

weather
report

73°

noon Thursday



Today

• Sunset, 8:12 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:13 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 70 degrees
- Humidity 59 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds northwest 8 mph.
- Barometer 29.74 inches and falling

- Record High today 102° (1952)
- Record Low today 41° (1997)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday	80°
Low Wednesday	52°
Precipitation	none
This month	1.03
Year to date	6.68
Normal	7.92

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon, high near 73, low near 54, winds northeast 9-14 mph. Saturday: Partly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after midnight, high around 79, low around 56, winds southeast 10-13 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Partly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high near 81.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.83 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.79
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$1.87 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.85
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$1.50 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.93 bushel
Posted county price — \$6.13
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 two

Goodland's Randy Young swung at a pitch for a strike against Colby during the bottom of the fourth inning of Tuesday's opening game at Memorial Field. Photo, Story on Page 12a.

Dig uncovers signs of humans



Dr. Steven Holen of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science held up a calcite flake that was found Wednesday afternoon at the westernmost of three sites. The material is special, he said, because it does not originate in western Kansas.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Bones are not the prime targets of the archeological dig along the banks of the Middle Beaver Creek near Kanorado, but everyone on site gets excited when one is found.

The volunteers from the Kansas Anthropological Association are helping excavate three sites and are completing the first week of the effort. Work will continue daily through June 19.

"We are not looking specifically for bones," said Dr. Steve Holen of the Denver Museum of Science and Nature. "Finding bones is part of excavating sites where we believe there are artifacts that may prove that humans lived in this area over 12,000 years ago.

"Archeologists are interested in finding anything that will help tell who was in the area and what was happening at different times. The sites are worked by scraping small areas down a 5 cm level at a time and all the dirt is sifted to find any small pieces that might help tell the history of the area."

Completing the first week the volunteers have found bones, scrapers, ancient painting material and numerous flakes of rock that were chipped off by the humans as they made tools or arrow heads to hunt mammoths, camel and bison.

Over 100 volunteers have signed up to help with the excavation, and over 40 took the yellow school bus Wednesday, being supplied by the Goodland School District, and split up at the three sites. That was the largest number on a single day for the first week. The number of people varies on a daily basis, and some work the full day while others work either the mornings or the afternoons.

On site the volunteers are assigned to an area of the site and a specific unit, which has been laid out with large spikes and string. The elevations of each unit are confirmed with a surveying system that has a built-in GPS to make the measurements as exact as possible.

Each volunteer uses a sharpened trowel and scoop to shave thin layers of dirt off the top of their unit, and all the dirt is then screened to find the smallest pieces of both bones and tool flakes.

The field work is half of the field-training program. Back at Goodland High School classes are being taught in the mornings and the lab is set up in the cafeteria.

The classes range from studying architecture to the

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City, county ask for one-cent tax

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Rep. Jim Morrison advised city and county commissioners Monday to avoid going to the Legislature and instead raise taxes to pay for road improvements with the city's current taxing authority.



Morrison

he said, explaining that the city can raise its sales tax by the proposed 1 cent with an allowance that is already built in.

The city then could give up a portion of the 43 percent of county taxes it gets, he said, in effect giving the county a share of the increase.

"It'd be a complicated agreement," county Commissioner Kevin Rasure told County Attorney Bonnie Selby at commissioners' meeting Tuesday. He said Selby would have to get with City Attorney Perry Warren to work out the details.

"It's a matter of how you do the books," Morrison said, adding that the lawyers should speak with Steve Brunkan at the state Department of Revenue.

The two commissions have been considering a 1 cent hike in the sales tax to pay for about \$10 million in work on city streets and county roads over the next 10 years.

Although Morrison said he would be happy to carry a bill to the Legislature to allow that, he said with the current debate over taxes and school reform, it might be best to keep the matter local.

Morrison said the Kansas Supreme Court said the \$143 million allotted to schools this year was insufficient. He said the court has sent school finance back to

City, county plan forum

Everyone is invited to an open forum Wednesday with Sherman County and Goodland commissioners on the proposed one-percent sales tax for road improvements.

The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at the high school auditorium.

All commissioners plan to be present for the night and a list of roads set for improvement will be handed out.

"It's basically to hear the public concerns," said Mary Volk, city clerk.

the Legislature to add more money.

"It will likely end up in some form of tax increase," he said.

Because schools will cost more, Morrison said, he fears the voters might say "no" to the road tax.

"It's going to be an interesting issue," said Morrison adding an overwhelming majority of people believe the court is overstepping its boundaries. "It's not going to be a pleasant time, but an interesting time."

The Legislature normally has no trouble allowing a local tax increase like this, he said, because the issue goes to a vote before it is enacted.

"If you need it," he said, "I can get it passed."

He added that bypassing the Legislature will speed up the process of collecting the tax and starting construction.

Morrison said the soonest he could take a bill would be the next legislative session next spring. That would put actual tax collection off until next fall, maybe as

See ROADS, Page 8a

Bookstore closing doors



As Linda Knott dusted the shelves in her store, Knott Just Books, she explained that a business owner wears a lot of hats, from sales person to janitor.

Photo by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

'Last page, final chapter' next weeeek

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Other businesses affected by an economic downturn reflect in the grand bay windows of Knott Just Books, the latest downtown business to mark down prices and get ready to close its doors forever.

Across the street, Atens' and Scooter's signs reflect the ghosts of former business. Paper covers the windows in the old Alco building.

Linda Knott, owner of Knott Just Books, said after 11 years in business, she just can't make ends meet. She plans to close Saturday, June 18.

"I hate it," she said. "I really do hate it for Goodland."

On a hot, dusty afternoon in early June, the streets were bustling with customers eager to check out the mark downs in the store.

Some came in for merchandise, some to ask owner Linda Knott what

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Sherman County wheat tour Tuesday

Mark you calendar, grab a hat and get ready to learn about the wheat crop this year and the performance of different varieties at the annual Kansas State University Sherman County wheat plot tour.

A group will gather at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday at Fred and Jeanie Schieldses' Farm 10 miles north of town on K-27. Visitors are to meet north of the windbreak on the property.

The tour will feature specialist including Jeanne Falk, K-State extension agronomist for Sherman, Cheyenne and Wallace counties, a crop and soil specialist; Brian Olson, northwest area agronomist; Doug Jardine, extension plant pathologist; and Jim Shroyer, extension crop production specialist.

Falk said this year the group is

staying at the Schieldses' farm instead of touring several plots because they didn't have any 4-H participants or volunteers.

She said Olson and Shroyer will talk about the wheat varieties, focusing on what works in northwest Kansas.

Jardine, the plant pathologist, will discuss wheat diseases.

"We've had quite a year for diseases," Falk said.

This is her first year on the job, she said, and so she will mainly listen and help out.

"We're all available to take questions," she added.

Hamburgers will be served by the Ruleton Eager Beavers 4-H Club in the Sherman County 4-H Building following the tour.

A wheat plot tour is scheduled for

Wallace County starting at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday at the firehouse in Wallace for breakfast. From there, the tour will head to the Bill Mai Farm, 10 miles south, four miles west and a fourth of a mile south of Wallace; then the Duane Frazier Farm, 1 3/4 miles south and a half mile east of the Mai farm; and then back to the firehouse for a bread demonstration from Connie Hudson, with the Kansas Wheat Commission.

Another tour will be held in Cheyenne County at 5:30 p.m. Central Time on Wednesday five miles south of Wheeler on K-27, then a quarter mile west on Road I. A program will be held at 6:30 Central Time at the Bird City American Legion Hall. Dinner will be sponsored by the Cheyenne County grain dealers.