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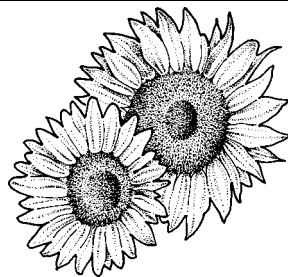


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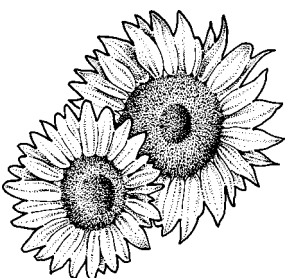


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Band director Tremone Kizer lead the Goodland High School Marching Band as they played crowd favorites, including the school song, Hang on Sloopy and the "Hey" song at the Homecoming pep rally. Kizer, a drum major himself in college, said he enjoys working with the marching band. Band members not only learn how to play instruments, Kizer said, but they learn discipline and how to work in a group.
Photos by Kathryn Gurfinkel/The Goodland Star-News

Marching band rallies crowd, players at Goodland Homecoming

By Kathryn Gurfinkel

The Goodland Star-News

After wowing the crowd at the Homecoming parade down Main, the Goodland High School marching band continued to the Cowboy Stadium for the annual pep rally.

Band director Tremone Kizer said this year, the 45-member group started practicing two weeks before school with a marching band camp twice a day. The band then split into the percussion section, the color guard and the regular band to practice before coming together for one presentation.

"These kids work extremely hard," he said.

With the help of assistant band director Melanie Biel, Kizer said, his goal is for the band to continue to improve.

"We're trying to build up motivation," he said, "build up pride and build up self esteem."

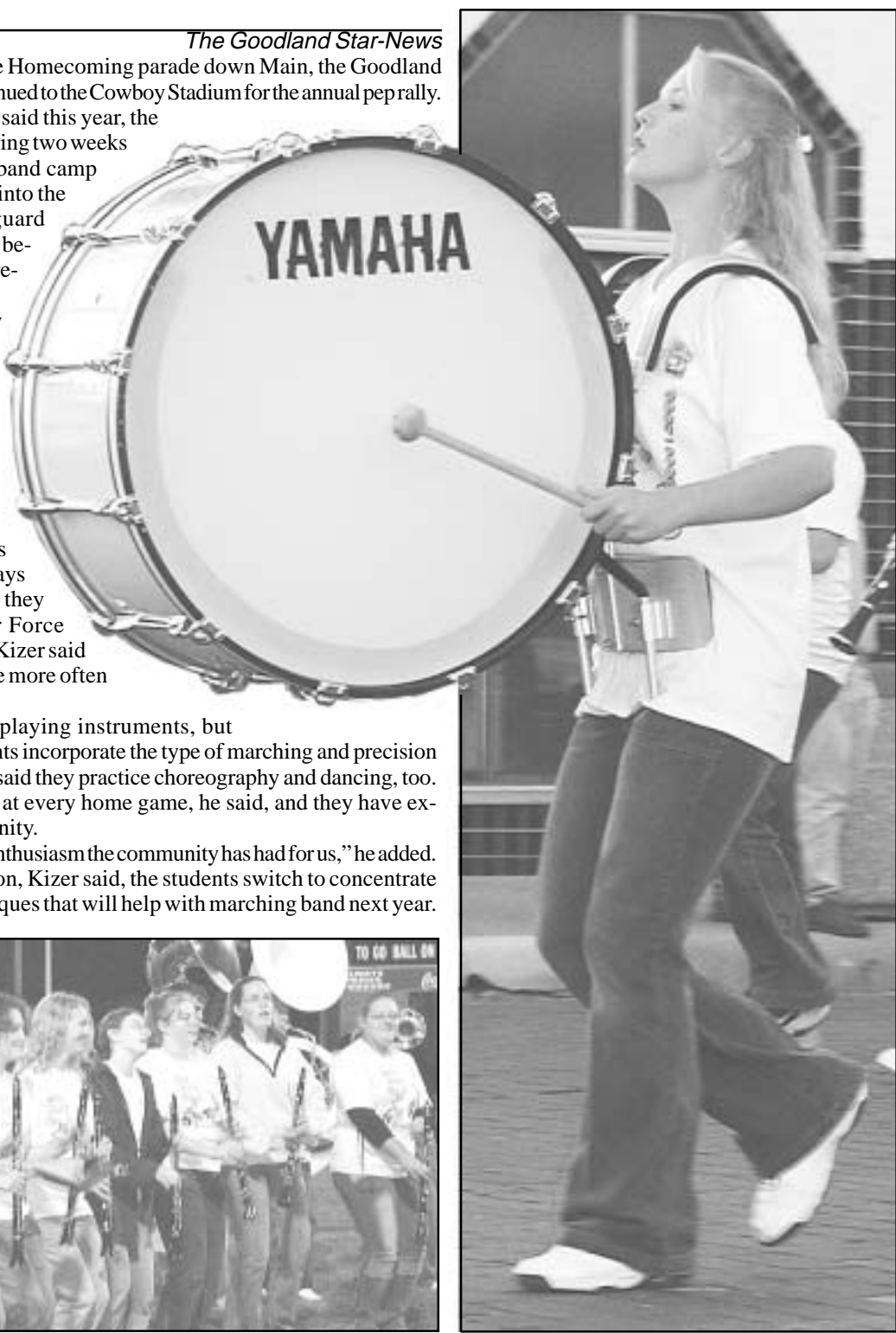
The marching band competes in a marching festival at Fort Hays State University each year, and they attend a conference at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Kizer said he wants to see the band compete more often and on a higher level.

Marching includes not only playing instruments, but athleticism. Kizer said the students incorporate the type of marching and precision drills used in military bands. He said they practice choreography and dancing, too.

The marching band performs at every home game, he said, and they have excellent turnout from the community.

"We appreciate the amount of enthusiasm the community has had for us," he added.

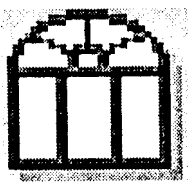
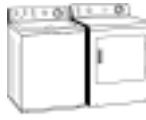
After the marching band season, Kizer said, the students switch to concentrate on concert band, learning techniques that will help with marching band next year.



The Goodland High School Marching Band (clockwise from top left) choreographed its show with members of the woodwind section swinging along to the music when they weren't playing at the Homecoming pep rally earlier this month. Jilian Parker kept time with her bass drum as she walked down Main in the Homecoming parade. Assistant Director Melanie Biel kept the horn section in line as they marched down Main in the first parade of the year. Sammie Philbrick joined the band to start off the show at the Homecoming pep rally.
Photos by Kathryn Gurfinkel/The Goodland Star-News



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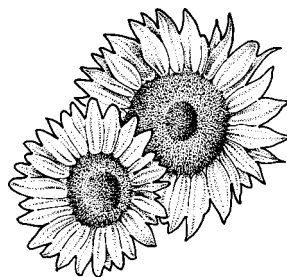
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