

weather
report

72°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 6:42 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:37 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:41 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 64degrees

• Humidity 47 percent

• Sky sunny

• Winds southwest 15-25 m.p.h.

• Barometer 00.00 inches

and ?????

• Record High 96° (1966)

• Record Low 30° (2000)

Last 24 Hours*

High 70°

Low 47°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly clear, low upper 40s, winds south 10-20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: mostly sunny with 40 percent chance of rain during the night, high mid 70s, low lower 40s, winds south 5-10 switching to north 15-35 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: cloudy with 20 percent chance of rain, high mid 50s, low mid 30s. Friday: mostly clear, high 60s. (National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$4.31 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.23

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$2.53 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.29

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Milo — \$2.27 bushel

Soybeans — \$4.86 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.98

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Millet — \$13.00 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$10.55 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Confection current — \$17/\$7 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$18

(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.

Israel raids
Gaza City

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Israeli troops backed by dozens of tanks raided Gaza City today to destroy several weapons workshops, killing nine Palestinians in gun battles in two neighborhoods of the Palestinians' largest city.

The incursion came amid growing international criticism of Israel's 6-day-old siege of Yasser Arafat's compound in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

Today, the U.N. Security Council demanded that Israel withdraw troops from Palestinian areas and the European Union told Arafat it was trying to get Israel to ease his isolation. Pope John Paul II also demanded an end to the blockade.

Israel assaulted Arafat's headquarters last week, in response to a Tel Aviv bus bombing that killed six people. Today, land phone lines to Arafat's compounds appeared to be out of order.

District enrollment down, a bit better than expected

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The district enrollment measured Friday was a bit higher than expected, but lower than last year, Superintendent Marvin Selby told the Goodland school board Monday at its meeting at Grant Junior High.

Selby said the head count Friday was 1,061 students, 33 below last year's 1,094. Translating the figure to full time equivalents, which means the kindergartners and some others are not considered full time students under the state formula, Selby said the this year's 1,015 is below the 1,048 of last year, but is ahead of what the number they used in August to set the budget.

Selby presented a chart which showed, with the averaging of the enrollment and adding in special education students, that the budget will be based on 1,658 students, about 7 students ahead of what had been anticipated, he said.

In August the board published the budget based on the estimate of 1651 students which would raise \$6,428,000. However, since then the governor cut school funding by \$27 per pupil which is \$44,577 for Goodland.

With the increase in students Selby said the effect is the cut will be less than anticipated. He said with an increase in funding the district would have raised about \$30,000 more than what was published in August, but with the cut they will be down by about \$20,000.

He said this would mean that if the cuts remain as they are it would make the school year easier than planned. However, he told the board there is an indication that whoever is elected governor in November will face a continuing need to trim spending by another 2 to 5 percent.

Selby said that the student numbers continue to fluctuate a bit as three new students enrolled on Monday, but unless they had been enrolled before Friday they will not count in the state funding formula unless they remain in the school system and are counted next year.

With the new figures Selby said the published budget is higher than what they will actually have. He said there is not a requirement that the board republish the budget because it is smaller, but a final decision has not been made.



Part of the eighth grade girls health and physical education class taught by Mary Kratky is learning CPR (cardio pulmonary resuscitation), and three of the students demonstrated the techniques for the school board Monday night. Leah Shores (above) demonstrated the rescue breathing on an infant. Emily Murray and Amber Cowan (above right) demonstrated the proper method of using the Heimlich maneuver to aid someone who



is choking. Kratky said it will take the girls most of three quarters to complete the full class. Grant Junior High Principal Jim Mull said the school has had students come back after years saying they had used the training they received in eighth grade to help save a life. The school board members thanked the girls for their demonstrations and agreed it was an important life skill to learn.

Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News

School board endorses foundation plan

The school board Monday became the first of the three Sherman County groups to approve giving \$692 to help establish the Sherman County Community Foundation.

Schyler Goodwin and Dr. Dan Golden appeared to ask for the money and explain why the money was needed.

Goodwin said he had talked to the city and county about the foundation, and each had promised to participate if the others agreed. He said he had already had contact with the banks who were being asked to contribute a similar amount.

The total of \$4,846 is needed to file

the legal papers for the foundation to make it a legal non-profit corporation eligible to accept gifts and grants. Goodwin said the money would also purchase the needed software to manage the foundation.

Jane Philbrick and Ron Schilling are the school board members who are part of the foundation board.

Schilling said the foundation was very important because there is not a non-profit corporation available to be a conduit for others to receive gifts and grants.

Goodwin said that once the foundation is legally established the next step is to bring the various groups together

to develop a strategic plan for the whole county and specifically list goals for each.

"With the strategic plan we can qualify for a start-up grant from the Grow a Healthy Kansas program," Goodwin said.

Dr. Golden said he was there to support where he could, and was proud to be a part of the foundation plan.

Schilling made the motion to approve the \$692. It was seconded by Philbrick and passed unanimously 5-0 with Dick Short, Kathy Russell and Eric Gray voting in favor. Board members Ben Duell and Mike Campbell were absent.

School roundup

At their meeting Monday, the school board:

• Approved \$692 to help fund the Sherman County Community Foundation as presented by Schyler Goodwin. Story above

• Watched demonstrations by three eighth grade girls who are learning cardio pulmonary resuscitation as part of their health and physical education class. Photos above.

• Heard from Superintendent Marvin Selby that the enrollment was down Friday, but not quite as far as had been expected. Story upper left.

• Received information from Sharon Gregory about the 2002 Kansas State assessments and how the Goodland schools fare against the state average. (Story to come)

Ambulance rates to raise

The Goodland Regional Medical Center board approved raising the rates for ambulance service, to begin charging professional fees for nurse practitioners in the emergency room and to add investment options to the hospital's pension plan at their regular meeting Monday.

Raising the rates for ambulance service to a \$300 base charge plus mileage will increase the reimbursement from Medicare by about \$6,000 per year, Andy Laue, hospital financial officer, said. The rates haven't been raised in three years, he said.

Hospital Administrator Jay Jolly said he would need to check the legal technicalities before implementing the professional fees for nurse practitioners. Without these professional fees, Jolly said, it costs the hospital more for emergency room care than it is reimbursed. The hospital has 10 investment options for its retirement plan, Human Resources Director Dale Schields said, and employees have requested more. It would cost the hospital nothing to add nine new options, he said.

Boardmember Larry McCants said 19 options seemed like a recipe for confusion and abstained from voting. But

Cyclists trek to high points across nation

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

Jim Mick is semi-retired. He gives a few seminars about his invention, a motorcycle foot rest called the "Mick-O-Peg," and he tries to sell copies of his self-published book, but on the whole, he has plenty of time for his hobby: traveling to high points in the United States.

Mick and his friend, Brian Boers, both from Macomb, Mich., were in Goodland Monday after traveling to Kansas' highest point of elevation, Mt. Sunflower, just south of the Sherman County line.

They had just attended the annual meeting of the Highpoint Association in Blackburn, Okla., with about 220 fellow members. On a lark, Mick and Boers and 43 others made the trip to northwest Kansas. That is, after all, what the 2,500 members of the club do.

The duo ride motorcycles to the points they want to visit, and while Mick sports gray hair and wears a bandanna and faded jeans, Boers wears a collared shirt which he tucks in. They'll never be mistaken for twins, but they share a common wanderlust.

Mick said he got involved with the club when he was traveling with his wife. He said he bought a ceramic map of the United States, and marked off each state they visited with a glass chip.

"My wife told me that if we were going to claim credit for being in those states, we should actually do something while we were in it," the retired Marine said.

Boers, who designs vehicles, has a simpler reason.

"I just wanted something to do on motorcycle trips," he said.

After visiting Mt. Sunflower, the two met John Golden, a Goodland businessman, at breakfast. Golden introduced



Brian Boers (left) and Jim Mick, members of the Highpoints Association, were in Goodland Monday after visiting Mt. Sunflower in Wallace County, Kansas' highest point.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

the men to the Sherman County Visitor's Bureau and the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce, and suggested that the club might want to hold one of their future meetings here.

"It's not a bad idea," Mick said. "It would be good for your town, and it's a decent place for us to meet. Colorado, Nebraska, and of course, the high point in Kansas can all be reached pretty easily from here."

Mick said Ron Harding, executive director of the chamber, liked the idea. The biker said he estimates there could

be as many as 400 people at a possible Goodland meeting, which wouldn't happen any earlier than 2006.

The group holds its meeting in different regions of the country each year, and this region won't be open again until then, Mick said.

Mick says 50 members of the club have claimed to have visited the points of all 50 states. To get to some points, these people have to hike for miles off regular roads. Boers said he's been to 17 high points, while Mick admits to 35. Alaska is out for both of them, be-

cause they say hiking in freezing temperatures doesn't sound like a good time for them. Neither say they'll ever reach the golden number, but that doesn't stop them from reaching as many as they can.

Sometimes that can be a problem. In some states, the highest elevation point is on private property, and as Mick says, "There are owners of private property who enjoy their privacy."

The access to Rhode Island's point, Jeremoth Hill, was until his death owned by a man who was reluctant to allow visitors. Mick said he got around that by meeting a neighbor who was willing to show him a back way onto the site. The actual site is owned by a university, he said, but the only road there was privately owned.

"The neighbor and I had to blaze a path to get there," Mick said. "It was a lot of work, but I think it was worth it."

The Highpoints Association eventually persuaded the Rhode Island man, and others, to allow "open-access" days, when visitors could see the sites, Mick said.

"We work to preserve these sites for the public," he said. "After an open-access day, the landowner would never have known we were there. We don't let anyone trash the place."

During the summer of 1995, Mick traveled around the country, visiting high points and chronicling his trip in a book, "High on a Wing: A Motorcyclist's Travel Log to, and Trivia About, Highpoints."

During the journey, he tried to get to Mt. Sunflower, but a storm the previous day had flooded the road. A picture of the road closed sign is included in the book.

"I wanted to see it, but I had to pass it up that time," Mick said. "I'm glad I was finally able to see it this time."