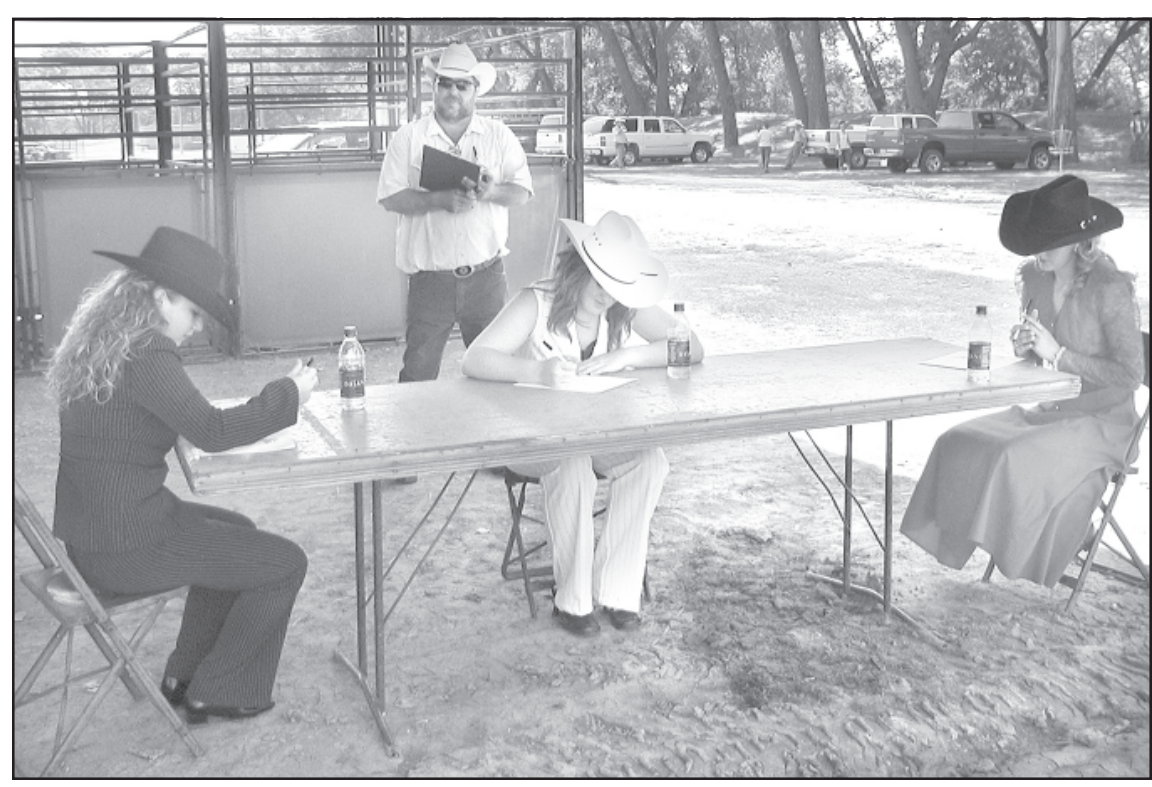




Trying for the title of Norton County Saddle Club Princess, Adrienne Hager received a final adjustment from her mother, Nancy Hager, before she had her interview with the judges. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts



The three contestants for the title of Norton County Saddle Club Queen concentrated on the written part of the competition that was held Saturday at the Equine Center. The candidates are from left to right, Sara Campbell, Jessica Cook and Jessie Redeker. Event organizer, Glen Campbell, oversaw the exam. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Queen, princess candidates are a first for local saddle club

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Three young Norton County women are competing for the first-ever title of Norton County Saddle Club Queen. They are Jessica Cook, Sara Campbell and Jessie Redeker. Two other girls, Adrienne Hager and Ashley Esslinger are vying for the title of Saddle Club Princess.

The event, organized by Glen Campbell, was held Saturday at the Equine Center at the Norton fairgrounds. Mr. Campbell has compiled a list of prizes, donated by local merchants, that will be awarded to the winner.

All contestants competed in three phases of competition: horsemanship, oral interview, and a written test. The three queen candidates also prepared and delivered a speech on any subject they chose.

Judges from across Norton County scored the candidates on a point system before turning in their score sheets. The scores will be tallied and the winner will be announced during the Ranch Rodeo on Wednesday, July 27, at the fair.

The candidates for Saddle Club Queen are:

Jessie Marie Redeker is the daughter of Steven and Barbara Redeker, Long Island. Jessie is 17 and attends Northern Valley High School in Almena, where she participates in cheerleading, singing, forensics, track, cross country, KAYS, leadership and riding horses for fun and for queen contests. Her horse is named Molly. She said she wants this contest to be successful and if she wins she would promote it throughout the year by attending rodeos and parades.

Sara June Campbell, 15, attends Norton Community High School where she is a cheerleader, plays tennis, is an FFA officer and takes art classes. She enjoys riding her horse Panzy and competing in horse shows. If she becomes Miss Norton Saddle Club she will represent the Norton community and be a role model to younger girls and help them believe in their dreams. Sara is the daughter of Glen Campbell and Karri Sisk.

Jessica Cook, 18, and her horse Cheyenne, would consider it an

honor to represent her town and community as Miss Norton Saddle Club. She aspires to make a positive influence in young people's lives. Jessica is a 2006 graduate of Norton Community High School and plans to attend culinary and pastry school at Johnson and Whales in Denver. Her activities included FFA, showing all kinds of livestock and baking. Her parents are Terry Cook and Jean McMullen.

Princess candidate **Ashley Esslinger** is 14 years old and attends Norton Junior High School. She enjoys riding her horse Josey, working cattle, 4-H, coon hunting and scrapbooking. Her parents are Kevin and Tara Esslinger.

Adrienne Hager, 9, is the other Princess candidate. She attends Eisenhower Elementary School in Norton and enjoys riding horses with her family and friends, archery, cooking, raising bucket calves, gymnastics, spending time with her cats and her dog, Jet. Her horse is named Sox. Adrienne is very involved with church activities and in 4-H. Her parents are Craig and Nancy Hager.



J. Redeker S. Campbell J. Cook



A. Esslinger A. Hager

Snake bite sends woman to hospital

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

A local farm wife is home from the hospital after having been bitten by a rattlesnake last Tuesday evening.

Kathy Skrdlant rode her all-terrain vehicle to a gate leading to a pasture where she was planning to check water when she stopped to open the gate. After opening the gate she stepped back. She was close to a ditch and a small embankment when a rattlesnake struck her ankle. At first she thought it was a bee sting. The rattler gave no warning. When Mrs. Skrdlant turned around the snake was coiled, now rattling and ready to strike again. She cautiously backed away and got back on her vehicle and drove herself home.

She called her nephew, Brian Smith, and told him she had been bitten by a rattlesnake.

He said he would come get her but she said she did not have time and started to drive herself to town. He met her on the way and followed her to Norton County Hospital where she went to the emergency room.

Two units of anti-venom were administered to Mrs. Skrdlant in Norton before she was air-lifted by helicopter to Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Doctors in Kearney determined she was having an allergic reaction to the anti-venom and slowed down the drug and also gave her Benadryl for the reaction symptoms.

Darrell Skrdlant, her husband, was out of town at the time, but joined his wife in Kearney.

She was dismissed at noon Saturday and is recuperating at her rural home, northwest of Norton.

Mrs. Skrdlant, who is still on crutches said, "The pain was unreal. But, now, my therapy is to use it and walk on it. I just have to watch for blood clots. I don't want to ever go through anything like that again."

She is expected to make a full recovery.

Other incidents of run-ins with rattlers have been reported lately. County Extension agent Keith VanSike was confronted by one as he worked on a 4-H road sign south of Norton.

A resident of Lenora reported one of her dogs dying after being bitten on the nose by a rattlesnake.

A rattlesnake was allegedly seen on Valley Vista Drive over the

Fourth of July weekend. One Norton resident killed a snake that he said was a rattler.

Animal Control officer Sherry Hickman encouraged people to be more aware. She said the drought has probably driven the snakes in search of water.

If you spot a snake inside the city limits you should call the Norton Police Department at 877-5780.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Special Education Information for the North Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative Interlocal #636 (NCKSEC)

Published in the Norton Telegram on Tuesday, July 18, 2006. (1T)

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 was reauthorized by Congress and signed by President Bush on December 3, 2004. The legislation basically amended the 1997 IDEA that was the cornerstone of federally mandated services for disabled students. Special education categorical areas include autism, deaf-blindness, deafness, hearing impairment, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, emotional disturbance, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment and blindness, early childhood disabilities and gifted.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act provides for a free, appropriate public education for all disabled students. The foundation of IDEA is its requirement that schools develop an individualized Education Program (IEP) for each disabled student. The IEP requirement combines the evaluation of disabled students with the achievement of specific goals. These goals are typically set by the student's parents, school administrators, and regular and special education teachers working together.

The North Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative Interlocal #636 will continue to provide special education programs and services to all exceptional children. The NCKSEC consists of thirteen Unified School Districts as follows: #211-Norton, #212-Northern Valley, #213-Lenora, #237-Smith Center, #238-Kensington, #269-Palco, #270-Plainville, #271-Stockton, #324-Eastern Heights, #325-Phillipsburg, #326-Logan, #392-Osborne, and #399-Natoma.

The purpose of the NCKSEC is to identify all students in the fourteen participating districts who are eligible for and need special education services. Special programs and services are then provided to assist these students in reaching their potential. All these services must meet the requirements and specifications stated in federal and state statutes and further clarified in the Kansas Special Education Process Handbook. Additionally, the NCKSEC must make assurances in the provision of these services. These assurances include confidentiality of student records, provision of students' and parents' due process rights, nondiscriminatory and multi-disciplinary evaluations, and provision of services in the least restrictive environment or most normal setting to the maximum extent appropriate.

If anyone believes that a child may qualify for and need any of these services, please contact any building administrator in any of the fourteen districts or Garry Baxter, Director for the North Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative Interlocal #636, 693 2nd Avenue West, Glade, KS 67639 (785-543-2149).

Superintendent - Greg Mann, USD #211 - Norton Community Schools
Superintendent - Roger W. Lowry, USD #212 - Northern Valley Schools
Superintendent - Kenneth Tidball, USD #213 - West Solomon Valley Schools

Featured Homes of the Week

 5 PRAIRIE RIDGE — FRONT VIEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •4 Bedrooms •2 1/2 Baths •Office •Overlooks Golf Course •Double Garage •CH/CA •Swimming Pool 	 5 PRAIRIE RIDGE — BACK VIEW
 910 WESTRIDGE — FRONT VIEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Bedrooms 3 Baths Walk-Out Basement Beautiful Landscape Double Garage CH/CA 	 910 WESTRIDGE — BACK VIEW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Open LR/DR/Kitchen, CH/A, Full Basement, Framed, Dbl. Car Garage, All Appliances, Except W/D. 	 #4 PRAIRIE RIDGE ROAD	 #4 PRAIRIE RIDGE ROAD — BACK VIEW
 510 FIRST STREET — PRAIRIE VIEW	 313 N. BROWN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra Large Lot, 3 Bedrooms, Family Room, 2 Baths, Carport, Attached Garage, Central Heat and Air
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Bedrooms, Living Room/Dining Room, Kitchen, Finished Basement, 2 Baths, Double Car Detached Garage, Central Heat and Air 	 803 NORTH GRANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brick 4 Bedrooms 2 Baths East-In Kitchen Formal Dining Room Double Car Garage Mint Condition Full Finished Basement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Side Location Office —Open Your Own Repair Shop 	 AHLEMEYER REPAIR	 803 SUN

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