

# WELCOME HUNTERS

## The Goodland Star-News

WEEKEND

Friday, Nov. 11  
2005

75¢

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Goodland, Kansas 67735

### weather report

73°

noon Thursday

Today

Sunset, 4:36 p.m.

Saturday

Sunrise, 6:26 a.m.

Sunset, 4:36 p.m.

Middy Conditions

Soil temperature 51 degrees

Humidity 20 percent

Sky partly cloudy

Winds light and variable

Barometer 30.11 inches

and falling

Record High today 87° (1927)

Record Low today 3° (1940)

Last 24 Hours\*

High Wednesday 48°

Low Friday 32°

Precipitation —

This month .03

Year to date 15.49

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, high near

73, low near 41, 30 percent chance

showers, south winds from 5

to 15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Partly cloudy, high of

64 and low of 30, north winds of 5

to 15 mph. Sunday: Partly cloudy,

high near 56 and low around 31.

Monday: Mostly sunny, high near

69 and low of 28. Tuesday: Mostly

cloudy, high of 48 and low of 25.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny and a

high around 55.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

### local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.32 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.24

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$1.75 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.55

Loan deficiency pmt. — 39¢

Milo — \$1.43 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.04 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.09

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Millet — \$6.00 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$7.25cwt.

NuSun crop — \$8.25

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



### Mustangs lose to Hoxie

Eighth-grade Mustang Teather Dautel drove down court during the third period of Tuesday's game between Grant Junior High and Hoxie Middle School. See story, photo on Page 9a.

## Pheasant season opens Saturday

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

The wait will be over for thousands of sportsmen as pheasant hunting season opens at daybreak on Saturday.

State officials expect the hunting to be the best in years, with pheasant numbers up as much as 40 percent over a decent year last season and much better than during the drought years before that.

Area motels and restaurants are gearing up for business. Other activities will include a pancake feed by the Music Boosters Organization at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Seventh and Caldwell, and a chicken-and-noodle dinner by the women of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 13th and Center.

"Comfort Inn is half full on Saturday and is waiting for more reservations to come in," said Jennifer Stockton, desk clerk at Comfort Inn.

Bird populations got off to a good start this spring, with good cover and rains at the right times, said the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. Randy Rodgers, regional

## Trespassing hurts hunters, hunting

If you're hunting on private land, you'd better have permission.

It's illegal to hunt, fish, shoot or trap without the landowner's permission, state officials say. Hunting from public roads and railroad rights of way requires permission from the landowners on both sides of the road or railway. Hunting on railroad right-of-way also requires permission from the railroad, not often given.

Written permission is required to enter land posted signs saying "hunting written permission only" or having trees or fence posts painted purple.

Trespassing upsets landowner and the penalties can be severe. If a hunter is following wounded

game, and can't get permission from the landowner, the state says, the hunter should call the game warden or sheriff's office.

Conviction for trespass or criminal hunting can result in loss of hunting privileges in other states because Kansas is a member of the Wildlife Violator Compact with 20 other states.

Conviction of simple criminal hunting carries a maximum fine of \$500, plus court costs and one month in jail on the first conviction say officials. The court can suspend or revoke license privileges for up to a year. A second conviction carries at least a year suspension of privileges in addition to any fines or jail time.

small game biologist with the state, said the index for birds was up 42 percent in the annual summer brood survey in July and August.

"That is a huge increase," said

Rodgers.

The numbers this year were helped by a small increase last year, he said, which meant there were more birds breeding this year.

The drought, said Rodgers, seemed to really take hold in 2000. From 2002 to 2003, the pheasant numbers in northwest Kansas were at a low.

Dave Floyd, a forecaster with the National Weather Service office in Goodland, said the weather should cooperate. Saturday will have a 40 percent chance for showers and thunderstorms during the day, with highs in the mid 50s. Saturday night is supposed to be dry and Sunday should be a little bit cooler.

"I hope it will be good for them," said Floyd.

Donna Price of the Sherman County Convention and Visitor's Bureau said she has been mailing two to three packets a day for six weeks to prospective hunters from Arkansas, Colorado, Texas and Oklahoma. Pheasant and deer hunt-

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## First building going up at energy center

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The first building is going up at the Goodland Energy Center west of town, and stakes have been placed for dirt work for leveling the industrial site.

A 75-foot-by-100-foot warehouse is the first building being put up by Townsend Construction north of the ADM Northern Sun plant at Caruso, five miles west of town.

"We are moving along," said Ron Pickman, head of Goodland Energy Resources, on Tuesday. "We are getting our permit applications in order and have started the warehouse."

Pickman said the project is close to its time goals, and that the work is keeping him busy.

"We are moving dirt, which is allowed under the existing permits," he said. "When the (state) Department of Health and Environment is ready, they will set the date for the public hearing on the air permit."

The city commission is helping push the development. Mayor Rick Billinger, a stockholder in the proposed power and ethanol plants, read a proclamation supporting the energy center development at Monday's commission meeting.

"I was surprised, but pleased, when Wayne Hill, city manager, brought me a copy Tuesday,"



Mark Van Patten, (sitting on top), worked with Travis Hogan to line up holes for an I-beam of the warehouse at the Goodland Energy

Center. Matt Van Patten lined up the other end of the I-beam while Brett Hammond, head of the crew, worked on support cables.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Pickman said. "I hope there are others who will help support the project as we get ready for the public hearing."

The proclamation said the city commission and staff support the Goodland Energy Center and encourage all citizens to do the same

because the city "will receive lower energy rates, realize overall increased revenues through the creation of quality jobs, increased

population and economic gains for existing business."

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## Development council annual meeting on Tuesday

The Sherman County Economic Development Council will hear reports on the last year and take nominations for board members at its annual meeting Tuesday.

The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Goodland Elks lodge, and Chairman John Garcia will present a report of the past year.

Nominations will be taken from

the floor for two positions on the council. Four seats are up this year, two of them reserved for Western State Bank and People's State Bank. President Steve West has been serving on the council from Western State, but the People's State Bank position has been vacant since Randy Schoenthaler left in May.

The positions of Garcia and

Chuck Wilkens are up this year. Wilkens, owner of Wilkens Truck and Trailer, is serving the unexpired term of Larry Harper, who resigned in the spring.

Garcia said he would be going off the council at the end of the year, as he has completed two terms.

The nominations will be open for about two weeks, then council will

meet to elect the members. Once the council elects the members, the names are forwarded to the county commissioners to make the appointments. The new terms begin in January, when the council elects officers.

Kay Younger, office manager, has been handling the office this year in the absence of a director. She reported Thursday that about 20

people had signed up for a business marketing workshop the council is sponsoring at 5 p.m. on Monday at the Howard Johnson Hotel.

The workshop "How to get more customers who will spend more money, more often," is a cooperative effort of the Council and the Small Business Development Center in Hays.

## New education commissioner to stop off here on Monday

The new state education commissioner plans to stop in Goodland for an informal visit Monday during a flying tour of western Kansas.

Commissioner Bob Corkins and Connie Morris of Wheeler, who represents this area on the state Board of Education, will be in Goodland from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Howard Johnson Hotel.

The commissioner apparently will spend the night here before flying on to Tribune in the morning. "The meeting is open to anyone who is interested in attending."

Goodland school officials said they hadn't been told of the visit.

"I have not had any official notification," said Superintendent Marvin Selby on Thursday morning. "It is a complete mystery to me. I talked to the Colby superintendent, and he was asked to go out to the airport and pick him up and take him back."

"The only information I have is what the newspaper gave us on Tuesday."

"If he shows up at the school board meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. on Monday, he would be welcome."

## Lights may not solve crossing problem

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Moving the crossing light in front of Central Elementary would be expensive and might not be the safest way to get kids across Main Avenue, the city commissioners heard Monday.

The Central School Improvement Team had asked the city to move the existing stop light from the middle of the 1300 block of Main north to the 13th Street intersection.

"Moving the crossing opens a can of worms," City Manager Wayne Hill, city told commissioners Monday.

He asked Darin Neufeld, the engineer who works with the city from Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Asso-

ciates, to explain the problems.

"Darin and I walked over and looked at the problem when the kids are coming to school and leaving in the afternoon," Hill said.

"We do not have to have Department of Transportation approval (to move the light)," Neufeld said, "but we have to get approval for changes in speed limit signs. The state recommends a traffic study. The city would have to pay for the study, and it would determine if a stoplight is warranted."

"The state's recommendation is to have school crossing guards rather than a signalized crossing."

Neufeld said the crossing was put in by the city, but the school district was involved in the process. At the

time, students had to cross Main to eat lunch at the district office. Today, some kids coming to and leaving the school use the light. It is a manual push-button light, and there is a painted crosswalk.

To move it to the intersection Neufeld said, the city would have to add two more poles and upgrade to the current crossing guidelines. He said the upgrade and additional lights would cost the city \$80,000 to \$100,000, even reusing the existing poles and fixture.

"There is no specific crosswalk area at the intersection," Neufeld said. "There will be a different color brick for the crosswalk when the

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