

weather
report

16°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:58 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 29 degrees

• Humidity 70 percent

• Sky partly cloudy

• Winds south 23-3 mph

• Barometer 30.00 inches
and falling

• Record High 66° (1921)

• Record Low -19° (1961)

Last 24 Hours*

High 11°

Low -3°

Precipitation 0.01 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, 30 percent chance of light snow, low 5-10, south winds 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, 20 percent chance of snow, high mid 20s, low 10, west winds 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: dry, high 35-45, low 10.

Friday: dry, high 35-45, low 10-20.

Saturday: dry, high 30s, low 10-20.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.72 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.58

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$1.87 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.82

Loan deficiency pmt. — 17¢

Milo — \$3.02 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.49 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.44

Loan deficiency payment — 46¢

Millet — \$9.00 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.85 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.96

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.

Storm drops
record snow

DETROIT — The Midwest bundled up and struggled to dig out Tuesday after a storm that delivered record snowfall, clogging highways and snarling air travel around the nation.

Hundreds of schools were closed Tuesday for a second day and some commuters in the Chicago area couldn't get to work because of train problems.

"I'll work from home now. I have my computer, I have my files. ... It's kind of a long time to wait on the train," said Jim Collins of Naperville, Ill. "The only bad thing is you know the kids are going to ask 'Will you take me sledding?'"

Michigan's Genesee, Tuscola and Lapeer counties declared states of emergency Tuesday, closing all roads so plows could clear away more than a foot of snow.

Anxious candidates await ruling

By David Espo

AP Political Writer

WASHINGTON — One day after closely questioning lawyers for all sides, the Supreme Court pondered its ruling Tuesday in the nation's presidential election, a contest that holds George W. Bush and Al Gore in limbo and the nation in thrall.

Meanwhile, the Florida Legislature moved cautiously to intervene, careful not to get ahead of the high court.

As is their custom, the justices gave no indication of when they might rule in the case of Bush v. Gore — the name on the court docket as well as a choice that confronted the voters when they marked their ballots five tumultuous weeks ago. At least two justices were at work by midmorning.

There were obvious time pressures, since Tuesday was a deadline of sorts for the states to certify their slates of electors.

There was controversy about only one — Florida — and the court's widely anticipated ruling on the issue of manual recounts, as well as the Legislature's stated readiness to appoint a slate of its own — added to the uncertainty.

"I think we ought to just wait and see what they do," President Clinton said Monday after the justices heard the case. "One way or the other, it will be a historic decision that we will live with forever."

Bush was in Texas and Gore in Washington as the justices pondered the legal controversy that turned on the vice president's bid to resume manual recounts ordered by the Florida Supreme Court over the weekend. The recount was suspended less than 24 hours later when the U.S. Supreme Court, divided 5-4, granted Bush a stay.

The Texas governor has been certified the winner by 537 votes by Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris — a victory that would give him the state's 25 electoral votes and the White House if it stands up in court. Gore looked to the recount to overtake his rival statewide and give him the presidency.

Finding holiday spirit...



Goodland residents have put up holiday decorations. At Ron and Eileen Dautel's home at 724 W. Ninth (above), the sidewalk is bordered by candles, candy canes, garland and lights. Passersby are greeted by a Happy Holidays sign (right) and can see a Santa and reindeer on the front lawn of Kevin and Barb Winston's home at 217 Willow Road.

Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News



Two state troopers will start training in Goodland

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

Two new state troopers will start patrolling the roads of Sherman County on Saturday.

The Kansas Highway Patrol assigned the two men to the area after they graduated from their 22-week basic law enforcement course at the patrol's Training Academy in Salina last Friday, said Lt. John Eichkorn in Topeka.

The two troopers will fill much needed positions in Sherman County, where there are only two officers assigned, but it will be months before they are able to patrol on their own.

The patrol has been experiencing a shortage of troopers across Kansas, which prompted the agency to hold dozens of "town meetings" around the state to tell people about the shortage and what the Highway Patrol does. The patrol will be asking for a pay raise from the state Legislature and wants public support.



Jeff Vrbas



David Albers

A meeting was held in Sherman County on last Tuesday but only four members of the public showed up for the meeting.

The new troopers, David M. Albers and Jeffrey Vrbas, will start on the final leg of their training next week, which will include working with their training officer for 70 days.

"The troopers will ride with the training officer during those days," said Lt.

Eichkorn, "and will be evaluated on a daily basis."

The biggest part of the training process, he said, is learning the geographic area that they are covering.

"They need to learn where they can fuel their patrol cars, where the roads are, where the jail and court house is and those kind of things," Eichkorn said.

The number of troopers assigned to an area, he said, depends on traffic.

"Some counties have low enough traffic that they don't have any troopers there," he said. Near Goodland, Wallace, Sheridan and Rawlins counties have no trooper.

With I-70 running through Goodland, though, there should be about six troopers in the area, Eichkorn said.

A study several months ago found the department was 93 troopers short across the state, he said. Goodland got

See TROOPERS, Page 7

Lights protest drunk drivers

Highway Patrol troopers across Kansas will be driving with their lights on Friday in protest of the 84 people killed and 2,435 people injured by drugged and drunk drivers in the state last year.

The patrol is asking everyone to join in and leave their lights all day. "During these months" said Lt. John Eichkorn, a spokesperson for the patrol in Topeka, "we see a lot of problems with people driving while impaired because of the holiday celebrating that is going on."

The patrol alone arrested 135 intoxicated drivers across Kansas last year during Christmas and New Years holidays.

"And those are just the ones that

we were able to catch," he said.

He said everyone across the country should be driving with their lights on that day to bring as much attention to the problem as possible.

The patrol and the National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month Coalition — which is organizing the event — hope that by bringing attention to the problem they will encourage drivers to think ahead by choosing a designated non-drinking driver, using taxi services or just not drinking.

"We are encouraging everyone who feels strongly about drunk driving to turn on their lights," Eichkorn said, "and show the public that they won't tolerate intoxicated drivers."

Drawing for \$2,000 prize coming soon

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

The Christmas on Us contest sponsored by Goodland merchants is beginning to wind down, with the big event set for this Saturday.

Monday was the last time for tickets to be drawn for \$50 instant winners and Thursday will be the last day to collect tickets. The Grand Prize drawing will be held Saturday afternoon in downtown Goodland.

Three \$50 winners from last week's tickets came in Friday to claim their scrip money. They are Rusty Fritz of Edson, and Donna Nielsen and Helen Dobbs, both of Goodland.

Fritz, a truck driver, said he got his winning ticket from Frontier Equity

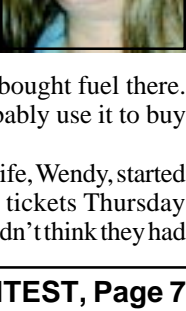


Exchange when he bought fuel there. He said he will probably use it to buy Christmas gifts.

When he and his wife, Wendy, started going through their tickets Thursday night, he said, they didn't think they had



See CONTEST, Page 7



District may drop out of network

By Rachel Miscal

The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland School Board debated Monday whether to drop out of the Interactive Television program, which the district pays \$24,000 a year for, but benefits no students here.

At the end of a short meeting that started early, members said they want to learn more about a similar program at the technical school in Goodland and

seek advice from officials at state universities before deciding to end or continue the five-year-old program at the high school.

Members met early for an annual board picture, then adjourned to eat Christmas dinner together at Sugar Hills Country Club. Besides the regular reports and business, the board's only agenda item was the Interactive Television program.

Superintendent Marvin Selby explained that the Goodland district is one of 14 schools and technical schools in northwest Kansas that participate in the program, where students can tune into classes taught at other schools.

Southwestern Bell hooked the district up, Selby said, as part of a five-year agreement, which includes \$1,800

See SCHOOL, Page 4

Board may fill job after years of looking

Superintendent Marvin Selby told Goodland School Board members Monday night that when the district finds a good counselor, it's wise to snatch them up right away.

"It's hard to find counselors," Selby said at the board's regular meeting. He said later that the district has been looking for an elementary counselor since he was hired in 1994.

That's why, he said, the district has

interviewed and is considering hiring a counselor from Salina in the middle of the school year.

The board didn't have to make any decisions, though, because Selby said the district has to work out details before offering the woman a job for the second semester. He said he will release her name once she submits a formal application this month.

The district can only spend the

amount of money it has budgeted for the year, but Selby said they could use money set aside to institutionalize a mentally handicapped high school student for part of the counselor's salary.

"Remember when we budgeted \$20,000 for one student," he said, "that we thought we'd have to put in an institution? Well, he's moved away now."

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