

weather report

49°

noon Monday



Today

• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Wednesday

• Sunrise, 6:59 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 30 degrees
- Humidity 38 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds west at 3 mph
- Barometer 30.18 inches and falling
- Record High today 74° (1988)
- Record Low today -9° (1963)

Last 24 Hours*

High Monday 53°

Low Monday 26°

Precipitation —

This month .09

Year to date 16.05

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy, with a high of 52 and low of 20. North wind between 10 to 20 mph. Towards evening, a 20 percent chance of snow.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: Partly cloudy, high of 37 and low of 17. Breezy with a north wind around 15 and 25 mph. Thursday: Partly cloudy, high near 33 and low around 15. Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 37 and low around 15.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$3.20 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.18

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Corn — \$1.78 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.72

Loan deficiency pmt. — 22¢

Milo — \$1.42 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.07 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.12

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Millet — \$5.75 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$7 cwt.

NuSun crop — \$8

Confection — Call

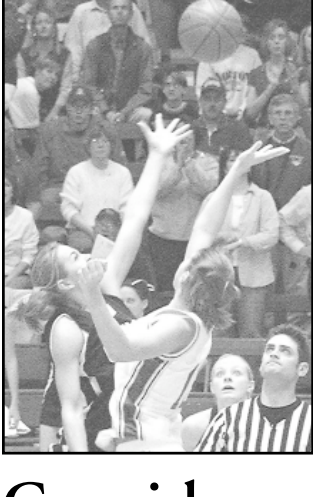
Pinto beans — \$17 (new crop)

(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today



More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



Cowgirls finish second

Senior Justeen Koehler went up for the game's opening tipoff against Norton's Chelsea Cox in the girls championship game Saturday. See stories, photos on Pages 9a, 10a.

Money needed to restore scenes

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Goodland banks have taken on the challenge of restoring the Christmas display painted by three local artists usually put up in the block around the hospital.

Josh Dechant, Vice President of Bankwest, said they have taken the lead in fund raising with a pledge of \$5,000. So far, he said, First National Bank has agreed to match that, so they have \$10,000 for the project. Arrangements are being made for the Sherman County Community Foundation to handle the money.

Anyone who wants to donate should call Dechant at Bankwest at (785) 899-2342.

"We hope to have it up for the holidays next year," he said.

Bankwest keeps the display in a storage building, Dechant said, and he wondered why no one had called to ask about putting up the Christmas display. Dechant said he called Ron Lucas, president of the Goodland Rotary Club. The club was in charge of putting up and taking down the display with the help of students from the Northwest Kansas Technical College. Lucas said there was only about half the display boards were in good enough shape to put up, so they decided not to put it up.

The deterioration was caused by weather, wind, assembling, dismantling, transporting and storage over the years, said Lucas. For Christmas 2004, only about two-thirds of the display was in good enough shape to be put up.

Dechant said he asked engineer Darin Neufeld to find out how much it would take to restore the display. Neufeld figured it would take \$20,000 for the supplies alone.

They plan to replace the backs and use heavier and sturdier stands to hold up the pieces, said Dechant. The display

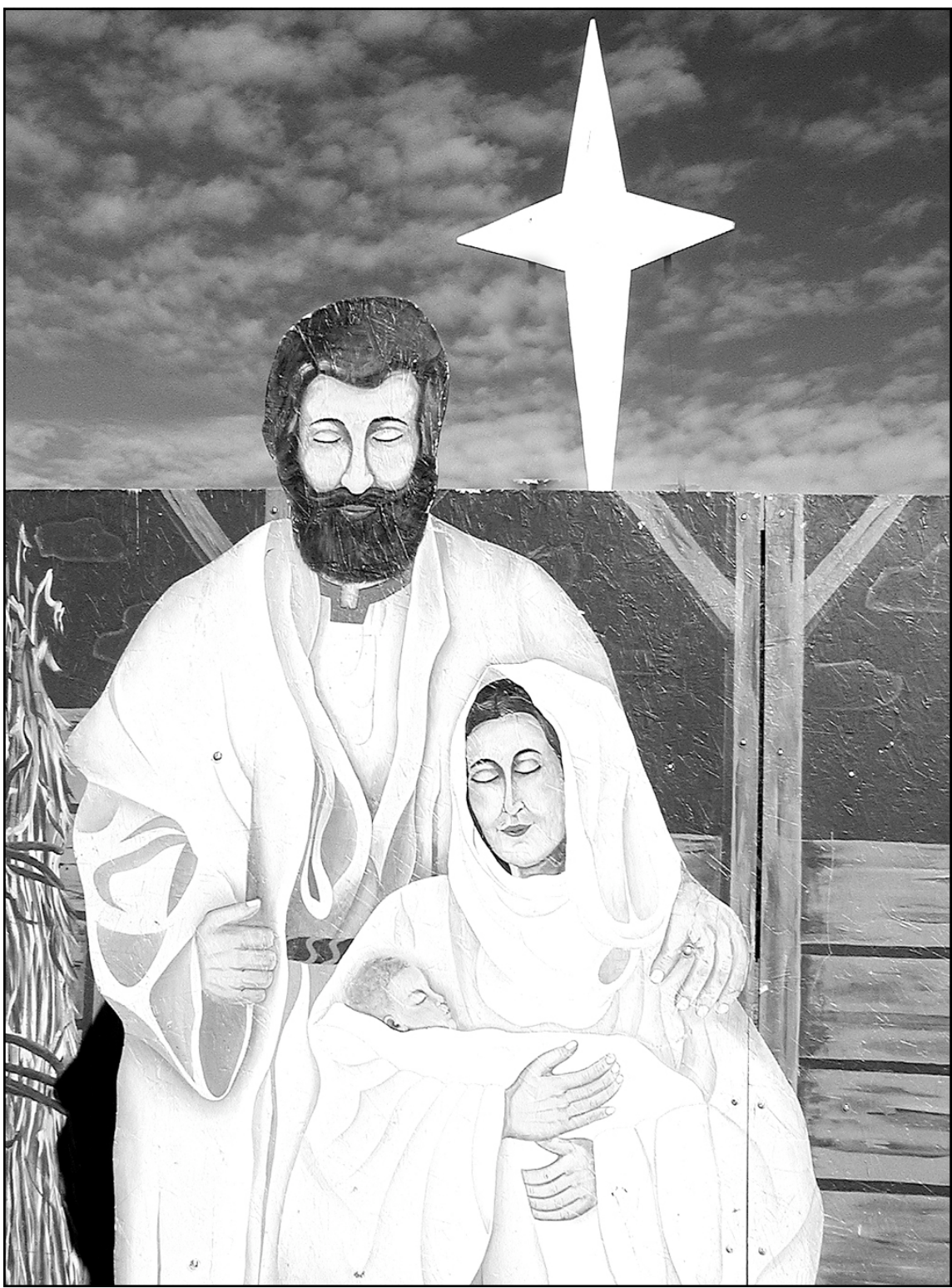
has 100 pieces, so it would take at least 100 pieces of plywood. The steel for the stands will be the most expensive. The rebuilding from the hurricanes has driven up the price, said Dechant.

The bigger pieces fold up and they need heavier hinges, he said. After the art has been worked on, the pieces will be sealed to protect the paintings.

The artwork was done in 1988 by Maxine Rauscher, Jeanette Foust and Connie Hatcher. Hatcher has since moved to Arizona.

Foust will be in charge of touching up the paint, he said. She said they have the original drawings and the formulas for the colors. She said

See STORY, Page 8a



The Christmas Story scenes (shown from November 2002) that have been displayed around the Goodland Regional Medical Center for 16 years need repair, and are not on display this year. Bankwest is leading a drive to raise the estimated \$20,000 it will take to repair and refurbish the larger than-life scenes to be ready for Christmas next year.

File photo/ The Goodland Star-News

Last week to collect winning tickets

This is the last week to collect your tickets for the big \$2,000 drawing in the Christmas on Us contest, but be sure to check today's paper, because there are still two \$50 "instant" prizes to be won.

The drawing will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday on 11th Street west of Main. Ticket holders must be present to win the grand prize of \$1,500 and the \$500 first prize, and show their winning tickets.

Numbers will be drawn until all prizes are given away. If the weather is bad, the drawing will be moved to the Central School gymnasium at 13th and Main.

Goodland merchants will be giving out tickets in the contest all



Rutz



Brouellette



Castillo

week. Shoppers get one ticket for each \$10 they spend. Tickets and collection boxes will be picked up about 5 p.m. Friday, though, so do your shopping early.

Rafaela Castillo of Burlington was the eighth \$50 winner, claiming her prize in last week's drawing. Her

winning ticket came from El Dorado Western Wear, and she plans to spend it there.

Reta Brouellette, 313 Willow, got her winning ticket at Mann's Jewelry, and planned to take her \$50 back to Mann's. Beth Rutz, 819 Harrison, got her ticket at Klip N' Kurl. She will spend the \$50 at one of the participating stores, but she was not sure which one.

There are eight winning numbers in today's Goodland Star-News, and

the first two to bring their ticket to The Star-News office will collect a \$50 instant prize. Winners have until 5 p.m. Friday to stop by the office.

This is Goodland merchants' eighth annual "Christmas on Us" promotion, which spreading a total of \$2,500 around to 12 lucky shoppers this month. There is a limit of 250 tickets per transaction. If you ask at The Star-News office, we'll give you one free ticket each week, so no purchase is necessary to win.

Tickets drawn for the instant prizes are not included in the grand prize drawing. All of the \$50 instant winners will be given out during the month.

Participating businesses are

Garcia's Home Furnishings and Appliance, Radio Shack, NAPA Auto Parts, Elliott's, Prairie Rose Floral, Miller's Homecenter, American Communications, Mann's Jewelry, Rasure Lumber, Medical Arts Pharmacy, Goodland Greenline, Jacque's Hallmark, Frontier Equity Exchange, Shores Bumper to Bumper, El Dorado, the Total Look, Sherman County Farm Bureau, High Plains Office Supply, Klip n' Kurl, McClung's Appliance and The Star-News.

The contest has a few rules.

- You must be 18 to participate.
- Employees of participating

See CONTEST, Page 8a

Two nominated for council

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Two members were chosen for the Sherman County Economic Development Council on Wednesday, and should be appointed by the county commissioners in January.

One new member was chosen, Mike Cochran, owner of Cochran Farm Supply. Chuck Wilkens, owner of Wilkens Truck and Trailer,

was named to serve a full term. Wilkens has been on the council since June, when he was appointed to fill a vacancy.

The two were chosen from a field of seven candidates including Doug Irvin and Doug Sederstrom, area farmers; Clyde Lambert, retired manager of Penney's; Colleen Smith, bookkeeper; and David Walker, who runs a home-based business.

Council Chairman John Garcia gave Cochran, Wilkens and Walker, who were at the meeting held at noon at Gambino's, a chance to tell the seven council members why they wanted to serve.

Walker, a city council candidate last year, went first, saying he gets involved wherever he likes. He said

See COUNCIL, Page 8a

Senior citizen dinner Wednesday

Senior citizens will be treated to dinner and entertainment at 11 a.m. Wednesday by the high school and the Goodland School Board. There is still time to make your reservation.

The high school expects to entertain and feed around 350 people in the gym. Last year, almost 900 people were fed including all the take outs, said Sarah Short, sponsor of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.

The traditional meal will include turkey, potatoes and gravy, home-

made rolls, apple salad and pumpkin desert. Short said this year, students will take large tubs of food to Wheatridge Acres Retirement Community and the Sherman County Good Samaritan Center.

The high school jazz band and the choruses will perform starting at 11 a.m. and soloists will start around noon. This year, band and vocal students also will play for audiences at Wheatridge and Good Samaritan, Short said.

They are planning on serving at least 800 people this year, she said,

including the deliveries.

Junior Michael Smith is in charge of the entertainment and Senior Aaron Duell is the overall chairperson. Duell made a computer presentation to be shown at the dinner, Short said.

Members of the community leaders, National Honor Society and American Field Service will serve as the hosts and hostesses and provide valet parking. Rides will be available to anyone who calls.

For reservations, call (785) 890-5656 or 890-2397, said Short.

Genesis helpers to pack food boxes on Thursday

The Genesis food drive last week went well, said organizer Pat Jordan, but if anyone still wants to donate food they can drop it off at the First United Methodist Church, 12th and Sherman.

Workers are planning to pack about 160 Christmas boxes this year, she said, starting at 5 p.m. Thursday at the Methodist Fellowship Hall. Anyone who wants to volunteer is welcome to help pack the boxes.

The Christmas boxes will be distributed on Saturday.

Cub Scouts and 4-H members picked up food placed on porches in the citywide food drive on Saturday, Dec. 3. Northwest Kansas Technical College students had two food drives for Genesis. The Student Senate was responsible for the project. About 500 cans were collected, said Paul Chaffin, director of student services. The

college has collected food for

over 15 years for Genesis.

The Sherman Theatre also collected food for tickets for a movie.

"I had more food this year than ever before," said Dave Branda, owner of the theater.

Volunteers sorted the food

Sunday.

Genesis plans to distribute almost double the amount of boxes this year as in previous years, said Jordan. She thought it was a reflection of the local economy.

People will pick up the boxes at the Fellowship Hall unless they have notified workers that they cannot get out, said Jordan.

The board of Genesis includes Jeff Mason, President, Jim and Kathryn Wedermyer, Pat and Clark Jordan, Caroline Pettibone, Father Norbert Diabal, Joy Hayden and Juan Miquel Hernandez.