

weather report

59°

noon Monday



Today

• Sunset, 5:57 p.m.

Wednesday

• Sunrise, 7:06 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:56 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 43 degrees
- Humidity 28 percent
- Sky clear
- Winds calm
- Barometer 30.17 inches and falling

- Record High today 88° (1915)
- Record Low today 20° (1975)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	53°
Low Monday	25°
Precipitation	—
This month	1.56
Year to date	20.79
Above normal	2.55 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny, high near 66, turning partly cloudy with a low near 34.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: Partly cloudy, high near 66, low near 34. Thursday: Mostly sunny, high near 61, low near 32. Friday: Sunny, high near 63, low near 31. Saturday: Sunny, high near 64, low around 34.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Maze to become 'field of screams'



Tanner Smith (right) got an ear of corn to load the corn gun as Hazen Deeds (left) prepared to lower the gun so it could be loaded. This will be the last weekend for the Cole Family Farms corn maze, featuring the "Field of Screams" haunted maze on Friday and Saturday.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Are you ready for the field of screams at the Cole Family Farms haunted corn maze on Friday and Saturday?

The maze, owned by Bryce and Jessica Cole, will open at dark on Friday and Saturday at Eighth and Eustis, on the east side of Goodland.

"The haunting will have a farm theme with a farmer and sickles," owner Bryce Cole said. "The Senior Catholic Youth Organization will help with the haunting and make some money."

Sunday, the maze will be open for the last time from 3 to 6 p.m. — without the haunting — and then the corn will be cut, he said.

Bad weather on the weekends has kept the number of visitors down, this year, Cole added. This is the second year for the maze, an intricate network of twists and turns carved into 10 acres of corn. It opened Saturday, Sept. 16.

"This year, the maze is designed in the shape of the Goodland Cowboy," said Cole's wife, Jessica. "It will take about an hour to go through the three miles of twists and turns."

Besides the 10-acre corn maze, there is a mini maze for preschoolers, Cole said, where parents will be able to watch their kids going through. And there will be a corn box (like a sandbox but with corn), she said, and a castle.

New this year is a corn gun, which shoots ears of corn at a target with compressed air.

There will be "corn cops" in the maze, Jessica Cole said, who will help people who need a hint.

Tickets to go through the maze cost \$8 for those over 13 and \$6 for kids 6-12. Tots 5 and under get in free.

The maze was designed by Brett Herbst of American Fork, Utah, owner of The Maize, which he bills as the largest maze consulting company in the world. Herbst opened his first maze in 1996 in Utah, and says he has designed a thousand mazes since then.

The first year the Coles had the corn maze, it was in the shape of Goodland's large Van Gogh sunflower painting.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$4.71 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.81
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
- Corn — \$3.08 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.73
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
- Milo — \$2.63 bushel
- Soybeans — \$5.32 bushel
- Posted county price — \$5.26
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
- Millet — \$7 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- NuSun crop — \$12.75
- Pinto beans — \$19 (new crop)

(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

Rains slow fall corn harvest, brings wheat up

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Much-needed rain has helped wheat to come up this month, but slowed harvest of fall crops.

"We are just beginning to scratch the surface," said Ben Brandvik, Grain Division Manager at Frontier Equity Co-op in Goodland. "The rain two weekends ago stopped harvesting until Wednesday and then the rain returned."

Goodland had 1.21 inches of rain between Sunday, Oct. 8, and Wednesday, Oct. 11, said Sarah Johnson with the National Weather Service office at Renner Field.

For the year, total moisture is up to 20.75 inches which is 2.67 inches above normal.

Early yield reports have been better than expected, Brandvik said.

"A lot of the dryland corn burned up," Brandvik said, adding that in the Goodland area, dryland corn yields are running between 40 to 75 bushels per acre.

The Bird City area that got five inches of rain in July, he said, and farmers there are reporting up to 125 bushels per acre.

Some of the irrigated corn has produced 220 bushels per acre, Brandvik added. Frontier Equity has

hardly taken in any sorghum, he said, but around Bird City, there has been some 80-bushel-per-acre fields.

"Harvest is going very slowly," said Lynn Hoelting of Mueller Grain. "Corn is not drying down very quickly."

"About 38 percent of corn harvest is done. Dryland suffered with the heat, and the yield was not as good."

"Farmers have harvested about 19 percent of confectionery and oil sunflowers. The size of the harvest will be smaller than last year, but the oil content has been 2 to 4 per cent better.

"Confectionery seed size is down, also."

"There is around 21 percent of pinto beans still in the field," said Ron Meyers of 21st Century Bean. "Rain affects the quality of the crop. We need two good weeks of drying weather with above-average temperatures to get the whole crop out."

"The yield has been mixed. Tonnage has been 15 percent less. Price has been 20 percent improved over last year and the market could trend higher until the first of the year."

"The acres that remain to be harvested belong to less than 10 growers."

"We are a little bit behind on harvest and producers are getting a little bit nervous," said Jeanne Falk, crop production and economics specialist for Sherman, Cheyenne and Wallace counties with the Kansas State University Research and Extension. "The guys with shorter season corn are in better shape."

Falk said that most of the winter wheat has been planted and 75 to 80 percent has come up. The rain helped.

"In Sherman County, some wheat had to be replanted," she said. Some ground had crusted so the wheat could not break through.

Shot clinics this week

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

You can increase your chances to avoid the flu, whether seasonal or pandemic, by using good hygiene and some common sense, says the Sherman County Health Department.

Wash your hands frequently with warm water and soap or alcohol-based gel to remove viruses, and avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth, stay away from sick people if possible and get a flu shot every year

If you seem to be coming down with the flu, and don't want to spread it, cover sneezes and coughs with a tissue and throw it away or use the crook of your elbow to avoid getting the virus on your hands. Stay home if you are sick.

"The flu shot clinics are Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.," said Dorrendo Harrel, director of the health department said. "There is not supposed to be any shortage of

See SHOTS, Page 7

inside today

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



Cowgirls lose to Colby

Cowgirl Nicolette Clancy set up a ball in the final match of the Class 4A substate volleyball tournament at Max Jones Fieldhouse on Saturday. Colby beat Goodland, 25-14 and 25-20. See photo, story on Page 9.

Moonlight Madness contest on Monday

Goodland's fifth annual Moonlight Madness celebration and costume contest will bring out spooks and goblins from 5-7 p.m. on Monday for a night of spirited shopping, entertainment and costume contests.

Several downtown stores will be open until 7 p.m., with specials for shopping, and there will be treats for the kids who stop by. El Dorado Western Wear, 1101 Main, will feature a haunted house and costume contests in the basement.

The Madd Hatter will provide music beginning about 5 p.m. at El Dorado and costume judging begins at 5 p.m.

There will be three age groups, with prizes for first, second and third in each. The 4-and-under group will be judged at 5 p.m., 5-9 at 5:30 p.m., and 10-14 at 6 p.m.. The Goodland Kiwanis Club has donated the prize money, and Wal-Mart gave money for candy.

Businesses participating in the event or handing out candy include J.C. Penney, Garcia's Home Furnishing, High Plains Office Supply, State Farm Insurance, Jacque's Hallmark, Mann's Jewelry, Farm Bureau Insurance, American Communications and Overhead Door and The Goodland Star-News.

Winning Flatlander photo



"Mickey Mouse" was the winning photo in the adult category of People's Choice Awards in the Flatlander Photo Contest. Julie Crow of Goodland took the photo of her son's beagle, a Christmas present last year, when the pup was about 10 weeks old. All the photo contest winners can be found on Page 8.