

The Goodland Star-News

MIDWEEK
Tuesday, June 27
2006

75¢

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Twelve Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

73°

noon Monday



Today

• Sunset, 8:24 p.m.

Wednesday

• Sunrise, 5:22 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:18 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 68 degrees
- Humidity 33 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds southeast at 5 to 10 mph
- Barometer 30.31 inches and falling
- Record High today 106° (1940)
- Record Low today 43° (1985)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday 76°
Low Monday 53°
Precipitation —
This month 4.30
Year to date 11.40
Above normal 1.61 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy, high near 82, low near 55. South wind between 5 to 10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 3 p.m. and before midnight. Partly cloudy, high near 86, low around 57. Thursday: Mostly sunny, high near 89, low near 61. Friday through Sunday: Partly cloudy, highs near 91, lows near 59.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.39 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.41
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$1.90 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.93
Loan deficiency pmt. — 3¢
Milo — \$1.67 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.74 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.02
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



Cowboy runs steeplechase

Kerek Mason jumped over an obstacle and got ready to land in a water hazard on one of his steeplechase races in the Missouri Valley AAU Championships on Friday night in Overland Park. See story, photos on Page 11.



Caregivers joined cancer survivors (above) for the second lap of the Relay for Life at the Sherman County Fairgrounds on Friday night. Josh Dechant of Bankwest (right) won the honor of kissing a miniature donkey to raise money for cancer research. See another Relay for Life photos on Page 10.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News



Relay raises more than \$31,000

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

The 2006 Relay for Life, held Friday and Saturday at the Sherman County Fairgrounds, raised more than \$31,000 to help those battling cancer, their caretakers and survivors with a "Boot Camp" theme this year.

The American Cancer Society event features people walking around a track for 12 hours to raise money for cancer research. Fifteen teams signed up for the relay, which started at 7 p.m. Friday. One member of each team was supposed to be on the track at all times, but rain ended the relay about 5:30 a.m.

Sherida Shoff, vice president of First National Bank and a relay committee member, said Monday they had raised over \$31,000, compared to about \$28,000 last year.

The opening ceremony was followed by cancer survivors taking a "victory" lap together around the track, followed by a lap with survivors and their family and caretakers. Next, all of the members of participating teams lined up and took a lap together.

At 7:30, Terry Richardson, auctioneer for Homestead Realty and Auction, started to sell baskets donated by the teams. These contained items for car and pet care, movie tickets, a ski trip, Colorado Rockies baseball tickets and things to eat.

The basket from the First National Bank team with the Rockies tickets

brought the highest bid at \$375.

Next, the winner of the "Kiss the Donkey" contest, city Commissioner Josh Dechant, did his duty.

At 9 p.m., luminaries were lit by having everyone spread around the circle of paper bags and help light them. The survivors lit the first ones, with the following ones for families and friends.

The luminaries, candles placed in paper bags, each had the name of a person being honored or remembered. The Relay sold over 1,000 of the candle-lit honors.

During the night, bingo went on with contests including a Tacky Queen, scavenger hunt, newspaper costume, water balloon volleyball, bubble gum and a shoe race.

The top individual winner fund raiser for the event was Kathy Schermerhorn of the Paw Wash team with \$1040 and the top team was Bankwest of Kansas with \$3468.

The Goodland Kiwanis Club offered hamburgers and hot dogs from 5 to 10 p.m. at the 4-H Building, and the Knights of Columbus served pancakes from 5 a.m. to 8 a.m.

"I think it went very well," said Shoff. "We just appreciate all the help the community gave us. It was a pretty awesome thing."

She said, she thought they would go back to the regular August time next year. The relay was moved because of the all-school reunion in August.



Tara Wishcop, granddaughter of Charlie and Eunice Weber, lighted a luminary with a Michael Gissel at the Relay for Life on Friday night at the Sherman County Fairgrounds. The event raised money for cancer research.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Supreme Court denies Frontier Equity appeal

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

The Kansas Supreme Court has declined to review a Court of Appeals decision in a lawsuit between Frontier Equity and Chuck Ihrig, Grace Ihrig and Circle Bar Ranch Co. of Goodland, sending it back to the district court here.

The results is that District Judge Jack Burr will determine how much access to Co-op records the Ihrigs will have to conduct an investigation of allegedly improper discounting.

The Supreme Court, in an order issued on Thursday, June 8, and declined to review the case, upholding the appellate court's ruling.

At Frontier's annual meeting on Tuesday, May 6, the board asked its attorney, Ron Vignery of Vignery and Mason, to talk about the suit.

Vignery told members that after a District Court trial in December 2004, the court found no mismanagement in the operations of Frontier and ruled that the steps taken by the Co-op's board and management had stopped any improper discounting.

Ihrig had wanted access to almost a complete set of books, including employee salaries and grain tickets. Vignery said Frontier felt that information would violate the privacy of members and reveal business information to competitors.

Ihrig took the case to the state Court of Appeals in February, where the judges agreed with most of the district court's rulings except for a ruling that the discounting, which allegedly violated the cooperative's bylaws, needed to be further investigated. The court send the case back

to the District Court for a ruling on the discounting issues.

The Court of Appeals said the Ihrigs should have had more access to financial records because they showed that grain ticket alteration had occurred more than once.

The appellate court reversed the District Court's ruling that the discounting on grain had been remedied. Because the co-op's bylaws called for equal treatment of all members, it said, the discounting was troublesome. It ordered the District Court to set the limits for disclosure of the records.

Ihrig complained of an incident where General Manager Brad Cowan had allegedly provided a discount by using a false moisture reading for a farmer whose business Cowan wanted. Ihrig said he re-

ported the incident to the auditors and the board, along with others not involving Cowan.

The incidents were investigated using an audit and inventory of grain

on hand, said Greg Daughette, a certified public accountant for Lindberg and Vogel of Hays. These measures did not show the moisture discrepancies were widespread, he testified.

Stolen car found in field; Goodland man jailed

A Goodland man was in jail Monday after allegedly leaving a stolen car mired in a corn field west of town.

Sheriff Kevin Butts said the man may also have driven through some yards in town, and anyone with damage to their law should call his office at 890-4835.

The sheriff said Deputy Jason Showalter found the stolen car in a cornfield west of T-Bone Feeders on County Road 65 early Monday. There was extensive damage to the corn.

Butts said the blue Pontiac Sunbird had been stolen from the 100 block of W. 12th Sunday evening. Showalter tracked the

alleged driver down later in town.

"We have a suspect in jail," Butts said, "and he will be charged with theft of the vehicle and criminal damage to the cornfield."

Butts said there were reports the car was seen driving across several yards in Goodland, but he had no reports of damage Monday morning. He said if someone had damage to their yard from a car, they should contact the sheriff's office.

Butts said Marshall Carson, 23, 910 W. 17th, was being held in jail. Butts said Carson also would be charged with driving while suspended for the third time.

Burglars hit home, take guns, jewelry

Burglars broke into a house south of the I-70 off ramp at Edson on Saturday, taking guns and jewelry.

Sheriff Kevin Butts said Monday that Deputy Burton Pianalto was investigating the break-in at the home of Evelyn Finegan, 6325

County Road 29. He said the thieves came in through a kitchen window between 5 and 7 p.m. on Saturday.

Finegan discovered the break-in when she came home, he said.

Butts said guns and jewelry were reported stolen, but did not have

descriptions yet. He said Pianalto and Deputy Brad Parker went back to the house on Sunday to gather more evidence.

Butts said he had not seen the report, and he did not know if there were any suspects.