

weather report

73°

noon Thursday

Today

•Sunset, 7:46 p.m.

Saturday

•Sunrise, 5:58 a.m.

•Sunset, 7:45 p.m.

Midday Conditions

•Soil temperature 72 degrees

•Humidity 35 percent

•Sky sunny

•Winds North 8-20 mph.

•Barometer 30.22 inches

and falling

•Record High today 103° (1936)

•Record Low today 65° (1975)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 74°

Low Wednesday 52°

Precipitation —

This month .61

Year to date 13.50

(below normal 1.43)

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy, highs up-

per 70s. Tonight: Partly cloudy,

lows in 50s. Saturday: Partly

cloudy, high lower 80s, 20 percent

chance of showers in afternoon,

mostly cloudy after midnight.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Mostly cloudy in morn-

ing then becoming partly cloudy.

High lower 80s. Monday and

Tuesday: Partly cloudy with 20

percent chance of showers. Highs

in 80s. Tuesday night: 40 percent

chance of thundershowers.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.73 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.87

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$2.23 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.95

Loan deficiency pmt. — 00¢

Milo — \$1.73 bushel

Soybeans — \$6.55 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.31

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0.00¢

Millet — \$4.75 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$10.20 cwt.

Posted county price. — \$10.00

Confection — \$16/9¢ cwt.

NuSun — \$10.45

Pinto beans — \$15 (new crop)

(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



Kids learn acting, ad lib

What character are you? was the main question at the Summer Art Institute recently when the kids, like Allison Rice, showed their acting talents. See story, photos on Page 8.

City attorney breaks 3-way tie

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Goodland's democratic process was put to the test Wednesday morning when three city commissioners met to appoint a replacement commissioner and the city attorney had to break a three-way tie.

City Attorney Perry Warren chose a familiar face: Former City Commissioner Jim Mull, principal at Grant Junior High and North Elementary schools, when the three commissioners were unable to reach an agreement.

Warren noted this wasn't the first time he'd had to choose a commissioner. He said he had cast the deciding vote 10 years ago when Chuck Lutters was appointed to the com-

mission. It's Lutters' post the commissioners were filling Wednesday.

"Lutters achieved his position on the commission in the same manner," Warren said. "I believe he was a successful commissioner, and I hope the next one is as successful."

"I have known Mull for over 30 years. He is a man who speaks his mind, and will say what he thinks."

"My vote is only binding till April. I'm going to vote for Jim Mull."

The meeting, called for 8 a.m., adjourned at 8:35 a.m. Mull will be sworn in at the commission meeting at 5 p.m. on Monday, and serve until city elections in the spring.

Mull left the commission in 2001 after serving 10 years. Lutters, who



Jim Mull

was appointed in Aug. 1995, resigned Aug. 3, so he could apply for the city public works director's job.

State law requires the vacancy to be filled within 10 days, said City Manager Ron Pickman. The meeting Wednesday had been called in haste after Pickman discovered that provision in the law, but it almost did not come off. Until Mayor Rick Billinger arrived at almost the last moment, there was some doubt the meeting could be held.

Commissioners John Garcia and Dean Blume were present, with Commissioner Dave Daniels out of town at the motorcycle rally in Sturgis, S.D.

The three commissioners nominated six men, and three names remained after the first vote.

Billinger read a fax from Daniels saying he was sorry to miss the

meeting, and that his nominee was Gary Slough, the regional office manager for S&T Telephone.

Each commissioner was given a chance to nominate people, with Garcia nominating Slough, Danny Rasure, of Rasure's Do It Center, and Arlo Hansen, of Goodland Sinclair. Blume nominated Mull, and Billinger nominated Dave Walker, an employee of the prison in Burlington, and Mike Miller, a construction contractor and landlord.

Billinger suggested each commissioner vote for one of the six names, and they would cut the list to the top three.

"I hope we can get a consensus," Billinger said, "but if not, we will let Warren decide."

"This is democracy at work," Warren said.

Garcia voted for Slough, Blume

voted for Mull and Billinger voted for Miller in the first round. Rasure and Walker were present for the meeting, but neither man made the cut.

Billinger suggested each commissioner explain why they voted for their nominee.

"Mull is experienced," Blume said, "and I felt the experience is something we need in replacing someone who had experience. I have talked to Mull, and he is willing to fill the vacancy until April."

"Slough came to see me," Garcia said. "I feel we have good, qualified applicants, and Slough spent some time talking to me."

"I believe he can bring a fresh perspective. He has been in business in the city, and he would be a quali-

See CITY, Page 9

Fairgoers had a lot of fun game choices

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Fairgoers this year had a lot of game choices, from the ambitious — trying to lift their own weight — to the sure thing — kiddie games with guaranteed prizes.

The groups operating the games included sports teams, churches, sororities, youth groups, day cares, Hospice, Goodland Regional Medical Center, the Goodland Public Library and the Sherman County Historical Society.

The Goodland Cowboys' Football team extended an invitation to "Impress your date; lift your weight" and offered a chance to toss footballs into barrels to raise money for the juniors and seniors to take a fishing trip to Lake Texoma on the Texas/Oklahoma border.

Monday, they persuaded Steve Evert, a big guy who is a farmer and emergency medical technician, to lift 400 pounds.

Evert insisted he couldn't lift his own weight but then went over it. He didn't seem to have a date, but the crowd that gathered was happy to cheer him on.

Brad Cowan, manager of Frontier Equity Co-op and father of Cowboy Brandon Cowan, also decided to lift

his weight Monday, as did his daughter Lacie, 9, who needed a little help from her spotter, Cowboy David Livengood.

The Cowboys also sold T-shirts and sweatshirts to raise money for equipment for the weight room.

Children sifted through corn to find small toys or tokens at the "Corn Dip" booth; manned by the Goodland Swim Team; picked out numbered ducks at the Duck Pond run by the hospital and shoved their hands into socks at the Second Chance game to raise money for the library's summer reading program.

Plinko, a game borrowed from "The Price is Right," was a popular choice, and children of all ages were able to find some fun at the Grace Fellowship Church's putting green.

Game winners saved up their tokens and took them to Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter board members and volunteers to turn them in for the prize of their choosing.

Though many of the volunteers operating games were raising money for their organizations, others were simply helping out. Dale Schields, director of human resources at the hospital, said hospital workers were running the Duck Pond to help the fair.



Angie, Rachel and Travis Whiteman (above) kept an eye on things at the Goodland Swim Club's "Corn Dip," as Kevin Amthor and Kyle Stephan dived in to look for tokens at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair. Casey Carr (below), an eighth-grader from Newton, took a turn at Plinko. Carr took in the fair while visiting her grandparents. Sandy Rodgers (right), president of the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter, helped a winner find a prize she could get with her tokens.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Star-News



Rains show leaks in fair building

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Compliments on the fair last week were at the top of the list at Tuesday's Sherman County commission meeting, but commissioners noted that a couple of leaks showed up during recent rains.

Fair Board Chairman Steve Duell told the commissioners he wanted to compliment the county employees who helped during the fair and especially building supervisor William McKnight, who worked hard to get the grounds ready.

He said there were two leaks in the Agriculture Building, one near the main entrance and the other in the northeast corner.

"There was not a lot of damage," Duell said, "but one booth near the entrance got a bit wet, as did some of the crafts in the northeast corner."

"The roof is getting old, and I'd like to see a metal roof put on it. This is something that will have to be planned for the future."

Duell said there may be a leak around one of the air conditioners and that might be part of the problem on the northeast.

"We have a good fair board," Duell said. "All of (the fair board members) showed up to work and help."

"Everything worked pretty well, and the hog wash we put in worked well."

Duell said he and the board will be looking at some things they will want to improve for next year, but wanted the commissioners to know about the roof problem.

Curt Way, county public works director, met with the commissioners in closed session for 15 minutes. When the commissioners reopened the meeting, they said the meeting was for a six-month evaluation of a road and bridge employee.

The commissioners approved a 40-cents-an-hour raise for Marshall

See COUNTY, Page 9

Relay for Life to honor cancer patients, raise money

Sixteen teams will do their part to support cancer patients and raise money for the American Cancer Society at the fifth annual Sherman County Relay for Life at 7 p.m. tonight.

The track at the Sherman County Fairgrounds will be lined with luminaries from 7 p.m. until 7 a.m. Saturday, while team members contribute miles to the cause.

Sherida Shoff, Relay for Life

committee member, said the event kicks off with a survivor lap around the track.

The lap honors anyone that has cancer and survived the disease. In the second lap, family members and caregivers join the survivors.

Next, the all members of each relay team take a starting lap around the track.

Shoff said from then on only one or two members from each team

walk at a time throughout the night.

The teams are made up of volunteers who get together in teams of up to 15 members. The teams split up walking time between the members and they try to raise money through direct donations to the relay or fund raisers during the year.

Teams also have put together baskets to be auctioned off at the event. Shoff said the baskets are themed, filled with everything from food to

pet supplies, barbecue items and even tickets to a Denver Nugget basketball game.

"Almost every team is bringing a basket," she said.

The primary source of donations for the event is sale of luminaries. The lighted bags are purchased in honor or memory of anyone who has cancer, survived cancer or died of cancer.

The luminaries, which cost \$10

each, are made of a paper bag filled with sand and finished with a candle. Shoff said last year the luminaries were very popular and it seemed like the track was covered with lights.

"Almost everybody has been touched by cancer," she said.

Shoff said the relay is open to the public. The event will be set up all night and spectators stop by to buy luminaries or cheer on the walkers.