

# The Goodland Star-News

**WEEKEND**

**Friday, June 23  
2006**

**75¢**

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Twelve Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

## weather report

**79°**

**noon  
Thursday  
Today**

- Sunset, 8:17 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 5:21 a.m.
- Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 74 degrees
- Humidity 43 percent
- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds 13 mph from the east
- Barometer 30.23 inches and falling
- Record High today 106° (1954)
- Record Low today 43° (1916)

### Last 24 Hours\*

High Wednesday 87°  
Low Thursday 63°  
Precipitation .01  
This month 3.32  
Year to date 10.42  
Above Normal 1.07 inches

### The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy, high near 86, low near 61. South wind at 5 to 15 mph. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

### Extended Forecast

Saturday: 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly cloudy, high near 88, low near 60. Sunday: 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high near 85, low near 58. Monday: Partly cloudy, high near 84, low near 58.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## local markets

### Noon

Wheat — \$4.44 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.43  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Corn — \$1.99 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.97  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Milo — \$1.76 bushel  
Soybeans — \$4.92 bushel  
Posted county price — \$5.09  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Millet — \$5.55 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



## K-18 team faces Oakley

Cameron Morris (20) hit a pitch against Quinter at Memorial Field on June 7. The K-18 team lost 15-5, but has a 3-1 record. The team played in Oakley Thursday. See photo, story on Page 12.



A crowd of around 50 people (above) waved American flags as a convoy commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Interstate highway system drove underneath the bridge south of Caldwell about 1:35 p.m. on Wednesday. The convoy drove past a sign for the Eisenhower Interstate System as it left the Tourist Information Center west of Goodland. A Kansas Department of Transportation truck with an American flag was the last vehicle in the convoy of National Guard trucks, cars, a commuter bus, semi truck and trailer and a motor home.

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

# Interstate convoy rolls into Kansas

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Star-News*

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Interstate Highway began Wednesday in Kansas when part of a transcontinental convoy rolled into the state at Kanorado and continued east to Abilene.

A crowd of Sherman County citizens greeted and waved flags as the convoy drove under the bridge over I-70 south of Caldwell. A special banner welcomed the convoy to Western Kansas.

Similar banners were on bridges near Colby, Oakley, WaKeeney, Hays, Russell, Wilson, Ellsworth, Salina and Abilene to greet the convoy on its way to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum.

The convoy is part of a reenactment of the journey then Lt. Col Eisenhower took in 1919 with a military convoy from the east coast to San Francisco. The early trip took 62 days and the convoy averaged 6 mph, which inspired the future president to support development of a national highway system that became a reality when Eisenhower signed the law on June 29, 1956.

The main celebration convoy is traveling on I-80, which is approximately the route taken by the 1919 convoy. The convoy of antique cars, trucks, buses, semitrailers and military vehicles left San Francisco on Friday, and reached Omaha on Wednesday.

Part of the convoy broke off at Cheyenne on Wednesday and drove south on I-25 to Denver and headed east on I-70. The convoy reached the Colorado-Kansas border about



Merrill Eisenhower Atwater, great grandson of President Dwight Eisenhower, talked to Kristen Brands of the Kansas Department of Transportation, at the Travel Information Center west of Goodland where the convoy stopped for lunch Wednesday.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

12:45 p.m. At the Kansas port of entry the escort of Colorado Highway Patrol was turned over to the Kansas Highway Patrol, and were joined by a vehicle from the Kansas National Guard.

The convoy drove to the Travel Information Center where more National Guard vehicles joined, and everyone grabbed a quick lunch and water before heading east.

Merrill Eisenhower Atwater,

great-great grandson of President Eisenhower is traveling with the convoy, and keeping a journal of the trip.

Atwater said he was glad to be in Kansas, and that when the convoy reached Abilene the trip will be over half completed.

"I know we cross the middle of the nation in Kansas," Atwater said. "I think if Abilene as a second home, and the people have been good to me."

Atwater is the son of Mary Jean Eisenhower, youngest of four children of John Sheldon Doud Eisenhower who was the second son of Dwight and Mamie Eisenhower. He said the longest part of the trip so far was the stretch from Salt Lake City to Cheyenne, Wyo.

Reading the logs of the 1919 convoy Atwater said it was amazing to think that there were no major highways across the country 87 years ago.

"We take the highways today for granted," Atwater said. "It is a great system, and I am proud to be part of the celebration to remember my great grandfather's part in making the Interstate system a reality 50 years ago.

"It is good to see the support from Kansas, and I am enjoying the trip and seeing the people. I couldn't imagine having such a celebration without making a stop in Abilene to honor President Eisenhower."

An ice cream social, performance by the Abilene City Band and antique car show greeted the convoy when it reached the Eisenhower Library on Wednesday evening. Atwater was one of the speakers on the front porch of Eisenhower's boyhood home.

Other speakers included Eisenhower Center Director Dan Holt and Kansas Department of Transportation Secretary Deb Miller.

Thursday the convoy laid over for a day of rest and toured Abilene and the Eisenhower Library and participated in a vehicle parade.

The convoy left at 7:30 a.m. today headed to the Kansas Speedway. There were banners at Junction City, Paxico, Maple Hill, Topeka and travel on the Kansas Turnpike to Bonner Springs.

At the speedway the convoy will take a "victory lap" around the track. The convoy will head into Missouri after lunch and head back north to rejoin the main convoy in Des Moines, Iowa. The convoy will reach Washington, D.C. on June 29 to celebrate the signing of the highway law in 1956.

## No easy fix for pool heater

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Star-News*

Early morning swimmers are shivering at Steever Water Park this summer, and there is not a quick fix for the problem city commissioners were told Monday evening.

Because the heater is not working City Manager Wayne Hill decided on Tuesday to cut the ticket prices to the water park until the problem can be fixed. Hill said the prices are being cut in half, and said he hopes people understand the city is trying to find a solution.

The price for children ages 6-12 is now \$1, and it is \$2 for adults. Children under 6 are admitted free with an adult.

"The perception is that we are not trying to do something about the pool heater," Hill told the commis-

sioners on Monday. "We are working on what can be done, and Rich Simon has some alternatives."

Simon passed out some photos he took last week of the heater coil that has broken down, and the power panel that had a meltdown.

A quick fix could be expedited to replace the heater coil for \$6,250, Simon said, and it could be shipped here in three to five days. He said there are additional parts that have to be replaced to bring the cost to over \$6,500.

"That might get us by this summer," Simon said, "but it is just a band-aid to the problem."

Simon said the problem is that the heater installed when the water park was built was designed for an indoor pool, and has been a problem from the beginning.

City Commissioner Josh Dechant asked if the heater was one of the items in the expensive mediation the city went through last year?

Simon said it was one of the items in the medication, but said he was not sure whether there was a final agreement about the heater.

Hill said there are items from the mediation that have not been settled, and he has been talking to Jeff Mason, city attorney about this matter.

When the water park was built it was financed with the help of the First National Bank, Bankwest and Western State Bank. The city leased the water park from the banks on a 10-year basis, and the banks were involved in the mediation because of their financial position.

## Relay for Life begins at 7 p.m. tonight

By Pat Schiefen

*The Goodland Star-News*

The annual Relay for Life which raises money for cancer research starts Friday night at 7 p.m. at the Sherman County Fairgrounds. Everyone is invited to come for the opening ceremony, luminary service, gift basket auction, hamburgers by the Goodland Kiwanis Club from 5:30 to 10 p.m. and a pancake feed by the Knights of Columbus on Saturday morning from 5 to 9 a.m.

The event features members of teams walking around a track for

12 hours to raise money. The opening lap beginning at 7 p.m. will be a "victory" lap for cancer survivors followed by lap of survivors with their caretakers. The next lap is made by all the members of each relay team.

The luminaries are candles in paper bags with the name of a person who had cancer being honored or remembered. The luminaries are lined up to spell the word "HOPE." The list of names on the luminaries will be scrolled

**See RELAY, Page 11**

**See POOL, Page 11**