

weather report

69°

noon
Thursday



Today

- Sunset, 8:01 p.m.
- ### Saturday
- Sunrise, 5:26 a.m.
 - Sunset, 8:02 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 67 degrees
- Humidity 73 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds east 26-40 mph
- Barometer 29.37 inches and falling
- Record High today 96° (2000)
- Record Low today 36° (1930)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Wednesday 85°
- Low Wednesday 50°
- Precipitation none
- This month 0.52
- Year to date 2.56
- Below normal 3.28 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon, a high near 82, winds out of south 20 to 30 mph and a low around 54. Saturday: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 86, winds out of south 15 to 30 mph and a low around 55.

Extended Forecast

Sunday and Monday: 20 percent chance of showers, highs near 86 and low around 55. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$7.43 bushel
- Posted county price — \$7.51
- Corn — \$5.52 bushel
- Posted county price — \$5.54
- Milo — \$5.11 bushel
- Soybeans — \$11.83 bushel
- Posted county price — \$12.41
- Millet — \$7 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$17.90 cwt.
- Confection — \$30/\$20 cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$32 (new crop)
- (Markets by Scouler Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

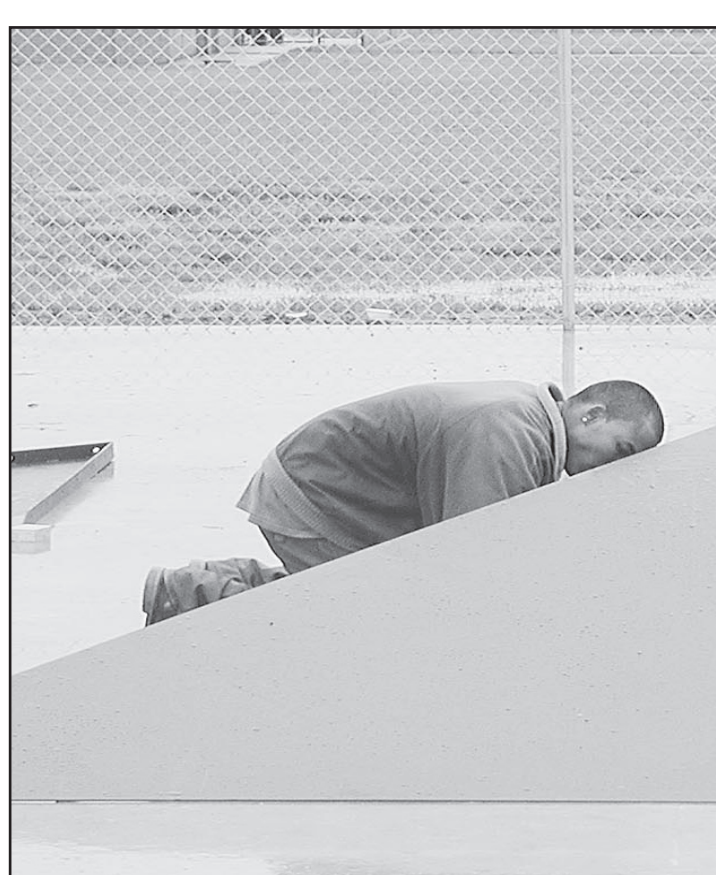
inside today

More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



Team heads to state

Senior Kaitlin Fugleberg and doubles partner senior Shonna Webster won sub-state Wednesday in WaKeeney. They will play in state competition at Prairie Village. See photo and story on Page 11.



First phase finished for skate park

The first phase in the construction of the skate park has been finished. American Ram Company installed the half pipe and ramps during the rain on Tuesday.

Kim Bohme, member of the Shine on Sherman County Youth Development group, said the group would meet next week to talk about a dedication date for the park.

The group has been doing car washes and other projects to raise money for the park.

Bohme said all of the concrete has been poured. The group would like to add more equipment.

Kyle Muhlethaler (left), 16, was among those trying out the new facilities on Wednesday.

School district down 17 from K to 12

By Tom Betz

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Goodland schools shrank a bit again this year the school board heard on Monday.

Superintendent Shelly Angelos told the board the preliminary figures show a drop in head count of 17 students from last year in kindergarten through 12th. But with weighing figured in for state aid the total full time equivalents dropped to 909.6 versus the 939.7 from last year. Full time equivalents add for the preschool kids, transportation, learning center attendees and other factors.

Angelos said when the figures are audited the district could probably gain or lose one full time equivalent.

"This is something we have to take into consideration when we are thinking about the future of the

district," she said.

On a more cheery note Angelos said that four teachers are participating in an English Language Learners online program being paid for by a grant.

She said the teachers will complete 15 college credit hours and will receive a ELL certificate when completed.

She said this is an important effort not only for the teachers, but for the needs of the district in handling the changing dynamics of the students.

Don Smith high school activities director reported the change from Class 4A to Class 3A has begun, and that the schools in the 3A are much closer in size than what they saw at the 4-A level.

He said in the 4A Goodland was one of the small schools and the difference in enrollment numbers

from the top to the bottom were more than 350. He said in the 3A Goodland is sort of in the middle, but the numbers from top to bottom are smaller with it being about 75 students.

He said he was continuing to talk to several schools about forming a new league with schools more the size of Goodland. He said the Northwest Kansas League now has one 4A, one 3A, 4 2A and the others are 1A. He said the possible new league would be with schools closer in size.

He noted that Scott City has bucked the trend and will move up from 3A to 4A, but Smith said the increase put them in the 4A division by one student.

He congratulated the doubles team for winning the regional tournament in WaKeeney and the golf team for winning the regional tour-

namment in Lakin.

He said the Cowboys begin district football play on Friday when they travel to Scott City to play the Beavers. The next two district games will be against Ness City-Dighton and Norton.

He said the league volleyball and cross country tournaments will be Saturday in Colby. He said volleyball substate will be Saturday, Oct. 25 in Holcomb, and regional cross country will be that same day at the Cimarron Golf Club.

He said the high school band will be participating in a marching festival in Hays on Monday, Oct. 27.

In other business the school board:

- Approved buying a tractor from Goodland Greenline for \$28,780 as the low bidder. Other bidders were Yost Farm Supply for \$29,250, and Witzel and Rhea for \$29,650. Co-

chran Farm Supply did not submit a bid.

• Hired Julie Dautel to be the Eighth grade assistant boys basketball coach.

• Approved allowing Kenny Studer to scrap some old weight equipment. He said the old weight racks were not exactly store bought and felt it was not a good idea to try to sell them. He said it was his opinion the best thing to do was to sell them for scrap metal. Board President Chuck Wilkens said he thought it would be a good idea to run an ad to sell them, but Board member John Hendrich said he felt it was more of a liability issue and that scrapping them was the best way to go.

With a consensus of the board Studer was told to go ahead and scrap them out.

Prairie dog meeting drew 35

By Tom Betz

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A meeting held Wednesday, Oct. 8 drew crowd of more than 35 to learn about controlling prairie dogs Sherman County commissioners were told on Tuesday.

Daryl West, county noxious weed director, said the program had good speakers and he got a good response from those who attended.

He said Charlie Lee, a K-State wildlife specialist, put on a good presentation about how to properly control prairie dogs and the proper use of the poison bait.

West said those in attendance had a lot of good questions, and some were surprised to find out that some of the county townships will help with the cost of the bait.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked if some of the people at the meeting did not have their license to apply the bait.

West said there were quite few, and that they only had five applications to hand out. He said some of the landowners said they were going to take the test to get the license.

He said the applications and testing is available through the Sunflower Extension District, and peo-

ple can contact the office upstairs in the Sherman County courthouse.

He said the test is an open book one, and costs \$25.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas said he thought the people attending felt it was a good meeting.

West said some of the older people who attended have asked him to help treat the prairie dogs on their lands.

Thomas said the people in Logan County are having a big meeting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Wednesday, Oct. 29, about the prairie dogs and the re-introduction in that county of the black-footed ferret.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in cooperation with the Kansas Audubon Society placed 24 ferrets on two sites in Logan County in December, and Wednesday they were to place about 30 more in Logan County.

The black-footed ferret's main source of food is prairie dogs, and the two sites in Logan County have large prairie dog populations, and the fact the landowners involved want to protect the prairie dogs on their lands to help reestablish the ferrets.

West said he feels right now the poison bait is not working as well because the surrounding grass is still green. He said he has done some treating of prairie dogs since the first of October when the state allows the poison bait to be used. He said he has treated about 400 acres.

He said Bob Bolen from Wallace County is licensed, and has been helping him with some of the prairie dog control efforts south of town, and has asked to continue on the weekends.

West said he provides the bait through the Sherman County program and Bolen charges the landowner for applying the bait. He said Bolen has a son who will help and he can do that under his license.

Thomas asked if the county needs to hire another person to help with the rest of the county.

West said he has placed some advertising for a person, and will see what interest he gets.

He said the new pickup for the noxious weed department should be delivered by the end of next week.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said West should let the truck arrives, and the commissioners can get it paid.

Truck to be converted to plow snow

By Tom Betz

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Sherman County will have two trucks equipped with snow plows to help this winter with approval from the county commissioners to convert a truck for road and bridge.

Curt Way, public works manager, said the plan was to convert one of the auto cars with a box and snow plow to give the county a second end dump truck and a second snow plow.

He said he contacted Layton Truck Equipment a Colorado Springs company, and they have a box in stock that will work and a snow plow attachment for \$29,800 installed.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked if this was an addition or a replacement.

Way said it is an addition, and that he would let the landfill use the old 1979 International because it is hard to get parts for that truck and better to have it in easier service.

Way said the converted truck will help the county get the snow off the new oiled roads, and he has a need for two end-dump trucks.

"I know we had a problem last year when the snow began to blow," Commissioner Chuck Thomas said.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked Way if he would be replacing the auto car with another one.

Way said he may look at something at the beginning of the year, and may look for something with a little heavier axle.

He said the auto car is from 1995 and have about 465,000 miles. He said these trucks are harder to find, but thinks they have done a good job for the county and can haul a trailer if needed.

He said the other dump truck a MAC cost \$22,371 seven years ago.

He said Layton Truck said it would take two to three weeks to get the truck and plow set up.

