

weather  
report

60°

noon  
Thursday

## Today

• Sunset, 7:14 p.m.

## Saturday

• Sunrise, 6:22 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:15 p.m.

## Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 54 degrees

• Humidity 24 percent

• Sky Cloudy

• Winds north at 17 mph

• Barometer 29.44 inches  
and falling

• Record High today 88° (1991)

• Record Low today 8° (1936)

## Last 24 Hours\*

High Wednesday 85°

Low Thursday 39°

Precipitation tr

This month tr

Year to date 2.58

above normal .58 of an inch

## The Topside Forecast

Today: Rain likely before noon. Cloudy then eventually becoming partly sunny, with a high around 47. Chance of precipitation 60 percent. Tonight, partly cloudy, low near 28.

## Extended Forecast

Saturday: Sunny, with a high of 64. South wind 10 to 15 mph, low around 37. Sunday: Mostly sunny, high around 76, low around 41. Monday: Mostly sunny, high around 76, low near 41.

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

## Confiscated horses sold at auction



One of the horses confiscated in an animal cruelty case walked the ring Monday at Colby Livestock Auction. The horses were sold under an agreement between the county and the owners to help pay the cost of keeping them. This horse sold to Glenn Phillips and will stay in the Goodland area.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Ten horses confiscated by the Sherman County sheriff's department last month sold for \$3,830 in the auction ring Monday in Colby under an agreement between the owners and the Sherman County attorney.

The horses ended up in the custody of the county after a man called the sheriff's office to report they were not being taken care of. Officers found 10 live and four dead horses.

From the condition of the horses, deputies said, it appeared they had not been fed for a while and had no water. Three yearlings were in the worst shape. The owners, Tim and Shaunna Armknecht, are facing charges in Sherman County.

The animals were taken by deputies to the Prairi-eland Animal Clinic first and as their condition improved, were turned out to pasture.

"We had calls from all over," said Roxie Wilson, Colby Livestock Auction co-owner. "There was a lot of interest."

"We were expecting 60 or 70 head," she said, adding that they wound up with 110 horses to be auctioned that day.

One of the light-colored horses will stay in the Goodland area. It sold to Glenn Phillips for \$500.

"We wanted him from the beginning and he'll be a good kid's horse," Phillips said.

He said he took the horse home north of Goodland, turned him out with the other horses and he settled in.

One of the yearlings went to Pamela Wennberg from Winona, who said she had been waiting for the horses to sell and was excited when she got one.

The others were bought by horse traders Charlie Carter from Loveland, Colo., Monte Clark from Hudson, Colo. and Jeff Smith from Hutchinson.

The confiscated horses sold from a low of \$80 to a high of \$650. Over a month of food and care made a big difference in their condition.

The herd had been kept in a pasture owned by Phillips. He said he had given them all the alfalfa hay they could eat plus grain donated for them. The horses

See HORSES, Page 5a

## Second annual city clean up Saturday

Goodland's second annual citywide clean up will be Saturday, with volunteers picking up junk placed on the curb around town to help people who have trouble hauling their own.

The highway entrances to the town will be cleaned up on a couple of weeks later, on Saturday, April 22, said Ken Clouse, president of the Northwest Kansas Technical College and chairman of the Chamber of Commerce beautification committee.

Volunteers will meet at the Northwest Kansas Technical College student union at 8:30 a.m. both days. Volunteers need to be at least 14 for highway cleanup and 12 for the citywide effort, Clouse said.

They will take the trash to be sorted at 6th and Clark, behind B 4 Rent, and then hauled loads to the county transfer station north of town. Organizers hope to have a barbecue for volunteers afterwards.

The Beautification Committee planned the cleanup. The transfer station will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for people to haul trash to. Dumping will be free except for tires.

Anyone who cannot take their junk to the transfer station can call, and volunteers pick it up on Saturday.

Volunteers will haul construction debris, limbs and metal, Clouse said. They can't pick up tires.

People who need someone to pick up their trash, he said, should call 890-3641, 890-7149 or 890-6692. It needs to be on the curb by 9 a.m. Saturday.



Two members of Family Career Community Leaders of America, Matt Rohr and Sarah Borneman, picked up trash on Business U.S. 24. The citywide trash pickup day is Saturday, and highway cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 22. The community leaders did their highway cleanup early because of schedule conflicts.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

## Commission splits on weed mowing contract

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

A contract for weed mowing split the City Commission Monday over a difference of five cents per hour between the low bidder and the second lowest.

Three commissioners wanted to approve the low bidder, Property Management, owned by Justin Bentzinger, and two wanted to take the second-lowest bid from Miller Construction and Jodi Miller.

Commissioner Josh Dechant made a motion to approve Miller's bid at \$18 per hour, and Commissioner Annette Fairbanks seconded.

Commissioner Dave Daniels asked Dechant why he did not go with the lowest bid, \$17.95 per hour from Bentzinger.

Dechant said he had looked at the list of properties that were mowed last year, and found that Bentzinger had property on the list several times.

Fairbanks said she felt it was a tough decision, but thought Miller was the best choice.

"I appreciate your comments," Mayor Rick Billinger said. "We usually do take the lower price of those

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Work on rebuilding five brick intersections on Main will begin this month, but city officials have reversed the order they'll be done in because of a delay in the delivery of the bricks.

Darin Neufeld, engineer for Evans, Bierly, Hutchinson and Associates, who is handling the project, told the city commission Monday the plan has been changed because Miller Construction will not get the bricks before the first week of August.

Neufeld said he and City Manager Wayne Hill met with owner Mike Miller and agreed to change the order for replacing the intersections.

"Now we are going to switch and do 10th and 12th," Neufeld told the commission. "Construction will start April 24, and (those two) will be done by June. We will put in transition asphalt until the brick arrives."

"Then Miller will do the other three starting with 13th to have it done before school opens. He will then

locally.

"We have done this for a number of years, and seems like we have had different people every year."

"If they don't do the job, can we

get rid of them?" Dechant asked.

Fairbanks said she thought the commission needed to make a decision on what is best for the community to get the job done.

do 11th and Ninth. He will come back and put the bricks in at 10th and 12th at the end.

"This gets us around the delivery schedule. We will deliver a letter to the downtown businesses to let them know what will happen and when. The construction will affect pedestrian access to some stores, and there will be some water outages as the lines are replaced."

Hill said they want to keep the store owners informed because the intersections will be shut down during construction.

"We will have some intersections shut down during the reunion," Neufeld said of the Goodland High gathering set for Aug. 11-13. "We will have to have it all reopened by Flatlanders, because they use all five intersections."

Miller said the alumni usually have a parade. Neufeld said they might have to do a detour this year.

The commissioners agreed the plan sounds workable, but it will be a tight schedule to get all five done by the end of summer.

"My name is on their several times," Daniels said, "but I know the renters are supposed to do the mowing."

"What if he (Bentzinger) doesn't

perform?" Fairbanks asked.

Billinger said the city could put in the contract that if the mowing is not done in a timely manner, they could go down the list.

The vote was 2-3 with Dechant and Fairbanks voting yes, and Daniels, John Garcia and Billinger no.

Garcia said he voted no because it was not the low bid.

Daniels made a motion to accept the low bid with specifics about performance in the contract.

"What if he hasn't mowed his property?" asked Rich Simon, public works manager. "Are you going to pay him to mow his own property?"

"If we are going to presume from the start that he is not going to do a good job, this is not a good deal," Fairbanks said.

Daniels said they were putting in a termination clause.

"We have to give him a chance," he said.

"We may get all 13 of those properties mowed," Billinger said.

"Should be an incentive to mow

See MOWING, Page 5a

## Track season opens today

Junior Stephanie Sheldon cleared 8 feet, 6 inches at May's regional track meet in Colby, finishing in a three-way tie for sixth. The Cowboys and Cowgirls open their season today in Norton. See photo on Page 10a.

local  
markets

## Noon

Wheat — \$3.86 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.82

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$2.01 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.02

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Milo — \$1.63 bushel

Soybeans — \$4.68 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.92

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Millet — \$5.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$8.35 cwt.

NuSun Crop — \$9.35

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

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