

weather
report

70°



noon Thursday

Today

- Sunset, 4:51 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 6:11 a.m.
- Sunset, 4:49 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 52 degrees
- Humidity 50 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds south at 10 mph
- Barometer 30.23 inches and falling
- Record High today 86° (1943)
- Record Low today 10° (1925)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 70°
Low Wednesday 31°
Precipitation —
This month 2.46
Year to date 15.31

The Topside Forecast

Today: Abundant sunshine, high 73 and low 45, south winds at 15 to 25 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Mix of sun and clouds, highs in the 70s and lows in the 40s. Sunday: Partly cloudy highs in the mid 60s and lows in the mid 30s. Monday: Morning clouds to afternoon sun, highs in the upper 60s and lows in the 30s. Tuesday and Wednesday: Partly cloudy, highs in the mid 60s and lows in the 30s.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$3.34 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.33
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$1.78 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.53
Loan deficiency pmt. — 41¢
Milo — \$1.46 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.97 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.70
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$6.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$7.75 cwt.
NuSun — \$8.55
Confection — Call
Pinto beans — \$17 (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



Cowboy
goes to State

Junior Kerek Mason will compete Saturday at the state Class 4A cross country championships in Wamego. Mason finished third at Saturday's regional meet. See photo on Page 10a.

Harvest: Excellent quality, yields

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Fall harvest began with a wild rush, but it is stretching out in north-west Kansas, and farmers are reporting excellent quality and high yields for corn and sunflowers.

Lynn Hoelting, general manager of Mueller Grain, said Wednesday the harvest is over the top now. He said he feels the weather is helping the corn and sunflowers as the cutting begins to wind down.

Hoelting said most of the sunflowers in the immediate area have been cut, but that there are some late fields still out there. He said there are more sunflowers to be cut in south-

west Kansas, and he expects to see that beginning soon.

The sunflower results have been excellent, Hoelting said, with confectionery seeds running 1,400 to 2,800 pounds per acre. He said the seed size has been excellent, with most running 85-90 percent large.

"The farmers have used very little water on the sunflowers this year," Hoelting said. "Most are saying they used 3-5 inches on the irrigated versus the 18-20 inches used on corn."

The NuSun oil varieties are doing well, he said, with the dryland averaging 1,200 to 1,800 pounds per acre and the irrigated averaging 2,500 to 2,800 pounds. The oil content is run-

ning average to slightly above average, he said.

"Some of the farmers will get a premium because they forward-contracted the NuSun," Hoelting said. "Some farmers double cropped with NuSun after they had cut their wheat, and were averaging 1,500-1,800 pounds per acre."

"We had more double cropping in this area this year, and it appears those who did this will have two good crops."

Corn yields have been as high as 220 bushels per acre in places, he said, while the average appears to be about 180 for irrigated. Hoelting said the dryland corn has been poor

in some places, but the average is running 40-80 bushels an acre.

"The quality and quantity has been astounding," he said. "The standard weight for corn is 56, but we are seeing a lot of 60-62. The crops have a nice color, and it is good solid crop."

"Elevator space is tight, but that is a good thing. There is a backup from the river terminals, some of which is caused by the hurricanes that damaged the shipping ports."

Hoelting said the recent rains have been a nice shot in the arm, and the crop conditions for next year look excellent. However, he said, the energy costs are a problem, and

it will be hard for the farmers to come out ahead.

Dana Belshe, agricultural agent for the Sunflower Extension district, said the oil content for seeds is higher this year, and the confectionery sunflower yields are better than expected. He said there were some weight problems, but thought this might have been weather induced with the warmer weather and the recent rains that kept the moisture higher than it should be when harvested.

He agreed that the corn harvest is going well noting that it has been

See HARVEST, Page 7a



Moonlight Madness; Halloween haunting

A brave lion, Madison Albers, 2, (above) was the top winner in the 0-2 age group of the fourth annual Moonlight Madness costume contest held Tuesday in the basement of Eldorado Western Wear. The skeleton in the closet, Makayla Kennedy, 8, (right) was the top winner in the 7-11 age group. Over 50 kids showed off their Halloween costumes, and trick-or-treated downtown businesses. The spooks will be out again on Monday for Halloween. See page 1b for more winning photos and story.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News



Schools prepared for rise in heating costs

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Natural gas prices are near record marks, and there are dire predictions about the cost of heating homes and schools this winter, but the Goodland School District officials said Monday they feel somewhat protected.

Superintendent Marvin Selby told the school board Monday that earlier in the year, the district had adjusted its gas supply contracts so part of its heating bills are at a set price and some at market price.

"I expect a 25 percent increase," Selby said. "We will be somewhat protected if things remain at the present rates."

Board members asked if the bills have been higher, but Selby said there has not been enough usage to see much increase.

Selby reported that High School Principal Harvey Swager hoped to begin spending a few hours at work each day on Monday, but Thursday those plans had changed. Swager has been off work since mid-September after suffering a reaction to medication.

Thursday morning Swager said he was delaying the return to work by at least a week. He said the physical therapy is going well, but he doesn't have as much strength as he had hoped, and would wait a week to talk to Dr. Travis Daise before trying to

go back to work for a few hours.

"The doctors are being cautious," Swager said, "and I think that is a good thing. It would not be good for me to go back to work and get sick again."

"I want to be there. I am getting bored sitting around the house. I know it would be better for me to be stronger, and that takes time."

Selby said band teacher Deanne Spanier is getting better and hopes to be back the second week of November. She is recovering from a brain tumor.

He said Central elementary teacher Donna Whitmore returned home Friday, and will be on crutches for about five weeks. Once she is

ready to return to work, Selby said, she will teach English as a Second Language. Whitmore is recovering from hip problems.

Selby said the board will change meeting dates in November to avoid the Thanksgiving week and to accommodate the auditors. The board will meet on Monday, Nov. 14 and Nov. 21, rather than Nov. 28. He said the second meeting will probably be at one of the schools, maybe Central Elementary.

The annual senior dinner will be held on Dec. 14 at the high school, and Selby said all the town's senior citizens would be invited.

"This is a highlight," Selby said, "and a well-attended event for the

seniors in our community."

Looking at December, Selby said there would only be one meeting. Board photos will be taken and then the board would go to dinner. He asked for suggestions on where to have the dinner, and it was a consensus to go to the Sugar Hills Country Club.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a contract with Vignery and Mason to provide legal services. Selby said the board had approved the law firm several months ago, and a cover letter said they were sorry the contract was late.

See SCHOOL, Page 7a

Building committees appointed

The Goodland School Board approved School Improvement Committees for the each building in the Goodland district on Monday:

Goodland High School

Jeff Mason, chair, Kathy Bahe, Colleen Rohr, Amy West, Josh Doke, Shelbi Hall Herl and Mellisa Swager. Staff members, Steve Raymer, assistant principal and ath-

letic director, Dennis Friedrichs, Pat Hansen and Mary Porterfield, teachers.

Grant Junior High

Janet Arnold, Coleen Dautel, Teresa David, Jeff Deeds, Jeanne Irvin, Greg and Donna Krosky, Cindy Lawrence, Anna Martinez, Kris McCool, Dan McCurry, Sheryl Millam, Gordon and Caroline

Pettibone, Kim Roeder and Traci Waugh.

Central Elementary

Glenda Cochran, Karen Hooker and Robin Rains, chairs, Lori Amthor, Stacy Colby, Michelle Cooper, Teresa David, Cassandra Dawdy, Tammy DeLaRosa, Nancy

See COMMITTEE, Page 7a

Daylight
Saving Time
ends on Sunday.
Fall back one hour
to Mountain Standard.

