

Athletic leagues may shift; super league a possibility

By Tom Betz

The future of the Northwest Kansas League may be tied to a meeting in Scott City today to consider forming a super league covering much of western Kansas, the Goodland School Board heard Monday.

Superintendent Marvin Selby said he and High School Principal Harvey Swager will attend the meeting to see if there is a possibil-

ity of taking three existing leagues and creating a super league with more Class 4A schools.

School officials say it's getting harder and harder to get area schools to play Goodland and Colby, the only Class 4A schools in the league. Most of the other members are in the much smaller Class 2A.

"We are not ready to give up on our Northwest Kansas League," Selby said, "but we need to keep

from having to travel 300 miles to play another team."

The meeting, called by the league that includes Pratt, will include all eight schools currently in the northwest league.

"Part of the thinking on this is a way to protect the schools in western Kansas," Selby said. "We are excited about the opportunity to have more schools of our size to play."

The problem, Selby said, stems

from the fact that it is hard to find teams willing to travel to Goodland because of the distance.

It is being held in Scott City because it is a central location for the schools being asked to participate.

Selby said he had been asked to allow the high school teachers to have a half-day off from classes to discuss the block scheduling issue, which had been raised at a previous board meeting.

He said the staff would spend Wednesday afternoon discussing block scheduling and hope to come to the board with a recommendation. Under the block schedule, students have longer classes every

other day, rather than having eight short periods per day.

Board member Kathy Russell suggested it would be good to get a recommendation from the teachers.

"Is it enough time to give them to give an adequate recommendation?" asked board member Mike Campbell.

"It is your call," Selby said. "If they cannot reach a recommendation, they can explain why and what it will take."

"I hope they really discuss it," board member Ron Schilling said.

Schilling said at the previous meeting he was in favor of getting rid of the block scheduling and returning to a standard class schedule.

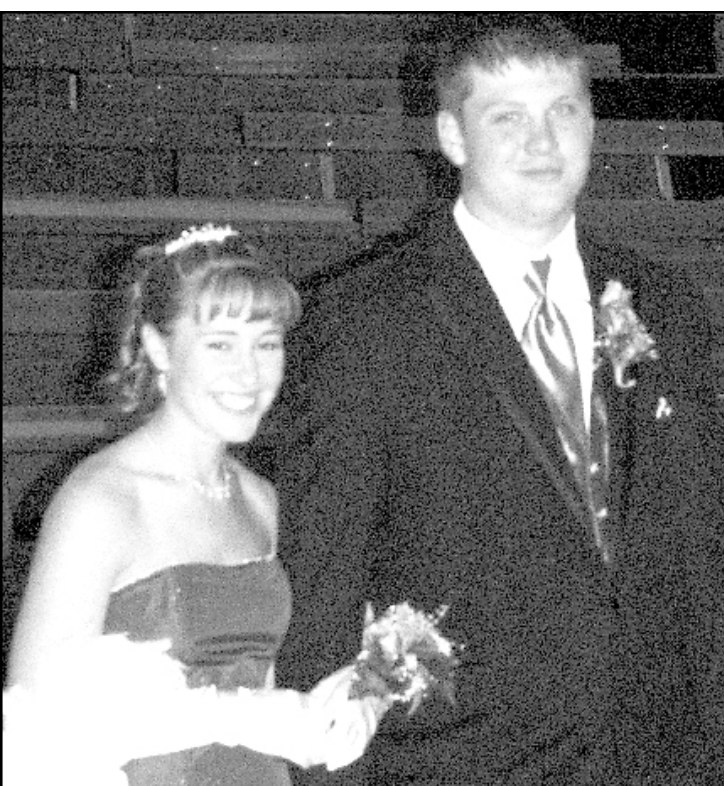
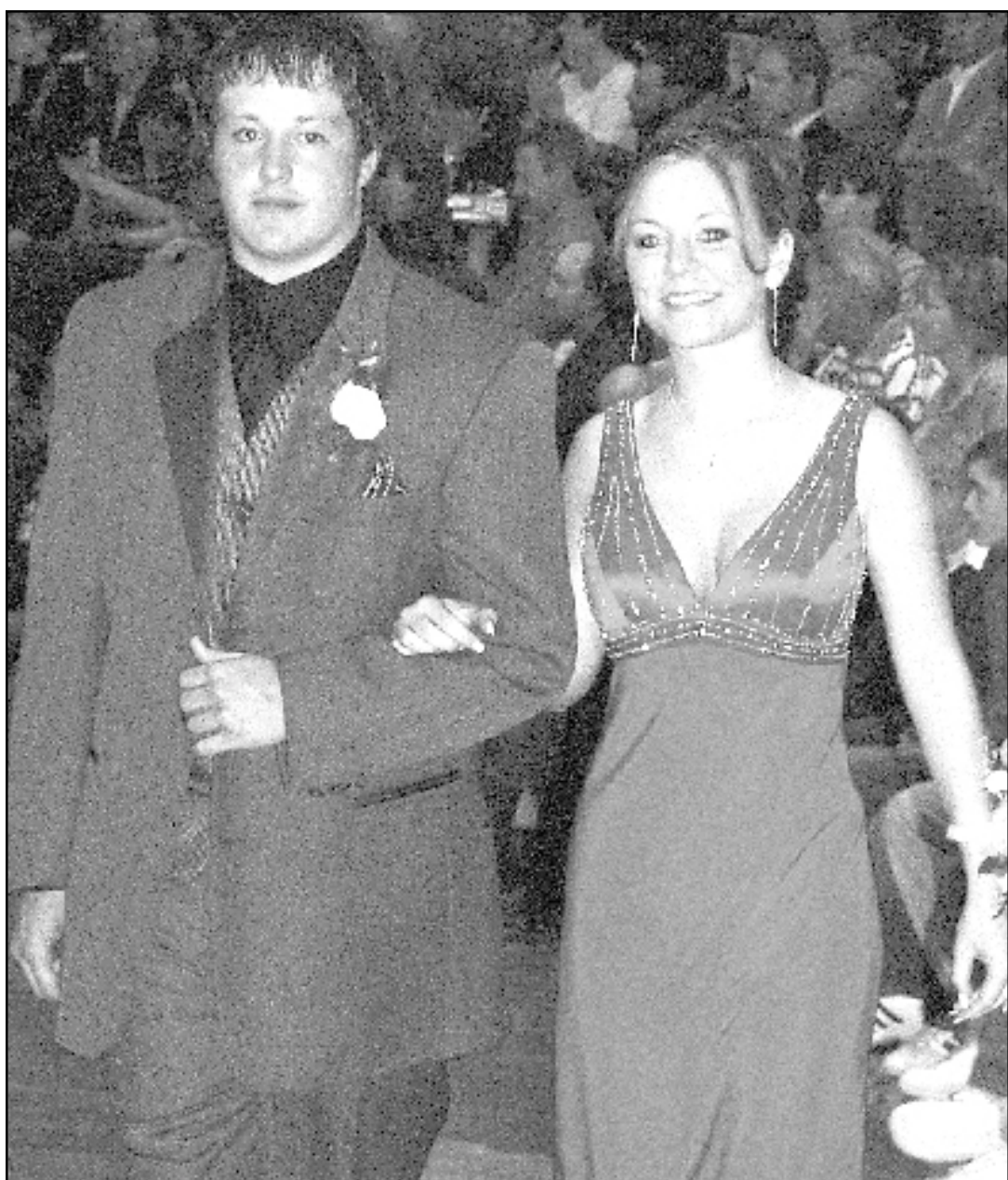
The block scheduling, which allows classes to be longer, was adopted three years ago. It was designed by the high school staff.

At the previous meeting, Swager said the teachers had wanted to wait until the end of the first semester in December to have enough time to study the scheduling.

Board members had asked Swager to ask for a recommendation now so it could be implemented with the beginning of the school year.

Selby said with the meeting on Wednesday, the teachers may be able to come up with a recommendation for the next board meeting on Tuesday, May 27.

Dressed to the nines



Dan Bagnell and Jenna Deines walked arm-in-arm (above), and Brittney Redlin and Matt Heiter (left) smiled for the camera at the Goodland High School promenade Saturday.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Star-News

matters of record

Real Estate

The following real estate transfers were reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:

Warren R. Viney, trustee of the Maxine S. Viney Living Trust, to James W. and Linda L. Ruda 1/2 interest in the NE/4 of Sec. 23, T9S, R37W.

Dale E. and Walene F. Neill quit claims to Dale E. and Elaine E. Ellison a tract in the SE/4 of Sec. 20, T8S, R39W.

Dale E. and Walene F. Neill to quit claims to Dale E. and Elaine E.

Ellison a tract in the SE/4 of Sec. 20, T8S, R39W.

corrections

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School may purchase skid loader

The Goodland School District may purchase a skid loader it has been leased for the last few years at a cost of \$3,500.

Superintendent Marvin Selby asked the school board at a meeting Monday if they wanted to consider purchasing the loader for \$14,000 rather than leasing it.

Campbell asked how much the loader is used each year, and Selby said it is usually at least 100 hours. He said the loader is used to unload skids and has been used in some of the summer work, like the replacement of the sidewalks at the high school.

"It has been a valuable asset to the district," Selby said.

"If we buy it, will they fix the curbs at the high school," Russell asked.

Schilling said it might be better to lease this piece of equipment be-

cause of high maintenance costs.

Selby said the company they are leasing from is White Star in Great Bend, and that under the lease, they get a new one each year.

Campbell asked what the warranty would be if they purchased the loader versus continuing to lease it.

Selby said he would investigate the warranty and they could review the alternatives at the next meeting.

Schilling reported that Northwest Kansas Technical College enrollment is down to 329, mostly due to the downturn in the communications and business fields. He said the diesel and auto body programs continue to have waiting lists, and the college plans to expand these next year.

In other business, the board:

- Accepted the resignation of Ruth Ontiveroz, library technician at West School, effective May 31.

Nearly 200 to graduate from college

Nearly 200 students will graduate from the Northwest Kansas Technical College next Friday.

The spring graduation at the college will be at 1:30 p.m. at the Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Graduating will be 164 students who will receive associate of applied science degrees, diplomas and/or credentials.

Kansas Board of Regents chairman Jack Wempe of Lyons will give the commencement address.

He earned his Master of Science degree from the University of Kansas and is a real estate owner-manager.

Wempe served in the Kansas House of Representatives for eight years, serving on the education and

economic development committees.

Students from Goodland graduating include Jason Gilbert and Stephanie Yarbrough, medical assistant.

Brandon Sparks, carpentry; Scott Laue and Esequiel Ruiz, welding.

Lee Salmans, auto technology; David Briney, communications; and Shandon Wolak, electronics and computer technology.



Wempe

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The Drought is Out

