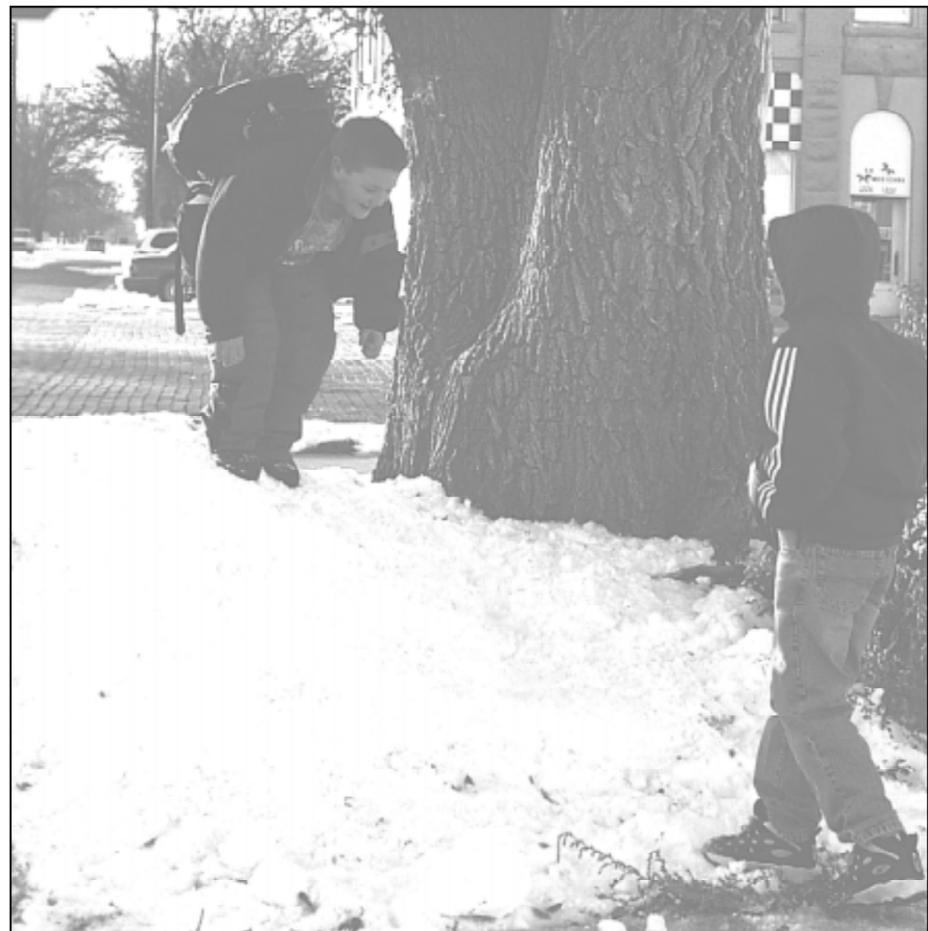


After-school fun



Loren Strait (left) and Kuter Isaac (right), third graders at Central Elementary, played Thursday afternoon on a pile of snow across the street from the school while they waited for rides.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Florida recount up to courts

RECOUNT, from Page 1

forward to counting overseas ballots "so that the process of achieving a final result to the election in Florida is not subject to further delays."

The early returns from overseas ballots gave Bush 22 votes and Gore nine. Democrats in Monroe County protested two of the votes allocated to the Texas governor, and other protests flared elsewhere in a race already studied with controversy.

Bush was in Texas, the vice president in Washington as Circuit Judge Terry Lewis issued a brief order in Florida that reaffirmed Secretary of State Katherine Harris' decision to discount the results of manual recounts in the areas around Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The recounts continued anyway.

Bush holds a 313-vote lead in the state that will decide the winner of the presidential election, including tabulation of overseas ballots from four counties. Harris is expected to certify a winner on Saturday — subject to yet another court challenge — once the overseas votes are in hand from all 67 counties.

Those totals do not include the returns from the disputed hand recounts sought by Democrats in Broward and Palm Beach counties. Those have given Gore an additional 34 votes so far.

The day's developments — one court ruling, with an appeal to come; contested manual counts under way; and overseas ballot tabulation proceeding — were difficult to follow, impossible to predict.

But the result was easy to discern: 10 days after the nation voted, neither Gore nor Bush had an Electoral College majority, and there was no agreed-upon timetable for determining when a president-elect would emerge from the struggle.

Little more than an hour after the Lewis' ruling, Baker said Bush and running mate Dick Cheney were "understandably pleased."

"The court applied the rule of law objectively and fairly, upholding, as the judge's opinion states, the quote, "reasoned judgment," close quote, of the Secretary of State and the state elec-

tion commission's certification of results on November 15.

Cheney, appearing Thursday night on ABC's PrimeTime Live, was clear about the GOP ticket's intention. He said he and Bush were prepared to declare victory Saturday if Florida certifies them as the winners of the state's 25 electoral votes — even if hand counts are continuing.

Christopher and Gore attorney David Boies responded a few hours later for the vice president.

"We continue to believe that Secretary Harris was wrong to certify the election results before the recounts were completed," Christopher said.

"To the extent that Judge Lewis' decision today is contrary to that, we believe it incorrect, and we will be appealing it to the Supreme Court of Florida." He said Gore's legal team would seek a hearing and decision "at the earliest moment, tomorrow if possible."

As for the possibility that Harris may certify Bush as the winner of the state's electoral votes — enough to give him the presidency — Christopher added, "It would frustrate the will of the people of Florida."

Both sides in the election contest assume that Bush will benefit when the overseas votes are counted, making Gore's attempt to win recounts of more than one million ballots essential to his effort to overtake his rival.

Lewis' court order, read by a court clerk and broadcast live nationally, was succinct.

Based on the "limited evidence presented, it appears that the secretary has exercised her reasoned judgment ... applied them to the facts ... and made her decision. My order requires nothing more," it said.

In a brief statement, Harris said she would "continue to follow the election procedures provided by Florida law. She added, "we anticipate receiving the certifications of the overseas absentee ballots from all counties by noon tomorrow."

Gore's appeal marked the second election-related case in as many days to come before the state's highest court, a sign that the nation's postelection drama may be nearing a conclusion.

On Thursday, in a brief unanimous

order, the state's Supreme Court justices ruled that the recounts could continue, but took no position on whether Harris should be required to take them into account when she certified the results of the election.

"Let the will of the people be done," Gore campaign chairman William Daley said Thursday after the high court ruling. Other Democrats warned of legal action if Harris refuses to accept the results of the hand recounts.

Don Evans, Bush's campaign chairman, said Harris' vote certification deadline was fixed by state law and "must be honored." Only the tally of the absentee ballots from overseas remains to be rolled into previously certified vote totals showing Bush with a 300-vote margin, he insisted.

And then, he said, "Win or lose, this election will be over." But a rash of legal actions by both sides made such a decisive ending improbable.

Officials in Broward and Palm Beach counties — heavily Democratic areas around Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach — were working their way by hand through hundreds of thousands of ballots. The Gore campaign is hoping the results of those recounts, as well as one the vice president is seeking in Miami-Dade County, will let him vault ahead of Bush.

Still, Gore aides conceded the recounts wouldn't be completed before Harris' deadline, adding to the prospect of more legal action in a case that has generated plenty.

The controversy's lengthening docket ran to a federal appeals court in Atlanta, where judges are considering the Bush campaign's bid to shut down the recounts.

The federal court also agreed to consider a related case filed by three Bush supporters from Brevard County. They claim their rights are being violated because their counties are not recounting votes by hand.

In a controversy drenched in politics, no one escaped scrutiny.

Democrats noted that Harris is a Republican and staunch Bush supporter. Republicans pointed out that all seven members of the Florida Supreme Court owe their appointments to Democrats.

Smoking causes one in five deaths

Nearly one in five deaths in the United States is the result of tobacco use. In fact, smoking cigarettes is the leading cause of preventable deaths in this country.

It is also a major contributor to a host of health problems. Even people who don't smoke may experience the ill effects from other people's cigarettes, which is known as secondhand smoke.

It's the smoke breathed out by smokers and the smoke breathed out from the burning end of a cigarette, cigar or pipe.

Secondhand smoke is also called environmental tobacco smoke. Exposure to secondhand smoke is called involuntary smoking, or passive smoking.

It is not easy to avoid secondhand smoke because about one in four people smoke.

Why should you worry about secondhand smoke?

- It causes about 3,000 deaths each year due to lung cancer in people who don't smoke.

- It causes irritation of the eyes, nose and throat.

- It can also irritate the lungs, leading to coughing, excessive phlegm and chest discomfort.

- Secondhand smoke has been estimated to cause about 37,000 deaths from heart disease in nonsmokers each year.

Secondhand smoking especially hurts children! Children who breathe secondhand smoke are more likely to suffer from pneumonia, bronchitis and



Kris Lovington

• prevention center

other lung diseases. They also have more ear infections and are more likely to develop asthma.

Children who have asthma and who breathe secondhand smoke have more asthma attacks. There are an estimated 150,000 to 300,000 cases every year of lower respiratory tract infections, such as bronchitis and pneumonia in infants and children under 18 months of age who breathe secondhand smoke. These result in between 7,500 and 15,000 hospitalizations each year.

How can you protect your family from secondhand smoke? You can start by not allowing anyone to smoke in your home or around your children. Ask smokers to go outside or if they have to they can use rooms where windows can be opened or fans can be used to send the smoke outside.

It's OK to ask other people not to smoke in your home - like the babysitter or others who may care for your children.

Remember, many of the substances stay in the air even after the cigarette, cigar, or pipe is gone.

What can you do to protect yourself and your family outside the home? Let family, friends and people you work with know that you do care if they

smoke around you. If you're in your car, do not smoke or allow others to smoke while the windows are rolled up. Ask to be seated in the nonsmoking area of a restaurant.

Ask your employer to make sure you do not have to breathe other people's smoke at work.

Remember, this goes for cigar smokers also! Because cigar smoke is rarely inhaled, many cigar smokers have a false sense of security that cigar smoking is safe.

Congress did not explicitly include cigars in the 1984 law requiring health warning on cigarettes, so cigar packages bear no warning from the U.S. Surgeon General. The 1989 Surgeon General's report stated that most of the same carcinogens and cancer producing chemicals found in cigarettes are found in cigars.

The report also revealed that overall the cancer deaths among men who smoke cigars are 34 percent higher than they are for nonsmokers.

Studies indicate that all tobacco users are five to 10 times more likely to get cancer of the mouth or throat than their nonsmoking counterparts. Cigar smokers have four to 10 times more risk than nonsmokers of dying from laryngeal, oral or esophageal cancers.

If you would like more information regarding secondhand smoke, call me at (785) 899-3848 or come by 1701 Main.

New Power Points winner announced

Randy Gausman of Goodland is the \$100 winner in week 11 of the Power Points football contest sponsored by Goodland merchants.

Gausman was a first time winner with a total of 104 points out of a possible 136.

He said he was surprised to win, especially when he lost 16 points right off the top. He had picked Nebraska to win in their game against K-State and they lost.

As for his plans for the money, Gausman said, "it's Christmas."

Gausman said he and his son, Ryan, and daughter, Chelsie, play the game, too, and their scores have been close to



Gausman

his.

Gausman said he is a fan of football, as well as other sports. His favorite football team is the Denver Broncos.

For coming up with his picks, Gausman said he takes into consideration the team's record and if there's anyone on the team who is hurt, and if they are playing on their home field, which he said makes a difference.

The regional winner for the week was John Spurlock of Stockton, Mo., with 125 points. He and Freda Teeter of Brookfield, Mo., tied. But Spurlock's tiebreaking guess that 60 points would be scored in the St. Louis Rams game was closer to the actual total of 62, than Teeter's guess of 76. Spurlock won \$1,000.

Entry forms are available in Tuesday's issue of The Goodland Daily News and can be dropped off at McDonald's, Ray's Cafe, Eagle Cable TV, Cowboy Loop, Kickers Restaurant and Lounge or the Daily News.

The deadline for entries is 2 p.m. on Friday.

Six charged with stealing

OLATHE (AP) — Six members of a Missouri family are accused of deceiving an elderly Kansas woman into giving them hundreds of thousands of dollars since her husband's death in January last year.

A Cass County couple, three of their children and a daughter-in-law appeared Thursday in Johnson County District Court, where they are charged with felony theft and mistreatment of a dependent adult. Prosecutors allege that they used money they got from the 74-year-old Overland Park woman to buy cars, trailers and parcels of property in several counties.

The suspects are not related to the woman but the families had known each other for decades, said Joseph Vader, attorney for some of the defendants.

Vader said the family was "devas-

tated" by the turn of events that led to criminal charges involving what he said had been considered gifts.

Prosecutors allege that the family took "unfair advantage" of the woman through the use of "undue influence, coercion, harassment, duress, deception, false representation or false pretense."

Weekend filled with holiday events

EVENTS, from Page 1

hand out treats.

Radio announcer Curtis Duncan will be at the reception.

Anyone with a red, green or white vehicle is invited to enter the parade, which will start at 17th and go north on Main to Eighth.

"If they want to decorate it," said Jo Simmons, office manager at the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce Office, "that's great."

Entries are asked to line up at 3:30

p.m. at 17th and Main.

Simmons said with the cold weather, there won't be many floats or animals in the parade.

She said the Goodland High School band will perform either while riding on a trailer or marching down the street. Vocal choirs from the high school are to perform, along with the cheerleaders and drill team.

Simmons said Lon Sowers of Gem is supposed to have a pair of Scottish Highland oxen pulling a cart in the parade.

A free matinee, Titan A.E., will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at The Sherman Theatre, sponsored by the Chamber promotion committee.

A \$1,200 giveaway sponsored by Goodland businesses will take place during the next few weeks. Registration will start Saturday in participating businesses. Weekly scrip drawings for \$100 and \$200 will be held Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9 and 16. Winners will be notified.



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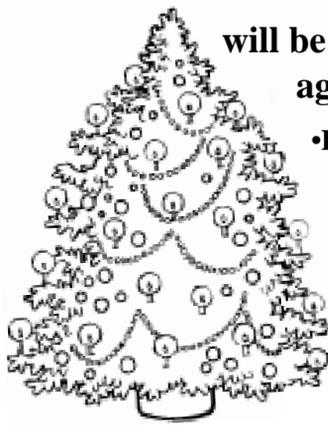
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