

weather report

74°
noon
Monday



Today

• Sunset, 7:26 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 6:11 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:24 p.m.

Middy Conditions

- Soil temperature 71 degrees
- Humidity 63 percent
- Sky mostly cloudy
- Winds south 22-33 mph
- Barometer 30.07 inches and rising

• Record High today 106° (1926)
• Record Low today 42° (1906)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday 82°
Low Sunday 59°
Precipitation trace
This month 6.01
Year to date 13.14
Below normal 2.80 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of isolated showers and thunderstorms after noon, a high near 90, winds out of south 15 to 20 mph and a low around 59.
Wednesday: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 83, winds out of north 10 to 20 mph and a low around 58.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high near 89 and a low around 56.
Saturday: Sunny with a high near 90 and a low around 60.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$8.02 bushel
Posted county price — \$8.24
Corn — \$5.35 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.52
Milo — \$4.84 bushel
Soybeans — \$12.48 bushel
Posted county price — \$12.62
Millet — \$7 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$22.40 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



Tennis starts Thursday

Senior Shonna Webster, who qualified for substate last year in doubles with Kaitlin Fugleberg, practiced her forehand. The girls take to the court Thursday in Cimarron. See story, photos on Page 11.

Convention begins with pep talk

By Tom Betz

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The opening gavel was eight hours away, but members of the Kansas Democratic delegation gathered Monday for breakfast and to get their credentials at the Doubletree Hotel in the Denver Tech Center.

The schedule will be the same for all four days of the convention with delegates and alternates required to be at the breakfast meeting to get their credentials each day, and there will be a lottery each day for any guest passes.

Etta Walker and her daughter, Catherine, 13, from Sharon Springs, were at the breakfast and after the drawing was held Catherine got a guest pass to be with her mom all day.

The Kansas Democratic Party Chair Larry Gates, opened the breakfast and introduced the guest speaker Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer, who was elected in that mostly Republican state in 2004.

Schweitzer's message to the Kansas Dems was that things can be changed, and that Democrats can win even when the odds are against them.

In the 2004 election Democrats took control of the state legislature as well as the Senate seats which proved pivotal in capturing control of the U.S. Senate.

The youngest delegates at the convention are 18, and four of those are from Kansas including Sean Buchanan who is an Obama delegate from the 1st Congressional District. He was excited and said he was actually 17 when he was elected as a delegate in Hays on April 12.

A group of students from Fort Hays State are at the Colorado Convention Center and were at the breakfast to hear the schedule and speaker.



Etta Walker (back right) and her daughter, Catherine (front right), from Sharon Springs visited with other delegates at the Kansas Democratic delegation breakfast on Monday morning at the Doubletree Hotel in the Denver Tech Center where they picked up

Alicia Johnson, of the state party staff, talked about how the delegates could get around Denver using light rail and special shuttle buses.

She said the buses to the Pepsi Center would start leaving from the hotel at 1:30 p.m. with the gavel of each day's session to begin at 3 p.m.

Each day is expected to last until about 9 p.m., and the buses will be available to bring the delegates back

to their hotels.

Walker and Elizabeth Bustamante of Garden City are both Hillary Clinton delegates, and are hoping to be able in some form to record their vote for her.

Both women agree they will support Sen. Barack Obama, but are worried that many of those who supported Clinton will not be so quick to switch to Obama.

Bustamante said she felt many

their credentials for the day. Walker is a delegate from Kansas to the Democratic National Convention.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Hispanics will be hard to convince to vote for Obama, but said she will be trying.

Walker said some of the Republicans she got to support Clinton will not give the same support to Obama.

Lynn Schamburg, who is an Obama delegate from the 1st District, said he felt the party would come together to support Obama, and the Clinton people

are right about it being an important task.

Walker said she did not feel Obama could win without the Clinton people and said she felt Hillary was working hard to help bring her supporters over to the Obama side.

The convention is pointing to the big acceptance speech at Invesco Field at Mile High on Thursday evening.

Catalog store opened Monday

Monday the new J.C. Penney catalog store opened at Jacque's Hallmark giving shoppers a place to order.

The expanded store will offer shop-at-home and online catalog ordering from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. from Monday to Friday at 1124 Main Ave.

Orders may be picked up there or delivered by mail.

The current retail location of J.C. Penneys closed on Saturday. The Penneys corporation did not feel it could keep operating the store because it was not making enough of a profit.

An effort including the City of Goodland, Sherman County and Economic Development to keep the store open did not work but the company decided to open a catalog store here.

A new service counter for the operation is in the southwest corner of the store owned by Jacque and Kendall Cooper. Coopers recently bought the building behind the store.

She said they had punched a hole between the two for a doorway. The extra space will be used for a break room and an office.

"I have no idea how much business the catalog service center will have," Jacque Cooper said.

"I hope it stays the same amount as it was at the regular store or hopefully increases."

Economic development discussed

By Pat Schiefen

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Daniel Steffen, project manager of business development for the Kansas Department of Commerce, led a group of more than 40 in a conversation in a strategic planning for Sherman County Economic Development on Thursday evening at the Northwest Kansas Technical College student union.

Steffen started by having everyone present introduce themselves and which entities they were associated with. There were people present from the Goodland City Commission, Chamber of Commerce, Sherman County Extension District, agriculture, Goodland Energy Center, BankWest, Western State Bank, Sherman County Economic Development, Sherman County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Goodland School District, Technical College, county businesses, KLOE, S&T Communications, Eagle Cable and *The Goodland Star-News*.

Steffen said he was glad to see that big a group show up for the dialogue. He asked what everyone thought economic development was.

"The creation of jobs and wealth," said by Harland Priddle, former Kansas Secretary of Commerce, was one Steffen said he liked to use.

He asked what activities the Chamber, Convention and Visitor's Bureau, city, county, businesses and other interests were involved in. He commented that there were a lot of groups working separately.

A member of the audience said sometimes it felt like going to meetings was all anyone got done.

Steffen worked with the audience to come up with the major weaknesses for the county: an eroding tax base, declining population,



Goodland City Commissioner Annette Fairbanks (left) talked to Kim Bohme, owner of Millers Home Furnishings, and Andi Nelson, Goodland Chamber of Commerce Director, as they picked the projects in the county that were the most important to them.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

school population decline, lack of communication between economic entities and planning cycles which lead to no action.

The group identified threats economically as lost population, weather affecting agriculture, perception and negativity.

Steffen said the perception of something is what it is.

He had the group list projects started and finished in the last five years and what projects are underway.

Steffen had the group come up with a list of where Sherman County wants

to be including county commissioners elected at large, completion of the power plant, increased interaction between the city and county, promotional plan for businesses, long term school planning, a multi-purpose building, collaboration between parties involved in economic development, dairy, property development for business use, retention of young adults, local business retention efforts, consolidation of fire, police or utilities, long range economic development funding, skate park and increased membership and services in the Chamber.

Everyone in the audience got a black dot and six colored dots to vote on the above list. The black dots meant that person was willing to chair a task force and the colored dots meant that that project was important to that person.

The six priorities the voting identified were completion of the power plant, multi-purpose building, economic development mill levy, retention of youth and young adults, local business retention efforts and school planning.

See PLAN, Page 9

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