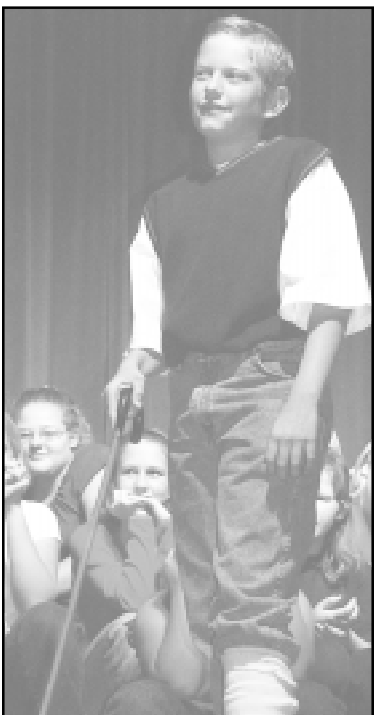




Paying tribute

Sixth grade students from North Elementary performed a music program Thursday night in the Goodland High School auditorium. The program was dedicated to veterans and the students sang songs about America, the presidents and the flag and presented skits along that theme, all directed by elementary music teacher Char Avila. Brandon Douglas, Michael Smith and Mikey Doll (above, from left) counted ballots in a skit about the presidential election. Cody Engel (left), portraying Abraham Lincoln, pulled gloves from his pockets. Steven Mangus (right), portraying Franklin D. Roosevelt, used a cane to walk on stage.

Photos by Janet Craft
The Goodland Daily News



Election results still not concrete

RECOUNT, from Page 1

“Enough is Enough. America has Spoken. Bush-Cheney.”

Gore’s advisers were hopeful of victory, though pragmatic enough to tell fellow Democrats they likely would urge the vice president to give up without a protracted legal fight if the Supreme Court rejects manual recounts.

Bush’s team worried that clear approval of recounts and liberalized standards for reviewing ballots would give Gore all the ammunition he needs to erase the Texan’s narrow lead.

Neither side ruled out further legal action, including a U.S. Supreme Court appeal, if they lose.

Here’s how things got this far: — Gore narrowly won the nationwide popular vote and holds a slight edge over Bush in the all-important

Electoral College. Neither candidate will reach the required 270 electoral votes to be declared the nation’s 43rd president without Florida’s 25 electors.

— A statewide machine recount of 6 million ballots cast trimmed Bush’s lead from 1,784 to 300.

— A weekend tally of overseas absentee ballots stretched Bush’s official lead to 930 votes. Democrats challenged hundreds of ballots, including votes from military personnel, in a strategy criticized by the GOP and second-guessed by Gore running mate Joseph Lieberman. Republicans may go to court.

— Gore had picked up 112 votes in manual recounts by midday Monday, which if counted would reduce Bush’s lead to 818.

Polls show the public split on whether the turmoil in Florida would

eventually produce a fair and accurate outcome. Still, more than 80 percent of Americans said they would accept either Gore or Bush as the “legitimate president” in the end.

The Supreme Court case was focused on Broward, Palm Beach and Miami-Dade counties, where more than 1.5 million votes were cast, a majority by Democrats. Gore needs the Supreme Court to approve the recounts and give county officials wide latitude for determining the intent of voters who cast disputed ballots.

In Broward County, Republicans complained that the majority-Democratic canvassing board changed the rules to find more Gore votes. A judge who recommended the changes excused himself from the case Monday, bowing to GOP officials who said he was predisposed to back Democrats.

School numbers keep declining

CENSUS, from Page 1

students, is the smallest in the district, the superintendent said, and the classes below it are shrinking also.

The district is considering adding more classrooms to the high school to accommodate a future combination of the junior high and high school, and the school is considering adding vocational programs to train kids for jobs that would allow them to stay in the area.

“We are considering adding some more science classrooms to the high school,” Selby added.

He said the students have a lot of

interest in science and right now there isn’t enough room to accommodate all of them.

Selby said the district wouldn’t consider moving the junior high to the high school for another five years.

“By the time the third graders are in eighth grade, we will consider combining the two schools,” he said.

He said by eliminating the junior high, the district would save money on the upkeep of the building.

One of the vocational programs the high school is considering adding is a vocational science course.

“The course would focus on agricul-

ture,” said Selby, adding that the program would go into the financing of farming, soil quality and raising cattle. Leaders say they want to stop exporting all our graduates.

“We are sending our kids to school so that they can get training to go to bigger cities,” said Mayor Chuck Lutters, who is also on the facilities committee.

He said the city and schools need to focus on trying to retain youth in Goodland, and he thinks we need to train kids to retain their skills to stay in the area.

“There are no jobs for them around here,” said the mayor.

Violence continues in Gaza Strip

INTERNATIONAL

JERUSALEM (AP) — A bomb exploded Monday near an armored bus taking children and teachers from a Jewish settlement in the Gaza Strip to an elementary school. Two adults were killed and nine passengers wounded, among them five children.

A little-known splinter of a tiny radical PLO faction, the Damascus-based Omar Al Mukhtar group, claimed responsibility in a leaflet faxed to a Western news agency.

However, roadside bombings in Gaza mostly have been carried out by Hamas and Islamic Jihad, two Islamic militant groups that have tried to wreck Israeli-Palestinian peace agreements with bombing and shooting attacks against Israelis.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak said the attack was “very grave.”

He convened his security Cabinet for a special session Monday. “This will not pass without a response,” Gilead Sher, a senior adviser to Barak, told Israel army radio. Last week, Israel struck Palestinian command centers after deadly attacks on Israelis.

The Palestinian Authority said in a

statement that it opposes violence, regardless of who commits it, and that it has launched an investigation. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat called a meeting of senior security officials, the statement said.

LIMA, Peru (AP) — President Alberto Fujimori, besieged by an escalating corruption scandal surrounding his fugitive ex-spy chief, is calling it quits, ending the 10-year reign of one of Latin America’s most revered and vilified leaders.

Fujimori, on a visit to his ancestral homeland Japan, announced in a written statement early Monday that he would resign within 48 hours.

His decision took into account the fact that opposition lawmakers won control of Congress last week, the statement said. It did not elaborate, but a motion was before the 120-seat legislature to remove Fujimori as president on constitutional grounds of “moral incapacity.”

Although many Peruvians said they were indignant about the way Fujimori chose to announce his resignation, many also felt relief.

Collect tickets, win spending money

CHRISTMAS, from Page 1

ping by *The Daily News* office or the Chamber of Commerce office, and no purchase is necessary to win.

Winners must be present at the grand prize drawing at 11th and Main in downtown Goodland if the weather permits. The last day to collect tickets will be Thursday, Dec. 14.

Instant win numbers will appear in

ads in the “Christmas on Us” section of *The Daily News* and winners need to come into the office to match their ticket and claim their prize.

Winners will be paid in scrip money to be spent at sponsoring merchants. Any leftover prizes will be drawn along with the two big prizes at the grand prize drawing.

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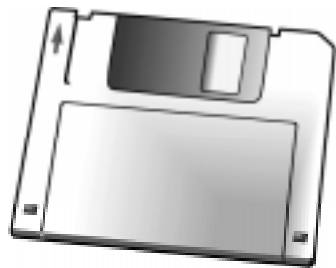
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