

weather report

67°

noon Thursday

Today
• Sunset, 6:55 p.m.
Saturday
• Sunrise, 6:30 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:54 p.m.

Midday Conditions
• Soil temperature 70 degrees
• Humidity 54 percent
• Sky mostly sunny
• Winds South, 6 mph.
• Barometer 30.18 inches and steady
• Record High today 98° (1955)
• Record Low today 34° (1965)

Last 24 Hours*
High Wednesday 76°
Low Wednesday 44°
Precipitation trace
This month .30
Year to date 12.82
Normal 17.03

The Topside Forecast
Today: Partly cloudy, high in mid 80s, low in mid 50s. South wind 10-15 mph. Saturday: Decreasing clouds, high in lower 90s, low in mid 50s. Southwest wind up to 10 mph.

Extended Forecast
Sunday: Partly cloudy, high in lower 80s, low in lower 50s. Monday: Partly cloudy, high in lower 80s, low in lower 50s. Tuesday: Partly cloudy, high around 80, low in lower 50s. Wednesday: Partly cloudy, high in upper 70s.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

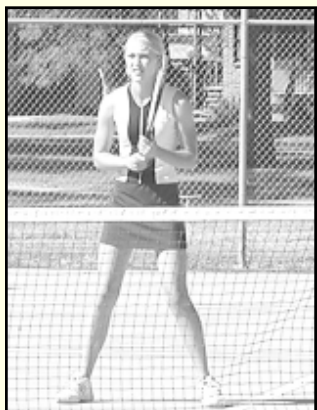
local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.22 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.24
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$1.67 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.54
Loan deficiency pmt. — 4¢
Milo — \$1.41 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.03 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.96
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$6.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.65 cwt.
NuSun crop — \$10.65
Confection — call.
Pinto beans — \$20 (new crop)
(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



Cowgirls tie for third

Senior Kali Rietcheck covered the net during Tuesday's Goodland Varsity Invitational. Story, photos Page 11.



Darren Kannady (above right) and Chuck Hall worked together to load a couch donated to victims of Hurricane Katrina in a U-Haul headed for Grand Prairie, Texas, Tuesday afternoon. Chris Biel (right) carried boxes for the same load. Donations filled a U-Haul and a semi-trailer truck. Photos by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News



Hurricane victims get food, furniture

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News
Goodland donations for victims of Hurricane Katrina spilled out of a 24-foot U-Haul and into a 53-foot semi-trailer truck Tuesday.

A call for furniture, bedding, dishes, food and more for refugees in Texas went out from Laural Belshe at First National Bank last week, and Goodland citizens exceeded her expectations.

From the garage door to the very back, the storage shop behind the bank was filled with donations. Rows of couches were stacked toward the front and mattresses lined the wall.

"It's wonderful," Belshe said of the generosity of Goodland.

Volunteers from the bank lined up to load the truck shortly before 3 p.m. on Tuesday.

The group soon realized the rental truck wasn't going to be big enough and decided to add a semi-truck. That truck was filled from front to back, too.

Belshe said Larry McCants, president of First National, said, "We'll take as many trucks as we need."

The U-Haul rental and gas were provided by the bank, the big trailer

See HURRICANE, Page 10

Road project sales-tax election set for Oct. 18

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News
The Goodland City Commission put the wheels in motion Monday, asking citizens to approve a one-cent city sales tax next month to pay for a \$12 million program to repair city and county roads.

During a special meeting at the City Administration Building, a special election was scheduled for

Tuesday, Oct. 18, with all city citizens voting to be at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall.

City Attorney Jeff Mason said he had been working with the city's bond lawyer, Kevin Cowan of Gilmore and Bell of Wichita.

"This includes all the roads we talked about," said Mayor Rick Billinger, "including Road 16."

Mason had questioned including

the one-mile stretch of County Road 16 between County Road 64 (old U.S. 24) and County Road 65 (Eighth Street). That mile of gravel has been controversial because it passes by Sugar Hills Country Club. Earlier, Mason had said he wasn't sure it is an arterial road as defined by state law, which would qualify it for the sales-tax issue.

Mason said Cowan had re-

searched the question, and he found several cities had used the home rule provisions of state law to reach outside their cities with sales-tax money for projects, including funding a school district.

"Cowan said there have been situations where cities have levied sales taxes for items outside the city," Mason said. "Those have been reviewed by the attorney general and

deemed appropriate. We are using that same theory to include all the county roads.

"We were looking at a state law about primary and secondary designations, but Kevin felt this different plan would be like what was being done with other cities and sales tax issues."

See TAX, Page 10

Light show



The aurora borealis, or northern lights, was seen dancing across the sky Saturday night just four miles east of Goodland. The display was caused by the fourth largest solar flare in the past 15

years, which created a severe geomagnetic storm. More photos and an in-depth explanation of the event are available at www.crh.noaa.gov/gld/news/2005/aurora.php. Photo by Al Pietrycha

Flatlander Festival offers fun for everyone

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News
The leaves are starting to change and temperatures are falling, signaling the end of summer and the start of Goodland's annual Flatlander Fall Festival.

Car and motorcycle enthusiasts are gearing up for their annual shows next weekend, and there will

be food, vendors, games and contests for everyone.

The Early Iron Car Club rod run will start at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24, at Central Elementary School, 1301 Main, with registration and a continental breakfast. Cars are split into classes by age, 1949 and older, 1950 to 1964, 1965 to 1975, 1976 to 1989, and 1990 to present.

After registration, cars will be set up on Main for a "Show and Shine." Participants are signed up for door prizes and games and dash plaques will be awarded to favorites.

The club will hold a motor blow, running an engine without oil until it stops. Oil is drained from two motors and they are started. Participants watch the sport and wager on

which one will blow up first.

The day will be capped off with a supper at the school and an evening cruise.

If you're interested in participating, call 899-5137, 899-2164 or 899-6454.

The 11th Annual Northwest Kan-

See FESTIVAL, Page 10

Charges filed in drug bust

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News
Three of four men arrested in Goodland and Wallace County on methamphetamine charges last month are out on bail and awaiting hearings set for Tuesday.

Rodney L. Hill, 45, Wallace, the first person arrested when police interrupted a drug deal at a Goodland hotel Saturday, Aug. 27, is still behind bars.

Steven Sandoval, 22, Kanorado; Ricardo Arzate, 27, Guerrero, Mexico; and Carlos Delgado, 44, Chihuahua, Mexico and Dighton, are all out after being picked up at Hill's home in Wallace.

A motion hearing to change the charges is set for 2:30 p.m. Tuesday in Sherman County District Court before Judge Jack Burr.

All four men have been charged with two counts of sale of narcotic drugs, a level 3 felony; conspiracy to sell narcotic drugs, one prior conviction, a level 2 felony; possession of drug paraphernalia, a class A misdemeanor; and not having state tax stamps, a level 10 felony.

Police reported Hill was attempting to sell about one-fourth of a

See BUST, Page 10