

weather  
report

62°

noon Monday



Today

•Sunset, 8:14 p.m.

Wednesday

•Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.

•Sunset, 8:15 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 59 degrees
- Humidity 49 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds west 37-53 mph.
- Barometer 29.81 inches and rising

- Record High today 105° (1952)
- Record Low today 40° (1969)

Last 24 Hours\*

High Monday	71°
Low Monday	53°
Precipitation	.37
This month	2.07
Year to date	7.72
Normal	8.36

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, high near 85, low near 54, winds north north-west 7-11 mph. Wednesday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight, high near 88, low around 57, winds south 9-13 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon, high around 86, low around 57. Friday: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon.

(National Weather Service)  
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
\* Readings compiled at midnight

local  
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.89 bushel  
Posted county price — \$2.78  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Corn — \$1.90 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.77  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Milo — \$1.52 bushel  
Soybeans — \$6.05 bushel  
Posted county price — \$6.11  
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



Scraper tool  
found at dig

Jerry Finke of Kansas City, Mo., holds a Hartville chert scraper found Friday afternoon at a dig site south of Kanorado. The dig wraps up with an ice-cream social and resume at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday at Goodland High School. Photo, story on Page 11.

Gym purchaser  
delays opening

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

The California man who is buying the old Edson gym sent his regrets to the Goodland School Board and everyone in the area for missing the June 1 acquisition date.

Jeff Soper said family problems have kept him at home.

"I'm terribly disappointed," he said. "I'm ready to go."

Soper said he is having trouble finding someone to care for his step-mother, Mary, who has Alzheimer's disease.

His had planned to head to Edson sometime last month with his 81-year-old father Lou. They planned leave Mary in California and be back there in about three months. Paperwork and other red tape, he said, have gotten in the way of his move.

Once here, he plans to open a Flea and Farmers Market in the gym.

Soper said he can't wait to get here and clean out some of the 22 storage lockers in Los Angeles alone that cost him \$600 a month.

"I spend \$2,500 per month storing (all of his merchandise)," he said. "That's one-tenth of what the school cost to just store stuff."

Although a lot of the stuff is small, \$1 or \$5 items, he has over 1,000 boxes to move to Kansas.

"I just want to move some merchandise," he said. "I want it to disappear so I can get room for more merchandise. I like things to move fast."

Soper said he is ready for a change of scenery, too.

"I need a break from where I am," he said.

Even with a late start date, Soper said, he is determined to open the

gym as soon as he can.

"I'm gonna be there," he said. "If I can get there earlier, I will."

He said he won't hesitate to stay in town later, too, though he had planned a summer selling season and a fall return to California.

"If things go well, I'll stay," he said adding that if people still want to buy from the gym in the winter, he'll stay.

Eventually, he said, a manager will run the flea market year around.

"This is your flea market," he said. "I will keep it going as long as they want to keep going."

So far, Soper said, he has had some interest in setting up booths at his gym. He said six or seven people signed up for the 30 indoor booths. He plans to use one entire row for himself and has a deal to fill another whole row.

He said three people have bookmarked days to rent the gym for private events. For \$500 he said the gym can be rented for 16 hours. If someone wants to set up for a wedding, he said, they will have time in the morning and even late. He plans to set up a large stereo system in the gym.

"What people should know about the gym," he said, "is that people should sign up. Don't wait. It might be too late."

When he does get a chance to break away, he plans to load up a 40-foot truck and haul all of his merchandise in Los Angeles to Edson on his first trip.

He said the load contains Persian rugs, fishing poles, old 1910 telephones, computers and more. If he is successful in selling the stuff, he

See GYM, Page 11

Sheriff, undersheriff  
get 2 percent raises

Fighting crime, being on call 24 hours a day and running the county jail has earned Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts and his undersheriff Rodger Studer a 2 percent raise.

Last Tuesday, county commissioners agreed to give the pair a raise after a 20-minute executive session. Commissioner Kevin Rasure said they did not ask for specific amounts.

The raise means an extra \$779 per year for Butts, who currently makes \$38,950 per year. That works out to about \$30 per biweekly county pay period.

When Butts took over as sheriff last December, his salary was brought up from \$14.45 per hour, \$30,056, as undersheriff to \$38,950 as sheriff.

Studer was bumped from \$14.45

per hour to \$14.74 per hour on a guaranteed 40-hours-a-week contract. Yearly that works out to \$603, or \$23 per pay period.

Studer is eligible for overtime if he clocks more than 277 hours per month.

Commissioners said six months have passed since the sheriff and undersheriff came in to discuss wages, and after some discussion they agreed on a 2 percent increase. Other county department heads got a three percent raise and employees raises varied by department.

Rasure said when other county employees got a raise in January, the sheriff and undersheriff were passed up. He said since the two had just taken the job, commissioners deferred the raises until this month.

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

People of all ages crowded the tables in the High School cafeteria Wednesday night to get a peek at what has been "dug up" in the area.

Scientists and enthusiasts participating in the archeological dig west of town shared fossils, arrowhead, rocks and cherished pieces during the special evening event.

About 60 people showed up.

From the rock someone found when they dug out the garden last year to a collection of arrowheads neatly displayed behind glass, the night featured all kinds of artifacts.

One man displayed a fish fossil embedded in a slice of rock while another proudly stood behind a box of fossilized mastodon teeth.

Some had a hunch they had something very old or significant, while others asked for clues about their pieces.

Chris Widga, graduate student at the University of Kansas, held a particularly important piece, a Clovis point, brought in by Gary Lucas. Clovis points are spear heads characterized by a fluted channel along the length, he said.

Widga said the people who made the points exist in a "flash" of about 500 years. He said the pieces have been found from Canada to Peru.



Judy Willems (left) and her son Kyle of Caruso showed a stone hammer artifact to Kansas University graduate student Janice McLean and Elanor Carpenter (right).

Photo by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News



Tornado  
performs

A 200-mile chase paid off for Kathryn Burke, a Goodland Star-News reporter, and her husband Patrick, a forecaster for the National Weather Service, when this storm a mile northwest of Trego Center (about 7 miles south of WaKeeney) spawned a tornado at 5 p.m. Mountain Time on Thursday. The massive, white, tube-like funnel started small when a few clouds pulled upward to form a wall cloud. The low-hanging wall cloud started spining, and a tornado dropped out of the middle. The tornado became wrapped in rain before damaging several homes. When the storm crossed I-70 just south of WaKeeney, it tossed three semi-trailer rigs into the ditch. Other storms raged through north central Kansas at the same time, causing damage in Rooks and Graham counties.

Photos by Kathryn Burke  
The Goodland Star-News



Community comes out for collector's night

"We can learn a lot about the people who made it," he said, adding that the piece is similar to what they hope to find at the dig site.

"Clovis is the first of the first," he said.

Widga said the argument at the site here is that there may be signs of pre-Clovis human existence. He said they've had success so far.

"We're actually finding quite a bit," he said.

Most visitors brought in arrow points. Virginia Woofkuhl, public archaeologists with the Kansas State Historical Society, examined a collection brought in by Scott Gilmer. She explained that some of the more crude, bigger points are older. She said the smaller, more fine points probably were attached to sticks and used as arrows.

Visitors had a chance to look at artifacts and have the experts check out theirs.

A table was set up where one of the participants laid out photos from the first few days of digging. Outdoor and lab snapshots showed people digging and analyzing the site. Indoor shots featured adults and kids cleaning rocks.

The north side of the cafeteria was filled with lab equipment, including trays of specimens.

Saturday the public is invited to attend an ice cream social and resume, which is when the archeologist will wrap up what has been found at the sites. The silent auction will end that night.