

weather
report

60°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:57 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 36 degrees

• Humidity 14 percent

• Sky clear and sunny

• Winds west 8 m.p.h.

• Barometer 29.95 inches
and falling

• Record High 71° (1975)

• Record Low -14° (1972)

Last 24 Hours*

High 54°

Low 23°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: clear, low mid 20s, winds south 5-10 m.p.h. Tomorrow: sunny with 30 percent chance of snow during the night, high upper 40s, low lower 20s, winds north 10-15 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: cloudy with 30 percent chance of snow, high near 40, low mid 20s. Friday: partly cloudy and breezy, high lower 50s. Saturday: mostly clear, high lower 50s, low mid 20s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.67 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.78

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$2.43 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.19

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Milo — \$2.20 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.14 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.03

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Millet — \$14.00 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$11.95 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Confection current — \$17/\$7 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$16

(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.

Cardinal talks
with Vatican

BOSTON — Embattled Cardinal Bernard Law met with Vatican officials again today, a day after the Boston Archdiocese released more personnel records on sexually abusive priests and 58 clerics called for Law to resign.

Law was meeting privately with the top Vatican officials who would handle the damage caused by the sex abuse scandal — the a bankruptcy filing by the archdiocese or a resignation.

Elsewhere today, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester, N.H., averted unprecedented criminal charges, agreeing that it probably would have been convicted of failing to protect children from sexually abusive priests, the attorney general said today.

State Attorney General Philip McLaughlin said the agreement includes provisions to protect children from abuse in the future.



Samantha Raymer added a sack of food to the stage full collected Saturday for the Genesis organization as part of their 17th annual holiday food drive. Young volunteers spread out over the city early Saturday morning picking up sacks of food and Christmas gifts from

porches and bringing them back to the Methodist Fellowship Hall so they can be sorted and boxed for Sherman County families. Volunteers will make up and distribute the boxes before Christmas.

Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News

Land swap crawls on

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Plans to swap land between the Goodland School District and the technical college are moving slowly, Superintendent Marvin Selby explained at meeting Monday night.

He told the board members that he and College President Ken Clouse have been working with the surveyor to get the legal description of the property figured out and make sure it is properly recorded.

“We have been working closely together and believe we have found most of the legal items we need to have cleared up,” Selby said. “We have talked to Ron Pickman, city manager, about an easement listed for allowing 11th Street to go through the property, and have asked if the city has planned to open this street.

“Pickman said the city does not have

any plans, and said there is a process to go through to eliminate this easement. He is going to send us the paperwork and we will then take it to the city commission for their approval.”

The property is east and north of the school district running track. The district is interested in the site as a possible future location for a new stadium and practice fields. There are no plans at this time to build anything, but Selby said, they are hoping to get the property description cleaned up so a future board doesn’t have to worry about it.

The land swap is being considered because the technical college wants a 99 years lease on its administration building, which the school district built in the 60s at the same time as the Max Jones Fieldhouse when the vocational school was getting started.

The college has been leasing the building on a 3-year lease, but would

like to swap property they have for the 99-year lease.

There is also an easement on parts of Eustis which they will ask the city to remove. Part of the land would be the school district’s and part would be the college’s.

On the north end of the property there is a section of 10th Street which shows that the college owns the land to the middle of the street. The city officials feel the city should have been given the property at the time the street was designated, but there are no records of this having been done. The college would give the land to the city.

Selby said there is an easement on the property for one of the main gas lines into the city, but that it is deep enough not to be a problem.

He expects the details to be worked out in the next couple months and then the lawyers can do the transfer.

School chief expects to dip into reserves

Superintendent Marvin Selby told the Goodland School Board on Monday that he expects more state budgets cuts in January, but believes the district has enough reserves to get by.

“This money has been put aside for emergencies,” Selby said. “It is for use if you have a roof or something to replace or repair. Looks like we will have to survive on this money this year.”

Selby said everyone is being asked to not spend anything that can be delayed to keep the budget sound.

“We cannot do this for many years,” he added.

With the new leadership in the Legislature and the governor’s office, Selby said he has no idea what to expect.

“I did read where the new House education leader has said ‘Schools can’t avoid a hit,’” Selby said

Selby reported that High School Principal Harvey Swager is undergoing treatments for leukemia, and that he is hoping to be able to handle his principal duties. If he is unable to work, Selby will spend part of his day helping Steve Raymer with the duties.

Raymer, principal of North Elementary and a coach, has been named to take over as acting high school athletic director and help Swager next semester.

The next school board meeting will be Monday, Jan. 13, with no second meeting this month because of the holidays.

Road panel wants to keep sales tax money safe

By John Milburn

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — Facing a mounting budget shortfall, a task force recommended Monday the state make changes in how it pays for its \$13.6 billion transportation program before it cuts projects.

Members of the Transportation 2000 task force which drew up the program suggested to Gov. Bill Graves that all sales tax revenue from new and

used vehicles should go to the 10-year program equal.

“It is evident from the recent hearings that the citizens of the state of Kansas continue to overwhelmingly support completion of the entire 1999 Comprehensive Transportation Program and strenuously oppose any reduction in funding which would prevent the completion,” the task force stated.

Ben Bauman, a spokesman for Graves, said the governor would be reviewing the report over the final weeks of his administration. The governor has suggested “borrowing” sales tax money from transportation to help fill the state’s budget gap.

“It’s certainly a good document to have,” Bauman said. “He would hope that the next governor and legislators would use it as much as possible in setting state government down the road.”

The findings come less than two weeks after Graves recommended a \$94.6 million loan payment owed to the transportation program not be paid in fiscal 2003. The money was diverted by legislators to shore up the current budget, an effort paired with increases in motor fuels taxes and vehicle registration fees.

See ROAD, Page 4

Six shoppers pick Christmas elves

Employees in 19 Goodland stores were wearing red or green ribbons Saturday and Sunday, waiting for people to ask them if they were the Christmas Elf.

When someone found one of the special undercover elves, they won \$100 in scrip. Prizes were handed out today at the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce office.

Shoppers Saturday and Sunday found all six of the elves, and the winners were Patty Melton, Leslie Farley, Angela Cullens, Cristi Walls, Debbie Overmiller and Marita Birkholtz.

The chamber Business Promotion Committee sponsored the contest. Ron Harding, Chamber executive director, said the contest had been popular in past year, so the Chamber brought it back this year.

Other promotions the Chamber has done have worked well, he said, but businesses and customers still said they liked the elf contest.

“It was very successful,” he said. “People enjoyed it and asked if we would do it again....”

Harding said three elves were picked each day of the weekend, for a total of six. \$600 in scrip was given away to the winners.

Customers and business owners like the promotion because it’s simple, Harding said, and the prize money will be spent in Goodland.



D. Overmiller



Leslie Farley



Angela Cullens



Cristi Walls



M. Birkholtz



Christmas shopping is at full speed in downtown Goodland stores, and this weekend was the Chamber’s Christmas Elf promotion. Ardy Showalter (right) was busy wrapping packages at Uniques by Bonnie and Mike Elliott (above) at Elliott’s was one of the undercover elves who helped give away \$600 in scrip.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Daily News

