

**weather report**

**87°**

noon  
**Monday**

**Today**

• Sunset, 7:48 p.m.

**Wednesday**

• Sunrise, 5:56 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:47 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil temperature 77 degrees
- Humidity 50 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds northeast 10 mph
- Barometer 30.01 inches and rising
- Record High today 105° (1964)
- Record Low today 48° (1960)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High Sunday	93°
Low Sunday	66°
Precipitation	none
This month	2.45
Year to date	17.06
Above Normal	2.40 inches

**The Topside Forecast**

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 93, winds out of the north at 5 to 10 mph and a low around 65. Wednesday: Sunny with a high near 95, winds out of the west at 5 to 15 mph switching to the south and a low around 65.

**Extended Forecast**

Thursday: Sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms at night, a high near 94 and a low around 65. Friday: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 96.

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

## Annual Relay for Life Friday night

By Pat Schiefen

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Thirteen teams have been gearing up for the annual Sherman County Relay for Life fund raiser for the American Cancer Society, starting at 7 p.m. on Friday and running into Saturday morning, at the Goodland High School track.

The track is behind the Northwest Kansas Technical College administration building at 1209 Harrison. The relay begins with a lap by cancer survivors, who will be joined by their caregivers to finish the lap. All the teams will flood the track for the next lap.

There will be a silent auction for baskets of goodies donated by the various teams, said Ashley Kear, a member of the organizing committee. This year a guitar will be given away that was made by Aaron Thompson and hair will be cut for Locks of Love.

At 9 p.m., luminaries will be lighted in the Ceremony of Hope. People pay \$10 each to sponsor luminaries in honor of friends or relatives who have cancer, survived cancer or died from cancer, Kear said.

This year instead of using sand to weigh down the luminaries, canned goods have been collected to do the same task. The food will be

donated to the Genesis Food Bank.

Golf carts will be available for survivors unable to walk their lap, said Kear. The goal for the year is \$33,000.

Teams are expected to keep at least one member on the track all night. A closing ceremony will be at 5:30 a.m. on Saturday, with the relay to wrap up by 7 a.m. Members will camp in the center of the track, Kear said.

Last year was the first time in several years that the relay was able to be held at the track. Before that the rain moved the event to the Student Union on the Northwest Tech campus.

Activities the teams have had before the event included garage sales, food sales, swimming events, aluminum can collection and Texas Hold Em tournaments.

On Friday night, other events will include live performances, bingo and line dancing. The Kiwanis members will serve burgers until 10 p.m., and the Knights of Columbus will serve breakfast starting at 5 a.m., with the proceeds to go to the relay.

For information call Ashley Kear at 821-2412.

## Campaign plans stop Thursday

Republican gubernatorial nominee Sen. Sam Brownback and his Lieutenant Governor running mate Dr. Jeff Colyer, shared their "Road Map for Kansas" on Monday at a press conference in Topeka, and Wednesday plan to begin a four-day statewide bus tour with stops in 32 cities, including Colby and Goodland, on Thursday.

The tour will leave Topeka at 7:30 a.m. Central Time on Wednesday, making stops in Wamego, Manhattan, Junction City, Abilene, Salina, Russell and Hays.

Thursday the bus will be in Wamego at 8 a.m. Central Time, Oakley at 9:30 a.m. and at 10:30 a.m. will stop at Fike Park in Colby.

The bus will be in Goodland at 11:30 a.m. Mountain Time at Steever Park. The schedule is to leave Goodland about 1 p.m. to travel south on K-27 for a stop at 1:30 p.m. at the Sharon Springs Senior Center, at 2:30 p.m. in Tribune at Pride Park, and at 3:45 p.m. at the Memorial Park Gazebo in Syracuse. The tour will turn east on U.S. 50 to be in Garden City at 6:30 p.m. Central Time at Stevens Park.

Friday's schedule starts at 8 a.m. Central Time in Garden City at Wind River Grain for a media event.

The bus tour heads east to Cimarron, Dodge City, Greensburg, Pratt, Hutchinson and Maize.

Saturday the bus moves on to stops in El Dorado, Eureka, Yates Center, Iola, Fort Scott and winds up at Stilwell.

Sen. Brownback won the Republican nomination in the Primary Election, and has promised to tour all 105 counties as part of his campaign to win the governor seat in November.

Brownback has served the people of Kansas, first as Kansas Secretary of Agriculture and then as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. He is serving his second elected term in the U.S. Senate. Sen. Brownback announced last year he would honor his term limit pledge and not seek re-election to the Senate.



## Kids enjoy chase for catch-it-pig

The catch it pig contest was part of the Howdy Rowdy Rodeo part of the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair on Thursday evening at the fair grounds. In the catch it pig contest a kid has to catch the pig and put it in a sack. The youngest competitors just have to hang on to a leg for a period of time. Family members of the young kids trying to catch a pig were busy taking pictures of the antics of the pigs and kids.

Photos by James Schiefen  
 The Goodland Star-News



## Convicted sex offender sentenced to 25 years

By Ava Betz

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Convicted sex offender Steven Kelly Moyer of Goodland was sentenced Friday to a minimum of 34 years and 10 months in prison following a three-hour sentencing hearing before District Judge Scott Showalter in the Sherman County Courthouse.

During the hearing the defendant was allowed to present motions for a new trial through his court-appointed attorney, Jeff Mason, and present arguments directly to the judge as to why his sentence should be mitigated. Also during the hearing, the victim and relatives were allowed to express their thoughts regarding the defendant and his crimes.

Christine Ladner of the Kansas Attorney General's office and Sherman County District Attorney Bonnie Selby represented the State at the hearing. Ladner was one of the prosecuting attorneys at the trial.

Following a week-long trial in February, Moyer was convicted on Feb. 5 of one count of Aggravated Criminal Sodomy, one count of Aggravated Indecent Liberties with a Child, and three counts of Criminal Sodomy linked to three other separate occasions.

On the first count, Moyer was sentenced

to life in prison, or not less than 25 years. On each of the other counts, he was sentenced to 59 months – two of the sentences to be served consecutively, that is, added on to the minimum of 25 years; and two of the sentences to be served concurrently, that is, at the same time. The amount of time added by these last four counts cannot exceed 118 months, the Judge said. Judge Showalter gave credit for the approximately 15 months Moyer has already served while awaiting trial and sentencing, and did not assess a fine, though Moyer is responsible for attorney fees, court costs, expert witness fees, transportation costs and other expenses of the trial.

At the beginning of the hearing the Judge noted the defendant had had two prior hearings regarding his court-appointed attorney, the most recent hearing being held July 13. At Friday's hearing the Judge noted the defendant had not filed to dismiss his attorney, and asked if Mason would continue to represent Moyer. He asked if they were prepared to move forward with the sentencing hearing. They both agreed they were ready to proceed and Mason would continue to represent Moyer.

The Judge then proceeded to deal with two matters that had to be discussed before sen-

tencing could continue. The first was a motion by the defendant for a new trial. The second was a determination as to whether penalties assessed for sex offenses under a recent law – "Jessica's Law" – adopted in Kansas in 2006, constitute "cruel and unusual punishment" and are therefore unconstitutional.

Regarding the motion for a new trial, Mason asked that further forensic examination of the victim be made. He said this had been requested at the trial and denied. Charges specified in a search warrant were changed after the search, allowing items not specified in the warrant to be collected. Another point of dispute was that evidence which had been redacted, that is, parts of the material had been taken out, had been presented to the jury in its un-redacted form, thus giving the jury access to material which was prejudicial to his client. Mason further stated his client felt the jury reached a conclusion not supported by the evidence, that his client stated none of the incidents ever happened, that stories were made up as a result of domestic disagreements. Mason argued the cumulative effect of all of these errors should be his client have a new trial.

After some discussion of these points, the Judge asked if raising them at the sentenc-

ing hearing was in order to continue them for further possible adjudication in a higher court. Mason agreed that was the purpose of bringing them up again at this time.

Ladner's response to the request for a new trial was that typically a new trial was requested when new evidence not known at the time of an original trial was discovered. "There is nothing of that here," she said. "What we have here is they simply want one." She said she wanted to respond a little to the argument that the verdict was contrary to the evidence. She said the conflicts the defendant found in testimony were matters of credibility, and the jury was justified in choosing which testimony it found more credible. Just because the jury did not find in favor of the defendant did not make their decision wrong.

Judge Showalter denied the motion for a new trial "at this time."

Then Moyer took the stand to testify that his birth date is March 17, 1969 and he is currently 41 years old. At the time of his arrest he was employed by Bursch Trucking. Moyer repeated he denies any of the acts of which he has been convicted as a result of the trial in February ever happened. He testified

**local markets**

**Noon**

Wheat — \$5.87 bushel	Posted county price — \$5.62
Corn — \$3.50 bushel	Posted county price — \$3.59
Milo — \$3.21 bushel	Soybeans — \$9.67 bushel
Posted county price — \$9.95	Millet — \$5 hundredweight
Sunflowers	Oil current crop — \$15.85 cwt.
Confection — \$28/\$15 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**

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## Texan wins triathlon

Michael King of Lubbock, Texas, was the winner in the of the second Annual Goodland Activity Center Triathlon run on Saturday, July 31. See story, photos on Page 10.

