

weather
report

8°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:57 a.m.
• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Middy Conditions

• Soil Temperature 31 degrees
• Humidity 73 percent
• Sky partly cloudy
• Winds north 23 mph
• Barometer 30.23 inches
and steady
• Record High 77° (1939)
• Record Low -18° (1961)

Last 24 Hours*

High 43°
Low 3°
Precipitation 0.03
Snow 1.2 inches

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 5-10 below, north winds 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, 20 percent chance of snow, high 15-20, low near 0, south winds 10-20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: chance of sno, high 15-20, low near 0. Thursday: chance of snow, high 20-25, low 5-10. Friday: dry, high 25-30, low 5-15. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.74 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.62
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
Corn — \$1.88 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.84
Loan deficiency pmt. — 15¢
Milo — \$3.03 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.52 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.43
Loan deficiency payment — 47¢
Millet — \$9.00 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$5.85 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.69
Confection current — \$15/\$7 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.

Netanyahu
to seek office

JERUSALEM — Benjamin Netanyahu has taken up the challenge of Ehud Barak, who replaced him as Israel's prime minister just 18 months ago, declaring he's running for the top job in snap elections whether Barak likes it or not.

As events unfolded rapidly in Israel's shortest election campaign ever, the focus turned Monday to the Knesset, or parliament. Netanyahu called on lawmakers to make it possible for him to run in the elections, likely to be held in early February.

According to Israeli law, the prime minister must be a member of parliament. But Netanyahu resigned from the parliament after he was soundly defeated by Barak in an election in May of 1999.

Now the hawkish Netanyahu is leading Barak, a moderate.

No timetable set for historic ruling

By Laurie Asseo

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court bombarded lawyers for George W. Bush and Al Gore with questions for 90 historic minutes on Monday in the case of the nation's contested presidential election. The justices set no timetable for a ruling on whether to resume a recount of Florida's questionable ballots.

"Where's the federal question here?" Justice Anthony M. Kennedy asked Bush's attorney, Theodore Olson, less than two minutes into the

legal clash over the partial manual recount that the state Supreme Court ordered last Friday and that the U.S. Supreme Court halted less than 24 hours later.

"I have the same problem Justice Kennedy does, apparently," Justice Sandra Day O'Connor interjected at one point.

Justice David Souter, seeming to ponder the ground rules for a possible resumption in the recount, asked, "Why shouldn't there be one subjective rule for all counties."

Justice Stephen Breyer seemed to be thinking

about the same issue, pressing Olson on what "sub-standards" should be employed for considering questionable ballots in addition to a decision about "voter intent."

Bush and Gore watched from a distance as their lawyers posted rival legal claims before a court that seemed eager to challenge the lawyers and probe their arguments for soft spots.

"I talked to some of our legal team. They are cautiously optimistic. If they are, I am," Bush told reporters after Olson had stepped before the nine justices to argue the recount should be shut down

— and Bush's certified victory allowed to stand.

Gore was at the vice president's residence, pinning his hopes on attorney David Boies and his ability to persuade a majority of the court to resume the recount. Three of Gore's children — Karenna, Kristin and Albert III — were among the spectators given seats to the historic arguments.

The court allotted 90 minutes for the oral arguments, which unfolded only two days after a

See ELECTION, Page 3

Santa's little helper



"Faith," an 8-week-old Keeshond-lab-chow mix-breed, got dressed up in holiday spirit on Saturday to get her picture taken with Santa on Main Street. The Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter, which has found a home for Faith, held a bake sale and invited pet owners to bring their loved ones, children and animals, to get a picture taken with the holiday icon. For another photo, see Page 4.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/ The Goodland Daily News

Cable company raises rates 62 cents

Goodland's cable company is raising its rates starting in January, and subscribers will be paying \$35.26 per month for basic service in the new year.

Eagle Communications' charge for basic service is going up by 62 cents per month, officials said, but the copyright fee will go up 35 cents, the franchise fee by four cents and the taxes will go up by seven cents for a total increase of \$1.08.

"The 62 cents is how much we are having to raise the bill," said Lyla Cranebill, supervisor with Eagle headquarters in Hays, "but the rate will increase more with the raise in taxes."

She said that the rate increase is figured every year by the rate increase that the program suppliers give to the company, which Eagle passes on to customers, plus the increase in cost of living they get from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

"All of our figures are worked out scientifically," Cranebill said. "We don't just pull the numbers out of nowhere. There is a paper trail for all of them."

The company will also be making another change come the first of the year, she said.

WGN, the Chicago "super station," will be replaced by TV Land. Right now the service carries KWGN out of Denver and WGN, which are owned by the same company, but the Federal Communications Commission said they were violating copyright restrictions by carrying both.

The company did a survey, said Cranebill, and found that, while customers liked both, they preferred the Denver station.

Customers said they would like to see the TV Land channel, which is why it was selected.

County will appoint new member to board

The Sherman County commissioners plan to appoint a member to the board of the Goodland Regional Medical Center when they meet at 8 a.m. on Tuesday in the commissioners' room of the courthouse.

The new member will fill a vacancy created when Randy Schoenthaler, controller at Frontier Equity Exchange, resigned earlier this year.

In other matters, the commissioners will discuss what the emergency vehicle designation should be for wreckers.

Steve Duell, newly elected president of the Sherman County Fair Board, is on the agenda to update the commission on the fair board officers. He also plans to talk with them about putting additional electrical circuits in the livestock barns at the fairgrounds. Duell replaced

Steve Evert as fair board president after Evert resigned around Sept. 30.

Mike Miller of Miller's Construction is scheduled to talk to the commissioners about the elevator project, which was part of the grant to make handicapped changes to meet the standards of the American Disabilities Act. The elevator doesn't ring like it should when it stops or passes floors. The elevator company was a subcontractor for Miller, who was the general contractor.

Any questions or problems on the project need to go back to the general contractor.

Roger Snethen of the Sherman County Racing Association will present proposed dates for next year's car races and get approval for using the race track at the fairgrounds.

Scientists still studying weather on the plains

No conclusions from summer project

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

Months after scientists from across the country gathered in Goodland to chase storms, lightning, and tornadoes, they are still in their labs looking at the information they collected and trying to figure out what it all means.

While the study gave the scientists lots of opportunities to collect data, they say it may be several months before they can arrive at any conclusions, let alone use the information to help with forecasting severe weather.

The program, The Severe Thunderstorm Electrification and Precipitation Study, put together in Goodland this summer, was intended to study systems called supercell thunderstorms, which are considered to be the most dangerous type due to the extreme weather they generate, including tornadoes, large hail and flooding.

The study brought together scientists from the National Severe Storms Laboratory, the National Weather Service, the National Center for Atmospheric Research, Colorado State University,

the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, South Dakota School of Mines, the Universities from Colorado, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Florida, the Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies and the Cooperative Institute for Atmospheric Research.

"The data they gathered could improve scientists' understanding of how tornadoes form in supercell thunderstorms," said Dr. Dave Rust a researcher with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Norman, Okla.

He said with better understanding of the storms, scientists might be able to predict tornadoes sooner, which would improve warnings and forecasts.

Rust worked with the section of the study that dealt with lightning and headed the balloon crew, which would go out and release a balloon into the center of a storm to register flashes of lightning.

The most significant storms during

Too close to call



The referee got close to the action as Goodland's Dustin Kling fought for a pin at the Burlington Cougar Classic on Saturday. Kling took second at 135 pounds and the Cowboys took first place in the tournament. For more photos and a story, see Sports, Page 7.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

See STEPS, Page 4