

## weather report

**56°**

noon Thursday

**Today**  
•Sunset, 8:16 p.m.  
**Saturday**  
•Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.  
•Sunset, 8:16 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**  
•Soil temperature 66 degrees  
•Humidity 93 percent  
•Sky cloudy  
•Winds east 10 mph  
•Barometer 30.25 inches and steady  
•Record High today 109° (1936)  
•Record Low today 42° (1945)

**Last 24 Hours\***  
High Wednesday 70°  
Low Wednesday 56°  
Precipitation .03  
This month 2.11  
Year to date 7.29

**The Topside Forecast**  
Today: partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of scattered showers and thunderstorms, high near 73, low near 51, winds east northeast 10-29 mph. Saturday: partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of scattered showers and thunderstorms, high around 74, low around 51.

**Extended Forecast**  
Sunday - Wednesday: partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, highs around 80, lows near 55.  
(National Weather Service)  
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## local markets

### Noon

Wheat — \$3.35 bushel  
Posted county price — \$3.26  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Corn — \$2.71 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.60  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Milo — \$2.38 bushel  
Soybeans — \$8.21 bushel  
Posted county price — \$8.38  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Millet — \$6.50 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$10.85 cwt.  
NuSun — \$11.10 cwt.  
Confection — \$16/9¢ cwt.  
Pinto beans — \$15  
(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



## Legions wins tournament

Jared Doke pitched against Wray, at the Imperial tourmanament Saturday, striking out three. Wray won the game, 7-4, but Goodland won the tournament. See photo and story on Page 12.

# Hearing set in highway accident

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Star-News*

Max Jones Fieldhouse was packed Wednesday morning as friends, colleagues, students and family members gathered for the funerals of three women killed in an accident on I-70 last Friday.

A joint service was held for Mary Wyant, 55, a paraprofessional at West Elementary School; her mother, Aline Becker, 85, a retired upholsterer and homemaker; and her daughter Christine Williams, 35, a science teacher at Goodland High School.

The three women were killed when their Ford Explorer was hit from behind about 4:30 p.m. about six miles east of the Edson exit.

The Colorado woman charged with three counts of second-degree murder in the accident had her first appearance in Sherman County District Court on Monday and was released on bond.

Jennifer L. Adams, 28, who gave an address of 5400 S. Park Terrace, Englewood, Colo., was driving the car that apparently swerved in front of a semi-trailer truck and caused the

accident. She appeared before District Judge Jack Burr Monday afternoon, who asked if she needed the court to appoint a lawyer to represent her.

The court recessed to give Adams a chance to talk to her father, who said he would provide an attorney for her defense. When the hearing resumed, Adams said she was going to accept her father's offer.

Judge Burr set the bond at \$100,000, and scheduled a preliminary hearing for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, June 30.

Adams posted bond Monday afternoon, leaving her father's address in Bartlesville, Okla.

Adams is facing three counts of second-degree murder in the deaths of Wyant, Becker and Williams, and two counts of aggravated battery on Williams children, Garrett, 8, and Caylee, 5, who were in the Explorer driven by Wyant.

The complaint alleges that Adams was driving under the influence of alcohol and had a breath alcohol level of .265. The sixth charge is transporting liquor in an open con-

tainer. The information with the charge said Adams had an opened bottle of Smirnoff vodka.

Adams was not injured, but appeared dazed after the accident, said Sherman County Sheriff Doug Whitson. She was held at the Bastille on charges of driving under the influence until the second degree murder charges were filed on Sunday.

The county attorney's office does not have the name of the attorney for Adams on Thursday, but expects to have it before the preliminary hearing.

# Wife of senator seeks to fill seat

By Greg Stover

*The Goodland Star-News*

Primary elections less than eight weeks away will settle races for state and county offices, but one question must be taken care of this week.

On Saturday, Republican precinct committeemen and women from the 40th District will meet to choose a person to serve out Sen. Stan Clark's term through January.

Clark, who was killed in an automobile accident on May 29, was near the end of his 10th year in office and was running for re-election.

The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. (Central Time) Saturday in the Frahm Theatre, part of the Cultural Arts Center on the campus of Colby Community College. The meeting was called by Bill Adams, the Thomas County Republican chairman, at the direction of Secretary of State Ron Thornburg as required by state law.

Ruth Clark, the senator's widow, wrote in a letter to the committeemen and women that she is willing to complete the term. She said she is not a candidate for the next full term.

Adams will open the meeting, after which a chairman will be selected by the assembly. The meeting is open to anyone wanting to attend, but only the precinct committeemen and women can vote.

Rep. Jim Morrison, a Colby Republican who represents the 121st District, said he spoke to Mrs. Clark and to the two Republican candidates for the Senate seat, Danny Rasure and Ralph Ostmeyer. Morrison said both Rasure and Ostmeyer agreed not to seek the unexpired term.

Rasure, the son of Kevin and Christie Rasure of Goodland, is a 2001 graduate of Goodland High School and earned a Bachelor of Science in business management from McPherson College in December. He served two internships in

Washington, for Sen. Sam Brownback in the summer of 2002 and for Rep. Jerry Moran last September through December.

Ostmeyer R-Grinnell, who represents the 118th District in the house, started his first term in 2001. He serves as the vice chair of the Local Government committee and is a member of the Agriculture, Education, and Federal and State Affairs committees.

In the general election, the Republican nominee will be challenged by Democrat Tim Peterson of Monument. Peterson farms in Logan County and is the vice chairperson of the Kansas Agricultural Remediation Board.

The primary election will be Aug. 3. The only polling place in Sherman County will be at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, 824 Main Ave. The booths open at 7 a.m. and will close at 7 p.m.

People voting for the first time as a resident of Sherman County who have not yet presented a form of identification with their name and current address, such as a driver's license, must bring it with them to the polling place. This includes people who have been registered for some time but have not yet voted and those who moved away and returned who have not voted since they came back.

People wanting to save time on election day can bring their identification to the county clerk's office on the first floor of the Sherman County Courthouse. Once their identification has been verified, their records will be updated, which will speed up the voting process.

In addition to a driver's license, acceptable identification include utility or telephone bills, bank statement, pay check, government check or any other government document that lists the person's name and current address.

## Lions fountain flows again



The lion fountain in Chambers Park is back in operation after efforts by the city crew. The fountain has not been working for several years because it used water pumped from the city system. Last year, a tank was installed to recycle the water. Rich Simon, head of the city parks crew, worked with Landon West, Henry Freeman and Manny Hernandez on Tuesday to get the fountain back in operation. The fountain was refurbished in the memory of Craig Mann, and the eagle on top was placed in his honor.

Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Star-News

# Thunderstorms bring rain, winds

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Star-News*

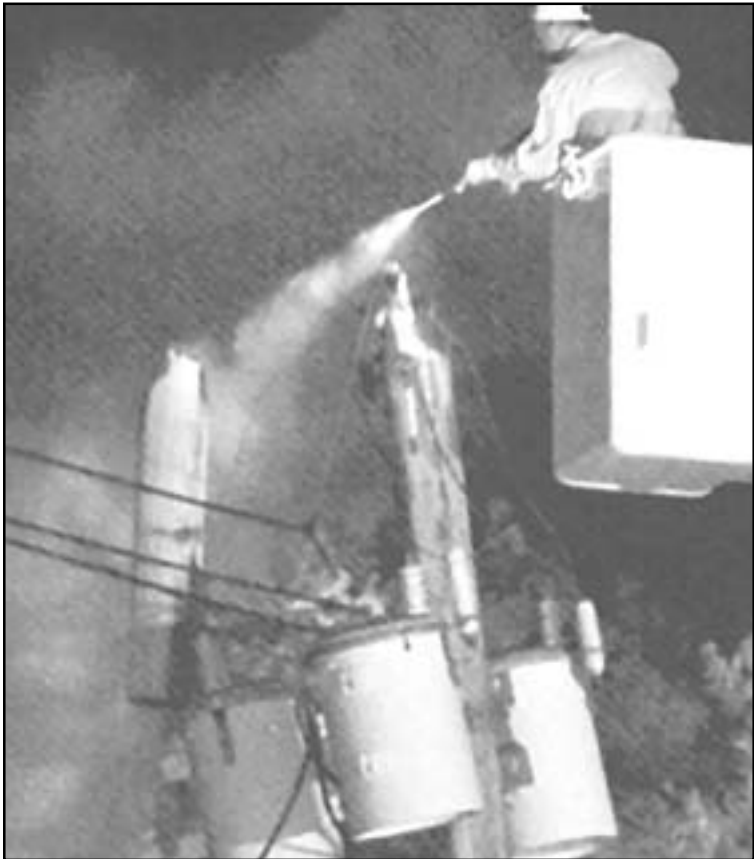
A series of thunderstorms marched across northwest Kansas this week, leaving some welcome moisture, with a scattering hail and high winds mixed in.

Monday's show was mostly lightning in the Goodland area, but Tuesday a thunderstorm rolled in from the west dumping .89 of an inch of rain.

The storm Tuesday hit Goodland about 8 p.m. with winds as high as 46 mph and pea-sized hail mixed with rain. A volunteer fireman reported a possible funnel cloud aloft northwest of the city, but the National Weather Service did not detect anything.

Wednesday there was a trace of moisture accompanied by winds that brought down some tree limbs and shorted out a transformer at Mid-America Trailer Park, south of I-70 and west of K-27. That knocked out power out for the immediate area for about 2 hours.

Tuesday, Sheriff Doug Whitson was south of the city on K-27 at road 57. He reported high winds and 3/4-inch hail. He later reported there was



A city worker put out an electrical fire in a power pole about 10:30 Wednesday night at Mid-America Trailer Park. The fire caused about four feet of the top of the pole to break off.

Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

## Demand, costs raise utility bills

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Star-News*

City Manager Ron Pickman told commissioners last Monday that the cost of producing power is going up, and the customers will see an increase in their monthly bills.

He said the city got a call from its supplier, Sunflower Electric Power Corp., and were told they had to generate power, and generating power is more expensive than buying it.

Under its contract with Sunflower, he said, the city has to be able to provide power from the municipal plant when the demand exceeds the ability of the cooperative's Holcomb plant to handle the load. Last year, the city had to produce power for nearly 60 days during the summer.

Sunflower's contract is to deliver up to 4 megawatts of firm power, said Pickman but anything above that is interruptable. If the

demand is over the 4 megawatts, Sunflower can say the city has to generate.

The city power plant can produce about 15 megawatts with its seven diesel generator sets.

Rod Blake, power plant superintendent said Tuesday the plant is producing on a daily basis and the total power usage is about 20 megawatts. He said it has been as high as 43 megawatts and as low as 15 depending on the day and the weather conditions.

"Sunflower is having us produce so they don't have to go out on the market," Blake said. "We are running during the peak hours, and today (Tuesday) we are running one 2 megawatt unit. May get by on that for today."

The cost for the city to generate power is \$75 per megawatt, Pickman said, while they purchase power at \$40 per megawatt.

**See POWER, Page 9**

**See STORMS, Page 9**