

weather report

**87°
at noon**



Today

Sunset, 7:50 p.m.

Tomorrow

Sunrise, 5:56 a.m.
Sunset, 7:49 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 81 degrees
- Humidity 41 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds south 15-20
- Barometer 30.15 inches and falling

• Record High 105° (1964)
• Record Low 48° (1960)

Last 24 Hours*

High 93°
Low 60°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly clear, low 65-70, winds 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high 95-100, low 65, winds south 15-25.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Monday: dry, high mid 90s, low 65.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Scanner to keep hospital updated

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

With a new piece of equipment, the Goodland Regional Medical Center will save its patients a drive to Denver or Hays.

The hospital now offers a service that has never been available here before.

Last week, a spiral computed tomography scanner, which is frequently called a "cat scan," was delivered to the hospital, and the state-of-the-art equipment has been up and running for the past couple of days.

The Goodland hospital board decided in June to lease the \$450,000 scanner from General Electric.

Mike Boettcher, the director of radiology at the hospital, showed the new scanner to members of the press on Wednesday morning and explained how it works.

He said the high-speed piece of equipment, which looks like a big, white, square donut with an exam table in front of it, will allow the hospital to offer its patients procedures they were once forced to travel hundreds of miles — to Denver or Hays — for.

Plus, he added, the equipment will allow the hospital to accommodate twice as many patients in a day.

"This is the only machine of its kind between Hays and Denver," said Boettcher.

That's true for another six to eight weeks.

The Colby's Citizens Medical Center board decided last week to buy a similar machine, which is expected to arrive sometime in September.

Boettcher said Goodland's new scanner is three times as fast as the scanner the hospital used before and can accom-

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Officials see damage to highway

They discuss how to pay for repairs

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Following their regular meeting Tuesday, Sherman Commissioners traveled to Edson to look at a mile stretch of old Hwy. 24 that appears to be deteriorating.

The road inspection was requested by Curt Way, road and bridge supervisor, who wanted the commissioners to see the damage before they began working on budgets for next year.

The commissioners did not take any action on the road, but said the issue would be something they would try to work into the road budget as it looks like the mile section will need some major work to save the road.

The section of road is about a mile west of Edson, and was the first part of the highway where the county did in-place recycling, followed by chip-sealing in 1999. Way said the mile section was the worst of the 17-mile stretch that was phase one of the three year repair and maintenance project.

During the meeting, County Attorney Bonnie Selby told the commissioners she had met with City Manager Ron Pickman and Amy Griffey, area economic development specialist, to talk about possible grants to help with the repair of the city section of old Hwy. 24.

After the group spent an hour and a half of looking at grant programs, Selby said they concluded that presently there are no grants which can help with that project. She said it appears an extension

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A bull rider (above) in the Bull Blast 2000 event at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair Wednesday night hung on for the whole eight seconds. Out of 28 riders, Chris Bartlett won the competition. Sisters Holly and Lacy

Stephens (below) sang the "Star Spangled Banner" before the event. They are active in 4-H and will be singing at the 4-H barbecue tonight.

Photos by Dana Sulsberger and Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Loud, noisy event featured Saturday

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

Those planning to attend the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair this weekend might want to bring along a pair of ear plugs.

The Colorado Truck and Tractor Pullers Association's tractor pull will start at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, and the screaming engines and cries from the crowd may be too much for those with sensitive ears.

"It should be a night of fun," said Michael Cochran, a member of the fair board. "But be sure to bring your ear plugs, because it will be noisy."

Cochran said the popular event will feature modified tractors pulling sleds around the track in front of the grandstands at the fairgrounds.

He said whoever pulls the sled the

longest distance will win the purse, or a portion of the registration fees, for the evening.

"It's similar to a demolition derby," said Cochran.

The tractors are diesel or alcohol burning, he said, and have been modified to pull the sleds.

"It is going to be a lot of fun," said Cochran, adding that this is the first time in many years Goodland will be the host of a tractor pull.

"They seem to be back in style now and doing really well," he said.

Cochran said there will be 38 to 40 tractors from four to five different states pulling on Saturday.

The event is being paid for by donations from local businesses and admission is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children.



4-Hers have passion for showing cattle

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

John and Jace Mosbarger have a passion for showing cattle.

The two boys, who are sons of Jim and Darla Mosbarger of rural Goodland, have been showing cattle since they were 5.

John, 12, and Jace, 9, began showing in the pre-4-H program and when they were old enough, joined the Prairie Dale 4-H Club. John will show "Ritz" and Jace will show "Payback" during today's beef show at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair.

This year, the boys bought their cattle in October and started working with them in the winter. To get the animals ready for the fair, they spent about three hours a day in the barn with their cattle. Early in the morning, they rinsed, blow dried, and brushed their steers. After lunch, they went out and misted them with water and brushed them some more.

John said his favorite part of the project is halter breaking his steer to lead, while Jace said winning is his favorite thing.

The boys showed cattle at a livestock show in Columbus, Neb. in December and went to shows at Hutchinson and Denver before competing at the National Junior Maine-Anjou Show at Enid, Okla. in June.

They also attended several spring livestock shows, including Colby, Oakley, Grainfield, Scott City, Hays, and Goodland.

Jace won his first belt buckle when Payback was named grand champion at the Thomas County Spring Show.

Last year, John won grand champion



John (front) and Jace Mosbarger groomed Jace's steer, "Payback", last Wednesday in the barn at their farm in rural Goodland.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

4-H livestock show at fair tonight

The 4-H Appreciation Barbecue will start at 5 p.m. tonight at the north end of the livestock building at the Sherman County Fairgrounds.

The 4-H Livestock Sale will follow at 6 p.m. in the livestock arena.

"Exit 17," a band from Goodland, will perform a concert at 8 p.m. in front of the grandstand. At the door,

tickets will be \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 12.

Friday's fair activities include a livestock judging contest at 9 a.m. in the livestock arena. Family Fun Day will begin at 1 p.m. in front of the grandstands. Entertainment for the evening will be a demolition derby at 7 p.m. at the grandstands.

with his steer, Blitz, at the Kansas Junior Livestock Show in Wichita.

"You learn so much when you go to these different shows, plus they are a lot of fun," John said.

Probably the most important thing to learn in the cattle project is knowing how to feed your animal, the Mosbargers said.

A steer should eat 2 percent of its body weight in feed per day and its weight needs to be monitored in order

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afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press



1 p.m.

Big sky state has big fires

HAMILTON, Mont. — More than 6 million acres of land in the Big Sky state has been closed to the public, a move prompted by fires that have burned 300,000 acres, forced hundreds of evacuations and destroyed scores of homes.

Gov. Marc Racicot encouraged people to pray for relief from the devastation. "We would not do this if it were not absolutely essential."

More than 20,000 firefighters were battling 70 large wildfires across 992,000 acres in the hot, dry West on Wednesday. This year, 4.3 million acres have burned, about twice the 10-year average.

The National Interagency Fire Center in Idaho is recruiting up to 80 people from New Zealand and Australia to join fire crews that already include firefighters from Canada and Mexico. It is uncertain when they will arrive.