Goodland Star-News

WEEKEND Friday, May 20 2005

75¢

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Twenty-six Pages



Today Sunset, 7:57 p.m. Saturday Sunrise, 5:29 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:58 p.m.

Midday Conditions • Soil temperature 70 degrees

- Humidity 19 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds calm
- Barometer 29.97 inches and steady
- Record High today 98° (1934) • Record Low today 30° (1931)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday	79°
Low Wednesday	40°
Precipitation	none
This month	1.15
Year to date	3.86
Normal	5.48

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, high around 94, low near 61, winds south 7-30 mph. Saturday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms at night, high near 86, low around 53, winds north northwest 10-33 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms at night, high near 72, low near 52. Monday: Partly cloudy, high near 84, low near 55. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m



Noon Wheat — \$2.86 bushel Posted county price - \$2.94 Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢



Paul Medrano inspected his spot welding work on an antenna at the Adronics/Elrob Manufacturing plant Wednesday. Medrano is one of 24 employees learning the ropes Photo by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News at the facility.

Antenna company starts production

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News The parking lot is finally full of cars, the sign is up and people are buzzing around inside of the new antenna manufacturing plant at 10th and Center.

Troy Robinson, vice president of Adronics/Elrob Manufacturing Corp., said production in the Goodland plant started on Monday.

"I think everything's going great," he said, adding that the 24-member crew is working well and things are running smoothly.

The company worked out a deal with Goodland in March to take over the cityowned plant at 1006 Center formerly occupied by Aircraft Seal and Gasket Corp.

Today, the former grocery store has been cleared of the old company's items, and the inside is wide open from the front doors until you hit the work line along the west wall.

Two lines are up and going, a coaxial cable line and an antenna line.

Robinson said they try to keep people working on one line or the other and don't switch them back and forth. Everyone on a line, he said, learns all the jobs so they can change positions. He said some jobs take

longer to learn than others, but so far the Goodland employees have done well.

"They're really doing great," he said. "They're really picking up fast."

Laurie Helton, plant manager, said although the workers here aren't expert yet, everyone has learned a lot.

She said they started with about seven workers traveling back and forth to Hays for two weeks of training, and eight more joined later.

So far, she said, the company has hired 24 employees with two more to start next week. Although the plant only has two lines right

now, Helton said, more are coming.

"This is just the start of it," she said.

Robinson said the plant will continue to grow as they add up to seven lines to the building. He said they hope to have 50 employees by the end of summer.

The company will be getting a few more lines in Kansas, he said, as soon as they reduce some jobs at the New Jersey headquarters. He said they have been slowly moving lines here for years because shipping is easier. All of the new employees will be trained

See ADRONICS, Page 7a

'Let's give it a try," Commis-

Commissioner Mitch Tiede

agreed it sounded like a solid plan

and made a motion to change the

contract to allow for the beer garden

nival rides would be open that night

and if the Chamber had thought

about using the extra parking to the

southeast which is owned by the

Commissioners asked if the car-

sioner Chuck Thomas said.

County approves beer garden for concert

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News Fans may be able to drink a beer during the Tracy Lawrence concert at the fairgrounds on July 2 after Sherman County commissioners approved plans for a beer garden on Tuesday.

Donna Swager, president of the Goodland Chamber of Commerce, and Courtney Warden, Chamber executive director, asked the commissioners to consider allowing a beer garden for the concert.

Swager said the chamber has been looking for sponsors to help with the lowed to carry beer out of the area. concert cost, and have been talking Only ticket holders could get into asked how many people the Cham- fer rides home to those who may to a couple of beer companies. How- the beer garden. ever, she said the companies would not consider sponsoring the concert will be from 8 to 9:30 or 10 p.m., go up to 4,000 with extra bleachers plans, and would be cutting the unless there was a beer garden. She said the beer garden would be negotiating for an opening act. The separate and no one would be al-

Road costs lead joint meeting agenda

The Sherman County commissioners and Goodland city commissioners will hold another joint meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday at the courthouse, to review the costs and ways to pay for street and road projects.

Two weeks ago, the two commissions decided the top two things to be tackled were road and street repairs and consolidation of city and county services where possible. Roads and streets were the top pri-

ber was expecting, and Swager said have had a few too many beers. Lawrence's part of the concert they are hoping for 2,500 but it could Rasure said the beer garden and concert to give people some time to the controlled area sounded good. clear their heads.

ority for both commissions.

Both commissions are to bring a list of possible road and street projects with cost estimates to see what the total picture is and to review possible solutions.

The two commissions are looking at using a sales tax increase to pay for the projects. Any joint sales tax proposal will have to be approved by the state Legislature and then the county voters before it could

Commissioner Kevin Rasure He asked if the Chamber would of-

Swager said they had that in the drinking off before the end of the

be going on Saturday because there were not enough volunteers, but would be operating Sunday night, which is when they plan to shoot off the fireworks

that night.

Swager said the rides would not

take affect.

Corn — \$1.74 bushel Posted county price — \$1.78 Loan deficiency pmt. - 0¢ Milo — \$1.46 bushel Soybeans — \$5.54 bushel Posted county price — \$5.58 Loan deficiency pmt. - 0¢ Millet — \$5 hundredweight Sunflowers Oil current crop — \$9.70 cwt. NuSun — \$10.70 cwt. Loan deficiency pmt. - 0¢ Confection — Ask Pinto beans — \$25 (Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.





Big finish for baseball

Brandon Zelfer hit a line drive in a regional game in Colby on Monday. The Cowboys were in a playoff in Pratt, but lost to Ulysses in the regional championship. Story, photos on Page 10a.

Swager said, and the Chamber is and standing room. gates would be opened at 5 p.m.

amusement authority.

Warden said she had not thought about the parking, and thanked the

See COUNTY, Page 7a



Students paint new designs on carnival carousel horses

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News When you have a community art project, where do you find creative people to help? $Students \,in a \, graphic \, design \, program \, and$ dancers fit the bill.

If you're not a painter, you can always hire someone to do the job.

The six students in the Northwest Kansas Technical College's computer graphics technology program have painted two carousel horses, and students in Jessica Kannady's The Right Combination Dance Studio will paint a horse for a large-scale community art project.

A Kansas State University fan has decided to hire an auto body shop to paint a

horse in K-State purple with Wildcat designs.

The Goodland Arts Council and the Sherman County Community Services Inc., which runs the home-owned carnival at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair, have invited people and groups to contribute to the project.

The horses were needing a facelift, and members of the carnival board thought the Carnegie Arts Center should be involved in the project. Tina Goodwin, director of the arts center, inspired by similar work in other cities, came up with the idea to make it a community project.

See HORSES, Page 7a



Erica Harlan, Cathy Lovins and Cass Antholz (above, left to right) painted a carousel horse in the Northwest Kansas Technical College's computer graphics technology program. Debra Hummingbird (left, standing) and Brenda Welch painted another horse in the class. Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News