

weather
report

54°
noon
Monday



Today

• Sunset, 6:50 p.m.
Wednesday
• Sunrise, 7:02 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:51 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 38 degrees
• Humidity 28 percent
• Sky clear
• Winds 5mph various direction
• Barometer 30.37 inches
and steady
• Record High today 82° (1072)
• Record Low today -20° (1948)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday 54°
Low Sunday 16°
Precipitation —
This month .1
Year to date .71
Below Normal .48 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny high in lower 70s.
Tonight partly cloudy, low in mid
30s. Winds west at 10-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: Partly sunny, with
a 20 percent chance of light rain
showers in afternoon. Highs mid
60s. Turning mostly cloudy with lows
in mid 30s. Thursday: Mostly sunny,
high mid 50's. Low in upper 20s. Fri-
day: Mostly cloudy with 20 percent
chance of light rain, snow. High in
upper 50s, low in upper 20s.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$11.39 bushel
Posted county price — \$11.13
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$5.19 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.08
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$4.94 bushel
Soybeans — \$12.32 bushel
Posted county price — \$12.76
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$7 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$17.90 cwt.
NuSun — \$17.60 cwt.
Confection — \$30/\$20 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$25
(Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta,
Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean.
These may not be closing figures.)

inside
today

More local
news, views
from your
Goodland
Star-News



University
changes plan

Director Laura Wing
worked at her computer
in Harvest University's of-
fice in the Sherman County
Economic Development
building before changing
the school's direction and
moving out last Tuesday.
See story, photo on Page 3

Skateboarders can cook too



Eric Linnell, 16, cooked scrambled eggs at the Sugar Hills Golf Club on Saturday as Tyler Jones waited to hand the finished eggs to be put on plates at a Skateboard Park fund-raising breakfast. Charlie Nipps (right) poured pancakes to keep up with the demand. Goodland School Superintendent Shelly Angelos and County Treasurer Iris Scheopner were filling plates with pancakes, bacon, sausage and eggs. Angelos said the Shine On Sherman County Youth Committee has raised more than \$25,000 since the project to build a skateboard park started in July.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Rural fire buys
new rescue truck

By Tom Betz

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The Sherman County Rural Fire Board approved a lease-purchase for a rescue truck for the Goodland fire station for \$107,655 through First National Bank last Monday, despite concerns that Brewster was to get the next truck.

The board decided to lease a 2008 Ford F550 four-wheel-drive chassis from Dan Brenner Ford Mercury for \$38,000 and a rescue truck body from Hays Fire Equipment for \$69,655. The financing was awarded to First National Bank for a four-year lease at 4.26 percent.

Chairman Tom Rohr said he called a special meeting because the bids on the truck and the finance options from the banks were about to expire.

Kenneth Palmgren, a board member from Edson, said the only problem he had with the truck bids was that when the board has looked at the equipment needs, they had Brewster next in line for a new truck.

"Their old truck will only go about 50 mph," he said. "There was a fire three miles north of town recently that had caught a windbreak near a house and could have been a problem."

David said the Goodland rural department has an old Ford fire pumper truck the Brewster could use, but Palmgren said Brewster really needs a new pumper.

David said he felt the rural fire departments need to be on a rotation schedule. He said they should buy a new truck every year and rotate out the old ones.

"We are already in a rotation," Palmgren replied. "Brewster was supposed to have gotten the last truck, but Brewster Fire Chief Wil-

lard Crumrine said if Kanorado needed it worse, that it should go there. That is what was done and now Brewster really needs a new truck."

David said he had put together a list showing the number of fire calls each station had last year. He said Brewster had 10, Kanorado 17 and Goodland 68, including the rescue calls on I-70 and other roads. The Goodland station took over rescue work from the city fire department in April he said.

David said the reason for asking for the rescue truck was to be able to carry more men on a single truck to a rescue scene, carry the emergency equipment and enough water to handle small fires.

Palmgren said he and Rohr has looked at the old rescue truck on Friday, and agreed there was not enough room for the volunteers.

Rohr said the body is longer than the frame, and someone had added frame extensions to hold the longer body. He said it looked like the body was not holding up.

Palmgren said he felt the bid from Dan Brenner for the chassis was the way to go because he is a local dealer and there was not much difference in the bids from Weis Fire of Salina (\$38,352) or Hays Fire (\$38,438) on the chassis.

On the truck body, Palmgren said there was a difference of \$2,539 between Hays Fire (\$69,655) and Weis Fire (\$71,694), and he felt the Hays body was a good choice.

Chief David said he wanted the Weis body, noting that it has stainless-steel piping and the connections are all welded. He said the unit has a one-piece wiring harness made

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Sheriff warns about hit-man, extortion scam

By Tom Betz

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In a frightening new e-mail scan, the message said "someone who is a friend wants you dead, and I have to do it because I have been paid."

Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts said a Goodland resident received this threat in the past two weeks.

Butts said the writer threatens to kill the person receiving the message, saying he has been hired to do the deed. The message says the person who hired the hit man paid \$7,000, but the killer would spare the person's life for \$11,000.

The e-mail said the hired hit man has associates who have checked up on the victim and they have gathered enough information to be able to carry out the "contract."

The messages has some misspellings, improper punctuation and wrong wording,

which Butts said is typical Internet scam messages.

"But I told them not to kill you that I will like to contact you and see if your life is Important to you or not, since their findings shows that you are innocent."

"As I am writing to you now, my men are monitoring you and they are telling me everything about you."

"Get back to me now if you are ready to pay some fees to spare your life; \$11,000 is all you need to spend as You will first of all pay \$4,000 then I will send a tape to you which i recorded every discussion i had with the person who wanted you dead as soon as you get the tape, you will pay the remaining \$7,000. If you are not ready for my help, then I will carry on with my job straight-up."

The messages goes on to tell the person they should not even think of contacting the police or telling anyone, because he will know.

"Remember, someone who knows you very well wants you dead! I will extend it to your family, in case I notice something funny. Do not come out once it is 7 p.m. until I make out time to see you and give you the tame of my discussions with the person who wants you dead then you can use it to take any legal action."

"This is a new kind of Internet scam," Sheriff Butts said Friday. "We investigated this because of the threat, but we believe it is a scam."

"When it was brought to our attention, it was something we have not seen before. We were able to track it back to a company Internet system that was being used to relay the messages."

Butts said Investigator Burton Pianalto found some places in eastern Kansas where the same e-mail has shown up.

He said the Federal Bureau of Investigation

(www.fbi.gov) has issued a warning about this scam, and has a way for people to file complaints.

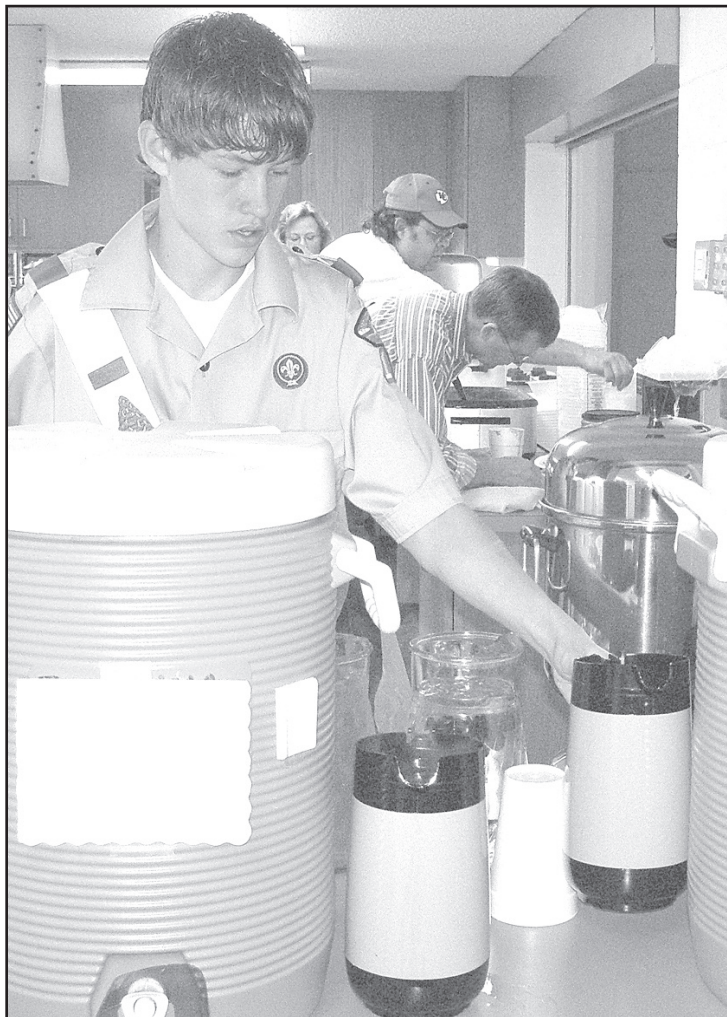
"We want people to let us know if they get something that appears to be a threat or makes them think their life is in danger," Butts said. "If people receive something such as this e-mail, they should contact the police or our office."

On the FBI web site is a connection to the Internet Crime Complaint Center, which is a partnership with the National White Collar Crime Center to receive Internet-related complaints.

The center's web site reports nearly 200 complaints in the past few weeks from people claiming they were being targeted on-line for assassination. In each instance, the purported hit man offers to leave the victim alone if he

See SCAM, Page 8

Boy Scouts dish out lots of chili



Scout Tyler Amthor (right) of Troop 142 picked up bowls of chili from Diane Kracya (left) to deliver to waiting customers at the Boy Scout Chili Feed held Saturday at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Scout Blaine Luther (below) was busy keeping up with the demand for coffee.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News