Bus barn manager retires after giving **33 years of service**

By Karen Krien It has been 33 years since Stan Wahrman first began the job as bus driver and mechanic and June 30 will be his last day.

"It is time (to retire)," Mr. Wahrman said. "I am looking forward to the summer but I will miss the other drivers and people I have worked with in the school."

Mr. Wahrman, who said he always liked working on cars, had attended Vo-Tech in Goodland. He had worked at several jobs when Bill Fuller, then a school board member, encouraged him to apply for the bus mechanic job. That was the beginning of his career.

In 33 years, there have been lots of changes. Mr. Wahrman remembers when the buses were parked on the lot where the Equity station stands and Spud Lockard, who owned and operated the old Sinclair station, now Video Kingdom, listened for drivers as they called in over their citizen's band radios (CBs). The radios were not too reliable but they were better than nothing.

Mr. Wahrman sees the communication system between drivers and the bus garage to be one of the bigger and better changes through the years

When he began, there were more students attending school so there were more buses and routes. There were 16 routes plus a route which took special students to Atwood and Goodland (there are five routes today) and he had 24 buses to keep running.

Sometimes he went to work at 5 a.m. and would work until midnight trying to get the buses in running

order before the next day.

"Those were the days when the buses had split-rim wheels and tires with tubes. Those nylon tires picked up every nail they ran over and there were always flat tires," he said.

"Now, the buses have steel-belt tires and we don't have that problem.'

Buses are now built better with better motors.

Thirty years ago, each bus averaged around 20,000 miles a year but today, they only average 15,000 miles. The superintendent and board generally trade buses off when they have around 100,000 miles

He said that there was generally always something going on at the bus barn which made the work enjoyable but there were several stressful moments like the time when he was driving an activity bus home in the middle of winter when it caught fire.

"The bus had the motor in the back and it froze up," he said.

"It was nerve-racking getting those kids off the bus and putting out the fire," he said.

The kids were loaded in cars for the rest of the trip to St. Francis. However, Mr. Wahrman was working on the bus.

Mr. Wahrman's wife Neva added that when he got home, his hands were injured from working in the below-freezing temperatures and dipping them into the gas in the engine. They were so bad that he had to keep salve and wraps on them for a week.

Another hair-rising trip came when taking students on a field trip to Denver.

> "On the way out of Denver, the sun was shining but we soon ran into a pouring rain. A car passed us shortly before we met a truck which splashed water on the car to where the driver couldn't see. The driver just stopped! When we finally came to a stop, I couldn't even see the back of the car be-



Busby

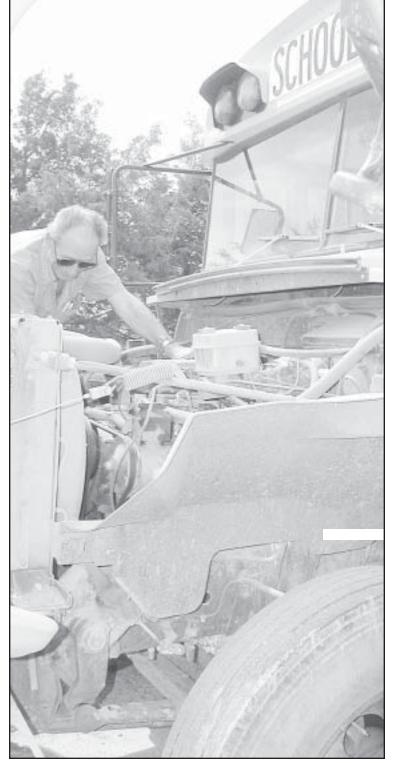
Matrix Reloaded

Science Fiction/Fantasy and Thriller

2 hours 18 min.

St. Francis, KS

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AFTER 33 YEARS OF SERVICE to the St. Francis schools system, Stan Wahrman will serve his last bus on June 30.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

cause we were so close to hitting it." The Wahrman's would like to do some traveling seeing the kids: Alan in Hays, Laurie in Overland Park and Paul, who they already see frequently, lives in Goodland.

country while I still can," he said. And, if that motor home breaks down along the way, Mrs. Wahrman knows a good mechanic who will probably fix it pretty

Tuesday: Girls B softball, St.

Wednesday: Pitching Ma-

Francis at Wray, doubleheader,

chine, Green vs Red at 7 p.m.;

Yellow vs Haigler Blue at 8 p.m.

Ouinter at St. Francis

Thursday, June 19: K-18,

-Ball Schedule

6 p.m.

Boys C-team, Reds vs Sox, 7 p.m.

6:30 p.m.; Girls B and C softball, Atwood at St. Francis; Girls A softball, Stratton at St. Francis

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Saint Francis Herald 3

Dealership hires new salesman

Yost Ford Mercury has added a new person, Ryan Runyon, to its sales staff and introduced him to the St. Francis and Cheyenne County communities. Mr. Runyon, almost 23, grew up



in Springville, Calif., a small ranch-

ing community. Following gradu-

ation from high school, he attended

the Western Culinary Institute in

Portland, Ore. His internship was

done in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

He said he had worked his way up

from the bottom to a management

He had met Clay Zimbelman,

who was raised in St. Francis. Mr.

Zimbelman had recently moved

back to St. Francis and Mr. Runyon

was working towards a business

degree but looking for a new loca-

"Clay called me to tell me about

position.

tion.

viewed me over the phone and two weeks later, I was here," Mr. Runyon said, adding that he liked the community and was happy to be in St. Francis.

'And, we're glad to have him here," said Jeff Raile, sales manager.

Even though Mr. Runyon came from a farming community the types of crops raised in California were different from this region. They included citrus, cotton and other tree fruit. However, like in Kansas, corn was raised there and he is confident that he will soon be familiar with the other crops raised in this area.

Mr. Runyon expects his parents to be traveling through the area in the very near future and they will be stopping in St. Francis for a visit with him. Mr. Runyon also has three older sisters, each living in California, Texas and Rhode Island.

Bob Yost, owner, and Mr. Raile urge people to stop in and meet Mr. Runyon and look at their line of new and used vehicles while they are this job at Yost's, they inter- there.

Noxious weeds in full swing this year; time to control

With all the rains this spring, the countryside is green with grasses, trees and even noxious weeds What! Noxious Weeds??!!

With northwest Kansas in a drought for several years a lot of noxious weeds have suffered but, this year they are thriving quite well. Cheyenne County Noxious Weed director Dan Schlittenhart reports that now is the time to scout pastures and fields for noxious weeds.

"Bindweed and Canadian thistle grow from seeds and roots, so these plants must be sprayed to destroy them," he said. "Do not dig them or your problem will be worse.

In pastures there may be some tall dark green plants growing, possibly musk or bull thistle. These weeds are a biennial plant which means the first year is just a rosette and the second year it will grow tall and produce flowers. These plants can be dug or mowed to control them.

ious weed office to have the direc- go to the Kansas Department of



Canadian thistle

the proper treatment. The number People are urged to call the nox- is 785-332-8840. People may also

cheap! "I'd just like to see some of the

Wednesday: makeup game - at 6:30 p.m., A's at Cheylin at Cheylin at 8 p.m.; T-Ball, Green vs Orange at 7 p.m.; Yellow vs

Thursday: K-18, Goodland at Blue at 8 p.m.

Friday: Boys C-team. Chevlin at Sox at 6:30 p.m.ay evening K-18, St. Francis at Oakley at 6:30 p.m.; Boys C-team, Reds at Sox at 6:30 p.m., Sox at Reds at 8 p.m.; Cheylin at A's at Cheylin

lage in St. Francis. She would enjoy hearing from friends and relatives at Box 1140, St. Francis, KS 67756. Her phone number is 785-332-2094

SHOWTIME: 8:00 p.m.

Showing June 13, 14, & 15

Chevenne

93rd

Shopping for Father's Day

tor come out to look at what you Ag website at www.ks-agr.org believe might be a noxious weed. and visit the photo gallery of Kan-He will be available to advise in sas Noxious Weeds.



Reconstructive Surgery Foot & Ankle Injuries For appointments call: **Rawlins County Health Center** 785-626-3211 Wed., June 18 **Cheyenne County** Hospital - P.M. 210 W. 1st • 332-2104

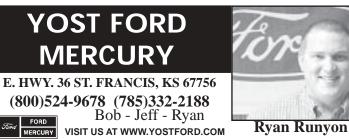
Thur., June 19 Atwood - A.M. Colby - P.M. CSMC, 175 S. Range 462-3332 CMC, 100 E. College Dr. 462-7511 Fri., June 20 Atwood - All Day

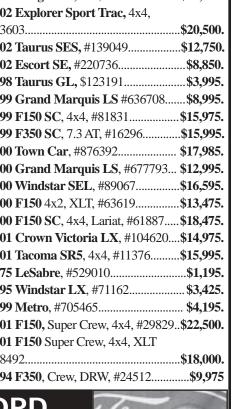
No one under 17 yrs. will be admitted without a pass from their parent.	Admission: \$4
SUMMER SIZ	ZLERS

neater

Rated: R for sci-fi violence and some sexuality. Starring: Keanu Reeves, Carrie-Anne Moss, Laurence Fishburne, Hugo Weaving, Jada Pinkett-Smith

2003 Ford Focus	2002 Ranger SC, 4x4, #16510\$16,500.
ZX5	2002 Explorer Sport Trac, 4x4,
2.0L, AT, AM/FM 6	#83603\$ 20,500.
Disc. #102782	2002 Taurus SES, #139049\$ 12,750.
MSRP \$17,345.	
Rebate \$2,500.	2002 Escort SE , #220736\$8,850.
Our Discount \$2,500	1998 Taurus GL, \$123191\$3,995.
\$12,345.	1999 Grand Marquis LS #636708\$8,995.
SAVE \$5,000	1999 F150 SC , 4x4, #81831\$15,975.
2003 Ford Escape	1999 F350 SC , 7.3 AT, #16296 \$15,995.
XLS	2000 Town Car, #876392 \$17,985.
3.0L, V6, AT, Conv.	
Group, #70007	2000 Grand Marquis LS , #677793 \$12,995.
MSRP \$21,250.	2000 Windstar SEL , #89067\$16,595.
Rebate \$3,000	2000 F150 4x2, XLT, #63619\$13,475.
Our Discount \$3,000	2000 F150 SC, 4x4, Lariat, #61887\$18,475.
\$24,760	2001 Crown Victoria LX, #104620\$14,975.
SAVE \$3,500	2001 Tacoma SR5 , 4x4, #11376 \$15,995.
2003 Ford Windstar	
SE	1975 LeSabre , #529010\$1,195.
3.8L, V6, AT. #33722	1995 Windstar LX , #71162\$3,425.
MSRP \$30,760	1999 Metro , #705465 \$4,195.
Rebate \$3,000	2001 F150, Super Crew, 4x4, #29829 \$22,500.
Our Discount \$3,000	2001 F150 Super Crew, 4x4, XLT
\$24,760	▲ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
SAVE \$6,000	#18492\$ 18,000.
	1994 F350 , Crew, DRW, #24512\$9,975





Makita Power Tools sure to please any Father on Father's Day!

Has your air conditioner had it's annual spring cleaning? Lampe Hardware is offering the A/C Special for \$45.00. The special includes: Condensor Cleaning, Freon Check, and changing filters. Freon additions are extra.



Lampe Hardware 306 W. Washington (785) 332-3111