

District will buy 110 'Palm Pilots'

By Rachel Hixson

The Goodland Daily News Goodland seventh graders will soon be walking around with computers in their pockets and will be able to take tests, read books, record notes and organize assignments on the handheld machines.

The school board approved buying 110 handheld computers for all seventh graders and teachers at Grant Junior High during a meeting Monday. It will cost the district more than \$10,000, but the money should come from the federal government through President Bush's

"No Child Left Behind" program, which started in January.

Jim Mull, Grant principal, said students and teachers are excited about the new program, which will help students become better organized, give staff a new teaching tool and eventually save the school money in supplies.

He said teachers will be trained on how to use Pilots," after a brand name for the device — and will teach students. The program will start with seventh grade students, he said, because they will be at Grant for two years, enough time for them to has been using the computers since 1998. She said

become proficient on the machines.

Students will be able to use the pocket computers at school or home, Mull said, and will keep them until they graduate or move to another school district. If a student loses or breaks a machine, he said, that student will likely either have to replace it or go without.

Plans are still preliminary, Mull said, but a spethe mini-computers — frequently called "Palm cial class and curriculum may be developed around the handheld organizers.

> Sue Hagerman, a science teacher at Grant, gave the board an article about a school in Kentucky that

the machines have been especially handy for Spanish-speaking students in the school. The Goodland District has a high population of Hispanic students

Hagerman said the computers saved the school money in supplies because students read information and took quizzes on the devices. In the future, she said, a majority of American students will be using handheld organizers in class. Kansas State University currently requires students majoring in education to take a class on how to

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Athletic director quits job

School head says he built good reputation By Rachel Hixson The Goodland Daily News

After working for seven years as athletic director and assistant principal at Goodland High School, Dick Liess told the school board on Monday that he plans to move on in January.

Following a 15-minute private session to talk about personnel matters, the board accepted a resignation letter from Liess, saying they are sorry to see him go. His last day will be Jan. 1, and Superintendent

Marvin Selby said for the rest of the year the district will probably shift his duties to other administrators instead of hiring a replacement to save money. The board wouldn't discuss why Liess is leaving, and he



Dick Liess

was not available for comment today.

Army to hunt for sniper

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Last 24 Hours*

59° 27°

none

weather

report

57°

at noon

• Sunset, 6:08 p.m.

• Sunrise, 6:59 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:07 p.m.

• Humidity 32 percent Sky partly sunny

Record Low 19° (1966)

High

Low

Precipitation

Today

Tomorrow

Midday Conditions

Soil Temperature 54 degrees

• Winds northwest 15 m.p.h. • Barometer 30.02 inches and steady Record High 93° (1991)

Tonight: clear, low upper 20s, winds northwest 5-10 m.p.h. Tomorrow: sunny, high mid 60s, low mid 30s, winds southwest 10-15 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Friday: mostly sunny, high lower 70s, low upper 30s. Saturday: mostly clear, high mid 60s. Sunday: mostly clear, high upper 60s, low upper 30s. Monday: mostly clear, high mid 60s low upper 30s.

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



Noon Wheat — \$4.53 bushel Posted county price — \$4.49 Loan deficiency payment — 0¢ Corn — \$2.63 bushel Posted county price — \$2.34 Loan deficiency payment - 0¢ Milo — \$2.35 bushel Soybeans — \$4.87 bushel Posted county price — \$4.83 Loan deficiency payment — 0¢ Millet — \$13.00 hundredweight Sunflowers Oil current crop — \$11.00 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.)



High-tech planes watching from sky

WASHINGTON (AP) — Army planes with high-tech surveillance equipment were preparing today to take to the skies around the nation's capital to help track a sniper who has eluded law enforcement officials for two weeks.

Planes were being flown to the region and operational plans were to be coordinated with the FBI, which is investigation the sniper case, and Federal Aviation Administration, which controls air traffic. Surveillance flights were expected to begin within days, defense officials said on condition of anonymity.

Authorities called in the military Tuesday to help solve the baffling case that has left nine people dead and terrorized the capital area, leaving people afraid to go out of their homes. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld on Tuesday evening agreed to an FBI request for the help, approving use of the Army's RC-7 Airborne Reconnaissance Low plane and at least one other ype of aircraft with surveillance capabilities beyond those of local police forces, defense officials said. The exact number of planes, exactly what high-tech capabilities they bring to bear, and when and where they would fly were not being released to withhold such details from the sniper, officials said. But the plan generally calls for military pilots to fly reconnaissance flights accompanied by federal agents, who would relay any collected information to authorities on the ground, a senior defense official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. A main objective is to improve communications among investigators. The military planes join a chase that already is using officers from more than a dozen law enforcement agencies, along with dragnets, roadblocks, bloodhounds, helicopters and other tactics. Among important features of one of the planes called up for the mission the four-engine RC-7 — are that it provides high-resolution imagery and night vision and looks like a small commercial plane, making it easier to blend in with local air traffic and avoid detection. The Pentagon help will be given in a way meant to comply with the Posse Comitatus Act — a 19th century law that restricts the military's involvement in domestic law enforcement, said Pentagon spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Jeff Davis. That means the military will not be involved in action on the ground, will relay data to law enforcement and not decide on its own what targets to watch.



JAKARTA, Indonesia - Criticized internationally for ignoring demands that it crack down on terrorism, Indonesia pledged today to press ahead with tough new antiterror laws and formed an international investigative team to hunt for the culprits in the Bali nightclub bombing.

Police in Bali said they had detained two Indonesian men for further questioning after an initial round of interrogation following Saturday's blast. The men are a security guard and the brother of a man whose identification card was found at the bomb scene.

U.S. Ambassador Ralph Boyce disclosed that in the month before the Bali attack, he and other American envoys had discussed with Indonesian officials possible attacks against U.S. targets.

Boyce said that the warnings were not specific to Indonesia.



At their meeting Tuesday, the Sherman County commissioners:

 Approved the purchase of a copier for the register of deeds office. Story page 4.

 Approved agreements with five people to pay for their emergency medical technician training class. Story to come.

A few of the staff of Reynaldo's Real Mexican Food restaurant posed in front of the serving counter, including (from left to right) Gerardo Zoto, Juan Diaz, Manuel Salas, Gorgonio Diaz Salas and Edgar Loera Homero Loera. They are all related. Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Mexico native takes chances

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News Juan Diaz came to America 13 years ago not sure what he would do but knowing he was entering the "land of opportunity."

Now he and his brothers own restaurants in Colorado Springs, Canon City, Colo., and last month opened Reynaldo's Real Mexican Food at 1636 Cherry in Goodland.

Diaz left his home in Zacatecas, Mexico when he was 14. He had some family in Colorado Springs, but for the most part, was alone in a strange country, where he didn't speak the dominant language.

"When I came to America, I didn't know where I would work," Diaz said through a translator, Cris Lovington of the Northwest Kansas Regional Prevention Center. "I knew, though, that there are opportunities, if you can take advantage of them."

Opportunities don't come without hard work. Diaz started his career in restaurants, scrubbing pots and pans

and slowly working his way up to cook.

Restaurants have high turn-over rates, and immigrants sometimes have a harder time keeping a job than other workers. Diaz said some of his jobs didn't last longer than two weeks. He worked in several restaurants in three different states, he said, including seven years in San Diego, three in Arizona and two in Colorado.

Diaz worked long hours, which didn't leave him time to take English classes like he wanted, but the hard work and varied experiences paid off when he decided to open a restaurant of his own.

"Family members used to say they thought I was crazy for wanting to start my own business," he said. "Now they work for me."

Over the years, his six younger brothers crossed the border and they now help him run his three restaurants. Diaz said his brothers had an easier time getting started in America than he did. They were assured of a job and

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Selby said after the meeting that Liess worked at First National Bank before taking the job with the district seven years ago. Before coming on fulltime, he said, Liess had helped the sports program by announcing games on the radio.

Liess built a good rapport with other schools and athletic directors in the state, Selby said, by being honest and trustworthy. Because of Liess, he said, Goodland's athletic department has a good reputation.

"It's going to be hard for us to replace him in that area to be sure," Selby said.

The superintendent said it could be awhile before Liess is replaced thanks to a tight budget due to declining enrollment and state money problems.

"We're trying to find a way to not hire someone this second semester," he said, adding that whether the district looks for a replacement for next year will depend on how much state money is coming in.

The school board plans to hold a daylong meeting on Saturday, Nov. 23, and Selby said they will talk about how to spread out the athletic director's responsibilities then. He said the board has a list of 18 items to discuss at the meeting, including class scheduling, installing air conditioning in schools and class size.

The board also hired Curt Minner, who works outside the district, as assistant junior high basketball coach.

Institutions to discuss swapping land for lease

to meet with the Northwest Kansas Technical College board this month to talk about swapping six acres of land for a 99-year lease on the college's administration building.

Ken Clouse, college president, attended the school board's meeting on Monday to invite them to the college board's monthly meeting on Saturday, Oct. 26. The college board holds its meetings on Saturday because members come from school districts across northwest Kansas.

Clouse said he and Superintendent Marvin Selby have been talking for more than a year about the swap. The plan would be for the college to give the have any definite plans for the six acres.

The Goodland School Board agreed district a vacant lot east of the high but will be glad to know it's there. school's track and north of the college's dorms in exchange for the 99-year lease.

Selby said after the meeting that it would be a good deal for everyone.

He said the school board has discussed putting up a new building where Cowboy Stadium is now, just east of the high school, and may need room for another varsity playing field. If enrollment continues to decline, Selby said, the district would move the junior high into the new building, and if it significantly increases, the district will need more classrooms.

For now, he said, the board doesn't

The college, which recently built a lot. new fitness center south of its campus, is expanding south and west, Selby said, and doesn't need the land to the north. He added that it would be convenient for the college to have a 99-year lease on its main building, which the district has owned since the tech college opened in 1964.

The college's main building was built by the district at the same time one violation and that was the state's Max Jones Fieldhouse went up, but the school board gave up control of the college soon after it opened. Ever since, the district has leased the building to the college for three years at a time.

School board members told Clouse tive balance, he said, which is illegal.

that they're anxious to get the vacant

"Oh, we're interested," member Ben Duell said. "When do we do it?"

In other business, auditor Brian Staats with Adams, Brown, Beran and Ball accounting firm in Colby told the board that the district has a good accounting staff and the annual audit went smoothly.

He said the accountants only found fault. At the end of the fiscal year, Staats said, the state sent final school payments late, but told schools to go ahead and spend the money. That meant most districts finished the year with a nega-