

Volume 70, Number 54

weather

report

38°

at noon

• Sunset, 5:56 p.m.

• Sunrise, 5:52 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:57 p.m.

• Humidity 67 percent

• Winds north 17 m.p.h. • Barometer 29.97 inches and falling

Sky cloudy

High

Low Precipitation Today

Tomorrow

Midday Conditions

Soil Temperature 35 degrees

The

Eight Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735



Schools join to solve money woes

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News About 70 northwest Kansas school leaders did something this weekend that they hadn't done before: They put their heads together and tried to find ways to soften the blow of state budget cuts by helping each other.

The state's money problems could leave some school districts nearly broke next year, and school officials' thinking is that maybe they can avoid that by teaming up.

At the meeting, they identified seven major problems and made plans to work on solving them over the next couple of months.

Representatives from 21 districts across northwest Kansas met Saturday to talk about how state budget problems will affect them and how they can soften the blow by working together.

The meeting was organized by the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center, which invited superintendents, school board members and administrators from the 21 districts it serves. The session was held at the service center office in Oakley.

The service center has not held a meeting with all 21 districts before, and district representatives

have never met with the idea of finding solutions to budget problems.

Marvin Selby, superintendent of Goodland schools, said he went to the meeting, with four school board members, three principals and Pat Juhl, district clerk. The board members were President Dick Short, Jane Philbrick, Kathy Russell and Mike Campbell. The administrators were Harvey Swager, high school; Jim Mull, Grant Junior High; and Gerald Burkett, West Elementary School.

Dan Thorton, executive director of the service center, said he felt the meeting was "an overwhelming success." He said 49 board members, 15 administrators and four board clerks attended.

He said the purpose was to get school leaders talking about the financial challenges ahead of them and looking at what options they have to keep educating students in northwest Kansas.

Staff at the service center started talking about holding the meeting a few months ago, Thorton said, because they realized financial conditions across the state are looking bleak and that will have a major impact on education.

See MEETING, Page 4



Bush to grow

Northwest Kansas Forecast Tonight: mostly cloudy, scattered flurries this evening, breezy, low mid 20s, winds north 15-25 m.p.h. Tomorrow: sunny, high 45-50, low near 30, winds north 5-10 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: mostly sunny, high mid 50s. Thursday: mostly cloudy with chance of snow or rain, high 35-40, low 25-30. Friday: cloudy becoming clear, high 50-55. low 15-20. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.



Noon Wheat — \$2.56 bushel Posted county price — \$2.52 Corn — \$1.86 bushel Posted county price — \$1.85 Loan deficiency payment — 14¢ Milo — \$1.58 bushel Soybeans — \$3.99 bushel Posted county price — \$4.03 Loan deficiency payment — 89¢ Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight Sunflowers Oil current crop — \$9.30 cwt. NuSun — \$9.45 cwt. Loan deficiency pmt. — 26 ¢ Confection current — \$16/\$8 cwt. Pinto beans — \$26 (Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)



Leader to announce job-creation plans

WASHINGTON (AP) - Some experts think the recession is already over, but President Bush has decided to focus on restoring economic health until the last report confirms a recovery.

Today, Bush was taking a job-growth message to Missouri, where he was raising money for the White House's hand-picked Senate candidate.

Bush was meeting first with business owners and workers in O'Fallon, Mo., renewing his praise for small companies as job-creation engines.

March 9, the president signed an economic stimulus package that grants businesses a variety of tax breaks and extends regular 26-week unemployment benefits by 13 weeks. Later this week, he plans to announce new incentives aimed at helping small businesses. An array of indicators suggest an economic recovery is under way, but the White House is concerned over whether it will generate enough jobs. The nation's unemployment rate is 5.6 percent; in Missouri, it is 5.3 percent.



JERUSALEM — Vice President Dick Cheney joined forces today with special envoy Anthony Zinni to turn up U.S. pressure for an Israeli-Palestinian cease-fire.

"Peace is not only possible, but necessary," Cheney said standing along side Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

Cheney was greeted by Sharon at a ceremony in front of the prime minister's office after the vice president and Zinni shared a 45minute car ride from the airport outside Tel Aviv.

The vice president, nearing the end of an 11-nation tour of the Middle East, called on both Israelis and Palestinians to do more to achieve a cease-fire that could lead to a lasting peace.

He said Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat should make a "100 percent effort" to end terrorism by Palestinians.

Administration officials also are mindful that the re-election of Bush's father to the presidency in 1992 was torpedoed by a recession and an image that he didn't feel Americans' pain. This president, they say, will be the last to declare the current economic slowdown over.

On his fifth trip to the crucial electoral state of Missouri, Bush was headlining a fund-raiser expected to bring in between \$1 million and \$1.5 million for former Rep. Jim Talent, who is running for Senate, and for state Republicans.

The White House encouraged Talent to challenge Democratic Sen. Jean Carnahan, who was appointed after her husband died in a plane crash, then beat out Attorney General John Ashcroft in the election. This year's vote will determine who serves the remaining four years of the six-year Senate term.

Jim Hayden attached metal sunflowers it took him a week to build to Mueller Grain as a maintenance man. Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News the Mueller Grain sign on 17th Street last week. Hayden works for

Sculptor plants metal sunflowers at work

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News Three sunflower plants sprouted near the Mueller Grain sign on 17th and Main Avenue last week. The plants have giant leaves and

heads and a bunch of what looks like seeds, but these flowers will never be harvested.

Jim Hayden, a maintenance man for Mueller, said it took him about a week Mueller Grain sign on Thursday beto construct the three sunflower plants out of junk metal.

He said the heads are made out

chains wrapped in a circle and welded plans. to look like seeds, and sickle knives once used in combines to cut crops. The stems are two-inch heavy-wall pipe, he said, and the leaves are made of flat iron.

Hayden said he sprayed the sunflowers with an acid that gives the sculpture a rusty look.

He attached the metal plants to the cause he thought they would be a nice touch.

He said he didn't tell anyone his

"I figured if they didn't like it, I could take it down," he said.

But they do like it.

"The manager down here said it looks nice," Hayden said.

Hayden said he has made other yard and home decorations out of metal, mostly for his wife. He said he made a snowman for his wife and a Christmas tree.

Hayden said he saw a picture of a similar sculpture in Sunflower Magazine and thought, "I can do that." He

said those sunflowers were made by a man in Oregon.

Creating the leaves was the toughest part of the project, Hayden said. He had to pound the creases in with a hammer and chisel.

"It took quite awhile," he said.

Hayden said he made another sunflower sculpture to decorate his farm about two miles south of Goodland, and he might be making more.

"I have a couple people that want one," he said. "Actually, I have four or five that want one."

Pregon coach hands athletes keys to success

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News With some hard work, good thinking, honesty and integrity, Goodland High teams can compete with the best in the state, a coach from Oregon told students, coaches and parents Friday.

Roger Freeborn, a representative of Bigger-Faster-Stronger, or BFS, spoke lot of issues pulling at them. He had an to a crowd of teachers, coaches, students and parents Friday night at the high school auditorium.

A weight-training seminar was held Saturday at the weight room in Max Jones Fieldhouse, where Freeborn showed students the proper way to lift weights and improve their strength.

Freeborn, football coach of a high school in Oregon, told about 60 people Friday that his team has gone from a 2-26 record to being one of the top teams in the state by using BFS principles.

He said Goodland athletes could use is pulling against them. these same principles and become one of the best teams in this state.

Jon McLean, teacher and basketball and golf coach at the school, said he liked the concept.

"He gave a lot of really good information to the kids on how to be better people, better students, and better athletes," McLean said.

Hard work, working smarter, and honesty and integrity will take you over the competition, Freeborn said, until you are in the top 10 percent. These principles will help you not only in sports, but in whatever you do.

Freeborn said students often have a eight-grader come on stage to play tugo-war with a varsity football player. Before they could start, though, he let the junior high student bring his older brother up to help, and the two of them pulled the football player across the stage.

"If you have enough people pulling for you, instead of against you," Freeborn said. "you can do anything."

He split the kids in the audience into five groups of five or six people, and told them to come up with a list of what

Time, social life, job, school, grades, money, parents, peer pressure and "senioritis" were some of the items the students came up with.

All those things on that list can be pulling for you instead of against you,

See SEMINAR, Page 4



Dusty King deadlifted 225 pounds under the direction of Roger Freeborn of Bigger-Faster-Stronger on Friday at the Goodland High School Auditorium Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Singers welcomed with sirens

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News Sirens began wailing about 8:30 p.m. Sunday and it took some figuring.

It wasn't an air raid or a tornado drill, but a police escort for the X-Pressos, Goodland High's show choir, returning from national competition.

The group's bus turned onto Eighth Street, lead by a police car and followed by a long convoy of cars all the way to the high school.

"They were waiting for us when we got off at Exit 19 on the east side of the city," said director Randy Berls. "They had the road blocked and when we arrived, the police took the lead and all the cars fell in behind. It was a great show of sup-

See SINGERS, Page 4