

**weather report**

34°

at noon



**Today**

• Sunset, 6:31 p.m.

**Tomorrow**

• Sunrise, 4:34 a.m.  
• Sunset, 6:30 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil Temperature 30 degrees
- Humidity 49 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds northeast 16 mph
- Barometer 30.08 inches and falling
- Record High 79° (1943)
- Record Low 3° (1955)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High 27°  
Low 7°  
Precipitation none

**Northwest Kansas Forecast**

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 15, northwest winds 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly clear, high 35-40, low 20, southwest winds 10-20 mph.

**Extended Forecast**

Sunday: dry, high 40, low 20. Monday: dry, high mid 30s, low 20-25. Tuesday: dry, high 40s, low 20.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$2.80 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$2.58
  - Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
  - Corn — \$1.93 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$1.79
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 20¢
  - Milo — \$3.14 hundredweight
  - Soybeans — \$4.27 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$4.05
  - Loan deficiency payment — 85¢
  - Millet — no posted price; ask.
  - Sunflowers
  - Oil current crop — \$5.65 cwt.
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.24
  - Confection current — \$15/\$6 cwt.
  - Pinto beans — \$15
- (Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

**afternoon wire**

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

**Two countries share suffering**

HANOI, Vietnam — President Clinton told the Vietnamese people on Friday that the "shared suffering" of war has intertwined their nation and his in both the pain of the past and the promise of a better future.

He spoke and toured in what was an enemy capital until 25 years ago. No president before had come to Hanoi, and none had been to Vietnam since the end of "the conflict we call the Vietnam war and you call the American war," as Clinton described it.

Although cool to his call for greater freedoms, Vietnamese leaders welcomed the prospects for even greater cooperation between the two nations.

To a communist nation still suspicious of the West, Clinton urged a more open society and economy in his speech.

## Board fires hospital administrator

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Regional Medical Center board, facing a half-million-dollar loss for the year, fired Administrator Jim Chaddic following a lengthy closed-door discussion at a 4 1/2-hour special meeting Thursday night.

Board Chairman Doug Irvin said later that he thought it was a positive meeting and that the board believes the hospital is moving forward.

The board met in closed session for two hours, called to discuss "personnel matters," and when they returned to open session, member Steve Evert made the motion to terminate Chaddic immediately. Board member Larry McCants seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Chaddic was to be notified by written notice from board attorney Ron Vignery.

The board went back into closed session for another hour to discuss personnel issues. When they returned to open session, Evert made a motion to name a three-person management team of Dale Schields, personnel and fund-raising chief; Mary Ann Elliott, supervisor of surgery; and Andy Laue, chief financial officer, to operate the hospital interim until a new manager is hired. Laue was named as the head of the team.

Chaddic, who had been with the hospital for about 10 years, did not return phone calls on Friday. He could not be reached at home or at his office.

"We have an excellent facility," Hoelting said,

"and as a board we have been given responsibility to run the hospital. We fully expect to succeed and prosper."

Irvin said the search for a new administrator would begin immediately.

"The board believes we have excellent employees, doctor and facilities, and that the residents of Sherman County deserve the finest medical care available," said a board statement. "The board is committed to improving the quality of medical care while operating within its financial means."

While no reasons were given for Chaddic's termination, a continuing increase in monthly losses — which may be as high as \$500,000 by the end of the year — have had the board looking for increased revenue. At a board meeting on Nov. 2,

the board rejected a proposed budget Chaddic presented which projected a loss of \$200,000 for next year.

Chaddic said it was a "worst case scenario budget," but the previous month the board had asked for a budget which showed a positive cash flow.

Board members had suggested looking for ways to cut expenses as well as ways to increase revenue, and asked Chaddic to present a revised budget.

Board members present Thursday were Irvin, Hoelting, McCants, Evert, Dr. Greg Bongers, Pete Whalen, Dennis Shank and Joyce Moore.

The next board meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 5. Mike Skyler is expected to talk to the board about an air service proposal.

## Bush is inching forward

### Most absentee ballots count for Republican

By David Espo

AP Political Writer

George W. Bush's lead inched higher in Florida's fiercely contested presidential election on Friday as the overseas absentee ballots began breaking his way. Vice President Al Gore rushed to appeal a court ruling that sharply undercut the manual recounts in heavily Democratic counties.

Concerned that Secretary of State Katherine Harris will declare Bush the statewide winner on Saturday once the overseas ballots are tabulated, former Secretary of State Warren Christopher warned that Democrats would "take steps to have her action set aside or reversed."

"I hope that Gov. Bush will not attach finality to the result, will not begin the partying, but will give the Florida Supreme Court an opportunity to act in the matter," he said.

Republicans made it plain they are eager to close out Gore's challenge.

Former Secretary of State James A. Baker III said Bush and his team look

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## The Goodland Globetrotters?



Jance McKee (right), who won the fifth grade boys division competition; Dustin Zelfer; and two other young boys practiced their ball spinning skills while waiting for their turn to shoot baskets during the Kiwanis Turkey Shoot on Thursday. See story and pictures in Sports, Page 8. Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News

## Craft fair ushers in holiday season

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Crafters and artists will have their handiwork on sale Saturday at the Max Jones Fieldhouse for the 23rd Annual Arts and Craft Fair, put on by the Goodland Chapter of Nu Phi Mu Sorority.

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the fieldhouse at 13th and Arcade. Admission is free.

Jeris McCombs, who is in charge of organizing the event, said there will be

68 booths. She said the space available at the fieldhouse was just about filled by early September and that she had a waiting list for people who wanted to get in in case of cancellations.

McCombs said the crafts sellers are from Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska and Missouri. Items offered for sale will include crafts, floral arrangements, jewelry, stained glass mirrors, oil paintings, holiday crafts, country clothing, kid's tents, doll clothes, ceramics and

wooden items, which include bowls, plates, yard signs and birdhouses.

"We have a wide variety of things this year to offer," McCombs said.

She said there will be five or six new crafters to exhibit this year.

A lot of the favorites who have been here in years past will be here, she said, along with several Goodland crafters.

A new item offered this year will be

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## Downtown activities fill weekend

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Christmas music, lights, a holiday reception and a parade will be part of the activities on Saturday in downtown Goodland.

Goodland merchants will kick off the Christmas season with activities downtown. The Goodland Ambassadors will have a reception from 3 to 5 p.m. at the old Schneider's building on the corner of 11th and Main.

They will serve free spice cake, hot chocolate and hot apple cider, and everyone is invited.

Christmas lights and wreaths along Main will be lighted before the parade starts at 4 p.m. on Main. Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will ride in the parade. Afterward, Santa will be at the Schneider's building from 4:30 to 5 p.m. to talk with children and

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## Drivers slip and slide around city's slick roads

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Motorists have spent the past week slip-sliding around Goodland as ice, sleet, three inches of snow and below-freezing temperatures have made a skating rink out of residential streets.

City workers clear snow and ice from major streets, said City Manager Ron Pickman, and spread a salt-sand mixture on high-traffic intersections, but there's not enough time or money to do every road. He said most residential streets are ignored.

"I've noticed that it's slick," Pickman said, "but I realize there's not much we can do about it. You just have to be extremely careful out there."

Red Helzer, Goodland's superintendent of public works, said he's heard complaints from more than a few drivers and several parents, who have said drop-off and pick-up points around schools are unsafe. City crews have

been doing all they can to keep roads near schools, churches, the hospital and the business district sanded, he said, but the cold weather is working against them.

A few fender benders in town have been blamed on slippery roads, Police Chief Ray Smeed said, noting that there have been no reports of serious accidents and he hasn't heard any complaints.

Though a mere three inches of snow fell on Goodland almost a week ago, Helzer said rain before the snow and below-freezing temperatures made the streets slick.

"When it rains and you get sleet," he said, "it is really difficult to scrape away that layer of ice that forms. Plus this weather hasn't been ideal. We usually get a little help from Mother Nature."

Kevin Lynott, a meteorologist for the

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A city worker used a grader to clear away snow and ice from Main Avenue on Thursday. A storm Saturday and below-freezing temperatures have made Goodland streets slippery all week.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

## Democrats form party, elect chair

Sherman County Democrats now have a party chairman after an organizational meeting Thursday.

James "Smitty" Smith was elected chairman with Donna Hurd being named vice-chair. The two were the only elected members of the county committee this year.

Smith's wife Kay was elected secretary-treasurer. Smith took a list of the new officers to County Clerk Janet Rumpel today.

The organization of the county Democrats allows the nomination process of Mitch Tiede to fill the vacant county commission seat to move forward under Kansas law. Officials said it could be sent to the governor within a week. Hurd said she hopes to find more people to fill vacancies.

"We don't think about what needs to be done until something like this comes up," she said.