

weather report

79°

noon Tuesday



Today

- Sunset, 8:17 p.m.
- Wednesday**
- Sunrise, 5:26 a.m.
- Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 71 degrees
- Humidity 41 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds variable mph.
- Barometer 30.20 inches and falling
- Record High today 106° (1964)
- Record Low today 44° (1931)

Last 24 Hours*

High Monday	83°
Low Monday	55°
Precipitation	.05
This month	.41
Year to date	8.69
Normal	10.78

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m., high around 85, low around 62, winds south 15-18 mph. Wednesday: Mostly sunny with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms at night, high around 89, low near 63, winds south 15-18 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny, high around 93, low around 63, winds east 7-10 mph. Friday: Sunny. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings compiled at midnight.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.09 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.93
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$2.06 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.90
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$1.69 bushel
Soybeans — \$6.33 bushel
Posted county price — \$6.18
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
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Star-News



Swim meet brings crowd

Kids from area teams waited under a tent Saturday for their event to be called and to have their turn in the pool for the Goodland swim meet. Steever Water Park was closed for the day. Photo on Page 12.

Agents raid house, look for bombs



Police Chief Ray Smee (top) held Scott Baumfalk at gunpoint after he was arrested and handcuffed Friday. Baumfalk was arrested on a Colorado warrant at 715 Center. Officers from seven offices

(above) assisted in the arrest and the search of the house, which turned up drug-making materials and resulted in additional drug charges against Baumfalk. Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Agents with guns drawn surrounded a house on Center, just north and west of downtown Goodland, about noon Friday, arrested a Goodland man on a Colorado warrant, then searched the house for explosives.

Scott Baumfalk, 39, was handcuffed on the street and taken to the Sherman County Bastille.

Officers from seven law enforcement offices joined in the arrest and search, said Doug Murphy head of the Quad County Drug Task Force. After Baumfalk had been handcuffed and the search began at 715 Center, just north of Eighth Street, Murphy said, officers did not find the expected explosives, but did find drug items.

Six to eight firemen stood outside

the firehouse on Center, about four blocks to the south, waiting for instructions.

Up the street, a police car blocked Center at Eighth Street. Other police vehicles were in the street north of the intersection.

Ambulance and fire crew had been called to stand by just after noon.

“Firemen are to report to the firehouse, where you will get more information,” the dispatcher said. Later, radio traffic was restricted to emergency calls.

Another police car blocked Eighth at the alley. There were at least two vehicles in the alley, one a Sherman County sheriff’s deputy’s pickup.

Officers used a bullhorn out in

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Couple held on charges

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

A Sherman County couple was arrested on drug charges — again — in a dramatic raid Friday near downtown Goodland.

The home of Scott Baumfalk, 39, and his wife Crystal, 31, at 715 Center Ave., was surrounded by police officers around noon as authorities arrested Scott on a warrant and searched for explosives.

Monday, the couple was in the Sherman County Bastille on \$250,000 bond each.

Doug Murphy, coordinator for the Quad County Drug Task Force, said police were acting on an arrest warrant from a Colorado court.

The warrant charged that Scott

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Power, fuel complex could create 100 jobs

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

A new power complex planned for Goodland should be up and running in about a year, bringing roughly 100 new jobs and providing new markets for farmers.

The complex will include a coal-fired power plant, plus plants to produce ethanol and “biodiesel” for motor fuel. Former City Manager Ron Pickman will be the chief operating officer for the power project.

A group of local investors announced the project today.

The three-plant complex will be called the Goodland Energy Center. Mark Justus, owner of ReNewable Energy Resources, said they are looking at a startup date in August of next year.

ReNewable is designing a wind farm to help supply power to the city grid, and has an office on Main Street.

Jerry Fairbanks, general counsel and executive vice president of the First National Bank, said the plants should create from 60 to 100 jobs directly. He said the economic activity might generate another 100 to 200 supporting jobs, including services, trucking, agriculture, rail and more.

First National is part of the investment group through a community development program.

While two or three of the jobs will require special skills, Fairbanks said he is confident most of the work force can be hired here.

“We’re hoping to create local, regional jobs,” he said.

The complex is set to go up on property west of town and north of the existing Northern Sun Industries plant. The land is to be annexed into the city at a meeting tonight.

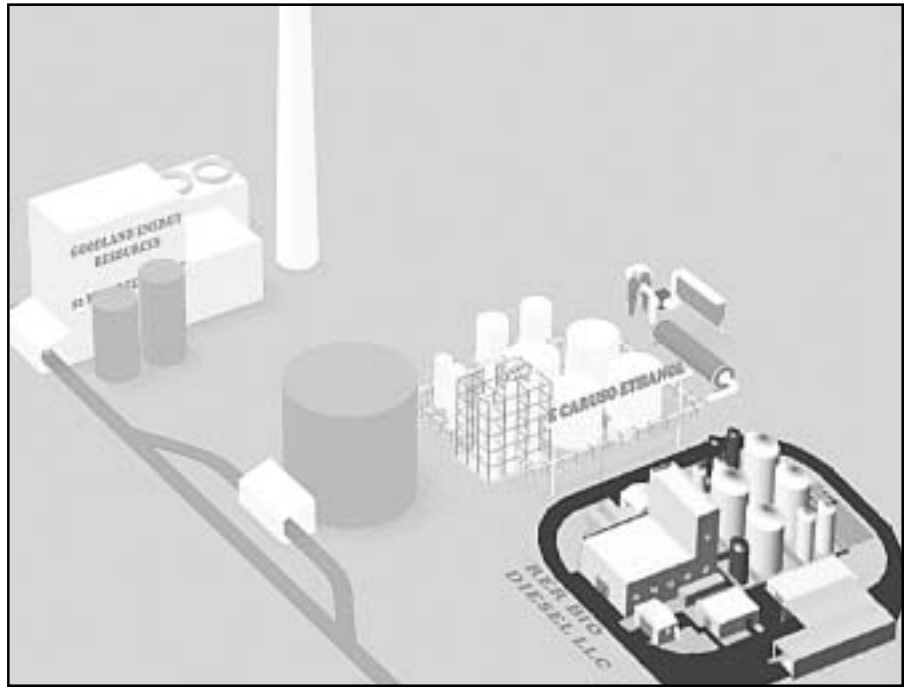
Justus said the three plants will sit on 20 acres east of County Road 14 and south of Road 65 (Eighth Street).

Fairbanks said they will have access to rail lines, but will receive inputs and send products out by trucks to begin with.

The plants will have what Justus called a “symbiotic” relationship. Each plant will use byproducts from the others in its production, lowering overall costs.

Justus said the ethanol and biodiesel plants will be powered by waste steam already used in the power plant.

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An artist’s rendering shows the three plants to be built north of Caruso over the next year. The three include a 22-megawatt power plant (top), a 25-million-gallon-a-year ethanol plant (center) and a 15-million-gallon biodiesel plant.

Singer a crowd pleaser



Tracy Lawrence wowed the crowd Saturday at the Freedom Fest and kept playing when the rain started. Photos, story on Pages 6 and 7.
Photo by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

School may start drug tests

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Goodland High students who want to be in sports and after-school activities may have another reason to say “no” next year.

Monday, the school board looked at a plan to test students involved in sports and activities for drugs next year.

The board decided they liked the idea, but they want public opinion and scheduled a hearing for 7 p.m. on Monday, July 25, at the school administration office. If the response warrants, the location and time may change.

Harvey Swager, high school principal, gave board members a policy worked up by members of a drug testing committee. He said it was modeled after those at 16 schools already testing, including Brewster and Ulysses.

The tests will look for alcohol, barbiturates, LSD, MDMA (ec-

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stasy), phencyclidine (PCP), amphetamines, benzodiazepines (valium), marijuana metabolites, nicotine, propoxyphene (a narcotic pain reliever), anabolic steroids, cocaine metabolites, methadone and opiates.

The committee’s plan said punishment for a positive drug test would include exclusion from school activities. Swager said that includes dances, performances in the yearly musical, Family Career and Community Leaders of America competitions and other school events. All sports and other teams, music and the like, would be covered, except those for which students get a grade.

He said legally, the school could

not hold the use of drugs or banned substances against a student’s academic record. He said students would have to be allowed in activities that require a grade, but could be banned from extracurricular activities.

“Anything that a grade is issued on,” he said, “could not be withheld from them.”

Swager said the committee heard from the student council president and the class presidents from the sophomores, juniors and seniors.

“The ones that were there,” he said, “were very much in favor of (the plan).”

He said they thought it would curtail a lot of peer pressure.

Board president Jane Philbrick asked if prescription drugs or cold medication could provide a false positive on the test.

Swager said the program would

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