

# The Goodland Star-News

**MIDWEEK**  
Tuesday, August 10  
2004

75¢

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Goodland, Kansas 67735

## weather report

77°

noon Monday



### Today

• Sunset, 7:50 p.m.

### Wednesday

• Sunrise, 5:56 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:49 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 74 degrees

• Humidity 55 percent

• Sky mostly sunny

• Winds east 8 mph

• Barometer 30.3 inches

and steady

• Record High today 105° (1964)

• Record Low today 48° (1960)

### Last 24 Hours\*

High Sunday 87°

Low Sunday 55°

Precipitation none

This month .26

Year to date 13.15

Normal 14.66

### The Topside Forecast

Today: partly cloudy with a 20

percent chance of showers before

noon, high around 75, low near 52,

winds breezy east 8-11 mph.

Wednesday: partly cloudy, high

near 70, low around 49, winds

north northwest 3-9 mph.

### Extended Forecast

Thursday: mostly sunny, high

near 73, low around 51. Friday:

partly cloudy, high near 78, low

near 56. Saturday: partly cloudy,

high around 82, low around 58.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## City sets special meeting

State law requires a new city commissioner to be appointed to fill a vacancy within 10 days, so there will be a special meeting at 8 a.m. Wednesday to replace Commissioner Chuck Lutters, who resigned last week.

City Manager Ron Pickman said Friday he had checked the law and found the 10-day requirement.

"The commissioners had planned to take a week or two to find a new commission member," he said, "but the law will mean we have a special meeting at 8 a.m. on Wednesday."

The vacancy was created last Monday with the resignation of Lutters, who had served on the commission for 10 years. Lutters, who has been the plant manager for Aircraft Seal and Gasket, has resigned from that job and has applied to be the city public works director. Pickman said Monday he had hired Lutters as the public works director and he will start work next Monday.

Pickman said the four remaining commissioners will be the ones nominating and appointing the replacement, who will serve until the city election in April. He said the City Attorney Perry Warren is to cast a fifth vote in case there is a tie.

Once the commissioner is appointed at the special meeting, Pickman said, the person will be sworn in at the commission meeting on Monday, Aug. 16.

Anyone interested in filling the position should contact one of the four commissioners or attend the special meeting Wednesday.

Pickman said a similar situation happened 10 years ago, and Warren had to break a tie vote which gave Lutters the edge 3-2 to fill a vacancy created by the death of city commissioner Larry Koons in August 1995. Gary Ginther was the other person nominated to fill the vacancy.

The commissioners will meet in the commission room on the second floor of the City Administration Building, 204 W. 11th.



## Too hot to handle

The driver of the No. 52 car (above) climbed through his window after his car caught on fire after the initial crash of the first heat of Friday's demolition Derby at the Sherman County Speedway. Firefighters (right) quickly put out the fire and the heat continued minus one car.

Photos by Greg Stover  
The Goodland Star-News



## local markets

### Noon

Wheat — \$2.95 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.03

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$2.32 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.98

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Milo — \$1.83 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.95 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.41

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Millet — \$4.75 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$10 cwt.

NuSun — \$10.25 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

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



## Royal draws area winners

Brittany Stephens of Kit Carson County held her sheep's head while Clint Taylor, judge at the 22nd Annual Tri-State Royal regional stock show Saturday, felt the animal's muscles in the sheep competition. See story, photos on Page 10.

## School district budget has tax levy increase of 2.5 mills

By Greg Stover

*The Goodland Star-News*

The tentative budget approved by the Goodland School Board includes a tax levy increase of about 2.6 mills for the local option budget, which brings it back up close to where it was for the 2002-2003 school year.

The budget calls for a tax levy of 14.534 mills for the local option budget, which is expected to provide \$763,172 for the 2004-2005 school year.

For the year just finished, the

board wanted to raise \$628,125 for the local option budget. For 2002-2003, it asked for \$787,732. The lesser amount for 2003-2004 was due to the Legislature allowing the state to collect property taxes a month early, in May instead of June, which made for an 11-month tax year. Now, said Superintendent Marvin Selby, the tax year is back to 12 months, requiring that the levy return to the previous level.

The local option budget supplements the district's general operating fund, which comes from the

standard 20 mill state levy that has been part of the annual budget for at least the last five years, Selby said.

The 14.534 mills in the budget is an estimate, he said. The actual amount will be calculated as part of the school district's portion of the county's overall levy, in late October.

For last school year, the district called for 11.890 mills for the local option budget and the actual amount was 11.889. In 2002-2003, the district called for 14.663 and actually got 14.546.

The levy for the general operating fund and the local option budget, along with the standard 4 mills for capital outlay, make up the three parts of the school district's portion of the county levy. The composite levy also will include the property tax levies from the state, county, city and other agencies.

A resident's total tax bill will depend on which school, fire and library district he or she lives in, said county clerk Janet Rumpel. In addition, a few townships also will charge a levy.

A mill equates to \$1 for every \$1,000 of assessed value for taxable property. This includes real estate, mineral interests, state assessed utilities, and oil and gas royalties. Certain items of personal property, such as motor boats, golf carts and aircraft also are taxable. A list of these items is available at the county appraiser's office on the third floor of the Sherman County courthouse.

The school board's public hearing on the 2004-2005 school budget will be at noon today at the district office, 1312 Main Ave.

## Tractors vie for pulling championship



A modified tractor pulled a more-than-60,000-pound sled across the finish line at the Tractor Pull Saturday at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair. The rain and wind didn't stop participants

from revving their engines and kicking up mud as they tried to clear the track.

Photo by Kathryn Gurfinkel/The Goodland Star-News

## Moran stops overnight

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Star-News*

Heading home to Hays last week, Congressman Jerry Moran stopped overnight in Goodland last Tuesday, and walked part of Main Avenue on Wednesday morning.

"I got into Denver late last night and figured Goodland was a good place to stop," he said as he arrived at Hank's at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Rep. Moran said he was going to take the opportunity to walk down Main and talk to people before heading toward home.

"I will probably stop in one or two more cities before I get home," he added.

The main item for discussion here was planning for a veteran's forum at

See MORAN, Page 10