

## **Tuesday** October 3, 2006

Norton, Kansas Home of Sharon Leiker

### Briefly Sebelius keeps lead in local poll

By TOM DREILING Add 9 more. That's the number of new respondents to The *Telegram's* e-straw poll since Friday's story with the initial reply from 31 readers.

The candidates are incumbent Governor Kathleen Sebelius (D) and challenger Republican Jim Barnett. Of the 40 total straw votes to date, 25 think Gov. Sebelius will win a second term and 15 favor Mr. Barnett.

Readers can still take part. Email tomd@nwkansas.com, call 877-6908, fax 877-3732 or mail to 215 S. Kansas Ave., Norton 67654.

Of the 40 responses received, 32 were by e-mail, 6 by regular mail and 2 by telephone.

A couple of comments reasoned that Gov. Sebelius' lead is due primarily to name recognition. Another said, "The sitting governor has truck loads of cash to spend on advertising, which is a big disadvantage to my candidate.'

## **Booster club** meets this week

# 'Gentlemen, oops, Lady, start your engine!'



## Fun sport for 14-year-old

#### **By CAROLYN PLOTTS**

While most high school freshmen aren't even thinking about driving, 14year old Jessica Reeves of Norton is ripping down the racetrack at 85 miles per hour and racking up wins on the drag strip.

Driving a junior dragster, scaled down to half the size of a full-size dragster or rail car, Jessica is second in point standings after her first year. Her driving record qualified her to compete at the Bandimere Drag Strip in Denver. She didn't go, but considered it quite an accomplishment just to qualify because a driver has to be in the top 10 to qualify.

She has no problem controlling the 50 horsepower, carbureted engine with twostage centrifugal clutch that runs on methanol alcohol. The frame is made of chrome and moly-steel and the shell is made of carbon fiber. The tires are special drag racing slicks with no tread and the rack and pinion steering is controlled by a steering wheel that has to be removed so she can slide into the cockpit.

Jessica said she likes drag racing because it's a level playing field. She races reer and Community Leaders of against boys and girls in her own age America and is in the choir at Norton group. She said about 35 per cent of the United Methodist Church. drivers are girls.

She races at the Kearney track which is drag racing, she said, "Oh, yeah. It's a sanctioned by the National Hot Rod As- fun sport.'

sociation. It is a straight 1/8 mile track. The safety of the young drivers is ranked of the utmost importance. Jessica's parents, Bruce and Beth Reeves, see to it that she wears her helmet, a neck brace, gloves, a fireretardant driving suit, a five-point safety harness and has a roll bar.

Another safety feature built into junior racing is the speed limit. If a driver exceeds the 85 mile per hour limit, by even the slightest of margins, the driver is disqualified from driving for the rest of the day. If a driver exceeds 87 miles per hour, they are suspended from competing for six to 12 months. Jessica said her car attracts a lot of attention because it makes a lot of

noise. Another big accomplishment for her is to have been mentioned and had her picture appear in the July 28 issue of National Dragster magazine.

A well-rounded student at Norton Community High School, Jessica is involved in FFA, vocal, Family, Ca-

Asked if she was going to continue

Sitting snugly in her junior dragster, Jessica Reeves, left, is ready for the green light. Jessica and her father, Bruce Reeves, below, check out the 50 horsepower engine. - Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts



The weekly meeting of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the high school cafeteria.

Football coach Lucas Melvin, volleyball coach Chuck Zimmerman, tennis coach Jim Green and cross country coach Deyton Hager will report on latest contests by their teams and preview upcoming competition. Refreshments will be served. All Norton Community High School fans are invited.

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### Weather

#### **Forecast:**

**Tonight** — Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy. Wednesday — Partly cloudy and cooler with highs in the upper 60s. Wednesday Night — Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Thursday — Mostly cloudy in the morning then becoming partly cloudy.

#### Kingham report:

| Friday   | Low 50, High 82 |
|----------|-----------------|
| Saturday |                 |
| Sunday   |                 |
| Monday   |                 |

(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

ayer

Lord, help us look beneath the storms of life to the peaceful calm we can have when we deeply rust in you. Amen



# Norton lady takes top prize in Pick-Em

#### **By DICK BOYD**

Charlotte Stephenson, Norton, was one in last week's Pigskin Pick-Em Contest in *The Telegram* and she won the \$15 scrip money first prize based on the score of the tiebreaker game.

fect entry and will receive \$10 in scrip money for second place.

the tiebreaker game. Stephenson and Ray both incorrectly chose Texas A&M to win. Judges compared points for each week contest, Ray and Moore are running Andy Moore, Nancy Moore, Barbara team to actual points scored and neck and neck for the season champion-Stephenson, who chose Texas A&M by ship. Ray, who won first last week, has Berneking, Salina; Paula Stutterheim, 32-17, was 19 points off. Ray chose Texas missed just six games. Moore, who placed Prairie View; Lucas Bailey, Mark Bailey,

#### A&M by 20-17 or 21 points off.

Third place went to Bob Moore, has missed seven games. of only two fans to turn in a perfect entry Hoisington, who missed only the Oregon victory over Arizona State. Moore and Ryan Maddy, Norton, were the only fans to miss one game who correctly chose Texas Tech to win the tiebreaker game. Travis Ray, Norton, had the other per- Moore was closest to the actual score. He chose Texas Tech by 27-24 or 7 points off. Maddy picked it Texas Tech by 35-20 or Texas Techedged Texas A&M 31-27 in 11 points off. Maddy's single miss was Kansas State's loss to Baylor.

With five weeks completed in the 12-

Also missing just one game but incorrectly choosing Texas A&M to win the tiebreaker game were: Karen Shearer, Roger Shearer, both of Long Island; Kenney Leiker, Hays; Marj Allen, Sandy Husted, Jennifer Terrell, Doug Ray, Rod Maddy, Amanda Ray, Craig Heskett, Douglas Daniels, all of Norton.

Correct on all but two games were: Marilyn Lowry, Almena; Emily Vallin, Long Island; LeeRoy Schuckman, Hays; Springer, all of Hoisington; Matthew

third with a perfect entry the third week, both of Norcatur; Kerri Ray, Craig Foley, Roland Washburn, Patty Gall, Josh Green, Deb Thiele, Misty Nuzum, Gentry Sproul, Gavin Sproul, Amie Menagh, Jeris Norman, Virginia Carlton, Kristen Fahrenbruch, David Riemann, Tom Davis, all of Norton.

Missing three games were: Bob Covington, Kristen Brands, Glenn Brands, Janette Callaway, Brian Thompson, Colton Lowry, Skyler Harris, all of Almena; Jerome Laurin, Mike Hammond, Jim Springer, all of Long Island; Ethan Gallentine, Prairie View; Gail Bailey, Denise Bailey, both of Norcatur;

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#### Commissioners close the books

The Norton County commissioners held their end of month meeting on Thursday, and approved and signed the vouchers and payroll for September

Cynthia Linner, county treasurer, reported the sales tax collection for September, which was deposited to the general fund, amounted to \$26,427.58. She said this brings the year to date deposit to \$279,797.18.She also presented the special auto vouchers for signature. These included mileage and motel rates.

## Enrollment figures readjusted

#### By TOM DREILING

The enrollment figures provided The Telegram for the Norton School District appearing in Friday's Briefly column on the front page, were apparently a bit inflated.

Superintendent Greg Mann picked up on the published numbers and plugged in the actual figures, which show more of a decline in enrollment than readers might have believed by Friday's report.

Here are the official figures, as sent to Lenora School District students, 727.

the state on Sept. 20.

Head Count Enrollment: • Norton Community High School, 237, of which 23 are Lenora School District students.

• Norton Junior High School, 125, of 2005: which 7 are Lenora School District students.

• Eisenhower Elementary School, 365. Norton School District head count with

Full Time Equivalent Enrollment:

• Estimated Norton School District (number used for budgeting process), 658.1.

#### Sept. 20, 2006 enrollment -Sept. 20,

Norton School District + Lenora School District head count is -9 compared to last year.

Norton School District full time equivalent is -15.5 compared to last year.