

weather report



78°
noon
Thursday

Today

- Sunset, 7:32 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 6:07 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:30 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 67 degrees
- Humidity 59 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds south 16-22 mph
- Barometer 29.89 inches and steady
- Record High today 102° (1938)
- Record Low today 45° (1945)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Wednesday 77°
- Low Wednesday 56°
- Precipitation none
- This month 5.59
- Year to date 12.75
- Below normal 2.91 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon, a high near 93, winds out of the north at 5 to 10 mph, and a low around 60. Saturday: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 82, winds out of the east at 10 mph and a low around 60.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 84 and a low around 58.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



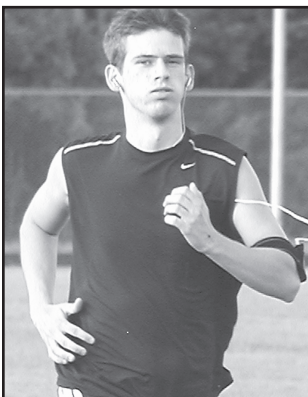
Noon

- Wheat — \$8.53 bushel
- Posted county price — \$8.30
- Corn — \$5.41 bushel
- Posted county price — \$5.32
- Milo — \$4.91 bushel
- Soybeans — \$12.37 bushel
- Posted county price — \$12.26
- Millet — \$7 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$23.45 cwt.
- Confection — \$30/\$20 cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$32 (new crop)
- (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



Runners getting ready

Justin Verlinden, a member of the Goodland High cross country team, kept a good pace through a timed run in practice Tuesday. He is one of the two returning seniors on the team. See story, photos on Page 10a.

Joint live fire training held

By Tom Betz

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Tuesday evening fire trucks from Sherman County and Goodland blocked 10th Street between Clark and Caldwell where firemen from Goodland, Sherman County and Colby fire departments participated in live fire training exercises at an abandoned house scheduled for demolition.

City Fire Chief Brian James said he was pleased with the joint mutual-aid training and felt it was a good way for members of both departments to get the live fire experience. He said four firemen and J.L. Ellis from Colby came to the training event. He said seven firemen from the Sherman County Rural Fire Department and nine from the Goodland Fire Department took part.

This was the second training exercise held at the house at 317 E. 10th, and James said he hopes to do one more training exercise before the house is torn down. He said it will depend on whether the holes can be patched up inside where the ceiling had to be pulled down to get to an attic fire on Tuesday. James said he appreciates Tony and Debbie Martin, who own the house, and allowed the firemen to use the house for the training.

On Tuesday small groups of firemen carried hoses into the house to watch and douse special fires set using old mattresses and wood pallets.

James told the first group they would watch the fire build up along the walls and move across the ceiling as the temperature rose in the room. He said he would have them douse the fire, but not put it out to allow them to watch the fire grow several times as each fireman got to handle the hose and watch a thermal readout showing how the fire temperature raises.

Fires were set in a back bedroom, the kitchen area and the corners of the front room to allow different firemen to participate in the exercise. While a group was inside other firemen were at the ready with hoses outside the house in case support was needed.

One of the city firemen said it was interesting to watch the temperature rise and that it was at a critical flash over point when the temperature reached the 1,000



Firemen watched flames build up in the back bedroom of a house at 317 E. 10th where members of the Goodland, Colby and Sherman County Rural Fire departments did live fire training on Tuesday. Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

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Barrel hangar lease, sale approved

By Tom Betz

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Two years ago the city commission had condemned the 74-year-old barrel hangar, and plans were to tear it down, but the building was saved by an accident and Monday the city commissioners approved a 30-year lease for the ground and sold the hangar.

City attorney Jeff Mason said he and Wayne Hill, city manager, had met with John Topliff, who had stepped up to try to save the hangar in October 2006.

Mason said there were three things in the proposed lease and purchase that Topliff had questioned, and the three had met to discuss these.

John Topliff of Goodland, a pilot for a California firm and former owner of Mr. Jim's His and Hers store, had asked the city to sell him the hangar and he would bring it back up to code and use it for airplane storage.

Mason said the major point was that Topliff was asking for a 30-year lease of the ground with an option for an additional 30 years.

"Generally we do five-year leases with five-year renewals," Mason said. "We agreed to a make the change to 30 years with the commission approval."

A second question from Topliff was the requirement to pay an annual fee of 1 cent per square foot, and Mason said that was not changed because it is the same rate charged to everyone else who has a hangar at the airport.

Mayor Rick Billinger asked how many square feet are in the lease and Mason said it was about 18,200, which would be \$182 per year.

An area that Mason said they changed was on the setback requirements because on the west side the wind of the hangar door support is right up to the property line. He said they did not include a setback requirement on that side.

He said Topliff had requested that the 50 percent site coverage limit be removed, but Mason said he and Hill

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Delegates prepare for Denver convention

By Tom Betz

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The outcome of the Democratic National Convention is not in doubt, but for many delegates who were supporters of Sen. Hillary Clinton attending the convention will be a historic moment in party history as Sen. Barack Obama will be declared the nominee for President.

Etta Walker, a Sharon Springs lawyer, was the only one chosen on April 12 at Hays from the 1st Congressional District to go to Denver as a Clinton delegate under state Democratic Party rules.

The 1st District elected four delegates to the national convention, and based on the rules, Clinton got one delegate and the rules said the delegate had to be a woman. Sen. Barack Obama was to get one woman delegate, two male delegates and one male alternate.

In April the presidential contest was hot and heavy with the winner still in doubt, but when all the smoke cleared by the middle of June Obama had clearly captured a majority of the delegates and Clinton had suspended her campaign.



Etta Walker

Walker said Monday she was disappointed her candidate would not win the nomination, and at first she thought about not going to Denver. "I thought it over, and decided it will be a once in a lifetime event,"

she said, "and I am excited to be one of those who will be there for the historic moment."

She said she is taking her daughter Catherine Jenkinson, 13, and has a ticket for both of them to attend the acceptance speech at Invesco Field at Mile-High on Thursday.

She said she has not seen a schedule of events for the delegation from the Kansas Democratic Party.

Jenny Davidson Kansas Democratic Party communications director said Wednesday she was sending out a schedule, and had been waiting on a couple of things to firm up before sending out the schedule.

Leonard Schamber of Damar was the other delegate from the 40th Senate District to win a delegate spot from the 1st District to the convention, and he is an Obama delegate. Kansas has 32 delegates to the convention plus 10 super delegates. Nine delegates were committed to Clinton and the other 23 were Obama. Most of the super delegates are technically uncommitted, but have indicated they will be supporting Obama.

Among the super delegates is

Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius who is rumored to be on the short-list for Obama's choice for vice president. Sebelius who is one of three co-chairs for the convention.

Sen. Obama's campaign has indicated to press sources he will reveal his choice for vice president on Friday afternoon and the person will appear with him at a rally in Illinois on Saturday.

The 45th Democratic National Convention will be gavelled into session at 3 p.m. on Monday at the Pepsi Center in Denver, and will continue with sessions through Thursday with the final evening moving to Invesco Field for Obama's nomination acceptance speech.

The Kansas delegation will have breakfast meetings at 7 a.m. each morning at the Doubletree Hotel in the Denver Tech Center where the Kansas party office will be located. Delegates are to attend the breakfast to pick up their credentials for each day's convention events.

Delegates can attend any number of events in the morning and on Monday through Wednesday credentialed delegates will board

a bus at 1 p.m. for the ride to the Pepsi Center for the 3 p.m. opening of each day's session.

Among those slated to speak on Monday are former President Jimmy Carter, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper.

Tuesday's speakers include Convention Co-Chair Gov. Sebelius, Federico Peña, former Mayor of Denver and Secretary of both Energy and Transportation and Sen. Hillary Clinton.

Tuesday is the traditional day for the delegates to consider and adopt the party platform.

Speakers for Wednesday include Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, President Bill Clinton of New York, Gov. Bill Richardson of New Mexico and Sen. Ken Salazar of Colorado.

The last item for Wednesday is the vice presidential acceptance speech.

Thursday speakers will include Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter and former Vice President Al Gore before the Obama acceptance speech.

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