

weather
report

79°

noon Thursday

Today
•Sunset, 7:27 p.m.
Saturday
•Sunrise, 6:11 a.m.
•Sunset, 7:27 p.m.

Midday Conditions
•Soil temperature 75 degrees
•Humidity 31 percent
•Sky sunny
•Winds north 16-24 mph.
•Barometer 29.90 inches
and steady
•Record High today 102° (1960)
•Record Low today 45° (1964)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 86°
Low Wednesday 58°
Precipitation none
This month 1.04
Year to date 13.93
Normal 16.01

The Topside Forecast

Today: partly cloudy with 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high near 71, low near 49, winds northeast 15-30 mph. Saturday: mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high around 69, low around 49, winds north 7 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: mostly sunny high 79, low 53. Monday - Wednesday: mostly sunny, high 85-90.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.82 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.86
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$2.31 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.91
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$1.82 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.88 bushel
Posted county price — \$6.19
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$4.75 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$10.50 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
NuSun — \$10.75 cwt.
Confection — \$19/\$13 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



Scrimmage
5 p.m. today

One of the Cowboys' quarterbacks prepared to "hit" one of his receivers during the drill Thursday. The team's annual soap scrimmage is at 5 p.m. today at Cowboy Stadium. See photos on Page 9.

Abuse victim says shelter saved her

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Linda (not her real name) said she had lived with abuse for her entire adult life before the Northwest Kansas Family Shelter gave her a new lease on life.

She said the men in her life made her feel incapable of doing anything right and told her the abuse was her fault.

"If you don't act like a dog," one of her three husbands told her, "you won't be treated like a dog."

Linda endured a life of physical and verbal abuse, bad language and derogatory names. Husbands overturned tables, she said, broke dishes, gave her black eyes. She was kicked, punched and thrown into a ditch, left to walk home.

By the time her first husband left, Linda said, she felt she couldn't do anything. And that left her vulnerable to latching onto whatever came along.

"I couldn't even hang a picture by the time he was done with me," she said.

Sometimes a woman believes



Linda, a Sherman County domestic violence victim, said women in her former situation often feel loneliness, frustration and fear. The illustration above is from Hidden Hurt Domestic Violence Information, an England-based abuse information web site.

that's the normal way of life, Linda said, that it's OK for someone to bully you around. Sometimes when you get out of a bad situation, you don't see the red flags. You're just looking for a way out.

"By the time I was in three of these relationships," she said, "I didn't feel worth much."

But Charlotte Linsner, program director at the family shelter, helped her change that. She said Linsner helped her get training for a job.

"Without that support," she said, "I would never have made it to be trained for that job, and now I'm a business woman."

Linda said she met with Linsner for individual counseling and with a support group. She said Linsner helped her to see abuse is not a normal way to live.

"By the time I left him (the third husband), I was starting to stand up to those putting me through that verbal garbage," Linda said. "Now I see red flags. Before, people could schmooze me."

Abusers are slick, she said; they say, "I'm sorry. I'll never do it

again." And, she said, abusers usually are exceptionally nice at the beginning of a relationship which can deceive the victim into getting deep into the relationship before realizing the potential for abuse.

Linda said when someone suggested she call Linsner, it took her a while to make the call.

"It took a long time to have the courage to call Charlotte," she said. "I had the number for a long time."

And it took even longer to put her life back together.

"It took me years to finally be able to believe in myself," Linda said. "It was an on-going process even after he was gone."

Linda said when she went to Linsner for counseling, she wasn't told to leave her husband.

"Charlotte told me a lot of things that could be done," Linda said. "She didn't suggest I leave the last relationship. She told me things I could adjust."

For one thing, she said, Linsner suggested buying a child's jeweled

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Family shelter offers safety, help, counsel

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Are you a prisoner in your own home? Does someone make every daily decision for you, and beat you to a pulp if you don't obey? Do you feel there's a gun to your head keeping you in the situation?

The Northwest Kansas Family Shelter offers safety, help and an ear to those who find themselves in danger in their own homes.

But the shelter has goals that go beyond just helping victims. While a major thrust is to protect victims of domestic violence and help them to leave abusive relationships if they want, the organization also helps sexual assault victims and tries to turn the tide of public opinion on these issues.

A recent domestic violence case, the murder of a woman by her husband, shows the need for the shelter's services in Sherman County, it's director says.

Besides sheltering women at a home in Hays and several "safe houses," said Director Charlotte Linsner, the group also works to help victims stay in their homes.

"We work to turn around the notion that it's the victim's fault," she said, "and are try-

ing to keep them in their homes and get the perpetrator to leave."

In that case, Linsner said, the victim doesn't have to leave her job, the kids don't have to change schools.

When a business is robbed, she said, no one says it's their fault; if someone is mugged, no one blames the victim. But in domestic violence and sexual assault cases, she said, people still blame the victims.

Women in abusive relationships face 75 percent more danger of being killed when they leave, Linsner said.

"Many people ask, 'Why doesn't she leave?'" Linsner said. "They should ask, 'Why does he hit?'"

"Abusers often say they lose control, but, no, they choose whom to abuse."

She said men who abuse their wives don't normally abuse the banker, the lawyer or the dry cleaner they come into contact with in day-to-day life, only their spouses. Some only abuse one child, she said, or only the



children but not their partner, or only their partner but not the kids.

But domestic violence isn't limited to parents abusing children or abuse between partners. Sometimes siblings abuse siblings, Linsner said, sons abuse their mothers, and now there is often abuse of the elderly.

The shelter's services, she said, include paying for medical care, taking victims to court, offering a short-term counselor and helping family and friends to know what they can do to help. And the shelter has worked to establish a sexual assault nurse examiner and sexual assault response team, or SANE/

Blown fuse delays superintendent's evaluation

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News

A blown fuse stopped the action at a Goodland School Board meeting Monday and forced Superintendent Marvin Selby to wait a couple more weeks to hear what the board thinks of his work this year.

The bad fuse caused the transformer to shut off and led to a 40-minute power outage for the school district building and the two houses behind it along Center Avenue. Board members went outside to investigate.

Chuck Lutters, city director of public works, and a former school district maintenance supervisor, showed up a few minutes later. Lutters contacted an electrician and power was restored around 8:30 p.m.

While waiting for the electrician, the board decided to table Selby's oral evaluation until the next meeting on Sept. 13. Since the evaluation was the only item left on the agenda, Board President Jane Philbrick adjourned the meeting.

Before the outage, the board hired 12 people to fill support, service and coaching positions.

Traci Price-Waugh was hired as an aide at Central Elementary, Courtney Dorn as an aide at West Elementary and Andrea Nelson as a speech aide at North Elementary. Shelly Bellamy was hired as an at-risk tutor and secretary at Grant Junior High.

Kelly Selbe was hired as a seven-hour cook at Central and Toniarae Schreibvogel as a three-hour cook at the high school. Connie Carson was hired as a six-hour custodian at

Grant. Sue Smith was hired as a full-time bus driver.

All the coaches hired Monday were for the high school. David Avila, a supervisor at Northern Sun in Caruso, was hired as an assistant football coach and his wife Char, an elementary music teacher, to be an

assistant volleyball coach. Jackie Elliott, a high school math teacher, was hired as an assistant girls golf coach. Curt Minner, of Western Insurance Agency, as the assistant girls basketball coach for next season.

The board also voted to accept the

resignation of Christina Ledesma as an aide at the high school effective Aug. 12.

Susan Jensen, a third-grade teacher at Central, briefed the board about a \$1,000 grant she received from Delta Kappa Gamma Society International to buy and maintain a

wireless weather station with which students can learn about the weather and how it is monitored.

The society, she said, is dedicated to the promotion of professionalism and personal growth for women educators, and for excellence in education. To help celebrate its 75th year, it awarded 75 \$1,000 special stipends. Jensen said hers was one of four or five awarded to teachers in Kansas.

Jensen said she got the idea to apply when another grant she applied for to get the weather station was turned down. She said the students will be able to compare the data they collect with the National Weather Service readings here and with data at David Floyd's house about four miles west of town.

Floyd, warning coordinator meteorologist at the Goodland weather station, is responsible for public outreach and education for the weather service.

Before the start of Monday's meeting, Kenny Studer, the district's maintenance supervisor, took the board members took a brief tour of Cowboy Stadium, the high school and Central Elementary to see some of the work projects done during the summer.

The board also looked at the proposed location for the high school's greenhouse and heard about the renovation work needed to accommodate it.

The meeting was adjourned about 8:05 p.m., in the parking lot behind Peoples State Bank.

The next meeting will be 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 13, at the district office, 1312 Main Ave.

Getting ready for school on Monday



John Cozadd (left) and Kenneth Grieve, custodians at Goodland High School, washed the outside windows early Thursday morning "to beat the heat" in preparation for the first day of classes Monday.
Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News