

**weather report**

**58°**  
at noon



**Today**

- Sunset, 6:07 p.m.
- Tomorrow**
- Sunrise, 7:00 a.m.
- Sunset, 6:07 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil Temperature 52 degrees
- Humidity 24 percent
- Sky clear and sunny
- Winds southwest 15-25 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.00 inches and steady
- Record High 96° (1926)
- Record Low 18° (1948)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High	61°
Low	28°
Precipitation	none

**Northwest Kansas Forecast**

Tonight: clear, low 35-40, winds south 10-20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: sunny, high lower 70s, low mid 30s, winds northeast 10-15 m.p.h.

**Extended Forecast**

Saturday: sunny, high 65-70 m.p.h. Sunday: mostly clear, high mid 60s, low mid 30s. Monday: mostly clear, high lower 60s, low mid 30s. Tuesday: mostly clear, high upper 60s, low mid 30s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$4.54 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.57
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Corn — \$2.65 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.34
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Milo — \$2.37 bushel
- Soybeans — \$4.92 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.84
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Millet — \$13.00 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$11.10 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.

**Descriptions 'not credible'**

ROCKVILLE, Md. — A witness description of a cream-colored van at the Washington-area sniper's latest killing and descriptions of the suspect are not credible, investigators said today.

They discounted much of what may have been learned after Monday night's shooting of an FBI analyst outside a Falls Church, Va., Home Depot store. It had been the first time since the spree began two weeks ago that witnesses caught a glimpse of an actual shooting.

Montgomery County Police Chief Charles Moose, who is heading the investigation, said today that reports describing the shooter as dark-skinned, olive-skinned, Middle Eastern or Hispanic were getting so much attention they were confusing the investigation. Investigators chastised the media for reporting descriptions not disclosed by police.



**A sign of progress at new bank**

Ray Griffin (above, operating controls) and Jeff Griffin (on the left), employees of Commercial Sign Company in Colby, put up a new sign at Peoples State Bank on Wednesday afternoon. Jeff Griffin (below) held onto one of the ropes as the sign was being lifted to the top of the pole. The bank plans to open for business by the end of the year, and is hoping by the start of November.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran and Eric Yonkey  
The Goodland Daily News

**Sebelius makes pledge to colleges**

**By John Hanna**  
*AP Political Writer*  
TOPEKA — Democratic gubernatorial candidate Kathleen Sebelius promised Wednesday not to cut higher education spending. Republican Tim Shallenburger stopped short of making the same pledge. Sebelius told higher education officials that she has "absolute commitment" to education that includes public schools and higher education. She spoke during a meeting of the state Board of Regents, which oversees the higher education system. Sebelius said she remains committed to finding extra money promised by legislators when they reorganized the

higher education system in 1999. She wasn't specific about where the state would get the money. "We don't have the luxury of saying we will postpone these initiatives for three or five or two years," she said. Speaking later to the same group,

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**School board gives band students \$5,000 for trip to Texas**

**By Rachel Hixson**  
*The Goodland Daily News*  
The Goodland School Board decided this week to give the high school marching band \$5,000 out of the district's community service account to help pay for transportation to the Alamo Bowl in December. Deandra Wirth, band director, told the board at a meeting Monday that the group has already paid \$14,000 towards the five-day trip to San Antonio, Texas, and will pay \$9,400 more at the end of the month. Band members will perform during the bowl game, she said, and compete against other bands from across the U.S. Wirth said the students have done everything from running the concessions stand during volleyball tournaments to selling buttons at the Flatlander Fall Festival to raise money for the trip. "We've done about everything we can get our hands on," she said. But, Wirth added, the band still doesn't have enough money to get to Texas. The students plan to keep raising money up until the trip, she said, but

will have a tough time gathering the \$8,800 it will take to pay for two chartered buses. Wirth said she found a company in Hays that will provide two 56-passenger buses and four drivers for the trip, but it won't be cheap. She said the band will have to pay half of the \$8,800 six weeks before the trip and the rest two weeks prior. Wirth said she checked with other bus companies in Denver and Salina, Texas, and will pay \$9,400 more at the end of the month. Band members will perform during the bowl game, she said, and compete against other bands from across the U.S. Superintendent Marvin Selby said it would cost the district more than \$3,500 to send a bus and driver to Texas. The trip will be from Dec. 26 to 30, Wirth said, and some band members are rearranging their Christmas plans to make it. She said between 75 and 80 people will be going to the bowl game, including a few members of the high school jazz band. Wirth said the band isn't asking the board to pay the entire cost of transportation, just whatever they can spare. Before voting to give the \$5,000, member Ron Schilling said the marching band has made a significant improvement this year under Wirth. "I love listening to her band," he said. In other business, the board:

- Approved paying \$93,500 in monthly bills.
- Voted to donate an old school bus to the Kansas State University Cooperative Extension Service in Colby for a new technology program. The bus, which the district was going to put out of service, will be used to provide northwest Kansas students with out-of-school educational opportunities.
- Looked over the district's new technology plan with Karla Murray, the district's technology coordinator, but didn't make any decisions.
- Heard monthly reports from the district's principals.
- Transferred \$124,000 from the general fund to special education and a total of \$248,800 from the local option budget, with \$10,400 going to parent education, 88,400 to technology, \$100,000 to transportation and \$50,000 to vocational education.

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**Stores going a little mad**

**By Eric Yonkey**  
*The Goodland Daily News*  
Goodland merchants and organizations plan to go a little mad on Monday. To get in the spirit of Halloween and the autumn harvest, Goodland businesses will host "Moonlight Madness" on Monday night, 10 days before Halloween. The all-day event, sponsored by the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce Business Promotion Committee and *The Goodland Daily News*, will begin when stores open that morning and last until 8 p.m. While in-store specials and trick-or-treat goodies will be available all day, the special events downtown will start at 5 p.m. Any business or organization that wants to have a Main Street booth from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. should reserve one through the Chamber office, (785) 899-7130. It doesn't cost anything to open a booth. The Goodland Ambassadors will serve hot chocolate and Goodland Police will pass out trick or treat bags that will contain favors for children. The Goodland junior high and high school bands and choirs will perform downtown. The band continues to raise money for their Alamo Bowl trip in December, and is planning several ways of earning money that night, all in the spirit of the holiday. The Moonlight Madness health check will go on from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Schneider's building, 1101 Main Street. The check is sponsored by

Goodland Regional Medical Center, Rural Health Ventures, the Sherman County Health Department and Sherman County Emergency Medical Services. Children and adult Halloween costume contestants should gather at the Schneider's building at 6:55 p.m. Goodland Wal-Mart representatives will judge the children's costumes at 7 p.m. and the Goodland Kiwanis Club will offer \$100 of scrip money to the winners. Judges will award one boy and girl from two age groups: baby through kindergarten and first grade through sixth grade. Youth, grades seven through 12, will be judged with the adults. B-E's Jewelry will judge and provide two watches for adult costume winners: a men's Fossil watch and a ladies' Pulsar watch, which together are worth \$240. Adult judging will begin at 7:15 p.m. Moonlight Madness this year coincides with Parent's Day at the Northwest Kansas Technical College. Following parents' visitation to the college, parents and students should have some free time in the afternoon or early evening hours to visit Goodland stores. Monday is also the arrival of the pre-Halloween full moon. In addition to most central downtown merchants staying open late, the Antique Warehouse and American Communications and Overhead Door are two businesses at the south and north end of Main that plan to stay open late.



**Can't fix your car? Here's help.**

**By Doug Stephens**  
*The Goodland Daily News*  
You've never been handy with a wrench, and with money being tight you just don't know how you're going to get your car serviced before winter. Cheer up. The Calvary Gospel Church and the Corner Garage are helping single women, divorcees, widows and others from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday by working on their cars. They'll change your oil and check your radiator fluid and tire pressure. They'll even vacuum out the interior and clean your windows. All for free. Saturday is Car Care Day, thanks to Pastor Steve Rains and the owner of the garage, Curt Goodwin. Goodwin and

his crew will service the cars, and Rains has about a dozen volunteers lined up to do the cleaning. Rains said he borrowed the idea from churches he was involved with in Missouri. He's lived in Goodland for a year-and-a-half, he said, and decided the time was right to try it out here. "We're trying to be a blessing to the community," Rains said. "There are some people who don't have the time, money or skills to do this themselves." Some women, especially those who are divorced or widowed, might not be able to service their cars, he said. While the program was designed with women

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Tremon Kizer (left), assistant junior high and high school band director, and students Alyssa Mason and Michael Smith scrambled to pick up ping-pong balls during the Sunflower Festival in August. The band ran the event to raise money for its trip to the Alamo Bowl. Photo by Rachel Hixson/The Goodland Daily News