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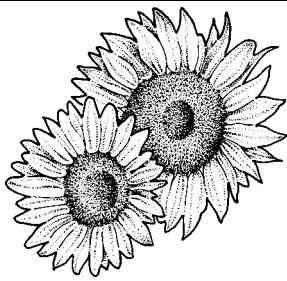
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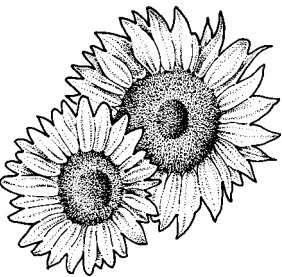
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Members of the class of 1955 took an honored seat on the sideline at Cowboy Stadium for the Goodland High School homecoming pep rally last Thursday. The class rode to the stadium on a flatbed trailer in the Homecoming parade.

Class of 1955

Members look back fifty years

By Kathryn Burke
The Goodland Star-News

Fifty years ago, they did the skits, led the cheers and played in the band, but last week, the Class of 1955 just watched and clapped at the Goodland High School Homecoming celebration.

Some traveled from across town while others came from as far away as Florida or California to be part of this year's honor class.

The celebration started on Thursday night as members of the class went to the Homecoming chili feed.

Next, participants climbed aboard a flatbed trailer on a semi-truck, proudly holding a sign that said Class of 1955 as they rolled down Main.

The class was honored again at the pep rally and bonfire.

The name of each member present was called as they rose for a round of applause.

Linda Fogo, class secretary, said the class originally had 66 people, but only 55 remain.

She said 28 to 30 were in for the weekend, but they weren't all here at the same time. Fifteen still live in Goodland.

While some have come back for the all-school reunions, Fogo said this is the first time this class has been honored. Some members haven't been in town for a long time, she said.

"We had some that came back for the first time in 20 years," she said.

The group met for a breakfast Friday morning at the Buffalo Inn and then went to the football game that night.

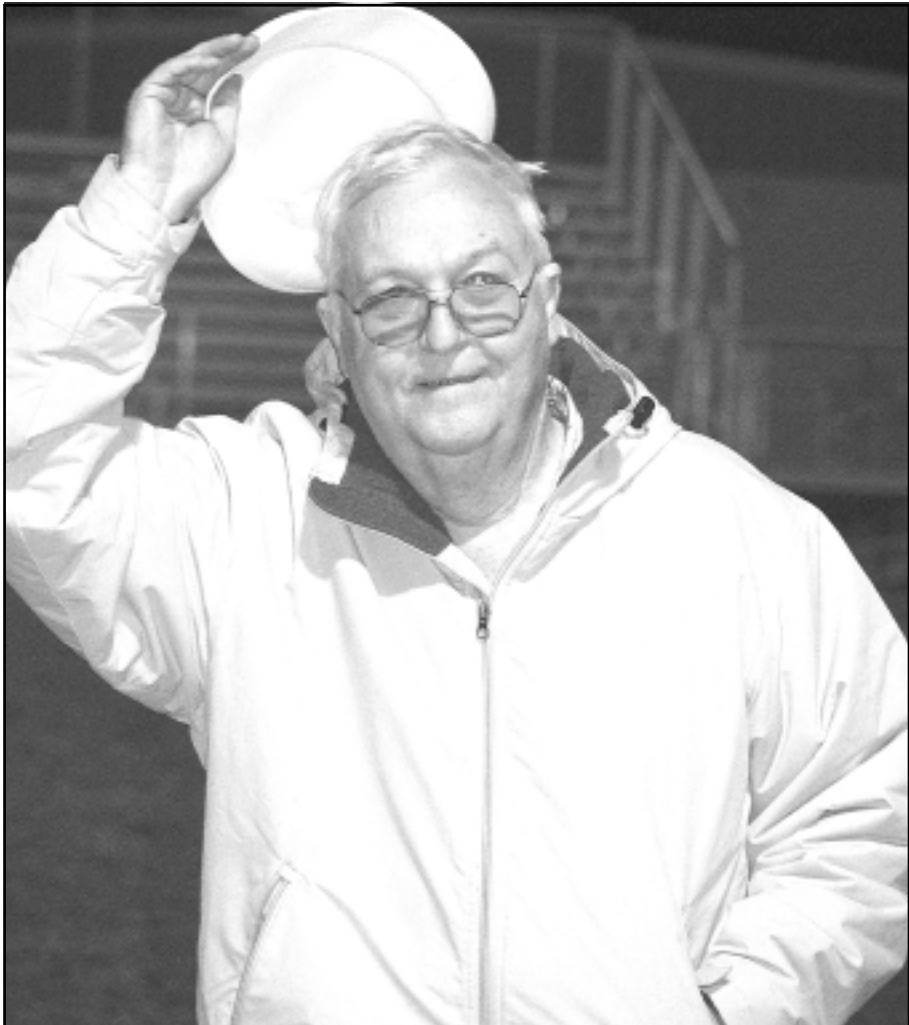
Saturday, Fogo said, members of the class went on a tour led by Gaylene Shank, Goodland High math teacher and a member of the class of 1964, through the school. She said a lot has changed since 1955.

That night they had a banquet at the Sugar Hills Golf Course. She said they had an "open mike" to allow classmates to talk. Members all lined up for a class picture and they took individual photos.

Forentertainment, the XPressos, the high school show choir, performed. Fogo said the kids sang "Blue Suede Shoes," a song from their era.

Overall, she said, the weekend went off without a hitch and they all had a good time.

"We just had a great, great time," said class member Brenda Frankenfeld. "It was wonderful."



Verlyn Trueblood tipped his hat as he was recognized at the pep rally.

What was happening in 1955?

The Class of 1955 motto was "We sail tomorrow, but where do we anchor?" Colors were crimson and silver and the flower was the American Beauty rose.

The class of 1955 football team beat Oberlin 13-6 for the homecoming game.

Popular dances of the time included the Bunny Hop and the Goulash.

The junior class play put on by the class was "Seven Keys to Baldpate," a mystery.

Dwight D. Eisenhower was president.

Goodland had a drive-in theater, a popular spot for high school seniors. "Ma and Pa Kettle at Waikiki" was a popular

hit of the silver screen.

Forty-five rpm singles, a record for those who have only lived in the compact disc age, cost 39 cents each and 78s cost 28 cents each.

French fires, hamburgers and hot dogs were all 15 cents each at a local steakhouse.

Fashionable buck or saddle shoes, a shoe with a white middle and black sides, were all the rage, and girls wore their hair in pony tails.

The draft was still in force, so young men either signed up for the service or were drafted right after high school, but the country was between wars.



Norman House (above) stood to the cheers of the home crowd at the pep rally. Stan Kenny (left in left photo) and Jim McNeil stood and clapped along with the crowd and the high school cheerleaders at the end of the rally. The fun shifted to the bonfire next to cap off the night. Members of the class of 1955 were honored again at the football game last Friday night.

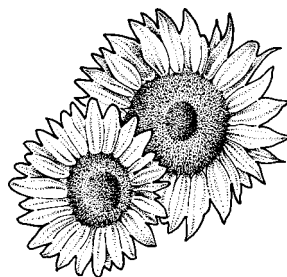
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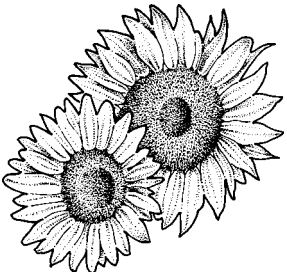
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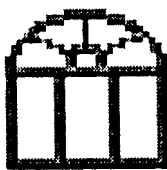


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