

**weather report**

**77°**

**at noon**



**Today**

• Sunset, 7:44 p.m.

**Tomorrow**

• Sunrise, 6:00 a.m.  
• Sunset, 7:42 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil Temperature 78 degrees
- Humidity 38 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds north 15 -25 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.02 inches and rising
- Record High 106° (1937)
- Record Low 49° (1978)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High 96°  
Low 65°  
Precipitation none

**Northwest Kansas Forecast**

Tonight: mostly clear, low upper 50s, winds east 15 m.p.h. Tomorrow: partly sunny with 20 percent thunderstorms, high mid 90s, low lower 60s, winds southeast 15 m.p.h.

**Extended Forecast**

Saturday: sunny, high upper 80s, low upper 50s. Sunday: partly cloudy with slight chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon, high mid 80s. Monday: partly cloudy, high upper 80s.

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

**local markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$3.69 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.63
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Corn — \$2.64 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.52
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Milo — \$2.39 bushel
- Soybeans — \$5.53 bushel
- Posted county price — \$5.38
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Millet — \$10.00 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$12.25 cwt.
- Oil new crop — \$11.15 cwt.
- Loan deficiency prmt. — 0¢
- Confection current — inquire
- Pinto beans — \$25

(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.**

**Execution**

**sours relations**

MEXICO CITY — Hours after Texas ignored the pleas of Mexico's president and put a drug smuggler to death for killing a Dallas police officer, Vicente Fox angrily canceled a meeting with President Bush as relations between the two neighbors appeared to sour.

The White House insisted the cancellation didn't affect "an excellent professional relationship and a strong friendship," and despite his anger over the execution, Fox made no reference to his relationship with Bush.

But the slight came as the once-warm relationship between the Fox and Bush administrations already was suffering from a series of disagreements.

Fox had made several appeals to U.S. authorities to pardon Javier Suarez Medina, who he said was a Mexican national.

## Schools nervous about budget cuts

By John Milburn

*The Associated Press*

TOPEKA (AP) — On the eve of expected cuts in state spending, the State Board of Education approved Wednesday a request for \$372 million in new funding for elementary and secondary schools.

The 8-2 vote advances a request to the governor and Legislature for an increase in the base state aid for students, as well as additional fund-

ing for at-risk students and health insurance.

However, Gov. Bill Graves has scheduled a news conference for 1 p.m. today to announce cuts in spending as state revenues continue to fall short of estimates. The cuts are necessary to keep the state from ending with a deficit on June 30, 2003, the end of the fiscal year.

"We're pretty nervous about this," said Dale Dennis, deputy education commissioner. "Every school district budget that we work we ask them

'how much can you handle without hurting kids?'"

Many observers were expecting the cuts as deep as 3 percent, or about \$70 million, from the Department of Education's \$2.32 billion budget. That translates to a \$100 cut in the base aid per pupil, currently \$3,890.

Those cuts will come as students and faculty return to classrooms for the fall semester.

Mark Tallman, lobbyist for the Kansas Associa-

tion of School Boards, said the 303 districts have already set their budgets for the year. Because of contracts, boards cannot simply fire teachers at the start of the year, forcing cuts to be made in classified staff, food service, transportation, after-school programs, athletics and other activities.

"The frustration is that they have gone all summer knowing to expect something would be cut, but not knowing how much or when," Tallman said.

## Sunflower festival offering more to do

### Activities will be held in one place

By Rachel Miscall

*The Goodland Daily News*

The 6th annual Sunflower Festival on Saturday will be held in a smaller area this year, but organizers say the event should be a lot bigger.

Featuring dozens of games and contests, musical entertainment, food, an antique car show, quilt show and garage sale, the festival will start around 9 a.m. on Saturday and last until after 1 p.m.

In the past, some of the festival activities were held on Main Avenue, said Jo Simmons, Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce office manager, but this year everything will be moved to Chambers Park, 13th and Center, the event's central location for the past few years.

Activities will go on either in or around the park, Simmons said, adding that Center Avenue will be blocked off between 13th and 15th Streets and participants are asked not to park cars in that area.

This year's festival will feature at least 35 different activities for young and old people, Simmons said, including almost 20 new games and contests. Each activity has a sunflower theme to honor the sunflower industry in Goodland — deemed "the Sunflower City of the Sunflower State."

"We're quadrupling the size of the show, really," she said.

New games include the three-legged race, bean bag throw, duck pond, hula hoop contest, water balloon throw, ring toss, sunflower seed spitting contest, jump rope contest, balloon in a basket, cupcake walk, bubble gum blowing contest and count the petals.

There were about five games last year, Simmons said, but participants had to wait in a long line to play, so the festival committee decided to make it more like a carnival, with different games held in separate areas.



Bud Chester, the organizer of the new Horseshoe Pitching Tournament at Saturday's Sunflower Festival, used to be an avid horseshoe pitcher. He's even in the state horseshoe pitcher hall of fame.

Photo by Eric Yonkey/The Goodland Daily News

The committee brain stormed game ideas, she said, and recruited volunteers to run the activities. The festival can still use more help, she said, asking volunteers to call the Chamber at (785) 899-7130.

Another new activity this year will be the Horseshoe Pitching Tournament organized by Bud Chester, who is in the Kansas State Horseshoe Pitchers' Hall of Fame.

The tournament will be divided into

three age divisions — 10 and under, 10 to 16 and 16 and up — and the top three pitchers in each division will win professional trophies.

The ping pong ball race will be returning for a second year, Simmons said, but the drought has forced organizers to change the contest.

Last year, Simmons said, the city and rural fire departments used their water hoses to propel the balls down Main, but that's not going to work this year

because of the city's water restrictions.

Instead, she said, Schlosser Concrete has volunteered to roll the balls around in a cement mixer and them let them loose between 13th and 14th Streets. Simmons said three race winners will receive 10, 7 or 5 percent of the profits, with the rest going to the Goodland High School Band, which is running the contest.

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## Principals preparing for school

By Rachel Miscall

*The Goodland Daily News*

Classrooms have been painted and floors buffed. Teachers are straightening their desks and preparing assignments. Parents are making sure their children are enrolled.

The start of another school year is almost here.

Five principals and the athletic director in the Goodland district told the school board this week what custodians, administrators, teachers and students are doing to prepare for the new year, which begins on Monday, Aug. 26.

Jim Mull, Grant Junior High principal, said custodians have installed new lights in the gymnasium to brighten it up. It's really made a difference, he said. "It's probably the best lit gym in the state," he joked. "It's really lightened up a lot. The kids will be shocked."

Mull said the school is starting new technology programs that may reverse the roles of students and teachers, al-



Devin Keister, 14, helped move boxes of clothes from the Thrift Shop on Syracuse to its new building at 1218 Main on Tuesday. Devin is the grandson of the store's manager, Sandi Keister.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

## Goodland thrift shop moving downtown

By Doug Stephens

*The Goodland Daily News*

Goodland's Thrift Shop is moving downtown after more than 30 years at its old location.

The store, owned by the ministerial alliance, is moving to 1218 Main, north of Sight and Sound Entertainment, and plans to open on Tuesday, Sept. 3, said manager Sandi Keister. It had been at 1020 Syracuse since 1972, she said, and the business has outgrown the building.

"We needed some more space," Keister said, "and the ministerial alliance was looking to move to a downtown location."

Keister, with the help of her grandson, Devin, and some of his friends, started moving some items into the new building Tuesday, but she said she will not close the old building until the new location is ready for business.

"We're moving things over a little bit at a time," she said. "We're going to stay open as long as we can."

Peg Garcia, a regular customer of the store, said she thinks the move will be good for business.

"A lot of people will be down on Main anyway," she said, "and this will make it convenient for them to stop in, rather than have to make a separate

trip."

Garcia says shopping at the thrift store is a big help to her budget. She can find clothes for herself, her husband, and her kids, she said, often for less than \$1 per garment.

"Clothes, especially for kids, can be really expensive," Garcia said. "When I come down here, I know I can always find something for a really good price."

The store can charge low prices because of the donations it gets, Keister said.

"People stop by here and donate clothes, books, furniture, and all kinds of stuff," the manager said. "A lot of people drop off clothes for us, which lets us keep our prices low and help more people."

The store's busiest time of the year is in the summer, Keister said, because a lot of merchandise gets donated after yard sales.

"We have a lot of items all year," Keister said, "but the summer is by far the most hectic time of year."

The store doesn't plan to raise its prices to cover the costs of the move, Keister said.

"Absolutely not," she said. "We are a thrift store. We want to keep our prices as low as we can."

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