

weather
report

32°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 4:26 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:03 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:27 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 30 degrees

• Humidity 53 percent

• Sky mostly cloudy

• Winds north 24-29 mph

• Barometer 29.97 inches

and rising

• Record High 73° (1981)

• Record Low -13° (1935)

Last 24 Hours*

High 55°

Low 14°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly clear, low 5, north-
west winds 5-15 mph. Tomorrow:
mostly sunny, high 25, low 5-10,
winds 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday: dry, high 50, low 5-10. Sat-
urday: dry, high 25-35, low 5-15.
Sunday: dry, high 15-25, 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 — \$2.77 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.66

Loan deficiency payment — 00¢

Corn — \$1.98 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.95

Loan deficiency pmt. — 4¢

Milo — \$3.17 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.49bushel

Posted county price — \$4.44

Loan deficiency payment — 46¢

Millet — \$9.00 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$5.95 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.86

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.

Bush visits

White House

WASHINGTON — President-
elect Bush greeted the man he will
succeed on Tuesday, saying as he
met with President Clinton “I’m
here to listen.”

The outgoing Democratic chief
executive said his only advice to
the Republican was “to get a good
team and do what you think is
right.”

Although Bush had pledged in
campaign speeches to restore
“honor and dignity” to the White
House — a reference to Clinton
scandals — the two spoke conge-
nially as they met for the first time
since the election.

Bush called his visit with Clin-
ton “a high-energy moment.” He
was to meet later in the day with his
former rival, Vice President Al
Gore.

Bush and Clinton met in the
Oval Office for an hour.

Holiday spirit of giving



Victoria Frecks, 2, learned about sharing this holiday season as she put some money in the Salvation Army bucket outside of Wal-Mart. Bell ringer Mona McGinley tipped the container so that she could reach it. The Salvation Army bell ringers will be in front of Wal-Mart through Christmas.

Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News

Economic development
gets boost from city’s money

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News

Members of the Chamber of Com-
merce Economic Development Com-
mittee told city commissioners Mon-
day that the city’s backing has allowed
them to make a lot of progress on long-
time goals.

“Some of these projects were started
years ago,” said Steve West, president
of the Chamber and a member of the
economic development committee,
“but it was the money the city and
county gave us that enabled us to get
into the driver’s seat on the projects.”

“It is really nice to see positive things
come out of this.”

West and Ron Harding, Chamber
executive director, updated the com-
mission on 13 development projects,
thanked them for the money they pro-
vided and talked about the industrial
park on K-27.

The city budgeted \$30,000 last year
for the committee and included
\$50,000 in the budget this year. In ex-
change, commissioners asked the com-
mittee to tell them what they are work-
ing on several times a year.

The first project, said West, who is

president of Western State Bank, in-
volved two firms which were consid-
ering relocating here. The first may start
a business in June and the other is look-
ing at buying an existing building or
buying some land to build on, but he
wasn’t sure when they might start work.

“I wish I could tell you who they are,”
he said, “but I think it is best not to
mention names right now.”

West said another small business will
be moving in later next year. The busi-
ness was considering moving to Colby
but had selected Goodland instead, he
said.

A big part of this year’s activities, he
said, was the grocery store feasibility
study. Results came in last month, West
said, and have attracted some attention
from several store groups which the
Chamber is working with.

The committee is working with a
motel brokerage service in order to sell
two motels in the area, he added.

West said Mike Skyler, president of
Skyco Air and a former state trooper
here, is trying to start an air service for
Goodland.

He said Skyler, Harding and City
Manager Ron Pickman had gone to

Washington to try to get help develop-
ing the air service.

Skyler is working on a business plan
and doing a survey of the surrounding
areas for interest in the air service. He
is also talking about starting an air am-
bulance here.

West said the committee had found
a buyer for the old Gibson building and
it should be transferred in January.

The committee started talks with a
family dairy on the West Coast several
months ago, he said. They are looking
at the dairy’s financial status to see if it

See CITY, Page 7

Taxpayers
have enough
of rough road

County listens
to complaints

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Two taxpayers who have to drive
over the rough section of old U.S. 24
just east of town told county commis-
sioners Tuesday they are fed up with
getting the runaround on the road and
want to see it fixed.

Commissioners made no promises,
but promised to talk with the city, do
some research and get back with them.

Patty Eckhardt, who lives east of
Goodland and has to drive over the road
each day, came to the county commis-
sioners along with Jim Mosbarger.
Both said they have been talking with
city officials about the road, but have
gotten nowhere.

The city owns two stretches of the old
highway, about a quarter mile each at
the east and west edges of town. The
west piece is in good shape and the
county has agreed to seal it as it resur-
faces the entire road under a three-year
plan paid for by a special sales tax.

The city claims the county should fix
the east segment with the tax money,
too, but the county has maintained that
it is too far gone and would be too ex-
pensive to fix. They said the city should
rebuild the base first. Then the city and
county agreed to trade roads, with the
county taking all of old 24 and the city
all of Caldwell Ave., which is old K-27.
However, the city later backed out of
that, citing a state law it said made the
county responsible for connecting links
to county roads.

Eckhardt told commissioners she
had talked with City Manager Ron
Pickman and he told her that the road
is the county’s responsibility and sug-
gested she talk to County Attorney
Bonnie Selby.

“We’re basically going nowhere,”
Eckhardt said. “There’s a lot of concern
out there.”

“We’re concerned,” said Commis-
sioner Kevin Rasure.

“It needs to be fixed,” said Commis-
sioner Mitch Tiede.

“We thought we had it fixed,” Com-
missioner Chuck Frankenfeld said, re-
ferring to the lapsed deal with the city,
“but it’s been two years.”

County Road and Bridge supervisor
Curt Way said the city and the county
had agreed to exchange property, but

then someone from the city “found a
loophole.”

Mosbarger said he has been talking
with City Commissioner Rick Billinger
for two years about the road.

“Someone’s going to have to decide
somewhere, where it’s going to stop,”
he said. “Who fixed it the last time it
was fixed?”

“We need to get the ownership issue
fixed,” Rasure said.

“What do we do to find that out?”
Eckhardt asked.

“We understand your frustration,”
Way said, adding that the county may
have to get the Kansas Department of
Transportation involved.

Eckhardt said that Selby told her if
the transportation department was
brought into the issue, that would
change how the road is viewed.

“So, what do we do?” Eckhardt
asked.

“Basically, start all over,” Tiede said.

Rasure said the county would need
to go back to the city and work out
something.

Eckhardt asked if Pickman might be
brought to the meeting to discuss the
matter.

Frankenfeld said that nothing was
going to be settled Tuesday. He sug-
gested that the records be dug out and a
meeting set up.

Eckhardt asked how to go about
meeting with the city.

“We could go to their meeting and
they could come to our meeting,”
Frankenfeld said.

Eckhardt said people who use the
road want it fixed.

Tiede said maybe they could get it
scheduled to be fixed in the spring. Way
said that scheduling is critical.

“We need to get something done,”
Frankenfeld said.

“Give us a little time,” Tiede said.

“How much time?” Eckhardt asked.

Tiede said it would probably be af-
ter the first of the year.

Frankenfeld said in the earlier agree-
ment, the county would have had all of
old U.S. 24 and the city would have had
all of Caldwell.

“We need to get it settled,” he said.

Eckhardt asked if it was fair to expect
by mid-January that something might
be done.

Mosbarger said it looked like one or the
other through legal counsel could estab-
lish whose responsibility the road is.

Frankenfeld asked Eckhardt if it
would be fair for the commissioners to
talk about the matter and let her know
what happened.

New and improved crossing



The new crossing gates which were placed at the Cherry Street railroad crossing several weeks ago went down as a Kyle Railroad train crossed the tracks Tuesday afternoon. City crews were out this week, smoothing out the temporary fill on either side of the crossing. Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News