


weather report

89°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:21 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Midday Conditions

Extreme Fire Danger

• Soil Temperature 79 degrees

• Humidity 32 percent

• Sky sunny

• Winds south 27 - 37 m.p.h.

• Barometer 30.13 inches and falling

• Record High 105° (1936)

• Record Low 45° (1951)

Last 24 Hours*

High 87°

Low 63°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy with 30 percent chance of rain, low mid 60s, winds south 10-20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: partly cloudy with 20 percent chance of rain, high mid 90s, low mid 60s, winds south 15-25 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast


Sunday: partly cloudy, high mid 90s, low mid 60s. Monday: mostly clear, high around 100.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.89 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.78

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$1.97 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.89

Loan deficiency payment — 00¢

Milo — \$1.64 bushel

Soybeans — \$4.32 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.32

Loan deficiency payment — 34¢

Millet — \$4.25 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$10.35 cwt.

NuSun — \$10.50 cwt.

Loan deficiency prmt. — 0¢

Confection current — inquire

Pinto beans — \$27

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

afternoon wire



Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Germans beat U.S. in soccer

ULSAN, South Korea — The United States lost, its great World Cup ride is over. And yet the Americans felt as if they were winners anyway.

They outplayed Germany, the three-time World Cup champions, but were beaten 1-0 in the quarterfinals today. Perhaps more importantly, they proved they are no longer the pushovers of U.S. teams past, sending a message to the rest of the world and leaving a calling card for 2006 and beyond.

“We can go home with our heads held high,” U.S. goalkeeper Brad Friedel said after America’s best World Cup performance in 72 years. They roused fans back home to get up in the middle of the night to watch their inspired play, and convinced the soccer powers of Europe that Americans are very good at the kind of football that’s played outside the United States.

Harvest could begin this weekend

By Rachel Miscal
The Goodland Daily News

No wheat has come in yet, Sherman County elevator operators say, but farmers should start cutting this weekend if the weather stays hot and dry.

Farmers aren’t rushing into the fields, they say, because drought, heat, wind and freeze damage appear to have cut yields badly.

A combination of bad weather and low prices has been wearing down farmers for the past few years, they say, and it’s culminated into an atmosphere of disappointment.

“It doesn’t look to be a wonderful crop overall,” said Lynn Hoelting, general manager of Mueller Grain. “If it was a 70- to 80-bushel crop, they’d be more excited to get out and gather it.”

Farmers say this year’s wheat probably will yield more like 20 to 40 bushels per acre.

Hoelting said he’s been expecting a load of wheat all week, but the elevator has only seen a few sample cuts. Those had test weights between 54 and 55 pounds, he said, and moisture was 16 to 17 percent. The test weight standard is 60 pounds, Hoelting said, and moisture needs to be under 14 percent.

“It’s not ready yet,” he said, adding that he thinks some farmers will start hauling in wheat this weekend or early next week.

Hoelting said Mueller is expecting a lower test weight.

“It just didn’t fill as well,” he said.

Josh Dechant, manager of the Collingwood Grain elevator in Kanorado, said if it doesn’t rain, combines will probably start rolling into fields this weekend. The National Weather Service in Goodland says there is a 10 to 20 percent chance for rain, but if moisture does fall, it will be spotty.

Dechant said farmers have told him yields will

be down this year.

“It’s not average by any means,” he said, adding that some farmers say they’re hoping for hail so they don’t have to harvest the disappointing crop.

“Some say they’ll just have to live with what they have,” Dechant said.

Ed Cook, manager of Collingwood Grain in Goodland, said the elevator hasn’t seen any wheat yet, but it could start coming in this weekend.

Cook said farmers have told him irrigated

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Several wildfires continue to grow

By Alisa Blackwood
Associated Press Writer

SHOW LOW, Ariz. — Authorities announced today that the mammoth fire racing through eastern Arizona had grown to 120,000 acres, destroyed at least 12 homes in the mountain community of Pinedale and remained an immediate threat to two other abandoned towns.

There news came as officials in Colorado said a trio of wildfires have burned 201,000 acres and destroyed at least 141 homes. Thousands of people remained out of their homes across the state.

In Arizona, firefighters worked in mild overnight temperatures and slackened wind to cut trees and remove brush around homes threatened by the huge,

fast-moving Rodeo fire west of Show Low. Forecasters said hot weather, low humidity and wind gusting to 45 mph could worsen the situation by tonight.

“Once those winds start, we’re going to pull our guys out of there,” said Chadeen Palmer, a spokeswoman for agencies fighting the fire. “It’s just too unpredictable.”

There was also the possibility that the fire could merge with another wildfire nearby, making it even more unwieldy. The Rodeo fire had burned to the edge of Linden and was nearing Clay Springs; both towns were abandoned Wednesday.

As many as 8,000 people have evacuated four communities west of Show Low, a town 125 miles northeast of Phoenix.

After seven years, pastor leaving town

By Rachel Miscal
The Goodland Daily News

Pastor Carol Moore-Ramey said it was an emotional day when she told the United Methodist Church congregation that she was moving on after seven years.

“It was hard to make the announcement,” she said, “and I certainly felt the congregation affirm their love.”

At the end of the month, Moore-Ramey and her husband Cecil, a retired farmer, will move to Valley Center — a suburb north of Wichita where she will be pastor of the United Methodist Church.

After seven years in Goodland, Moore-Ramey will give her last sermon at Sunday’s service. She said it will be tough to say good-bye.

“You do go through very important times with people,” she said. “You spend time with them when they lose loved ones, baptize their babies, watch their kids grow up.

“You are really a part of people’s lives and they are a part of your’s, too.”

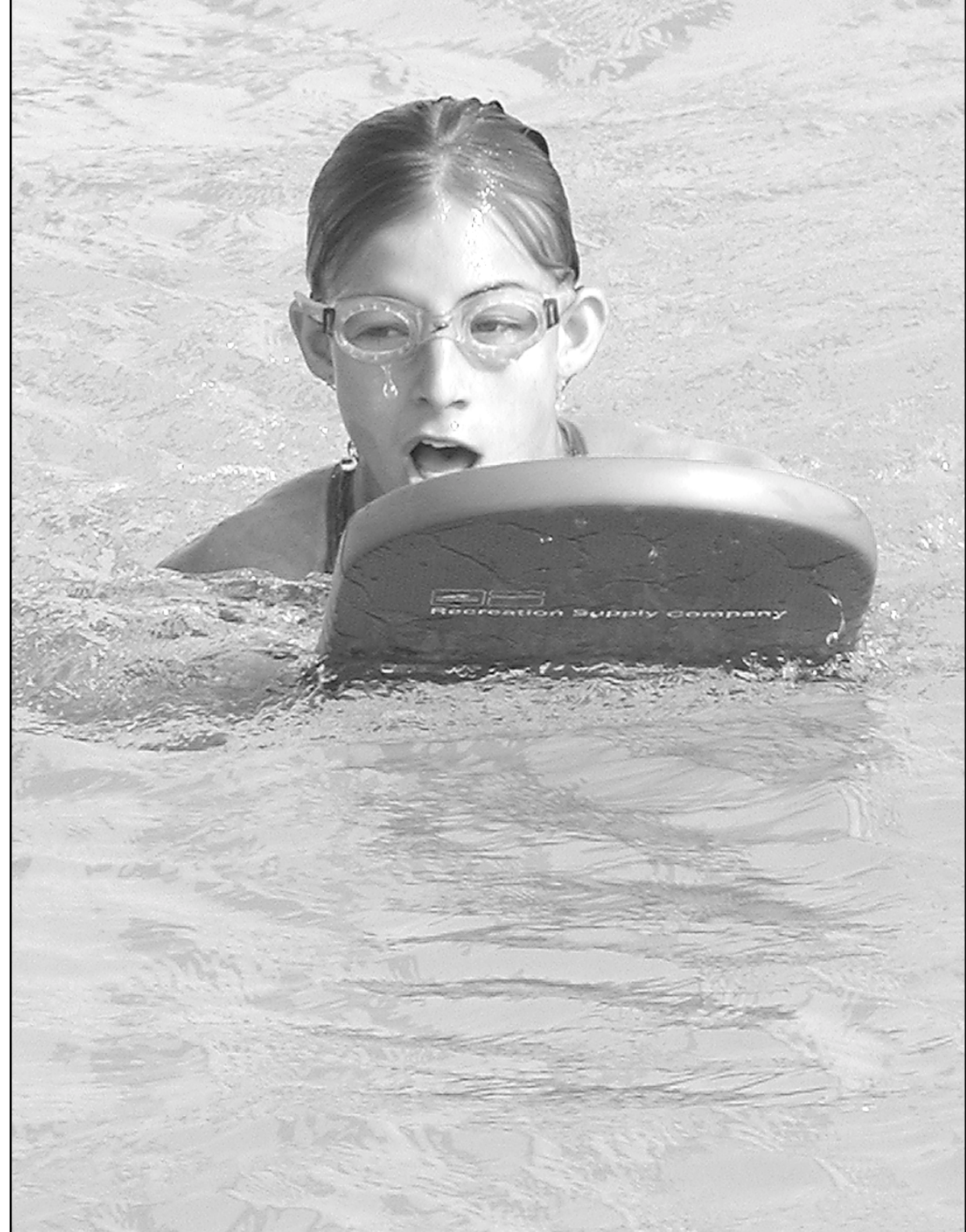
Apparently the congregation feels the same.

Last Sunday, they threw a going-away party during which they roasted the pastor, bringing up funny memories from the past seven years.

Moore-Ramey said she received a hot pink and silver feather boa to remind her of a rich, snotty character she played in one of the church’s annual plays to raise money.

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Kickin’ it



Whitney Dautel, an eighth grader next year, kicked behind a foam swim board during a Goodland swim team practice Wednesday. See story and more pictures on Sports, page 8.
Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Gone fishin’ Kids learn from the experts

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

A boy about 7 wanted to catch a fish at Smoky Gardens this Thursday, but he needed a little help.

“Could you bait my hook for me?” he asked Dana Belshe, county extension agent and fishing guru. Belshe put the worm on the hook, then asked the boy to pull the line tight so he could tie the hook could to the pole.

The kid gave him a blank look.

“First, you need to turn the pole over, so the right side is up,” Belshe told him, “then you crank it.”

The boy looked for something to crank with and finally gave up. Belshe showed him what needed to be spun to tighten the line, then sent him smiling down to the lake to try his luck.

“A lot of them are like that,” Belshe said. “Most of them have very little fishing experience.”

Belshe had about 75 kids at a fishing clinic Thursday, sponsored by the Sherman County extension office and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. For \$2, kids 7 to 12 got about three hours of fishing, some expert instruction and a hot-dog lunch.

The kids were supposed to bring their own equipment, but Lynn Divignon, fisheries biologist for the

wildlife department, brought some extra poles just in case.

Not everyone caught a fish. The day was a little windy, which Belshe said makes it hard to fish. Divignon didn’t exactly agree.

“Every day is a good day to fish,” he said.

The biologist said he helps give clinics throughout his 12-county district. An avid fisherman, Divignon says they are a good way to introduce kids to the sport. Fishing is important, he said, because it involves people with wildlife and gets them interested in the outdoors.

People around here are lucky to have somewhere to fish, he said. The Smoky Gardens is a great asset for Sherman and Wallace counties, Divignon said, even if it isn’t as big as some.

“It might not have everything the bigger lakes do,” he said, “but it is fantastic for this part of Kansas.”

He stopped his speech to help a little boy who didn’t realize his bobber was being dragged under the water.

“Do you see that bobber going up and down?” he asked. “That means you’ve got a fish on the line, buddy.

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Garrett Nemechek, 6, took advantage of a fishing clinic Thursday at Smoky Gardens. He said a fish had been tugging at his line, but he hadn’t caught anything yet.
Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

School meeting

At its meeting Monday, the Goodland School Board plans to:

- Discuss creating a top 10-project list for the new grant writer. Story below.
- Hear reports from Superintendent Marvin Selby and member Mike Campbell, district representative on the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center board.
- Make end-of-the-year money transfers. The new fiscal year begins July 1.

The board will meet at 7 p.m. at the administration office at 13th and Main.

Top 10 project list tops agenda

Schylar Goodwin, founder of the joint grant writer program, will ask Goodland School Board members Monday to create a list of 10 projects they need money to finish so the grant writer can get to work.

City, county and school officials agreed earlier this year to pitch in \$12,000 each for the one-year program. A board was formed to run it and a grant writer hired to find money. Goodwin said the next step is to figure out what the grant writer will work on first.