

## Run For The Wall here Saturday

By Tom Betz

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About 400 motorcycle riders from the XXIII Annual Run For The Wall will spend Saturday night in Goodland, and will be leaving about 8:15 a.m. on Sunday traveling south on Caldwell Ave., out to Business U.S. 24 and east on I-70 to Oakley on their way to Washington, D.C. for the Rolling Thunder Memorial Day program at the Vietnam War Memorial.

Jo Ann Wahrman, who has been part of the ride for several years, and Dick Lies of the Goodland Rotary helped organize the overnight program. Debbie Lucas and Darin Kannady have been helping on the committee and Wahrman said they have been great help. She said Steve Evert has agreed to cook for the Saturday evening supper.

She said Dave Daniels, a representative of the local motorcycle group, has been asking local groups to help pay for the gas for the riders.

Wahrman said people are being encouraged to greet the riders by gathering with flags on the overpass over I-70 at County Road 17 and other overpasses west of Goodland about 5 p.m. on Saturday to greet at the riders when they arrive from Colorado.

Citizens are encouraged to show their flags and line Eighth Street to Caldwell Ave., and north to the Derrick Lutters Armory Building, as the riders come into town.

The city has proclaimed Saturday as "Run For The Wall Day" and declared it "an appropriate day for the Kiwanis Club to include as a part of their flag project."



Special Goodland patch the Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau will hand out to the Run For The Wall riders who come to town on Saturday.

Attorney Jeff Mason told the city commission the Kiwanis would agree to put flags out on Eighth Street and Caldwell Ave., on Saturday evening and on Caldwell on Sunday morning if the city proclaimed the day a holiday.

A Kiwanis flag project representative said he would be put out on Saturday evening and a few more than 50 on Sunday

morning. Wahrman said some local 4-H clubs will be helping fly flags on Saturday and Sunday.

Wahrman said when the large group arrives getting gas at Presto will be the first part of the evening's agenda. Daniels said he thinks with the donations he has received they will be close to covering the cost of gas, but anyone wanting to help can call him at (785) 890-6538. He

received a donation for \$500 from the city, and said he has received some other contributions. Last year the total for gas was about \$1,300, and Daniels expects it to be more in the range of \$1,500 this year.

She said it will probably take about half an hour to gas the bikes before they have a police escort up K-27 to Eighth and then east to Caldwell and up to Armory Road about 6 p.m.

At the Derrick Lutters Armory, Wahrman said the riders will be served a supper with the help of the American Legion riders from Colby, Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliary, the Northwest Kansas bike group, the Boy Scouts and other volunteers. She said there will be a short program after supper including the National Anthem sung by Dixie Teeter and Demi Mitcheck will sing a song. Mayor John Garcia will read the "Run For The Wall Day" proclamation and welcome the riders to town.

Donna Price from the Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau said a special Goodland patch has been created to be given to the riders on Saturday when they arrive.

Wahrman said the armory will open about 4 p.m. on Saturday to allow people to bring military memorabilia they would like to display. She said some riders may arrive early before the main group arrives about 6 p.m.

She said people are welcome to come to the armory on Saturday evening to talk to the riders and look at the bikes.

The riders will be spending the night in motels in town and some

will camp at the armory and other camping area. Wahrman said a check with the motels on Tuesday showed there were a few rooms still available.

On Sunday the Goodland Rotary will serve the riders breakfast about 6 a.m. A non-denominational church service is scheduled for 7:25 a.m., and the riders meeting will be held at 7:45 a.m.

The riders will be escorted when they leave the armory at 8:15 a.m. The group will parade south down Caldwell Ave. to 17th Street and west to Cherry Ave. They will turn east at Business U.S. 24 and ride out to the east ramp on I-70.

The riders will travel east to Oakley for their lunch stop and for gas. Wahrman said the Goodland Veterans of Foreign Wars is helping with the lunch in Oakley.

From Oakley the riders will continue east to spend the night at Junction City. The riders will arrive in the Washington, D.C., area on Friday, May 27, for a special ride to Arlington Cemetery and plaque presentation at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and on Monday, May 30, the groups will mass at the Pentagon parking lot for the Rolling Thunder Parade through Washington to The Wall with the ride ending about noon.

The Run for the Wall mission is to promote healing among all veterans and their families and friends, to call for a complete accounting of those who were prisoners or missing in action from all wars, and to support the U.S. military troops all around the world.

### weather report

54°

noon  
Thursday

#### Today

• Sunset, 7:59 p.m.

#### Saturday

• Sunrise, 5:28 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:59 p.m.

#### Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 53 degrees

• Humidity 89 percent

• Sky cloudy

• Winds calm

• Barometer 29.65 inches

and falling

• Record High today 98° (1934)

• Record Low today 30° (1931)

#### Last 24 Hours\*

High Wednesday 52°

Low Wednesday 43°

Precipitation .5

This month 1.13

Year to date 4.99

Below Normal .49 inches

#### The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon, a high near 72, winds out of the south at 10-30 mph and a low around 47. Saturday: Partly sunny with a high near 75, winds out of the northwest at 10 to 15 mph and a low around 47.

#### Extended Forecast

Sunday: Mostly sunny with a high near 79 and a low around 51. Monday: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms and a high near 75 and a low around 50.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400.MHZ.

\*Readings taken at 7 a.m.

### local markets

#### Noon

Wheat — \$8.43 bushel

Posted county price — \$7.94

Corn — \$6.86 bushel

Posted county price — none

Milo — \$6.60 bushel

Soybeans — \$0.00 bushel

Posted county price — none

Millet — \$5 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$32.10 cwt.

Confection — no bid

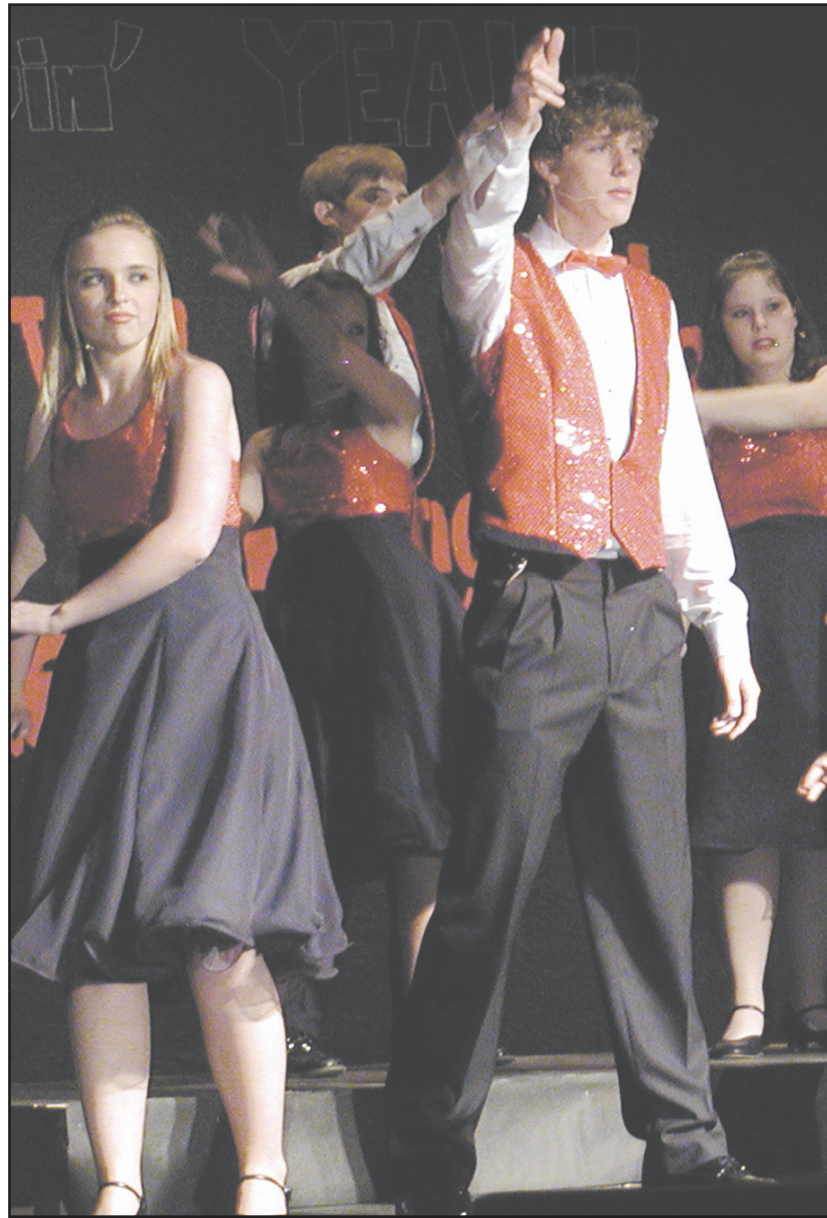
Pinto beans — \$28

(Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean.

These may not be closing figures.)

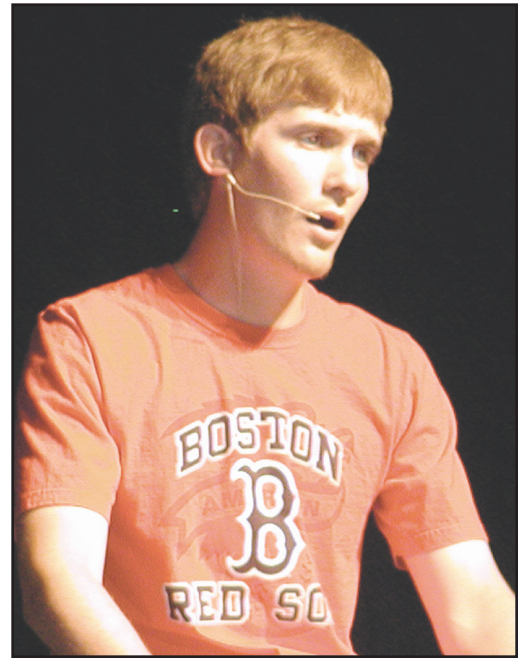
### inside today

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



Nicole Hendrich and Parker Sieck (above) danced with the rest of the X-Pressos at their guest night last Friday at the high school auditorium. Ten of the group will graduate this year. 2003 Goodland High School graduate Tammy (Weeter) Larson (above center) was the guest artist. Graduating Senior Michael Pettibone (above right) sings his solo at the concert.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News



## X-Pressos perform for family, friends

By Pat Schiefen

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At the last concert for the Goodland High School show choir, the X-Pressos, the group kicked up heels for an audience of family and friends last Thursday at the high school auditorium. The guest performer was Tammy (Weeter) Larson, a 2003 graduate of Goodland High School, who lives in Wallace.

The group had 10 graduating seniors this year. As part of the concert each senior gets to do a solo. They are Kaitlyn Lammers, Katlyn Toppliff, Ashley Archer, Jennifer Rome, Kirsten Toppliff, Day Waugh, Stephen Buller, Tyler Jones, Michael Pettibone and Andrew Shores.

The first senior singing was Buller with "I Am;" Waugh sang "What I Wouldn't Do;" Pettibone "What Faith Can Do;" Katlyn Toppliff "Reflection;" Shores "King of the Forest;" Jones "Ordinary People;" Lammers "Melody Within;" and Kirsten Toppliff "This is the Stuff."

There was a number by the X-Pressos girls, the Soggy Bottom Boys and the X-Pressos guys. The girls sang "Build Me Up Buttercup" to a blushing high school activities director Greg Ferguson. The guys sang "In the Still of the Night."

A senior video put together by Traci Waugh was shown before the last two songs.

The remaining members of the choir are Nicole Hendrich, Abby Jolly, Jessica Klemm, Shayley Miller, Reed Bellamy, Caleb Fugleberg, Jed Gray, Joel Linin, Riley Oharah and Parker Sieck.

The choreography for the group is done but two members of the choir. They were Kirsten Toppliff and Riley Oharah. The director for the group is Randy Berls. Brook Redlin ran the sound for the concert.

The audience was invited to the gym to see the woodwork, drafting and art classes projects for the year

## Golfers win 3A regional

Cowboy Gannon Ihrig approached the ninth green on Thursday. On Monday the Cowboys won the Class 3A regional and qualified for state in Salina. See photos, story on Page 12.



## City police chief resigns

Goodland Police Chief Ray Smee has resigned with today being his last day.

City Manager Doug Gerber said Wednesday he had received Smee's resignation with an effective date of Friday, May 20.

Gerber did not say anything about why Smee had resigned, but that the city would begin a search for a new police chief. He said he would appoint an interim chief on Friday.

Smee has been chief for 13 years, and when asked what he plans to do he said he is looking around locally, but is not sure what the future holds.

"I would like to stay here," he said. "I like the town and the people, but we will have to see what the future brings."

Smee (NONM) has been active in the Kiwanis Club and has been co-chair of the Kiwanis Flag Project and has been active in the Sherman County Amateur Radio Enthusiasts Club getting his Extra license and leading a Volunteer Exam Team to help other hams get or upgrade their licenses.

He has been a volunteer to help climb radio towers in the area and recently helped with a repeater tower north of Flagler.

## Update given on painting

By Tom Betz

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Over the past six months the city has been working with Sunflowers USA and the Shine On Sherman County Resource Development Committee to transfer ownership of the Van Gogh painting to the city, and continuing improvements around the painting.

City Manager Doug Gerber said he had a short update on the progress over the past six months, and felt things were moving forward. He said he wanted to make sure the new commission members were OK with where the project is moving.

He said the objective has been to get city ownership of the Van Gogh painting, what is a major attraction, and that for some time no one has been taking ownership and responsibility.

He said the best solution is that the "person" be the city, and have been moving in that direction.

He said one thing is to get the landscaping improved out there, and with the efforts of Annette Fairbanks they have been getting some trees planted with the help of Kevin