

weather report

86°

at noon



Today

- Sunset, 7:42 p.m.
- Tomorrow
- Sunrise, 6:01 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:41p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 79 degrees
- Humidity 38 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds light east
- Barometer 30.21 inches and steady

- Record High 105° (1983)
- Record Low 51° (1978)

Last 24 Hours*

High	94°
Low	68°
Precipitation	none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, low near 65, light east winds.

Tuesday: partly sunny, high near 90, southeast winds 5 to 15 mph .

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: chance of thunderstorms, lows 60 to 65, highs 90 to 95.

Thursday and Friday: dry, lows near 65, highs near 95.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.23 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.11
Loan deficiency payment — .34¢
Corn — \$1.64 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.64
Loan deficiency pmt. — .35¢
Milo — \$2.67 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$3.89 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.76
Loan deficiency payment — 1.13¢
Millet — \$4 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.65 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$2.62
Oil new crop — \$6.55 cwt.
Confection current — \$17/10 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$13 (new crop)
(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and Prairie Pea and Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Iowa thins GOP ranks

WASHINGTON — Lamar Alexander, the former Tennessee governor who finished poorly in Saturday's Iowa straw poll, has decided to withdraw from the 2000 presidential race, a campaign official said today.

There also were troubling signs for former Vice President Dan Quayle, who was surprised today with the desertion of campaign leaders in South Carolina.

"The rats may be jumping off the ship, but the ship isn't sinking," said Quayle spokesman Jonathan Baron.

Alexander scheduled an afternoon news conference in Nashville, Tenn., to announce his decision, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Alexander, 59, suggested Sunday that he would not be in the race long, after finishing a weak sixth in the non-binding Iowa straw poll.

Columbine students return with hope

By Robin McDowell

Associated Press Writer

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — With cheers and words of hope, nearly 2,000 Columbine High students reclaimed their school today, returning to classes for the first time since two classmates went on a deadly rampage four months ago.

"Although we were surrounded by terror and destruction, we still stood strong," student body President Mike Sheehan told classmates at a "take back the school" rally.

"We have prevailed. We have overcome. Each of us is the spirit of Columbine. Welcome home, Rebels!"

Principal Frank DeAngelis told the cheering crowd, "I have been looking forward to this day for a long time. Last year, you made me make a promise that I would not allow anyone or anything to take our school.

"Well, today, I am fulfilling that prom-

ise."

Teachers and students, many wearing Columbine T-shirts, gave a rousing, sustained cheer as the sun peeked over the sprawling buildings on campus. With shouts of "We are Columbine," DeAngelis raised the flags that had been at half-staff since the April 20 shooting.

The upbeat students, laden with backpacks and wearing identification badges, then filed into the newly renovated school as staff members inside applauded.

At midmorning, one student was seen talking with a counselor in a hallway, but otherwise the school day progressed normally, said Barbara Monseu of the Jefferson County Public School District.

Several parents of students who died in the school were angered DeAngelis did not acknowledge the victims.

"That's a slap in the face," said Rich Patrone, whose 15-year-old stepson,

Daniel Rohrbough, was killed. "They didn't even take a moment of silence."

"To me it was just rah, rah, let's forget about the kids who died."

However, Ms. Monseu said officials had wanted to focus on the students and the year ahead, rather than the tragedy.

"It wasn't that we deliberately said not to do it," she said of the lack of a moment of silence. "Where our focus was is how do we get the kids who were here back into school."

Tom Mauser, whose 15-year-old son, Daniel, was killed, watched as the students filed into the building.

"I'm glad to see this kind of community support for moving on ... healing," he said.

News organizations had agreed not to fly helicopters close to the school today, but Mauser heard them, choking up a bit at the way the sound reminded him of the day Daniel died.

Dylan Klebold, 17, and Eric Harris, 18, opened fire inside the school last April, killing 12 classmates and a teacher and injuring 23 others before committing suicide. The two apparently did not believe they fit into the high school cliques.

DeAngelis told the students today it is essential to "respect what people are feeling ... for all members of Columbine High School."

Many students said they were ready to move beyond the tragedy they left behind as they filed in terror.

"I'm ready to go back. I'm so excited," said Jennifer Despain, a 17-year-old junior. "Most people have already had some kind of closure at the school. We went back a couple of times for renovation, registration, to paint tiles. Now, we're just ready to move on."

Sophomore Channele Plank, 15, said: "Everyone wants us to go back and have this be a regular day. This isn't regular."

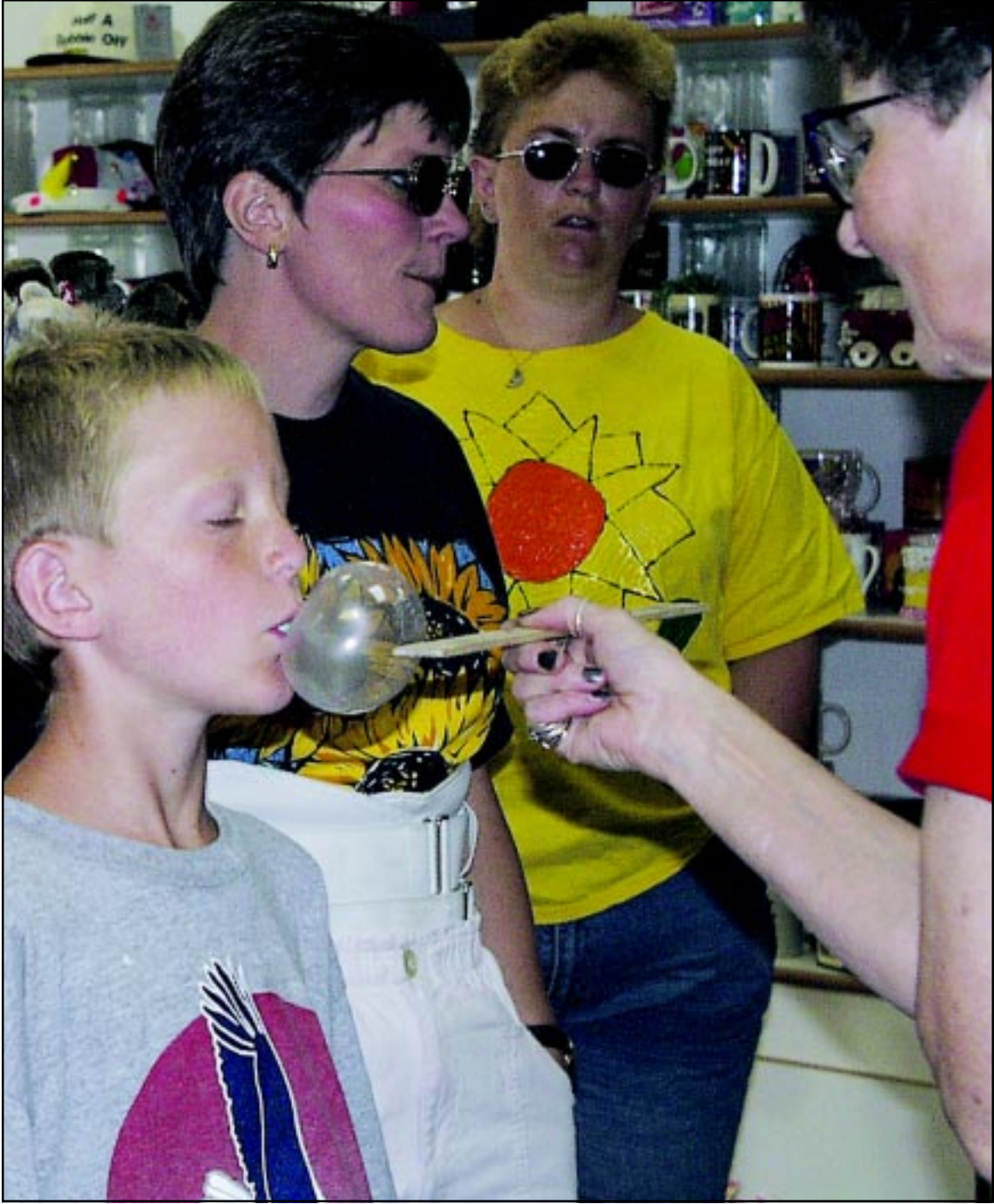
"People want to see us go back into the school. What happened here hit the world as one big tragedy. It's news. We'll go back and be proud of being Rebels. Going in shows courage. We want the world to see it."

Before the rally, about 400 parents and alumni lined a sidewalk, clapping and forming a shield to keep away reporters and photographers.

Theresa Redinger, a 1988 graduate who helped form the human chain, said she just wanted to help. "Mostly, I'm just here to keep people like you away," she told a reporter. "These kids need their peace."

Julie Lesback, who has three daughters at Columbine, said they were excited to return, but she was "a little worried about how emotional, especially Stephanie, will be. It's hard going back into that cafeteria."

Sunflower celebration features fun, royalty



Julian Walls, son of Frank and Cristi Walls, Goodland, (left) had his bubble measured by Jane Boys of Shanaganans, for the bubble-gum blowing contest sponsored by the store Saturday. It was one of the activities going on at the Sunflower Festival downtown. Peggy Blake (middle) was waiting her turn, while Cristi Walls (back) watched. Holly Kibel, 9, daughter of Stan and Dawn Kibel, Goodland, (above) was crowned queen of the festival by last year's queen, Hannah Blake (right). Michelle Kibel, who is Holly's sister, helped with the crowning. Dan McCurry, St. Francis, (background) watched the presentation.

Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Players recall beginning of Goodland baseball

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

Tim Edwards thought back to the days when baseball truly was America's pastime.

He said he was 13 when the Sherman County Baseball League started in 1936. "Everyone worked on the diamond," he recalled. "We built the backstop with old corn cribbing, chicken wire, and posts as long in length as could be found."

Edwards said they built the pitcher's mound by hand, filled in the ground squirrel holes and threw out the cow chips.

"We measured off the bases and made them out of gunny sacks filled with dirt and straw," he said. "Then, it was 'play ball!'"

Nearly 70 former players from the Sherman County league and the former semi-pro team were in town for a baseball reunion Sunday. Jack LaBonde, a former major leaguer who played ball in Goodland, also attended. He was one of at least half a dozen who made the big leagues.

The event started at the museum, then, moved to the Goodland Elks lodge for a reception.

Edwards, who played first base for the Lucky Tigers, said he was thrilled by the event.



Al McCall tosses the first pitch at the reunion Sunday to Maurice Daise. Both men played on county league teams, as well as the semi-pro Goodland Tigers. Over

200 people showed up for the reunion, including around 70 former players.

Photo by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News

"It's a wonderful thing," he said. "I donated the glove I used to the museum."

Edwards said he thought Judy Siruta, the organizer of the reunion, should be commended over and over.

"It ought to be done again," he said,

"before we get much older."

Al McCall played league ball from 1934 through the 1950s, and played on the semi-pro Goodland Tigers team in 1952 and 1953.

"I started out at third base for the

Ruleton team," he said.

McCall said he then played for the county league Cubs, playing second base, outfield, and catcher.

"I played wherever they needed someone," he said. "They called on me be-

cause I was a better hitter."

McCall was asked to throw out the first pitch Sunday.

While waiting for the photographers to get in position for the pitch, McCall said, "Hurry up; my arm is getting cold."

The catcher was Maurice Daise, who played in the county league and also on the Tigers. Daise said he thought the event was real nice idea.

"I didn't think there would be that many people come out," he said. "Back in those days, everyone went to a ballgame on Sunday afternoon."

"Today it is hard to get enough boys out for American Legion ball," he said. "I guess there are too many other things to do."

Hank Elliot played in the County League in the late 1940s and into the 1950s.

"I was on the tail end," he said. "After World War II, men's baseball was just about over."

Elliot said after the semi-pro team started, it was hard to get enough guys out to fill a team.

He said he grew up in baseball. His dad was a manager for the Edson team, and several of his brothers played on the team.

"I was the official foul ball chaser," he said.