

**weather report**



**63°**

noon  
Thursday

**Today**

• Sunset, 6:15 p.m.

**Saturday**

• Sunrise, 6:53 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:13 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil temperature 55 degrees
- Humidity 51 percent
- Sky clear and sunny
- Winds east 15-23 mph
- Barometer 29.97 inches and falling

• Record High today 90° (1920)  
• Record Low today 25° (1958)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High Wednesday	74°
Low Wednesday	43°
Precipitation	none
This month	0.56
Year to date	15.68
Below normal	2.05 inches

**The Topside Forecast**

Today: Sunny with a high in the upper 70s, winds out of the southwest at 15 to 20 mph and a low upper 40s. Saturday: Partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of light rain in the morning and thunderstorms in the afternoon, a high in the lower 70s, winds out of the northwest 15 mph shifting to the south in the afternoon and a low around 48.

**Extended Forecast**

Sunday and Monday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of light rain, high in the 60s.

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

**local markets**



**Noon**

- Wheat — \$5.45 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$5.51
  - Corn — \$3.91 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$3.77
  - Milo — \$3.33 bushel
  - Soybeans — \$8.39 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$8.64
  - Millet — \$7 hundredweight
  - Sunflowers
  - Oil current crop — \$17.65 cwt.
  - Confection — \$30/\$20 cwt.
  - Pinto beans — \$32 (new crop)
- (Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

**inside today**



More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



**Cowgirls face Brewster**

Senior Whitney Schields served in the Cowgirls varsity game against the Brewster Lady Bulldogs during their home quadrangular Tuesday. See photo on Page 10a.

## Go Cowboys! Beat the Devils!

### Stadium decorated for game

By Sharon Corcoran

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It may have looked like vandalism and shenanigans going on around Goodland High School Wednesday night, but Superintendent Shelly Angelos kept a watchful eye as a group of cheerleaders, football moms and other family members and friends of Cowboys players and coaches drew designs and wrote messages with sidewalk chalk and trash bags.

Some said they heard at a meeting of senior parents the cheerleaders wanted help with decorating for homecoming, while others said it was the football moms who instigated it, but all were eager to make sure the Oberlin Red Devils know exactly whose territory they're in tonight.

Pictures drawn in chalk on sidewalks on the north and south side of the stadium depict a Devil with an ax in its head and a Pink Devil, and messages in chalk include "Victory," "Devil Down," "Stab the Devils" and "Stomp Over the Devils."

Black trash bags weaved into sections of the chain-link fence spell out "Cowboys" on the north side of the stadium and "Cowboy Territory" on the south side where the Oberlin fans will be sitting. Football mom Dana Murray, mother of sophomore David Murray, worked with cheerleaders on the trash bag art.

Penny Sheldon, mother of senior Kade Sheldon, Tammy Freeman, mother of freshman Mikail Freeman, and Darla Mosbarger, mother of senior Jace Mosbarger, worked on the chalk art. Superintendent Angelos, a football mom herself, mother of senior quarterback Travis Angelos, said she was supervising but was caught with chalk in her hands.



Dana Murray (above), mother of Goodland Cowboy David Murray, and several Goodland High cheerleaders tied black trash bags to the north fence at Cowboys stadium, writing "Cowboys" next to the entrance to the Goodland stands. Taryn Teeter (right photo), daughter of Cowboys Coach Kent Teeter, watched as her friend Adison Avelar wrote "Victory" on the sidewalk near the Oberlin entrance on the south side of Cowboys Stadium.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran  
The Goodland Star-News

Dean and Daylene Oharah, parents of freshman Riley Oharah, and several others also helped. Taryn Teeter, daughter of Coach Kent Teeter, worked with a friend, Adison Avelar, on chalk art.



## County budget cuts property tax by 3 percent

By Tom Betz

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The public hearing on the Sherman County budget for next year will be at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, and published figures show a drop of about 3 percent in the property tax level from this year's level.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said the county assessed valuation increased this year by \$251,351, or about 3.9 percent to \$65,967,695. She said state assessed values for S&T Communications and ON-ROK, a natural gas processing company in Mesquite, TX., had dropped by \$200,000 from last year, but when she took it all out the county was about \$10,000 higher in assessed valuation than last year.

She said that S&T has not put anything new in place and that is why the valuation dropped. She said the state exempted assessment on new equipment last year, but that companies are paying on what had been in place before the law was repealed. She said the amount of valuation for this would continue to drop over the next few years.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked how the budget review session had gone last week when Mark Bauer, auditor of VonFeldt, Bauer and VonFeldt of Larned, was at the courthouse to meet with the com-

### County tax sale finally ready to proceed

County commissioners Tuesday responded to a question about the next delinquent property tax sale by saying it could be later this year as the final abstracts have been turned over to the county attorney.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby said Thursday the letters on the property included in the tax sale would be going out next week, and that owners will have 30 days to pay before the sales goes to the next step.

She said after the 30 days the petition for foreclosure would be filed and the sale noticed published three times.

"We are planning the sale to be the first or second week of January," Selby said.

Rich Simon, city public works director, was at the county meeting and said a question had been asked at the city commission meeting on Monday about when the county was planning a tax sale. He said the city is wondering about some of the more than \$13,000 that

has been spent on mowing weeds and that a lot of that has been added as a lien against the property.

"We are wondering about getting some of that money back in a tax sale," Simon said. "When are you going to have a tax sale?"

"A week ago Monday we got the last abstracts," Commissioner Chuck Thomas said, "and that is now in the county attorney's office."

The commissioners have been asking about the tax sale process for more than a year, and the final abstracts had been holding up the progress.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said he had talked to Selby and said she is hoping to get the sale done before the end of the year.

Thomas said this sale is not for this year's delinquent taxes, but for those not paid in years past.

"You can say it is in the process," Tiede said. Simon said thank you and he would let the city manager and clerk know.

missioners and some departments about the budget.

Rumpel said it went well, and that the Road and Bridge budget had to be adjusted as the estimated expenditures were too high compared to the expected income.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas said the rural fire board was a bit worried about the fire budget being so low, and wondered if they would

be OK next year.

Rumpel said that was effected by the change in valuation.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said there was \$250,000 in the special machinery fund for next year, and that he felt that did not need to increase by transferring any more money this year.

Thomas said that was one of the things they talked to Bauer about,

and that Bauer seemed to feel that was about the right level for the budget.

"I feel the special equipment fund is adequately funded," Rasure said.

Rumpel said Bauer said if the county doesn't put more money into the special equipment fund the other money can be used for other expenses.

Thomas said that Bauer said it was right to keep it about 15 to 20 percent, and that it has stayed pretty consistent over the past years.

Tiede asked if it would cover what Curt Way, public works manager, has planned.

Rasure asked if the other two commissioners agreed that the \$250,000 amount was reasonable.

"I think it is reasonable," Tiede said.

Rumpel said the anticipated property tax levy for next year is 53.620 mills, but that will change slightly with the \$200,000 drop in valuation she received last week.

The property tax levy for this year was 55.294 mills, and the budget for next year would drop that by 1.7 mills or about 3 percent.

The published budget comparison shows the county was frugal in their spending this year as the budget was for \$9,644,886, but estimated spending will be \$7,716,682.

The anticipated spending for next year is \$9,473,970 or a drop of about \$171,000 (1.8 percent).

Rumpel said the budget includes the carry over from each fund, and gives the departments authority to spend up to the budget amount, but that each department tries to keep their spending below the budget limits.

## City trying to sell old fire truck

By Tom Betz

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Goodland has a 1975 fire truck for sale, and the city commissioners said Monday they wanted to find a way to sell it rather than give it away.

Fire Chief Brian James said the truck was taken out of service more than a year ago and it has been advertised on eBay and several other Internet sites.

James said he had one bid, but it was not high enough. He said he has dropped the price

down to \$5,000.

"I had a fire department from Mexico call," he said. "The problem was getting the truck down to Laredo, Texas. That would cost \$5,000. The guy seemed interested until I said we would have to have a certified check. That was the end of the conversation."

James said he has been approached about donating the truck to the fairgrounds and the race track to use as a water truck. He said he has been asked if it could be used for a cattle water truck. He said one of the reasons other

fire departments don't want the truck is that it has a steel tank.

Rich Simon, public works director, said he would rather the city give away or sell the old 1967 fire truck that is being used as a water truck, and strip down the 1975 fire truck and use it as a water truck for the city.

"I am not in favor of giving anything away," Mayor Rick Billinger said. "I think we should at least try to get something for it."

