

weather report

75°

noon

Thursday

Today

• Sunset, 7:58 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 5:49 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:57 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 75 degrees
- Humidity 73 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds east at 10 mph
- Barometer 30.20 inches and raising

- Record High today 106° (1916)
- Record Low today 44° (1974)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Wednesday 91°
- Low Thursday 65°
- Precipitation .33
- This month .33
- Year to date 8.85
- Below normal 5.13 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, high near 88, low around 65.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Partly cloudy, high near 93, low around 65. Sunday through Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, highs around 95, lows around 65. Wednesday: Partly cloudy, high around 63.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$5.64 bushel
- Posted county price — \$5.68
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Corn — \$3.20 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.92
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Milo — \$2.85 bushel
- Soybeans — \$7.73 bushel
- Posted county price — \$7.06
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Millet — \$7 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- NuSun crop — \$17.40
- Pinto beans — \$25 (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



Fun Night turtle races

Parents and kids urged the turtles on as the speedy ones crawled to the border of the circle to win. The turtle races were the first event of the Family Fun Night on Monday. See photo on Page 3.

Rain cancels concert, carnival

By Tom Betz

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Kids had fun on Monday, and the crowd was huge on Tuesday for the carnival wristband night, but Mother Nature stepped in on Wednesday with a thunderstorm to cancel the Heather Shelley concert and shut down the carnival for the night.

The fair continues through tonight with another wristband night for the carnival and the Kiwanis Demolition Derby at 7 p.m. The 4-H appreciation barbecue begins at 4:30 p.m. and the 4-H livestock sale begins at 5:30 p.m.

The carnival rides and games will open at 7 p.m. with special wristbands being sold to allow kids to ride as many times as they can before the carnival closes down.

The National Weather Service reported .33 of an inch in the rain storm on Wednesday that began about 6:45 p.m. The storm lasted about half an hour ending about 7:20 p.m.

Fair officials said the band for Heather Shelley had just finished their microphone checks when it began to rain. They pulled all the equipment down, and the fair people scrambled to see if a makeshift stage could be set up in the new carnival storage building.

Aaron Duell said the band did not think they could play in the metal building, and other fair board members did not feel they could get a large enough crowd so the concert was canceled.

Duell said Shelley said she would put the fair on the schedule for next year. The fair board paid \$3,000 for the singer and band.

Monday night the Family Fun Night games had to be moved out to the parking area north of the Agriculture building because the rain and tractor pull over the weekend made the track in front of the grandstand a mess.

Kids and their parents enjoyed the turtle races, stick-horse races, tricycle races and sack races.

Tuesday the crowds were large for the carnival and magician Rex Getz drew a good crowd in the grandstand as he entertained. Getz got the kids and others in the audience involved in his magic tricks.

Getz, who lives in Manhattan, grew up in Hoxie. He said one of the people who inspired him to be a magician was the late Jose Diaz, who worked for *The Goodland Star-News*, was a magician Getz had seen when he was a young man. Sherman County Farm Bureau sponsored the magic show.

The Weather Service forecast has a 20 percent chance for thunderstorms today and tonight. The highs were to be in the high 80s and the low to drop down to the 60s.

The fair concludes Saturday at 1 p.m. with the Tri-State Royal of Champions competition. All projects are to be released from 8 to 11 a.m. on Saturday.

Northwest Kansas District Free Fair schedule

Today

- 4:30 p.m. 4-H Appreciation BBQ
- 5:30 p.m. 4-H Livestock Sale
- 7 p.m. Kiwanis Demolition Derby

Saturday

- 8 a.m. Entries for Tri-State Royal
- All Projects Released
- 11 a.m. Release of Projects Closed
- 1 p.m. Tri-State Royal of Champions
- Visit the web site: www.nwksfair.com



Austin Coash, 7, (above) son of Don and Michelle Coash, pedaled for 14 feet 6 inches to win the 7-year-old pedal pull race on Tuesday. Emilio Pena, 2, (below left) son of Mary Herrera and Emilio Pena, raced to mom with his stick horse

on Monday. Rain swept the fairgrounds (below right) and canceled the Heather Shelley concert and closed down the carnival rides on Wednesday.

Photos by Tom Betz and Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News



Health reform tour here today

Developing Kansas-specific health reforms will be the focus of a meeting at 8 a.m. today at the Northwest Kansas Technical College Lyon room in the student union.

Members of the Kansas Health Policy Authority will be in Goodland to listen to local business owners and citizens about how best the state can help provide health insurance coverage to all those who are currently uninsured.

The Health Policy Authority is a state agency created to develop and maintain a coordinated and data-driven health policy agenda, and it was given the task this year by the legislature and Governor Kathleen Sebelius with reforming health care delivery in Kansas.

"We need Kansas-specific solutions for reforming our health system," said Marci Nielsen, Ph.D., executive director of the Kansas Health Policy Authority. "Fair, common sense health reform op-

tions will be developed to ensure that Kansans have access to quality, affordable health care."

The Health Policy Authority is conducting a listening tour to visit with Kansans about providing and protecting affordable health insurance, the prevention of illness before it starts, and taking personal responsibility for our health, as individuals and as communities.

In the fall, the Kansas Health Policy Authority Board, along with the Health for All Kansans Steering Committee, will give suggestions to the Governor and Legislature to consider during the legislative session beginning in January.

Currently, the state estimates there are 290,000 Kansans who are uninsured.

Of those, who are uninsured, 95 percent represent households with at least one member being employed. The authority's goal is to provide access to quality and af-

fordable health care for all Kansans and listen to business owners about how we can help them to provide health insurance coverage to their employees Nielsen said.

That is why the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to bring this tour to Goodland, said Andi Nelson, chamber executive director.

"We want to have a roundtable discussion beginning at 8 a.m.," Nelson said. "The goal set by the state agency is to learn how their health reform plan can be responsive to Kansans' needs, while listening to suggestions for further improvement."

Nelson said questions the Health Policy Authority people are asking include: How can they make health care access better and more affordable for business owners? What kind of difficulties do business owners face regarding health insurance and offering it to your employees?

City tax levy to drop slightly

By Tom Betz

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The city valuation went up about \$700,000, and the city commission used a self-insurance fund to balance the budget for next year keeping the tax rate virtually the same as this year.

The city commission will hold the public hearing on next year's budget at 5 p.m. on Monday at the beginning of their meeting in the commission room on the second floor of the City Administration Building, 204 W. 11th.

The city commission spent about 11 hours over two nights on July 9 and 10 going over the city department budgets and reviewing requests for money to support economic development, the Carnegie Arts Center and

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