

The Goodland Star-News

WEEKEND

**Friday, June 2
2006**

75¢

Volume 74, Number 44

Twelve Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

70°

noon
Thursday



Today

• Sunset, 8:08 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 5:21 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:08 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 62 degrees

• Humidity 49 percent

• Sky sunny

• Winds east at 7 mph

• Barometer 30.32 inches
and falling

• Record High today 106° (2002)

• Record Low today 31° (1951)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 78°

Low Thursday 49°

Precipitation 2.42 (record)

This month 3.96

Year to date 7.10

Normal above .06 of an inch

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy, high around 90. Low around 58. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Mostly sunny, high near 92, low near 58. Sunday: Mostly sunny, high near 93, low near 58. Monday: Mostly sunny, high near 93, low near 58. Tuesday: Mostly sunny, high near 90, low near 56. Wednesday: Partly cloudy and high near 91.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.



The retaining pond at Pioneer Park, located at the corner of Cherry Ave. and Business U.S. 24, filled with water that collected from the storm drains after a

thunderstorm on Wednesday evening dumped a record of 2.42 inches of rain mixed with hail on Goodland.

May ends with record deluge

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The lack of rain in May became a surplus overnight as a thunderstorm dropped a record 2.42 inches of rain on Goodland on Wednesday evening.

The 2.42 inches eclipsed the old one-day record of 1.37 inches set in 1957, said Meteorologist Dave Floyd of the Goodland National Weather Service office.

Wind-driven rain mixed with hail from pea to marble size pelted the town beginning about 5:45 p.m. The first storm, which moved north from Wallace County, brought most of the rain and hail. A second wave of storms moved in from the west, lasting until 9:15 p.m.

The Goodland National Weather Service office recorded sustained winds up to 43.7 mph when the first storm hit with gusts to 56.4 mph.

Street flooding was reported in several parts of town, but the worst was on 17th and on Main and Broadway from 15th to 17th. Hank's Café was asking the city about sand bags, and there were cars that stalled out in the high water at 17th and Broadway.

Police were called to help barricade the area on Main and Broadway to reduce the waves caused as people drove through the water.

There was a report of a car off the road on K-27 about a half-mile south of town, and the driver was standing on the top of the car. Police called a wrecker to pull the car out of the water-filled ditch.

Storm drains were pushed to the maximum, and the wind drove water into some basements and under doors.

South on K-27, hail was deep enough to make it look like a winter scene, and a report from the north side near the airport said the hail was a couple of inches deep in places.

City Manager Wayne Hill said he saw what looked like snow drifts as he drove around the north part town Thursday morning to check on the drainage system.

Rainfall for May had been 1.8 inches below the average of 3.46, but the deluge brought the month's total to 3.96 — .5 of an inch ahead of normal. The total for the year jumped to 7.1 inches, .06 ahead of normal.

The forecast for the weekend is for high temperatures reaching into the 90s with the lows in the upper 50s. There are no predictions for more rain.

Floyd said they had reports of nickel- and quarter-sized hail and wind gusts up to 70 mph north of Sharon Spring.

"Looks like Goodland and Sherman County got the brunt of the storm.



The intersection at 12th and Main (above), which is under construction, was filled and running over the curbs on the east side of Main during the heavy thunderstorm Wednesday evening. A driver in his pickup (right) on Tenth and Caldwell crossed a water-filled Caldwell Avenue. The water was deep enough to get brakes wet and stall out some vehicles.

Photos by Pat Schiefen
and Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News



Survey crew to start on Road 14 Monday

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Engineers will begin surveying County Road 14 at Caruso on Monday, Sherman County commissioners learned Wednesday when they approved the design contract.

Darin Neufeld, engineer for Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, presented the contract for design of the one-mile stretch from old U.S. 24 north to County Road 65 (Eighth Street). The total project is estimated to cost \$2.4 million, and the county won an \$800,000 grant from the Kansas Department of Transportation under an economic development program.

Road 14 is part of the \$12 million joint city-county road improvement program that will be paid for by the one-cent sales tax that goes into effect in July.

County Commissioners Chuck Thomas and Mitch Tiede had awarded engineering of all the county parts of the project to Penco

Fireworks get county support

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The fun for the July 4 Freedom Fest got a jump start Wednesday when the Sherman County commissioners agreed to pledge \$1,500 to pay for the fireworks show.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure reported on a meeting Thursday with representatives from area organizations to plan a fireworks show.

Rasure said the consensus of the group was to go forward, that the community would miss the event if it died.

The annual fireworks show and celebration has been planned by the Chamber of Commerce, which dropped out last year after taking a loss on a major

concert.

The cost for the fireworks will be \$7,000, and Rasure said he had firm commitments for \$1,500 from two organizations.

"The key is the city and county," Rasure said.

He said the committee would need some help this year but hopes to find a group to handle the project in the future like the annual Flatlander Festival.

"I was looking at \$1,500 from the city and county," Rasure said, "and then the rest from other organizations or businesses."

"I don't have a problem with \$1,500 if the city does the same," Commissioner Mitch Tiede said.

See FIREWORKS, Page 8

from old U.S. 24 north to Eighth.

Neufeld wrote the application for an economic development grant in October, and at that time estimated the total cost of the Road 14 project to be \$2,355,000. With the \$800,000 from the state, he said, the county share should be \$1,555,000.

The design engineering proposal the commissioners approved calls for the bill not to exceed \$105,000 for the preliminary work.

"I do not expect to exceed the design cost," Neufeld said. "Unless we run into something I am not expecting, I would think the cost would run about 60 percent (\$63,000)."

Neufeld said there should not be any right of way questions or any problems with utilities to drive up the cost.

Neufeld said he would have the survey crew begin work on the project on Monday. He said they

See ROADS, Page 8

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.49 bushel

Posted county price — \$0.00

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$2.15 bushel

Posted county price — \$0.00

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Milo — \$1.82 bushel

Soybeans — \$4.85 bushel

Posted county price — \$0.00

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Millet — \$5.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$8.60 cwt.

NuSun crop — \$9.60

Confection — Call

Pinto beans — \$15.50 (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



Cowboys lift weights

Casey Henderson a future junior, took his turn as other members of next season's Cowboys wait their turn during strength training Thursday morning at Max Jones Fieldhouse. See photos on Page 12.