



**MEMORIAL DAY** started with gray skies and opened with (top) the Honor Guard including Otto Lillich, Norm Dorsch, Glenn Glasco, Neil Smith and Robert Brubaker. Left: Lou Mazon and Marvin Dowdy along with Postmaster Sonja Weeden unveiled the United States Postal System's purple heart stamp. Right: Marvin Dowdy and wife Wanda, Mary Shahan, Commander Charles Coleman and Pastor Scott Baker lead the Memorial Day Service.

*Times staff photo by Casey McCormick*

## Crowd turns out to honor those lost for freedom

**By Casey McCormick**

The skies were gray and somber which seemed appropriate for the moment. Many came to the Bird City Cemetery on Monday, Memorial Day, to honor and reflect upon those who fought to preserve freedom and liberties.

Commander Charles Coleman of the Bird City American Legion led the ceremony which began with a flag raising to the sound of the National Anthem, followed by the

Pledge of Allegiance.

Pastor Scott Baker, Wesleyan Community Church, then gave the opening prayer. He was followed by Bird City Post Master Sonja Weeden who recognized three local residents who have received the purple heart medal which is given by the United States to military personnel who have been wounded or killed in action. The United States Postal Service is issuing a stamp that fea-

tures the purple heart and Mrs. Weeden presented a framed replica of the stamp.

She said, "This new stamp honors the sacrifices of the brave men and women who were wounded or killed while serving in the U.S. military." The Post Master also gave an interesting history of how veterans have been decorated with medals dating back to the time of George Washington.

Two of the purple heart honorees,

Lou Mazon and Marvin Dowdy, helped the post master in unveiling the stamp picture. The third purple heart recipient, Ned Johnson was not at the service.

"I have never met a person (who has served in the military) who has said they regretted the experience," Pastor Baker said.

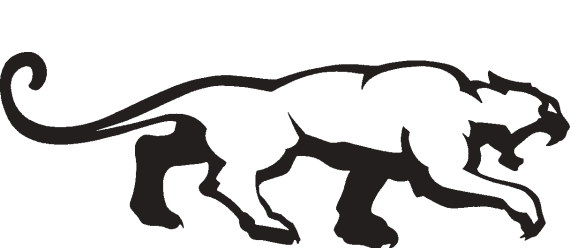
He also read a poem called "Young Eagle" by Bobby J. Miller (United State Navy) which told of the nations battles and wars from

the American Revolution through the recent defeat of Saddam Hussein's forces in Iraq. The poem ends with the line, "Let us as Americans know today and never forget tomorrow that freedom isn't free!!!"

The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary recognized area members who have died in the last year. They are William M. Burr, Lee Beeson, Donald Kimmel, Marvin Osborn, Robert W. Sage,

Lloyd Walston, Ruth Elliot, Carol Black and Ruby Rambat. This was followed by a moment of silent prayer for Prisoners of War and service personnel who are Missing in Action.

One of the most poignant moments was when Marvin Dowdy and family placed a wreath at the memorial for the Unknown Soldier. After that the honor guard gave a 21-gun salute as Rose Hengen played taps.



Moore



Poore



Zumbahlen

## Three Cougar tracksters head for state competition in Wichita

**By Casey McCormick**

The Cheylin girls track team competed in the 1A Regional Track and Field Meet at Fort Hays State University on May 23. In order to advance to the State competition the girls needed to place fourth or above. Three of the Cougar girls did and will advance to State.

Amanda Poore, Jill Zumbahlen and Sara Moore are the qualifiers. Amanda took first in the high jump at 5'4". Jill placed second in the same event with a jump of 5'2". Sara had her best throw of the year in discus at 108'3" which landed her in fourth.

"I am proud of the girls that gave 100 percent at Regionals to try to better their previous accomplishments," Coach Mary Moore. "As a whole the team performed well and some enjoyed personal best records to finish the season."

Stephanie Snyder competed in the triple jump and accomplish 32'4" and Joy Zumbahlen ran the 3200-meter in 13:17.27. Also the 4x100 relay team had a personal best with a time of 56.52.

For the three ladies who will advance, the 2003 State Track Meet will be at Cessna Stadium at Wichita State University on Friday and Saturday.

Individual results:

Cristi Antholz: 100-meter, 13.86, 200-meter, 29.03

Tiffany Antholz: 4x100 relay, 56.52

Kelly Garner: long jump 14'7", 4x100 relay 56.52

Sara Moore: shot put, 29', discus, 108'3" (fourth place), javelin 86'

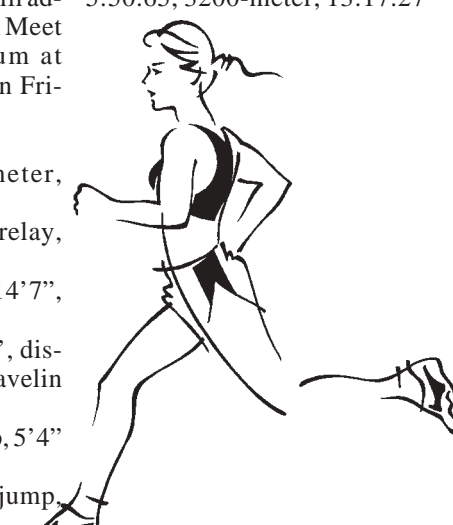
Amanda Poore: high jump, 5'4" (first place)

Stephanie Snyder: triple jump, 32'4", 4x100 relay, 56.52

Hayley Young: 4x100 relay, 56.52

Jill Zumbahlen: high jump 5'2" (second place), 800-meter, 2:45.60

Joy Zumbahlen: 1600-meter, 5:50.65, 3200-meter, 13:17.27



**TRAVELING FROM GREELEY** to Kansas City one of the Sterling and Reid Brother's Circus trucks jackknifed in front of the old gas station on U.S. 36. Luckily the truck was not carrying any animals and the truck driver was not injured.

*Times staff photo by Casey McCormick*

## Circus truck wrecks on U.S. 36

**By Casey McCormick**

The circus came to Bird City on Wednesday but the show did not last very long. Several 18 wheelers were moving the Sterling and Reid Brother's Circus from a performance in Greeley, Colo., to this weekend's show in Kansas City. Unfortunately one of the rigs blew a couple of tires near Wheeler and two other trucks stopped in Bird City to go back and help. But events continued to go down hill as the truck driven by Peter Luvas, of Kountze, Texas, caught the ditch in front of the old gas station and jackknifed the vehicle.

Mr. Luva's son, Don Chesson, who was driving another rig, was able to put a chain onto the jackknifed truck and keep it from going over any further. The disabled vehicle was blocking both lanes of U.S. 36 and the Cheyenne County Sheriff and Bird City Police had to divert traffic through the service area along the highway for about one hour.

A wrecker was dispatched from Goodland and Virgil Baumfalk and his wife, Jackie, of McB's Motor Company were able to lift the trailer as Mr. Luva backed the truck off the highway. The containers on the

truck held a portable office, circus wardrobes and lighting equipment. It was unknown if any of the contents were damaged. Kansas Department of Transportation was on the scene to issue a report of damage to a drainage tube and a reflection post.

With all the circus trucks coming through town it was a little disappointing to know the vehicles carrying the elephants and other exotic animals had come through Bird City last night when the weather was cooler. But at least residents got a little bit of an unexpected show.