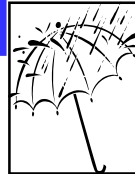


weather report

53°

noon Monday



Today

• Sunset, 6:14 p.m.

Wednesday

• Sunrise, 6:55 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:13 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 56 degrees
- Humidity 93 percent
- Sky cloudy with light rain
- Winds east 6 mph
- Barometer 30.21 inches and rising
- Record High today 94° (1975)
- Record Low today 25° (1986)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	67°
Low Sunday	52°
Precipitation	.26
This month	1.36
Year to date	18.57
Normal	17.79

The Topside Forecast

Today: partly cloudy, high near 66, low near 43, winds north northwest 7-13 mph. Wednesday: partly cloudy, high around 60, low around 33, winds north northwest 14-38 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: partly cloudy, high near 63, low around 39. Friday: mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers, high around 63, low near 37.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.91 bushel
 Posted county price — \$3.01
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 Corn — \$1.95 bushel
 Posted county price — \$1.73
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 22¢
 Milo — \$1.58 bushel
 Soybeans — \$4.71 bushel
 Posted county price — \$4.53
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 15¢
 Millet — \$4.75 hundredweight
 Sunflowers
 Oil current crop — \$11.05 cwt.
 NuSun — \$11.15 cwt.
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 Confection — \$19/\$13 cwt.
 Pinto beans — \$25
 (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



Cowboys lose to Tigers

Senior David Livengood took the first few steps of his 88-yard kickoff return for a touchdown tie the score at 7 just 28 seconds into the first quarter of Friday night's game at Ulysses. Story, photos on Page 11.

Aircraft company answers critics

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

A sign on the front of the old IGA building at 10th and Center says it is the Aircraft Seal and Gasket Corp.'s Goodland plant, but there are no cars in the expansive lot and most days, the building is dark and the doors locked.

Work began a year ago to bring the California company to Goodland. The building was rebuilt by the city, and machinery arrived from California. A grand opening was held in February, but not a gasket or a seal has been made yet.

In Goodland, rumors abound that

the firm is shifting equipment to Wichita. One of its two employees quit to work for the city. Aircraft Seal promised to employ at least six workers here within two years, with talk of up to 100 someday, but people wonder if the plant will ever get going.

City Manager Ron Pickman says he is ready to recommend the city should end its lease with Aircraft Seal and recruit another business for the building, which it has over \$500,000 invested in so far.

Founder Herb Menold says,

See COMPANY, Page 9

Plant project now over a year old

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

A year ago, the old IGA on the corner of 10th and Center was still a fire damaged shell the City of Goodland had purchased and hoped to rebuild into a new city office.

Over the last year, it has been rebuilt with new glass in the front, a new roof, and new outside walls.

About a year ago, Roy Dixon, a promoter and cattleman, who then lived near Brewster, arrived with

Herb Menold, the founder of a parts firm called Aircraft Seal and Gasket Corp.

Dixon was introducing Menold to financial and community leaders in Goodland to see if they were interested in bringing the aircraft parts company to town from California, where high labor and production costs were making business difficult.

Menold told community leaders the plant would employ about 30

people to start with and probably increase to about 100 at full production.

Over the next few months, the city began an all-out effort to rebuild the building and get it ready for Aircraft Seal and Gasket to move into by the first of this year.

The effort took more time than expected, and in the middle of the process, the city lost Public Works

See PLANT, Page 9



Pumpkin patch time; Halloween getting close

Kassidy White (left) picked the perfect pumpkin while Ashley Smith (above) lifted her choice at teacher Nona Mason's pumpkin patch during an early childhood class outing. Mason led the 14 member class through her garden, picking big and small pumpkins, carrots and potatoes for the kids to take home. After the class toured her house, she read them a story while they drank milk and ate her homemade sugar cookies. "I think it's a wonderful chance for the kids to see a garden," Mason said.

Photo by Kathryn Gurfinkel/The Goodland Star-News

Kanorado needs temporary ambulance garage

The Kanorado Rural Fire department is scheduled to get a new truck in the next few months, but that may put the Kanorado ambulance out in the cold.

Citizens from Kanorado approached the Sherman County commissioners about the problem earlier this summer and again at the end of September.

Ruth Nicols, Bob Handle, Deb Fahey and Lois Cossman met with the commissioners Sept. 30, to discuss the ambulance situation.

They told the commissioners that Bob Helderman of Kanorado had agreed to give the emergency medical group some land for a new ambulance garage, and that Bruce Gleason, head of the county ambulance service, is working to get a grant for a building to house the ambulance.

The commissioners said the ambulance group would need to find a place for the ambulance before a grant can be approved, and suggested they contact the Kanorado Co-op for a temporary place to store the ambulance.

Another suggestion was to consider an addition to the existing fire station to house the ambulance.

The commissioners told the

Sherman property taxpayers get a break

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Taxpayers got good news when the state notified Sherman County that the county's utility valuation had increased by \$1.75 million, meaning lower taxes for property owners.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said the state told her that the amount the state assesses for utilities in the county has risen from \$6,301,307 this year to \$8,048,377 for next year. She said the increase is mostly due to the completion of the S&T Telephone system, which is valued at \$2,018,000 in Sherman County, and \$210,0318 for the Cheyenne Plains gas pipeline that has been laid across the southern

corner of the county.

"This means that the county property tax levy will drop about half a mill," Rumpel said. "The amount of money raised will remain the same, but it will take less taxes because of the increased valuation."

"We got some of the valuation from the S&T last year, but they had not completed their construction. The pipeline valuation should raise quite a bit next year, as the actual construction was done this year."

Rumpel said she will not know the exact amount of the drop in property tax mill levy until the end of the month, but estimated it would be at least .5 of a mill.

The increased valuation will drop the property tax levy for the City of

Goodland, and City Clerk Mary Volk estimated that would be a drop of nearly three mills. The property tax levy approved by the city commission was 53.93, but with the increase in valuation, she estimates that will drop to 50.81.

Property taxes for the Goodland School District will not be affected by the change, said Superintendent Marvin Selby. He said the school district approves its budget based on a state formula, and it is not based on the property tax levy.

Rumpel said this good news could continue with the amount of utility construction and oil and gas exploration that has been going on or is planned in the county.

into their bid. Way said the cost of each section would be between \$35,000 to \$40,000, and that having the state include it in their project could save the county \$15,000 to \$20,000 per section. He suggested the sections be milled down and a two-inch overlay be applied. The commissioners approved Way's recommendations.

• Held a closed session with Carolyn Applegate, economic development director; Scott Showalter, assistant county attorney; and County Clerk Janet Rumpel. After the closed session, the commissioners ask the county attorney to send a letter canceling the sublease on the economic development office at 1208 Main.

• Heard questions from Todd Quenzer, who lives northwest of Brewster, about the status of Eighth Street west of the city, and what the county commissioners plan to do with it. He suggested the road be torn out and graveled like the other oil roads which were taken out when they were too bad to fix. Quenzer suggested the traffic for the Sugar Hills Golf Course could use old U.S. 24, which is asphalt. The commis-

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