marta was working a late shift at the Goodland Wal-Mart. She wasn’t buying it.

“He said we were millionaires and just won the Super Kansas Cash jackpot,” she recalled. “I didn’t believe him. My son and his friend

had to get on the phone to convince me.”

Before leaving work, Marta said she told one person the news. By the time she got home a few minutes later, it seemed like half the town knew.

Marta said Monday she had turned in her two-week notice. She said winning the prize will give her a chance to relax and think about what she wants to do next.

“We have a friend who is a police officer,” said Larry. “He knocked on the door shortly after Marta got home from work. He said he wanted to come by to congratulate the new winners.”

“Our phone hasn’t stopped ringing since. Everyone is excited for us. They keep telling

us it couldn’t have happened to better people.”

The Ketlers decided to go to Topeka on Sunday so it wouldn’t be a long drive on Monday.

“We usually stay at a Motel 8 when we travel,” Larry said. “We decided this time we’d stay at a Holiday Inn.”

“I still feel numb,” said Marta. “We’re simple people. We don’t want to buy anything fancy with our money. I’d like to purchase a bigger home that’s more energy efficient and Larry wants a new truck. The rest we would like to invest so we can live more comfortably.”

The Ketlers, who have two grown children, have been married 33 years.

They bought the winning ticket at Cowboy Loop.

Sunflower growers tour field test plots

By Pat Schiefen*pjschiefen@nwkans.com*

Around 100 sunflower growers got to tour fields on Friday to find out about and compare the newest information on hybrids, watering strategies and insect and disease control.

Cinnamon rolls and coffee were served before the tours. The irrigated plots were on the Steve Evert farm and the High Plains Research and Technology Center dryland plots south and west of town. The fields included yield trials for NuSun, high oleic oil and confectionary sunflower varieties.

The group was first taken to Evert farms, about three miles south of the ADM Northern Sun plant on Sherman County Road 14. Evert said he planted the flowers following corn so they would use nitrogen in the soil not used by the corn.

Jeanne Falk, area agronomist in Goodland for Kansas State University Research and Extension, talked about the growth stages of sunflowers, from the emergence to reproductive stages and full maturity.

“It takes four to five days for sunflowers to come up,” Falk said. “The plants at first will put on two leaves at a time and then will alternate putting on leaves. Sunflowers pollinate from the outside in.”

John Murray of Pioneer Hybrids talked about irrigation practices, including planting half a circle to corn and half to flowers.

Sunflowers can have roots as long as six feet, he said. They don’t need



Steve Evert (right) examined a sunflower in the test plots at his farm to see how far along in the blooming stage it was. Dean Graber, agricultural loan officer for Bankwest, looked on.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

to be watered before the seed heads develop. When the seeds are forming, he said, is when they use the

water, about 20 days before full bloom and 20 days afterwards. The crop needs 22 inches of water in a

growing season, he said, and the plants are able to get five inches on no-till land.

Seed-company representatives from Pioneer, Mycogen, Dekalb, Garst and Fontonelle talked about the different hybrids. Sunflowers are a 82- to 105-day crop depending on the hybrid, they said, while discussing the different genetic traits for disease resistance and height of the plants.

J.P. Michaud, K-State entomologist, talked about insect pests, such as gray and red seed weevils. He said both eat the seeds and drop to the ground to winter.

The weevils and other pests will survive in crop residue or especially in wild sunflowers, he said. Controlling weeds and wild sunflowers around a field helps control these pests.

He said there was a large migration of the sunflower moth in mid-July from the south. Late-planted sunflowers were not threatened but the second generation of moths emerging from wild sunflowers will be a problem. A form of Rhizopus head rot can show up after problems with head moths, he said, and head rot can destroy a field.

“There is no substitute for scouting,” Michaud said, urging farmers to keep an eye on their fields.

He said a lot of stalk damage from insects will not affect the yield.

“There is a large resident population of stem borers in soybeans and sunflowers,” Michaud said. “Drought increases losses to this insect. Large plants have stalks that

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Cancer survivors got ready to take their victory lap as part of the opening ceremony at the Sherman County Relay for Life on Friday at the Goodland High School track behind the administration building of the Northwest Kansas Technical College. The second half of the lap was with their care givers, followed by a lap by all the teams. The Relay raised money for cancer research for the American Cancer Society.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Relay for Life raises more than \$43,000

By Pat Schiefen*pjschiefen@nwkans.com*

The 2007 Sherman County Relay for Life raced into history early Saturday, raising more than \$43,000 for the American Cancer Society and beating the goal of \$33,000.

The community event raises money to help pay for research to beat cancer and to help families of cancer patients in this area. It features teams of people walking around a track for 12 hours to raise money for cancer research.

The relay, featuring a Speedway theme this year, started at 7 p.m. Friday at the Goodland High School track, just north of the Northwest Kansas Technical College campus, and ended with a closing ceremony at 6:30 a.m. Saturday.

More than 1,700 luminaries, paper bags lighted by candles, circled the track overnight.

The relay kicked off with posting of the colors by the Goodland Veterans of Foreign Wars. Doves of Hope, provided by Terri Richardson, were set free during a poem read by Mara Kling and Bracelyn Redlin.

Cancer survivor Paula Halverson of Gem told how the disease taught her to live one day at a time and helped her to realize what is important.

After the opening ceremony, cancer survivors took a “victory” lap together around the track, and were joined halfway by their family and care givers. Then, all of the members of the teams lined up and took a lap together. Janet Redlin sang “Com-

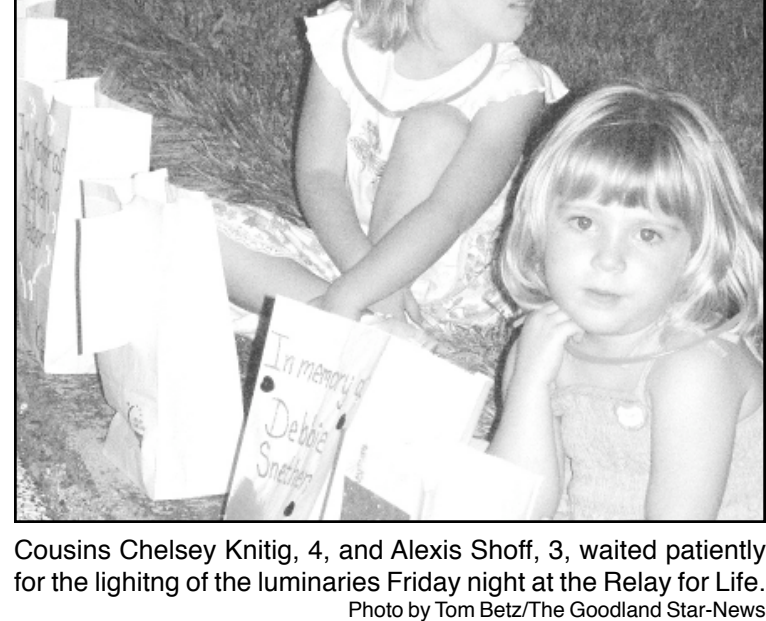
pletely” during the survivor lap and Kay Younger sang “You’ll Never Walk Alone” during the team lap. After that, one member of each team was supposed to be on the track at all times.

Demi Mitchek also sang several songs.

The luminaries were lighted at 9 p.m. in a Ceremony of Hope. Each honored someone’s friend or relative who is fighting cancer, survived cancer or died from cancer. One change was that the luminaries were lighted with electric lights instead of real candles. People paid \$10 each to dedicate the luminaries, and a list was shown on a screen of in whose honor the luminaries were for during the ceremony.

Ben Coates led the ceremony with a prayer. Jordan Knitig sang “Keep

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Cousins Chelsey Knitig, 4, and Alexis Shoff, 3, waited patiently for the lighting of the luminaries Friday night at the Relay for Life.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News