



TUESDAY WAS 'WANNA BE' DAY. These three 'Wanna Be' Rock Stars are Jeremiah White, junior, Adrian Garcia, senior and Caleb Keltz, senior.
Times staff photo by Norma Martinez.

Skunks in city limits

By Norma Martinez
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The sheriff, at the Tuesday, Sept. 7, Bird City City Council meeting, reported that there has been reports of skunks in the city limits.

Sheriff Craig VanAllen said that, as fall has approached, the number of skunks seems to have increased and he and his deputy are trying to control them.

He reported that deputies performed over 98 hours of patrol and casework in Bird City during the month of August.

They have received calls concerning kids riding motorbikes and 4-wheelers irresponsibly. Sheriff Van Allen said it's difficult to identify them because they are gone before they can get there.

"If we can verify who they are, we can go to their home and visit with them," the sheriff said.

Block grant

DeAnza Ambrosier, city clerk, submitted an amendment to the Community Development Block Grant Housing Plan. The amendment would raise the maximum income guidelines for qualification to the 2010 levels instead of the 2009 originally approved levels. Approving the amendment, she said, will allow at least one family to qualify who wouldn't under the 2009 maximums.

Shelter house

Councilman Hal Sager said he has received several complaints on the city park's shelter house kitchen remodeling.

Wade Carmichael, councilman, said the only problem they're having is with the water heater. The city had installed a heat-on-demand water heater that isn't large enough to keep up.

"We need something a little more substantial," he said.

Swimming pool

The council agreed that the swimming season went well. It was reported that the maintenance

department has the pool drained and winterized. Phyllis Carson, city treasurer, submitted a profit-loss report for the season.

"At this point we didn't spend what we budgeted," said Troy Burr, mayor.

With funds remaining, another project could be taken on if the council desired.

Councilman Carmichael said he would like to see the floor of the pool recoated which would cost approximately \$1,500. The mayor told him he should get it done before the end of the year.

Insurance

Donna Wright, Wright Insurance Agency, presented the 2011 insurance renewal proposal. Several new equipment items were added which cause the premium to rise, however not by very much. It was agreed to accept the insurance proposal.

Building and demo permits

Demo and building permits were approved. They included: Mike Boyson, demo of building; Shannon Ambrosier, demo of building; Wade Carmichael, new construction of garage.

Strategic plan

The city has recently experienced an increase in the number of water leaks. This has been due to aging water lines that will need to be replaced in the near future.

Mayor Burr went over the city's strategic plan which was put together five years ago by members of the community. He said it's time to start thinking about reflecting on the city's goals that haven't been met and to develop new goals for the next five years.

"As the city council, we are considered leaders of the community so we should be a part of this," Mayor Burr said. "The council needs to be behind this as an endorsement for the community."

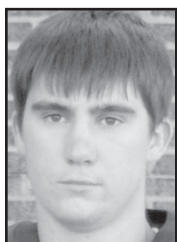
Candidates to be crowned

On Monday, Cheylin homecoming celebrations began with Spirit Week. The homecoming candidates were selected and will be crowned at the coronation at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday on Cougar Field.

This year's homecoming candidates are Chris Walden, Teryn Carmichael, Mariah Jones, Heath Anholz, Whitney Churchwell and Jared Cahoj.

A free barbecue, sponsored by First National Bank and People's State Bank, will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Following the coronation, there will be pep rally with skits, contests and spirit boosters.

With the school spirit running high, the high school football and volleyball teams will be ready to



Anholz



Cahoj



Walden



Carmichael



Churchwell



Jones

meet their opponents in Friday. The Ladies will meet Heartland in a dual on the Cougar's home court. That evening, the football team will meet Wheatland-Grinnell on Cougar Field, Bird City.

The homecoming dance will be held from 8 to 11 p.m. on Saturday.

Prior to the football game, starting at 5:30 p.m., a chicken

dinner will be served at the football field. Everyone is encouraged to attend, eat and cheer on the team.

There were other activities going on throughout Spirit Week.

Monday found students supporting their favorite colleges. Many included Kansas State, Kansas University and Nebraska but there were many others.

Tuesday, students dressed as

their favorite movie star.

Wednesday was "Color Day." Each class was assigned a color and students were to wear as many things with that color as possible.

Thursday was "Blue and White Pride Day."

There were classes decorating doors and the high school gym. It was a great start to the homecoming activities.

Rebates announced

Nex-Tech Wireless would like to announce the second quarter results for the Cheylin School district with a donation of \$590.60 from the School Rebate program. The School Rebate program, offered exclusively by Nex-Tech wireless, was created to assist local schools in raising additional funds to be used as determined by the participating school. The program, which was launched in the fall of 2006, has donated over \$100,000 to local schools throughout the Nex-Tech Wireless service area.

Nex-Tech Wireless encourages subscribers to select a school of their choice to receive a 3-percent

donation from their monthly bill at no cost to the school or customers who participate.

"Nex-Tech Wireless is proud to donate money to local schools. It gives an opportunity to give something back to the communities where our customers live, work and play.

To find out more about the School Rebate Program customers can go into their local Nex-Tech Wireless location or visit our website at www.nex-techwireless.com," said Karly Rogers, director sales, marketing and customer service for Nex-Tech Wireless.

City crew workers repair more pipes

By Norma Martinez
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Bird City's Quicentennial celebration was over in June. Instead of the Fourth of July fireworks, there was an explosion of water works on Aug. 28.

The city workers started seeing explosions of water works; as almost 100-year-old pipes in the city started to spring more leaks. The first was found and repaired in front of the school, another was found while tearing down an abandoned home on Cave Ave. City workers figured had been leaking for many years.

This past week city workers were busy working in front of the senior citizens center repairing the leak discovered when the center's basement became flooded. The cooler weather didn't cool the sweat on city workers' brows as they worked under extreme pressure to make the necessary repairs; first to get the leak repaired without having to shut off the city's water and, second,

to have the center open in time for the monthly birthday dinner.

Most generally it is the extreme cold weather that causes pipes to burst, but the only explanation for these leaks now is the age of the pipes. City council has been discussing the need for replacing the city's whole water line system since spring. A strategic plan is in the undertaking of their five-year plan to be formed some time toward the end of the year. Until then the only thing they can do is fix the leaks as they find them.

Adding to Brad Schneider (city superintendent), Eric Bartels (city maintenance) and Roy Shrader (local contractor) hard labor of digging these pipes out, is the stress of keeping everyone's water freely running. They are working long hard hours trying to repair them as fast as they can.

"Please be patient with us, Mr. Schneider said. "We are doing repairs; first to get the leak repaired without having to shut off the water completely down as we make these repairs."



CITY WORKERS REPAIR pipes in front of the Senior Center. Pictured is Brad Schneider, city superintendent, Roy Shrader, local contractor, and Eric Bartels, city maintenance.
Times staff photo by Norma Martinez.