

weather report

67°



noon Thursday

Today

•Sunset, 6:44 p.m.

Saturday

•Sunrise, 6:36 a.m.

•Sunset, 6:42 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 73 degrees
- Humidity 41 percent
- Sky Mostly cloudy
- Winds South at 12mph
- Barometer 30.16 and rising

•Record High today 95° (2003)

•Record Low today 29° (1946)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 97° (Record)

Low Wednesday 59°

Precipitation —

This month .30

Year to date 12.83

The Topside Forecast

Today: Cloudy to partly sunny, 20 percent chance of showers, high 78 wind South 6-9mph. Low 54. Saturday: 20 percent Showers, high 81, low 46.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Partly cloudy, patchy fog, 20 percent chance of showers, high 68, low 47. Monday thru Tuesday: Partly cloudy, high 70s, lows 40s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

*Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$3.25 bushel
- Posted county price — 3.28
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Corn — \$1.67 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.53
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 41¢
- Milo — \$1.41 bushel
- Soybeans — \$5.08 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.90
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Millet — \$6.25 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$9.60 cwt.
- NuSun — \$11.00 cwt
- 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



Mustangs over Atwood

Members of the 8th-grade Mustang football team congratulated Jay Cotter moments after running four yards for a fourth-quarter touchdown against Rawlins County in Cowboy Stadium. Goodland defeated Atwood 22-6. Photos on Page 9a.

Flatlander Festival begins tonight

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Motorcycle and car enthusiasts are starting to arrive as merchants, restaurant owners and hotel staff gear up for the annual Flatlander Fall Festival.

The festival starts on Friday night as guests flock to the Sherman County Speedway for stock car races starting at 6:30 p.m. The races feature mini stock, econo, bomber, super stocks and modified cars. Races will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday night also.

At 7 p.m. on Friday, the Howard Johnson Hotel will be host to a burn out pit, where motorcycles and cars

will try to make as much noise and smoke as possible. At 9:30 p.m., the hotel will have a beer-bobbing contest.

Visitors can get into a dance with a live band at the hotel on Friday and Saturday nights for a \$5 cover charge.

Main Street events start at 8 a.m. on Saturday.

Vendor booths will open up, letting visitors check out wares, get a face painted or pick up a bierock and a drink.

The Antique Warehouse will have its fourth annual flea market and garage sale at 17th and Main. Garage sales will be set up in the parking lot

of Cowboy Loop, 17th and Main.

A beer garden will be set up between 16th and 17th on Main from 10 or 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Early Iron Car Club rod run starts at 8 a.m. with registration and a continental breakfast at Central Elementary School, 1301 Main. After they're registered, cars will line Main in front of the school for the public to admire.

Cars are classified by age, 1949 and older, 1950 to 1964, 1965 to 1975, 1976 to 1989, and 1990 to present. Dash plaques are handed out to favorites.

Car show participants can play games, like participating in a motor

blow, draining an engine of oil and running it until it stops, and win door prizes.

Saturday evening, the club will have a dinner at Central and participants will have an evening cruise.

At 9 a.m., the Northwest Kansas Bike Show will start with registration. The bikes will be on display after registration.

The show will include motorcycle rodeo games capped off with a dinner and awards. The motorcycles will gather for a parade down Main after dark.

Sunday, the group will reunite for a breakfast and a worship service followed by a poker run.

Jeep lovers can head to the south end of Main for a demonstration that will show off the suspension capabilities of the vehicles.

A U.S. Army fire truck display will be set up at the south end in front of the Cowboy Loop.

The Goodland Activities Center will sponsor a Punt, Pass and Kick contest for kids 8 to 15 at 10 a.m. Saturday at Cowboy Stadium.

At 11 a.m., the annual Scruffy Dog contest will pit noisy little dogs against big athletic dogs in a "beauty" and talent contest. Judges from the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter will pick a winner out of the scruffy entries.

Figures change sales tax plans

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

There will be no city sales tax election in October, because a bond lawyer figures would take about 20 years to pay for a joint city-county road project with city revenue only.

City commissioners voted unanimously at a special meeting Wednesday morning to rescind the resolution calling for the special election on Oct. 18 to approve a city sales tax.

County commissioners instead approved a motion to go to the state Legislature for permission to pursue a 1-cent countywide sales tax, which would pay for the project in about 10 years.

City and county commissioners were called late Tuesday to set up the special meeting because figures from Kevin Cowan, bond counsel from Gilmore and Bell of Wichita, showed a one-cent city sales tax would not bring in enough money to

pay for the road projects in 10 years as was estimated back in May.

County Commissioner Kevin Rasure said the reason the figures were so low was that the county figures include the sales tax on utilities and telephones outside of the city limits.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel, City Clerk Mary Volk, City Manager Wayne Hill and Rasure talked with Cowan on Tuesday, and his estimates were that the city sales tax by itself would raise about \$500,000 a year. That is about a third or more less than what had been estimated earlier.

Rasure said the city sales tax would take about 20 years to pay for the proposed joint road project.

"The city sales tax will not fund the projects if it takes 20 years," Rasure said. "All utilities paid outside the city have a sales tax, and that

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Annexation change hearing on Monday

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Land annexed in July to build the Goodland Energy Center is on the agenda for a special city commission hearing at 5 p.m. on Monday to consider a petition to rescind the annexation.

City Manager Wayne Hill said he received a letter from Mark Justus of Renewable Energy Resources and Ron Pickman of Goodland Energy Resources asking the city to drop a zoning change request, and requesting

the city to reverse the annexation.

Parts for the ethanol plant and power plant continue to arrive and are being stored, with more of the larger parts expected to arrive in the next few weeks.

Justus said the original plan was to build the plant within the city codes, but they found that the city does not have rules for heavy industrial buildings. He said it would be nearly impossible to build the power plant under the

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Kids get afternoon off



A group of students lined up to go home early Wednesday at North Elementary as Goodland School Superintendent Marvin Selby called a heat day. The kids were released right after lunch before temperatures climbed to a record-breaking 97 degrees.

Photo by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

Phone switch on Wednesday

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

On Wednesday, you can dial 899 to reach city and county offices, but on Thursday it will be 890 if all goes as planned.

Tuesday, Sherman County commissioners and Mary Messamore, head of central dispatch and the emergency management office, met to review plans to switch the 911 phone system and the city and county phones from SBC (formerly Southwestern Bell) to the S&T Telephone system.

Messamore had worried the week before that there might be a problem switching the 911 system from one company to the other and asked the commissioners for permission to

have a technician from SBC on scene when the switch was made.

Tuesday she told the commissioners she had worked with S&T Telephone technicians on a test of one line, which was switched to demonstrate how it would work. The test went well, she told the commissioners, and said she was satisfied that the change over could be done without the SBC technician.

Don Newell, Goodland office manager for S&T, and Wayne Grammon were at the meeting along with Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts.

The commissioners asked if the new system could be set up to accept both the 899 and the 890 prefix for a period of six months.

Newell said that could be done.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked if the sheriff and dispatch could have that option for one year. Newell said that could be done, too.

Newell said they planned to begin the changeover on Monday, but on Thursday he informed the officials and the newspaper that the changeover had been delayed for two days. Newell said the changeover would start about 3 p.m.

and begin with the more remote lines and finishing in the evening with the main circuits for both the city and county.

Messamore said she was a bit worried there might be a glitch in

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Truck accident spills, breaks glass across I-70 ditch

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Shards of glass intertwined with Kansas prairie grass and weeds in the ditch off of I-70 on Tuesday while a twisted semi-trailer truck lay on the side of the road awaiting a clean-up crew.

The accident closed down one of the eastbound lanes near mile marker 33 about 10 a.m. while police worked the scene and crews tackled the sea of glass.

Kenneth Beck, 46, Alabama, told Kansas Highway Patrol Trooper Joe Greene that the accident happened after he took his eyes off the road for a moment.

When Beck looked back up, Greene said, the wheels of his 2004 Freightliner truck had gone off the right side of the road.

He said when Beck pulled back on the wheel to correct, the truck's load shifted tipping the trailer onto its side. Beck was pulling 47,000 pounds of rectangular-shaped glass.

"We don't know what kind," Greene said, adding it looked like the type of glass used for shower doors.



Glass filled the ditch on I-70 Tuesday after a semi-trailer truck carrying 47,000 pounds of glass tipped over.

Photo by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

He said when the trailer went, it took the truck, laying the entire load in the south ditch.

"The whole truck was totaled," Greene said.

Even though the truck was ruined, Beck escaped the accident uninjured.

The accident closed down one lane of traffic while crews cleaned

up the bits of glass.

Another lane was shut down for 10 to 15 minutes while crews from McB's Motor Co. tipped the truck back onto its wheels, Greene said.

A representative of McB's said a crew spent two days cleaning up the broken glass.