

weather report
**25°
at noon**

Today

• Sunset, 5:59 p.m.

Tomorrow

 • Sunrise, 5:47 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:00 p.m.

Midday Conditions

 • Soil Temperature 42 degrees
• Humidity 36 percent
• Sky mostly sunny
• Winds northeast 15-25 m.p.h.
• Barometer 30.72 inches and falling
• Record High 83° (1995)
• Record Low 2° (1983)

Last 24 Hours*

 High 70°
Low 9°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

 Tonight: mostly clear and cold, low 10-15, winds northeast 10-15 m.p.h.
Tomorrow: mostly sunny and warmer, high near 50, low lower 30s, winds southwest 10-15 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

 Saturday: mostly sunny, high upper 60s, low mid 30s. Sunday: partly cloudy with chance of snow late, high upper 50s. Monday: mostly cloudy with chance of snow, high near 30.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets
Noon

 Wheat — \$2.59 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.46
Corn — \$1.87 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.85
Loan deficiency payment — 14¢
Milo — \$1.58 bushel
Soybeans — \$3.98 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.92
Loan deficiency payment — \$1.00
Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.20 cwt.
NuSun — \$9.35
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.)

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.
Bush on trip despite terror

ELPASO, Texas — Undeterred by what he called “two-bit terrorists,” President Bush opened a Latin American trip today that takes him from the border with Mexico to the U.S. Embassy in Peru where a car bomb exploded overnight.

“Sometimes it seems like the terror threat might be going away, but all you got to do is look on your TV today and be reminded about how evil these murderers are,” Bush told Texans at a noisy send-off rally on the first leg of his four-day trip to Mexico, Peru and El Salvador.

Telling his audience about an overnight car bombing outside the U.S. embassy in the Peruvian capital of Lima and a suicide bombing in Jerusalem, Bush said “We cannot let the terrorists take over freedom-loving societies and we will not.”

Shops plan to go crazy this weekend

This month is known for March madness and spring fever. Goodland shoppers can now add another saying to the list.

Goodland businesses are holding the first “Crazy Daze of Spring” promotion on Friday and Saturday.

During those two days, participating stores will each have up to 50 helium-filled balloons filled with discount coupons. Customers will be encouraged to pop the balloons and grab the savings. The event has a circus and clown theme, and store employees are being encouraged to dress up and “clown around” for the event.

The promotion is being held this weekend to coincide with the Kansas Kids district wrestling tournament which will be held at Max Jones Fieldhouse on Saturday.

There will be about 600 kids from Western Kansas competing, said Terry Bahe, president of the Goodland Wrestling Club.

Stores will stay open until at least 8 p.m. Friday to catch a few more shoppers.

The promotion is sponsored by the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce. This is the event’s first year, but the Chamber wants to make it an annual thing.

“We’re sure hoping this tournament brings in business,” said Jo Simmons, Chamber office manager. “That’s why we’re running this promotion. We’re trying to draw in some more business while people are in town.”

Some restaurants and hotels have told the Chamber they are gearing up for this weekend, Simmons said.

Simmons said she wasn’t sure how many people would be in town for the wrestling tournament, but noted, “if each kid brings along two or more people...there are going to be a lot of people here.”

Linda Knott, owner of Knott Just Books, is try-

ing out the promotion.

“It’s worth a try,” Knott said. “We’ll see how it works.”

She said basketball tournaments seem to bring business to her store, and she hopes this promotion will bring wrestling fans in as well.

 Participating businesses are Alco, Aten’s, American Communications, McDonald’s, Mann’s Jewelry, Gambino’s, Jacque’s Hall Mark, Luci’s Aquarium, Mr. Jim’s, Knott Just Books, Safari Steakhouse and Wal-Mart. KLOE/KKCI/KWGB, KBSL/Channel 10 and *The Goodland Daily News* are sponsoring the event.

House orders abortion attack

Suit will say life begins at conception

TOPEKA (AP) — The House has ordered a broad legal attack on abortion.

On a 70-50 vote today, members adopted a resolution directing the attorney general’s office to file a lawsuit with the Kansas Supreme Court, asking the justices to declare that life begins at conception. Rep. Jim Morrison of Colby voted in favor of the resolution.

Senate approval wasn’t necessary to initiate the legal challenge. Under Kansas law, the attorney general must raise questions of constitutional law with the state’s highest court when ordered to do so by one chamber.

That duty was imposed by 1975 amendments to an 1879 law designating the attorney general as the state’s representative in court.

“It’s the best method the House of Representatives has to show the importance of life,” said Rep. Dan Williams, R-Olathe, a supporter of the resolution. “That issue is vital to the issue of abortion, as well as many of the issues we deal with.”

Some abortion opponents have sought passage of such a resolution for several years but have not seen it advance in either chamber.

During a debate Wednesday, supporters of the resolution said the issue

 of when life begins is ripe for review by the courts because of advances in medical science since the U.S. Supreme Court’s 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision. It legalized abortion across the nation.

The lawsuit would be filed after Feb. 1, 2003 — when a new attorney general has taken office.

Attorney General Carla Stovall, an abortion rights supporter, is running for governor.

“I think we should recognize scientific fact and truth,” said Rep. John Toplikar, R-Olathe.

 But critics questioned whether the courts will answer that question, or simply uphold *Roe v. Wade*.

“I just didn’t see it as a proper use of the attorney general’s authority,” said Minority Leader Jim Garner, D-Coffeyville.

The debate on the resolution came after the House voted 72-51 to approve a bill protecting health care providers from being fired or sued for refusing to perform abortions or some other services.

The measure faces uncertainty in the Senate, where abortion rights supporters have been able in recent years to block proposals restricting the procedure.

A solid majority of House members opposes abortion.

Paintball club forms to combat boredom

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Schyler Goodwin, a 27-year-old Goodland native who moved back from Denver last year, wants to remedy the fact there’s not much for young people to do around here by forming a paintball club and opening a playing field.

Anyone interested in joining can attend an informational meeting at 7 p.m. tonight at the Safari Steak House in the Elks Lodge, 1523 Arcade.

Paintball is a combat-inspired game in which players on a team try to beat another team by shooting its players with paintballs. All players use what’s called a “marker” to shoot the paintballs, and are required to wear a helmet and goggles. The game is usually played on large courses that can be inside or outside.

Goodwin, president of the Goodland Development Corporation, said he’s been playing paintball since 1992 and has found youths and adults enjoy the game and it’s something families can do together.

He said about 50 people showed up for a meeting he held last week to share information about the Northwest Kansas Paintball Club.

High school- and college-age students came, he said, along with some people in their 30s. People traveled from Oakley, Colby and St. Francis to join, he said, adding there are no dues but members must be older than 12 for insurance purposes.

Goodwin said he is expecting more to attend tonight’s meeting because Northwest Kansas Technical College students were on spring break last week. Tonight, he said, he will talk about the rules of the game and will form teams.

One rule, Goodwin said, is every player must wear protective headgear.

He said he has opened a retail store in his home called “Cherokee Extreme Sports” to sell paintballs, markers, safety equipment and other accessories.

Goodwin said he will show people tonight what equipment is necessary. He noted that he is able to sell supplies at a low cost because the store is in his home and he has no inventory or employees.

The club will need a place to play, Goodwin said, so he is in the process of buying 7 acres of land west of town, where he will build a paintball course. He said he plans to sell his house in Goodland and build one close to the course.

The year-round course, which Goodwin said he hopes to open this summer, will be open on weekends, depending on the weather. He said non-members will be able to use the course and paintball equipment will be available to rent.

It won’t cost much to use the field, Goodwin said, because he wants everyone to be able to play the game.

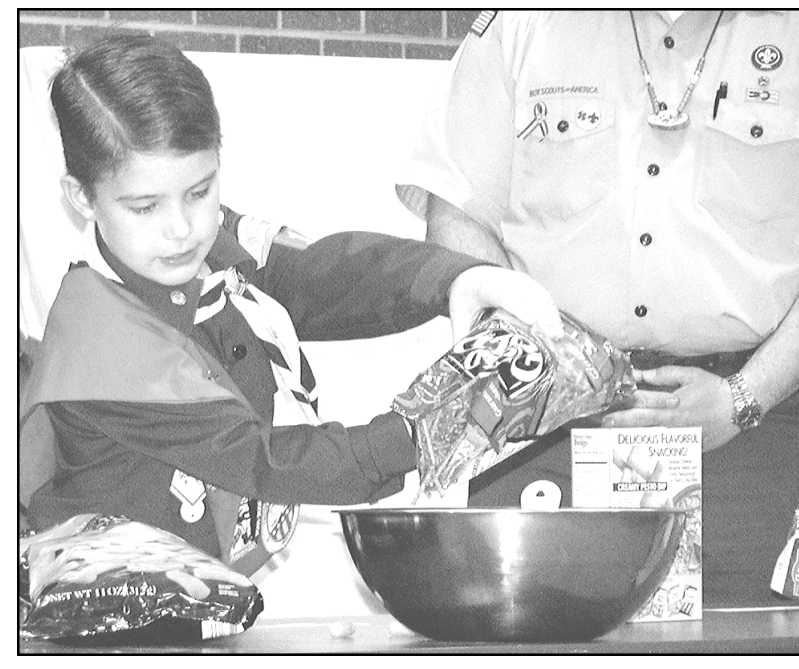
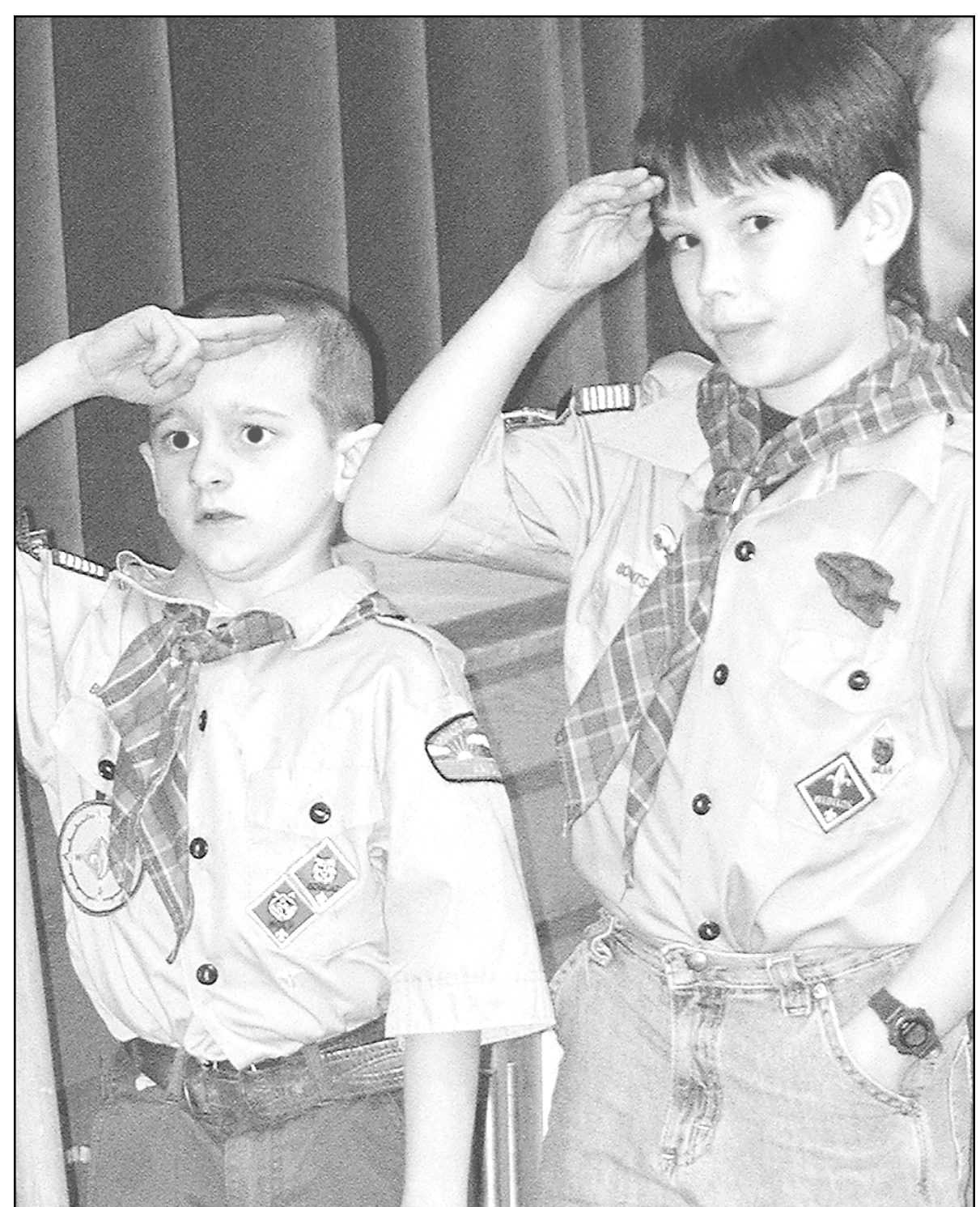
“I’d rather charge less and have more customers,” he said.

Goodwin said players will have to follow rules because the game can be dangerous if it’s not played correctly.

“It will be an insured field,” he said. “Eventually someone will get hurt.”

He said he plans to organize a major tournament in August, inviting 50 to 100 clubs from across the region. The event will bring people to town who will spend money on food and hotel rooms.

“It will bring in additional tax dollars,” he said.



Scouts set for camping

Cub scouts John Dinkel (left) and Benjamin Waugh (above), saluted the American flag Tuesday at the United Methodist Church. Jason Cowan (left) poured pretzels in a snack mix the den prepared for guests. The scouts were given camping gear by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans and the American Legion. The groups raised about \$450 and were given a discount by Wal-Mart to buy tents, lanterns and cooking utensils.

 Photos by Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

Audit finds fewer students here

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

A state auditor recently found that the Goodland School District has 8.8 fewer students than it estimated at the start of the school year, which means the district will receive \$34,000 less from the state this year than it had budgeted.

Superintendent Marvin Selby told the Goodland School Board on Monday that the state finished checking the district’s enrollment last week, finding that there are fewer students in special categories than administrators reported in August.

State aid to schools is based on enrollment and the base state aid this year is \$3,870 per student.

On top of that, the state gives schools more money for students with special needs, such as those who don’t speak English well or who are in vocational education programs. Basically, those

pupils are counted as more than a whole student when districts figure their budgets.

Including those “weighted” students, Selby said, the district estimated in August that it would receive state aid for 1,573.1 students.

He said the state requires districts to estimate their enrollment in August and then base their budget on those numbers.

On Sept. 20, Selby said, schools take an official count of students and principals submit reports on enrollment. After the count last year, he said, he knew the district would receive less money than budgeted, because there turned out to be 7.7 fewer students than estimated.

There was a big drop in weighted students, he said, in the vocational educational program, where the district estimated there would be 28 students, but

only 23.2 were counted. The state receives money for the number of hours students spend in the program.

After Sept. 20, Selby said, the state sends out auditors to check whether districts’ enrollment numbers are valid. It takes awhile for the auditors to get around because they have to check every district in the state.

Selby said the state auditor found the district can only receive aid for 1,564.3 students. One reason for that, he said, is because the district was counting on receiving more money for its bilingual students, but the auditor said that’s not legal.

He said the auditor told him the district’s bilingual teacher is not certified, and therefore the district can’t receive more money for the students she is helping. Selby said it takes 15 college