TUESDAY **December 11** 2001

Goodland, Kansas 67735

Volume 69, Number 242

weather report **53**° at noon

Today • Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:57 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions

 Soil Temperature 39 degrees • Humidity 15 percent

- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds west 15 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.70 inches
- and falling • Record High 77° (1939)
- Record Low -18° (1961)

Last 24 Hours*	
High	42°
Low	18°
Precipitation	none

Northwest Kansas Forecast Tonight: mostly cloudy, 50 percent chance of snow, low 15-20, winds

southwest 10-20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: 40 percent chance of snow, mostly cloudy and blustery, high 30s, low 15, winds northwest 15-25 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast Thursday and Friday: mostly cloudy, high 40s, low 20s.

(National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.



Noon Wheat — \$2.54 bushel Posted county price — \$2.47 Corn — \$2.01 bushel Posted county price — \$1.91 Loan deficiency payment — 08¢ Milo — \$1.76 hundredweight Soybeans — \$3.78 bushel Posted county price — \$3.83 Loan deficiency payment - \$1.09 Millet — \$3.75 hundredweight Sunflowers Oil current crop — \$9.00 cwt. Loan deficiency pmt. - 69¢ Confection current — inquire Pinto beans — \$19 (new crop)

Is that real?

Godland Daily News

Eight Pages



Amber Chaffman, 4, asked Santa for a Barbie doll on Sunday afternoon there to greet them. Santa also visited shops downtown that afternoon at the Sherman Theatre. Children came to watch a free movie matinee, donating canned food for the Genesis Food Bank, and the big guy was

to spread holiday cheer.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

A White Christmas? Don't bet on it.

By Kevin Lynott

Christmas remind us that the High of fresh snow on Christmas Eve or Day inches of snow occurs between now

mas occurred in 1997. Both were con- weather pattern could turn snowy and National Weather Service sidered very much a White Christmas, much colder on the High Plains by odds drop to less than 10 percent in all Occasional winter storms around because the chance to get at least 1 inch Christmas. In the meantime, if a few areas.

For at least 4 to 5 inches of snow, the

Those with Internet access can obtain

opment Council's monthly report. The ouncil tracks teachers' inservice and training hours and how they use their training in the classroom. • Voted to transfer \$50,000 from the local option budget, which holds money collected by a property tax in the district, with \$25,000 going to the technology account and \$25,000 to transportation. · Heard the superintendent report that the remodeling project on the second floor of the high school is moving quickly and teachers may start moving into their new rooms over winter break. He said the district may offer teachers two days' pay to move and pay a few students \$6 an hour to help. • Approved paying \$73,000 to Don Vaughn Inc. and \$23,800 to Miller Construction for work on the project.

State late with school aid

50¢

Superintendent says payment was short **By Rachel Miscall**

The Goodland Daily News With tax revenue short and slow for the state, the Kansas Department of Education was late making monthly payments to schools in December and only paid 75 percent of the payment totals.

Superintendent Marvin Selby told the Goodland School Board at its regular meeting Monday that the district's general aid payment came five days late and was only three-fourths of the total. He said the department sent an e-mail saying the rest will come within 10 business days.

The superintendent said the state is short on money and can't afford to make the payments to districts. After the meeting, he said tax money usually comes in by Dec. 20 and hopefully that will correct the state's troubles.

He told board members, however, that the late and short payments may continue throughout the school year, which could cause problems for the district.

This time, he said, it won't hurt much. He said the district will have to draw from its savings to pay bills, but the interest on the savings account is so little that it won't matter.

The district is facing its own money problems this year, as enrollment is declining and state aid depends on student numbers. At the same time, health insurance costs are increasing.

In other business, the board:

 Came out of a 10-minute closed session to accept a resignation from Deb Lawson, a teacher's aide at North Elementary School, effective Friday.

 Approved paying \$109,400 in monthly bills. · Approved the Professional Devel-

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

around the holidays—but don't bet on gion.

and nearby communities, measurable snowfall has occurred only a few times on Christmas Eve or Day.

The most snow on the ground on Christmas Day in Goodland was 10 inches in 1982. The most recent measurable snow on the ground at Christ-

Plains can be a winter wonderland is only 10 to 20 percent across the re-

After the ninth warmest November Over the past 30 years at Goodland on record at Goodland, December 2001 has also started off with above-normal temperatures and dry conditions. The National Weather Service six-to-10day outlook for the Tri-State Area calls for slightly above normal temperatures and little or no precipitation.

Although it is too early to tell, the Colorado.

and Christmas Day, then chances are be on the ground through the holiday season

The odds for 1 inch of snow range from about 20 percent in the Tribune/ Leoti/Hill City areas to around 25 percent in the Burlington/Goodland/ Colby and McCook areas, and 30 percent in the Flagler/Yuma/Wray areas in

climatological probabilities of a White very good that at least some snow will Christmas across the entire country at http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/ extremes/2001/december/ extremes1201.html

Those visiting or traveling through the Tri-State Area this holiday can check for National Weather Service forecasts, watches, and warnings on the Weather Radio, or at: http:// www.crh.noaa.gov/gld/

Veiled protestors anti-war

TOPEKA (AP) — Twenty-one women dressed in black, their faces covered with veils, staged a silent anti-war vigil on the Statehouse grounds Monday.

They were protesting U.S. military strikes in Afghanistan, part of the nation's war on terrorism following the Sept. 11 attacks that killed thousands in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania. Monday's event involved a University of Kansas professor and activists from Lawrence.

Their black clothing symbolized mourning for attack victims, as well as civilian deaths that might be caused by the American response.

The women held signs with slogans such as, "Women Against War," "Peace is Patriotic" and "What Has War Accomplished?"

See PROTEST, Page 4

Board passes 10-year, \$10 lease for district land

afternoon wire Late news from the Associated Press 1 p.m. **Afghan forces** overrun caves

TORA BORA, Afghanistan -Afghan tribal forces backed by intense U.S. airstrikes overran some al-Qaida cave hide-outs at Tora Bora today and trapped a group of Osama bin Laden's foreign fighters, who said they wanted to surrender.

After making a last stand on a wind-swept mountain top, hundreds of foreign fighters tried to escape a relentless tribal advance. But when shelling trapped them in a rocky canyon, some contacted tribal commanders by radio and pleaded for the chance to give up.

Mohammed Zaman, defense chief for the tribal eastern alliance, called a pause in fighting and gave al-Qaida forces until 8 a.m. Wednesday to surrender or face a new attack. He said they must submit to international prosecution.

American AC-130 gunships blasted the area late today.

District president elected at conference

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News The Goodland School Board decided Monday to lease land behind West Elementary School to the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center for \$1 a year to give the Headstart program space to expand.

The board also watched a video tape recording of the Kansas Association of School Boards conference this past weekend in Topeka, at which Dick Short, board president, was named in president-elect of the association.

The board started its regular session more than an hour early, meeting at 5:45 p.m. to take the annual board picture, which will hang in the administration building. Members kept the meeting short, adjourning at 7 p.m. to go to Sugar Hills Country Club for their annual holiday dinner.

Superintendent Marvin Selby said the service center, a multi-district cooperative based in Oakley, will own and maintain the 27-foot-by-84-foot building, which will cost about \$78,000.

He said he feels comfortable with the wording of the 10-year lease and asked the board to approve it. Selby said the deal will help expand Headstart, which Jane Philbrick, Board Clerk Pat Juhl and Kathy Russell. helps children from low-income families get ready for school. He said lowincome students generally have lower test scores and need the boost.

"I think it will be a great asset for our kids," he said.

Thanks to the new building, he said, some fenced-off playground space ings elsewhere. Member Mike

Headstart children will be able to stay around the new building and will feed in the program for a full day rather than children three meals a day. It will serve a half day like they do now. Now, the 34 children. program uses a classroom in West.

Selby said the program will have

Member Kathy Russell asked if the center was putting up modular build-

Campbell, the district representative on the service center board, said they only had the opportunity in Goodland.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Superintendent Selby said with the

See SCHOOL, Page 4

Jan Thomas, owner of a Moment In Time photography studio in Goodland, took the annual picture of the Goodland School Board on Monday night before the regular meeting. The group includes (back to front, left to right) Ron Schilling, Mike Campbell, President Dick Short, Ben Duell, Eric Gray, Superintendent Marvin Selby,