

The Goodland Star-News

MIDWEEK
Tuesday, June 7
2005

75¢

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Twelve Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

81°

noon Monday



Today

•Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

Wednesday

•Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.

•Sunset, 8:11 p.m.

Midday Conditions

•Soil temperature 63 degrees

•Humidity 48 percent

•Sky sunny

•Winds south 26 mph.

•Barometer 29.80 inches

and falling

•Record High today 101° (2004)

•Record Low today 40° (1954)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday 79°

Low Sunday 48°

Precipitation none

This month 1.02

Year to date 6.67

Normal 7.59

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny and breezy, high near 90, low near 56, wind southwest 12-32 mph. Wednesday: Mostly sunny and breezy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms at night, high near 81, low around 54.

Extended Forecast

Friday: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, high around 83, low near 55. Saturday: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings compiled at midnight.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.97 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.96

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$1.97 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.88

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Milo — \$1.60 bushel

Soybeans — \$6.13 bushel

Posted county price — \$6.22

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.)

inside today

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



Goodland loses game

Goodland's Jake Alander delivered a pitch to a Scott City batter in the first inning of the second game during Sunday's American Legion doubleheader at Memorial Field. Scott City won both games, 16-2 and 18-3. Photo, story Page 12.

Former pros help medical center

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

"You are my sunshine, my only sunshine," echoed through the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall Saturday night as Walter White got the crowd going with a sing-along for the Slice of Life benefit auction.

White, a former Kansas City Chiefs player, had the audience on their feet clapping, dancing and singing along to top off the four-hour event.

The night started as celebrities and guest arrived at the hall. The auction is part of a weekend of events culminating in an all-day golf tournament Sunday. The fun raises money for rural health care through the Northwest Kansas Area Medical Foundation.

Brenda McCants, Goodland Regional Medical Center's director of patient relations, volunteer service and marketing, said the hospital has plans to buy an anesthesia machine, a \$100,000 piece of equipment; a new operating table and lights, \$35,000 to \$60,000; and a c-arm for radiology and pain management, \$100,000.

One side of the hall was set up with tables displaying all of the items up for grabs in a silent auction.

Autographed photos of sports greats lined the wall and everything from HP iPods to movie posters filled the tables.

A few items were held for a live auction, including a photo and basketball autographed by Denver Nuggets star Carmelo Anthony.

Another item up for the live auction was a pair of racing tires Kevin Harvick and Rusty Wallace used in the 2002 Daytona 500.

McCants said they brought in the most money, \$3,300, with movie posters from Madagascar, the new DreamWorks movie.

The next highest bids came in for playing in the golf tournament

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Larry Brunson, a former Denver Broncos player, made a chip shot on hole three at the Sugar Hills Golf Course for the Slice of Life golf tournament Sunday. A game with Brunson took in the second-highest bid, \$2,300, at the benefit auction Saturday night. Auction photos are on Page 10, tournament story and photos on Page 12.

Photo by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

Sheriff wants account for inmate cash

A request for a better way to handle money belonging Bastille inmates brought the Sherman County Sheriff to the Sherman County commissioner meeting Tuesday, and will be on the agenda for today's meeting.

Sheriff Kevin Butts told the commissioners he did not like the present system, where the money is stored in a cabinet, but when a prisoner leaves, the county treasurer

writes them a check.

The commissioners agreed there could be a better way. They told Butts to talk to Treasurer Shelby Miller about opening an account for the inmate money so it could be tracked. The commissioners asked Butts to check with other counties to see how they were handling inmate money.

At 9:15 a.m. today, the treasurer will update the commissioners

procedures for handling the inmate money as well as the AFLAC insurance account.

A question about donating sick leave was brought to the commissioners, concerning a new sheriff's department employee who will have surgery and would be off work longer than the amount of sick leave she has accumulated.

Undersheriff Roger Studer told the commissioners he had a lot of

sick leave built up, and would like to donate some to the employee, Samantha Siruta.

The commissioners said they liked the concept. They felt County Clerk Janet Rumpel should check out the matter with County Attorney Bonnie Selby and the Kansas Association of Counties and report at today's meeting.

The commissioners will talk to Terry Ballard, county assessor,

about his contract, which is up for renewal this year, and he will update them about the assessor's office.

Ballard has a part-time contract for handling the county assessor job and it is renewed every four years. Ballard is paid \$40,000 a year by Sherman County.

Review of an oil and gas lease is on today's commission agenda.

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Church group earning money for mission trip

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

With hammers in hand, a team of teens from the Catholic Youth Organization invaded Mike and Marie Elias' yard at 217 Cherry in Goodland two weeks ago.

The group, determined to raise money for a mission trip in Mexico, has been doing odd jobs around town, including helping Marie tear down a deck in her back yard.

"They just worked hard and did a really good job," she said.

The group includes about 30 high school kids from the Our Lady of Perpetual Health Catholic Church. Only 19 are heading south.

Members of that group showed up on a hot and sunny day to remove nails, brackets and screws from pieces of wood that used to be a 20-foot deck in the Elias' back yard.

When they first started working, Marie said, the group talked about why they needed the jobs.

"I think the kids are really looking forward to it," she said.

The youths plan to load up in cars and drive 15 hours to Juarez, Mexico, on Saturday, June 18. There they will help build a house for an impoverished Mexican family and return home on Saturday, June 25.

Group leaders Roberta and Burton Pianalto said the family is living in a cardboard box with wooden pallets for a floor.

"They call it Cardboard City," Burton said.

He said the family and the kids will work together on the house.

"It means a lot more because they're gonna be there and we'll see them," said Katrina Cotter, one of the students going on the trip.

The father is a brick layer making only \$70 a month to support a wife and four children, Pianalto said.

The Pianaltos said the purpose of

See MISSION, Page 9



Josh Cech (left) and Matt Rohr put some elbow grease into fund raising for their Catholic Youth Organization mission trip to Mexico next week.

Photo by Roberta Pianalto

Fossil dig begins

Collectors' night on Wednesday

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Trowels are sharpened and the sites staked out at three locations along Middle Beaver Creek near Kanorado.

Every morning for the next two weeks, volunteers will board a school bus before 8 a.m. for the trip to the Kansas Anthropological Training field school. The special dig targets an area where worth over the past few years has produced artifacts and bones are among the oldest possible evidence of humans on the High Plains.

Dr. Steven Holen of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science and Dr. Rofl Mandel of the Kansas Geological Survey are leading the excavation, with support from the University of Kansas and the state Historical Society.

The digging began Saturday and continues through June 19, with volunteers excavating the creek banks in a methodical, scientific search for more bones and artifacts to support the theory that there were people out here as early as 12,200 years ago.

Headquarters for the Kansas Anthropological Association's program is Goodland High School, where registration is held and a lab has been established in the cafeteria.

Besides the field work and the lab, there are evening programs open to the public. Wednesday, people can bring anything of a fossil nature to Collector's Night beginning at 7 p.m. at the high school cafeteria.

"We welcome people to come to the high school and check out the lab during the day," said Sharon Sage, event coordinator. "The collector's night is a good chance for people to bring things to have the experts identify the items."

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