

weather
report

25°
noon Monday

Today
• Sunset, 4:26 p.m.
Wednesday
• Sunrise, 7:03 a.m.
• Sunset, 4:27 p.m.

Midday Conditions
• Soil temperature 29 degrees
• Humidity 78 percent
• Sky partly cloudy
• Winds southwest at 12 mph
• Barometer 30.28 inches
and falling
• Record High today 73° (1981)
• Record Low today -13° (1935)

Last 24 Hours*
High Monday 17°
Low Monday 1°
Precipitation .01
This month .12
Year to date 16.08

The Topside Forecast
Today: Mostly sunny, high near
43, low near 21. West winds be-
tween 5 to 10 mph.

Extended Forecast
Wednesday: Mostly sunny,
high around 51, northwest winds
5 to 10 mph becoming south. The
low around 24 and mostly clear.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, high
around 58, low around 25. Friday:
Partly cloudy, high near 58, low
near 26. Saturday: Mostly sunny,
high near 54, low around 26.

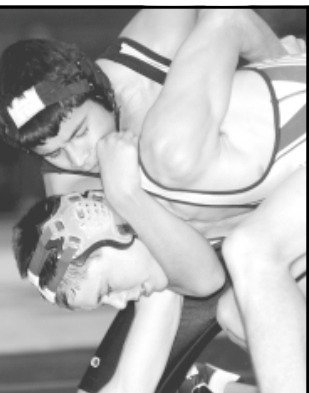
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon
Wheat — \$3.27 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.27
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$1.78 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.79
Loan deficiency pmt. — 15¢
Milo — \$1.42 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.14 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.31
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$5.75 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.75 cwt.
NuSun crop — \$7.75
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



Cowobys
take second

Michael Ledesma won a
10-1 major decision over
Logan Stoss of Buhler High
on Friday in the opening
round of the Holiday Classic
at Max Jones Fieldhouse.
The Cowboys finished sec-
ond. See photos, story on
Page 12.

Woman wins \$1,500 prize

It wasn't until the fourth number called there was a shout from some-
one in the crowd Saturday after-
noon, and that someone was the
grand prize winner in the eighth an-
nual Christmas on Us merchants'
giveaway.

Shouting her number was Maggie
Hernandez, 223 Cherry, who came
to the front of the stage at Central
Elementary about 1:45 pm. to col-
lect her grand prize of \$1,500.

Hernandez said she couldn't be-
lieve she had won the big prize, and
quickly called her husband Manuel
to tell him. She is the migrant coor-
dinator for the Goodland School
District and her husband works for
the city Parks Department.

"I've never won anything like
this," she said. "I am so nervous."

Hernandez didn't hesitate to say
she would be buying new mattresses
with the money, and expects to shop
at Elliott's later this week.

The lucky winner got her ticket at
Rasure Lumber.

Before the grand prize drawing, it
took seven tries to give away the
\$500 first prize. On the seventh
number, Gudrun McClure, 525
Main, came forward with the win-
ning ticket. She got it at Garcia's
Home Furnishings and Appliance.

"I never won anything," McClure
said. "This is wonderful. Last year I
left before my number was drawn."

McClure said she would probably
spend the scrip at Garcia's, where
she got the winning ticket.

While the crowd of over 300 gath-
ered, Page Seeger, 12; Ciara Kamla,
11; Jake Moscias, 6; and Tyson
Smith, 9, stirred the storage con-
tainer full of tickets.

At 1 p.m., emcee Tom Betz, edi-
tor of *The Goodland Star-News*,
stopped the holiday music and got
the program started.

Betz thanked everyone for par-
ticipating in the annual contest, and
said that the over 30,000 tickets
given away meant that over
\$300,000 was spent in the commu-
nity with the participating mer-
chants.

Mason Fritz, 7, reached in and
drew out numbers for the \$500 first
prize. Betz gave the people three
minutes to check and see if they had
the winning number before having



Maggie Hernandez (above) won the \$1,500 grand prize in the eighth annual Christmas on Us mer-
chants' contest Saturday. Gudrun McClure (below) won the \$500 first prize in the drawing held at the
Central Elementary gym Saturday afternoon.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Fritz draw another ticket.

McClure came forward on the
seventh number drawn to collect her
scrip.

The six tickets drawn for the first
prize were 750111 from Elliott's;
558248 from El Dorado; 552766
from Shores Bumper to Bumper;
563521 from Rasure Lumber;
056880 from Klip 'n' Kurl; and
595376 from Sherman County
Farm Bureau.

Brock Butts, 7, drew out the num-
bers for the grand prize, and it took
four tries before Hernandez shouted
she had the ticket.

The three tickets drawn for the
grand prize were 239996 from the
Star-News; 754418 from Frontier
Equity; and 564008 from Rasure's.

Participating businesses were
Garcia's Home Furnishings and
Appliance, Radio Shack, NAPA
Auto Parts, Elliott's, Prairie Rose
Floral, Miller's Homecenter, Ameri-

See WINNERS, Page 7



Property tax rebate application deadline near

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Time is running out for those who
made home or business improve-
ment projects this year that could
qualify for a property tax rebate. It's
time already to apply for projects
being planned for next year.

The rebate program was ap-
proved this fall by Sherman County,
the Goodland School District and
the city. Business and home owners
who made improvements this year
have until Friday, Dec. 30, to apply
for a tax rebate based on the in-
creased value of the improvements,

said Duane Timm, head of the Sher-
man County Economic Develop-
ment Council Incentives Commit-
tee and an officer at First National
Bank.

"The tax rebate program is open
to all real estate in the county," he
said, "and it is a refund of the prop-

erty taxes paid on the assessed value
added to the property because of the
improvements.

"In 1994, the state Legislature
passed the Neighborhood Revital-
ization Plan to allow tax rebates for

See REBATE, Page 7

Santa visits city, hands out candy



Santa passed out candy and met kids as they left the free matinee at the Sherman Theatre on
Saturday. Santa had a busy day, as he was at the Veterans of Foreign Wars when candy was
passed out, at the Christmas on Us Drawing sponsored by the *The Goodland Star-News* and at
several businesses. Free movies were part of the Christmas activities planned by merchants.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Churches schedule Christmas Eve, candlelight services

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Churches are getting ready for
one of the two big events in their
year, the annual celebration of
Christ's birth, or Christmas.

The First United Methodist
Church, 13th and Sherman, plans a
Christmas Eve service Saturday,
including lessons, carols, commu-
nion and candle lighting at 5:30 p.m.
The Sunday Christmas Day service
will be at 10:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catho-
lic Church, 307 W. 13th, plans Christ-
mas Eve services at 5 p.m. Saturday
and at midnight. The Sunday Christ-
mas Day service will at 10:30 a.m.
with a Spanish service at 5 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church,
13th and Sherman, will have Christ-
mas Eve services at 7 p.m., includ-
ing lessons and carols with Holy
Communion. Christmas Day ser-
vice with be at 9 a.m. with Holy
Communion.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 13th
and Center, will have a 5 p.m.
children's service and an 11 p.m.
Christmas Eve service. Christmas
Day, services will be at 10 a.m.

The First Christian Church (Dis-
ciples of Christ), 8th and Arcade,
will have a Christmas Eve service at
5:30 p.m. and Christmas Day ser-
vice at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, without
Sunday school.

The First Baptist Church, 5th and
Center, will have a Christmas Eve
service at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday ser-
vices at 10:30 a.m. with no Sunday
school.

The Sonrise Christian Church,
9th and Caldwell, plans a Christmas
Eve Candlelight Communion Ser-
vice at 6 p.m. Christmas Day ser-
vices will be at the regular time, 9:30
a.m., with no youth classes.

The Church of the Nazarene, 3rd
and Caldwell, will have its Christ-
mas Day service at 10:50 a.m.

The Calvary Gospel Church, 4th
and College, will have its Christmas
Day service at 10 a.m.

Pleasant Home Church, 3190
County Road 70, near Brewster, will
have Christmas Day services at 10
a.m. with a breakfast at 9 a.m.

The church page of *The Goodland
Star-News* has a list of the regular
services of area churches in Friday's
edition.

Sunny holiday forecast

The .03 of an inch of moisture
and one inch of snow that fell
during flurries Saturday and
Sunday may be the closest
Goodland will get to a white
Christmas this year.

The forecast from the Na-
tional Weather Service office
here for the week is partly
cloudy and warmer through
Christmas Day on Sunday, with
temperatures reaching the mid
50s by the weekend.

Jerry Killingsworth, a fore-
caster at the Goodland weather
office, said the historical aver-
age for having snow on the
ground on Christmas is just 22
percent. He said in the 92 years
of records, Goodland has had
snow on Christmas Day nine
times, and there was an inch or
more of snow on the ground 20
times.

He said last year was techni-
cally a white Christmas be-
cause it snowed an inch the day
before.

The forecast for this year is
for above-normal temperatures
with below-normal precipita-
tion.

Record snow on the ground
on Christmas morning was in
1941. Killingsworth said, when
a 13-inch snow storm hit the
area. That storm brought about
4 inches on Christmas Day, and
the two-week period from Dec.
22, 1941, to Jan. 7, 1942, was
cold and snowy, with the over-
night temperatures falling be-
low zero.

In 1982, there was 10 inches
of snow on the ground Christ-
mas morning. Christmas 1997
had 5 inches on the ground and
there was 2 inches on the
ground in 1998. The 1 inch of
snow last year tied with similar
amounts received in 1948,
1952, 1962, 1963 and 1984.

The .03 received Saturday
brings the moisture total for
December to .12 of an inch, and
the year to date moisture total to
16.08 inches. The average for
this date in December is .27 of
an inch, and the normal for the
year is 19.63.

Forecast for the weekend is
for partly cloudy skies with
highs in the mid 50s and lows
in the mid 20s.