

weather  
report



Today

- Sunset, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 6:09 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:28 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 73 degrees
- Humidity 23 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds north east at 5 mph
- Barometer 29.87 inches and falling
- Record High today 105° (1936)
- Record Low today 43° (1928)

Last 24 Hours\*

High Wednesday	96°
Low Thursday	61°
Precipitation	—
This month	2.2
Year to date	15
Below normal	.87 of an inch

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy, high 83, low 61 and a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: High near 80, low near 59 and a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Sunday: Partly cloudy, high near 82 and low around 58. Monday: Partly cloudy, high near 85 and the low near 59. Tuesday: Partly cloudy, high near 85 and low near 58. Wednesday: Mostly sunny and high near 94. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. \* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local  
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.05 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.19  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Corn — \$2.04 bushel  
Posted county price — \$1.94  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 2¢  
Milo — \$1.74 bushel  
Soybeans — \$4.63 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.66  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 3¢  
Millet — \$6 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$9.35 cwt.  
NuSun crop — \$10.35  
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



Scrimmage  
is tonight

Goodland Cowboy football practice has been lots of hitting and tackling since practice began with full pads last Thursday. Fans can see the football team and cross country teams tonight at 5:30 p.m. at Cowboy Stadium.

# Ag development excites senator

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback visited with a crowd of almost 50 at the office of Sherman County Economic Development on Tuesday afternoon, telling them that he was excited by developments in agriculture.

"I am proud to be a Republican and a K-Stater," Brownback said, and the crowd clapped and cheered.

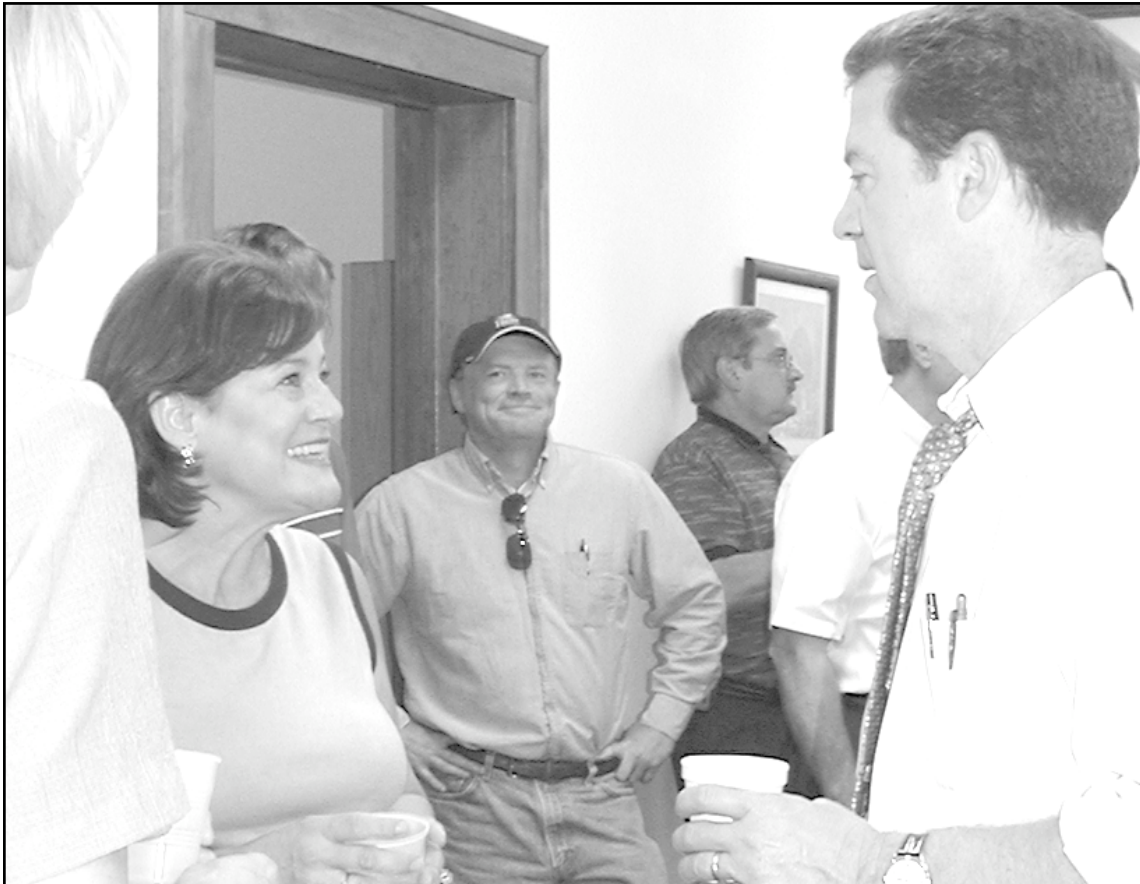
"Frankly, it is an exciting time," said the senator, a former Kansas secretary of agriculture. "This is the best opportunity for new ag products that I have seen in my lifetime."

Brownback, rumored to be considering a run for president, said he had just come from the Goodland Energy Center, under construction near Caruso. He said the concept of integrating production facilities to reuse steam energy is different and exciting. The planners have tailored the plant's size to meet the needs of the area, he said.

"It is a different era for agriculture with the bioenergy push," Brownback said. "The country would rather be dependent on the Midwest for their energy than the Middle East or South America."

With oil at \$75 a barrel, ethanol and biodiesel are competitive, he said, adding that he would like to see agricultural products being made into plastics and other products now made from oil.

He said there is a guy making clay



Kansas Senator Sam Brownback talked to Betty Jean Schields of the Sherman Farm Bureau at a reception held Tuesday afternoon at the Sherman County Economic Development office at 10th and Main.

Photo By Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

pigeons (trap-shooting targets) out of starch instead of petroleum, and the country needs to pursue alternative sources for products.

"There will be a "new uses" expo in Kansas City next year," Brownback said.

Betty Jean Schields, member of

the Sherman County Farm Bureau District Board and farmer, asked why diesel fuel costs 45 cents a gallon more than last year.

Brownback said the higher cost is not from less supply but the amount put through the system.

"Gas and oil should not be as high as it is," he said. "Demand is driving the prices."

He said we should see more electricity used to drive vehicles. Half of the people only drive 30 miles a day. Hybrid vehicles are built for city driving, he said.

Mona McGinley, retired banker, asked about the farm bill. He said the farm bill would not be early but won't be much different from this year.

He noted that Congress will be working on balancing the budget.

"It is only the responsible thing to do," he said.

Brownback said Medicare has been through the biggest expansion since its beginning in the Republican-backed prescription drug program.

Social Security will be easier to fix when the Baby Boomers reach that age, he said, because they are a large block and will want it done. Medicare will be more difficult.

Ken Clouse, president of the Northwest Kansas Technical College, asked if the senator is looking at the presidential race.

To be president, Sen. Brownback said, a person needs to have the right set of values and issues, the right

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# Committee drops Sunday beer garden

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

An ordinance allowing beer in city parks with special permits died for lack of a second at Monday's City Commission meeting after the Flatlander Fall Festival committee withdrew its application.

The committee had asked to have a beer garden in Chambers Park on Sunday, Sept. 24.

The question of allowing alcohol in city parks came up in the meeting on Aug. 7, when Lincoln Wilson, president of the Flatlander committee and owner of the Howard Johnson Hotel, asked to use Chambers Park for a picnic event to extend the festival into Sunday. Part of the request was to allow a beer garden as part of the picnic.

Ordinances do not allow alcohol in city parks, but the commission discussed changing them to allow special permits approved by the commission as is done with other locations for beer gardens.

## Tap fees increase to cover actual cost

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Electric and water tap fees, charged for new connections, will skyrocket under an ordinance approved by the Goodland City Commission on Monday.

The commission started looking into prices being charged for electric and water taps during budget work sessions in July. The city staff said the set prices in the old ordinance covered only about a quarter of the cost to put taps in today, including meters and labor.

City Manager Wayne Hill asked the commission to allow the city to charge its actual cost for materials.

The ordinance approved on Monday did not

change the fee for new single-phase electric service.

The cost will be \$125 for a 100-ampere service, \$200 for a 200-amp service and \$500 for a larger service. These are the same prices as in the old ordinance.

The cost of a new three-phase service for a business will be the cost of the transformer and the other meter equipment needed for the installation. This would be anywhere from \$1,250 to \$20,000 depending on the equipment needed.

The water tap fee, which has been \$300, will go up to cover the actual cost of the materials and meter, estimated at \$1,000 or more.

"We need to recover the cost of installing these," Hill said. "If we have to bore to get to the spot, that

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"My personal opinion, I don't think it is a good idea," said City Manager Wayne Hill. "I did what you asked and set up the ordinance."

Commissioner John Garcia had said at the previous meeting he did not like the idea of a beer garden being in Chambers Park on Sunday

with the nearby churches having services.

"I think there is a liability question," Garcia said. "I checked this at

the state level.

"My stand on this was that there is one ordinance (allowing beer gardens with special permits) that has been enacted and is working efficiently. I think this is not necessary and believe it is not in keeping with the Sabbath."

City Commissioner Josh Dechant asked to table the ordinance and to move to the question of the beer garden applications.

The commission voted 4-0 to table the ordinance.

Wilson said committee members had heard some opposition to having the beer garden in Chambers Park on Sunday.

"It is not the intention of any committee member to create any mistrust or create any division of the citizens," Wilson said. "For the sake of maintaining and building community support, we are withdrawing the application for the Sunday beer

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## Firemen accused of theft

Goodland's Fire Chief and a volunteer fireman are facing theft charges for picking up cigarettes from a truck roll over on I-70 on Wednesday, July 19.

Fire Chief Scott Gilmer, 46, is facing a misdemeanor charge for attempting to steal a carton of cigarettes from the wreck. Wednesday Gilmer entered a not guilty plea at Sherman County District Court before Judge Charles Carrol from Atwood. His attorney is Kevin Berens of St. Francis. Gilmer is on administrative leave from his job.

Neil Normandin, 38, is charged with a felony. He is accused of stealing two boxes of cartons of cigarettes worth more than \$1,000 but less than \$25,000. The felony is a level 9 nonperson felony.

Normandin will make his first court appearance on Tuesday. Bonnie Selby, Sherman County Attorney, said Normandin has turned in his gear and is not answering fire calls.

A truck driven by Robert Proffitt, Laurel Fork, Va., was heading west on I-70 and rolled over about nine

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## Schools open

Dawada Pummer (above) and Kyler Amthor (center right) hurried Thursday morning to make it to class at Central Elementary School. The first day of school was Wednesday with the first three days lasting only until 1 p.m. because of high temperatures.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

