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Harvest begins, yields are good

By Karen Krien

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Wheat harvest has arrived in Cheyenne County. The first load arrived on Wednesday, June 26. As of Monday, the elevator managers agreed that harvest had started and would be in full swing by the end of the week.

Dale Weeks, Wheeler Equity, said wheat has been good with 30 to 60 bushel yields being reported. He said they had taken in 62,000 bushels on Saturday and, since then, on Monday, had taken in another 128,000 bushels.

Shirley Zwegardt, St. Francis Equity, said they have been busy. Test weights have been 60 to 62 pounds and the average moisture is 13 percent.

"I look for a good run (at the elevator) both this week and next," she said.

Both elevators said they had enough rail cars for now.

Doug Ross, Bartlett and Company Grain, said harvest had started and they have been busy. The first load brought into Bartlett was on Thursday.

In other areas of Kansas, the Kansas Wheat Commission reports that, in the Colby area, harvest began Monday. So far, the average test weight is 62 pounds and moisture is just over 12 percent.

In Stockton, a below-average harvest is expected because of a hailstorm that pounded a wide area northwest of Stockton a few weeks ago. As of Monday, most farmers had begun cutting wheat in Rooks County with test weight averaging 60 pounds per bushel.

In Beloit, harvest was about 75-percent completed on Monday. The Farmway Coop had taken in more than a million bushels. Prior to the weekend rains, test weights were as high as 65 pounds per bushel. Farmers reported yields from 50 to 80 bushels per acre.



FIRST LOAD OF WHEAT IS IN! Harvey Neitzel brought a load into Wheeler Equity on Wednesday, June 25. Iva Krien probes the wheat for moisture content.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

First load ends contest

By Karen Krien

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The Harvest Countdown contest ended Wednesday when the first load of wheat came in. There was a tie for first place so

the top two will split the first and second prize, each claiming \$33 in scrip money.

Ole Juhl of Goodland and Valerie Lillich, St. Francis, each had a guess of 4 p.m. on June 25. The

third place winner was Tadd Neitzel who guessed 2:45 p.m. on June 26. He will receive \$15 in scrip.

"We had 31 people out of the See LOAD on Page 9A

Anesthetist recommends building

By Karen Krien

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Kim Zwegardt, anesthetist, was at the hospital board meeting on Thursday to talk about how an improvement might be made for physicians using the operating room and visiting physicians. Her proposal was to build on to the hospital but no decision was made.

Mrs. Zwegardt said she had been an anesthetist for 26 years and 15 of those years had been in St. Francis. She had seen the growth in the hospital, drawing patients from the surrounding area.

At a recent meeting with outpatient and operating room physicians and staff, they found that the hospital's physical layout was the problem. Because of the distance from the operating room to the patient care area, unlike facilities with a dedicated outpatient sur-

gery area, it takes more time and steps to provide care. The facility doesn't have an outpatient area to receive patients. Instead they are doubling up in rooms, and often must be moved at different times to accommodate the next patient. This hospital was built without a recovery room, she said. Therefore patient rooms are utilized and equipment must be moved from room to room. There are challenges, she said.

Before sending a patient home, the doctors prefer that they have a little something to eat. This means someone needs to run to the kitchen and take food upstairs to the patient. It has been suggested that the specialty physician's clinic area be used for this.

"It is just not efficient," she said, adding that there is no suction downstairs so these rooms are not equipped to handle this See BUILDING on Page 9A

St. Francis man dies in accident

By Karen Krien

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Jesse Pacheco, 39, St. Francis, was killed in an automobile accident at 2 a.m. on Saturday. He was driving a 2000 Ford Escort on County Roads QQ and 7 in Yuma County, Colo., when he lost control of the car. It went off the right side of the road, leaving an additional 55 feet of skid marks before he struck a fence. The car rolled a half time and went another 45 feet before stopping on its top. He was not wearing a seat belt.

His passenger, Ricardo Marquez, 28, St. Francis, was taken to the Kit Carson Hospital in Burlington and released later with

minor injuries. He was wearing a seat belt.

Mr. Pacheco was employed at St. Francis Feed Yard, south of St. Francis.

His family includes wife, Mirna, and children, Jesse, Freddy, Justin and Jessica, all of St. Francis.

Funeral services were set for Wednesday, July 2, at the St. Francis Catholic Church. Officiating were Father Roger Meitl and Father Norbert Diabal.

Casket bearers were Carlos Pacheco, Ramone Pacheco, Martin Estrada, Lupe Gomez, Harold George and Eric Farmer.

Burial was in the St. Francis Cemetery.



FOURTH OF JULY means fireworks. Lane Hoffman gets ready to set off one of the fireworks from Brunk's Brats stand. Casey Keller, center, and Garrett Brunk look on.

Area resident runs for judge

By Karen Krien

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District Judge Jack Burr of Goodland will not be seeking another term in the second position of the 15th Judicial District — opening the door for three candidates to vie for that seat.

Kevin Berens, St. Francis, along with Andrea Wyrick, Thomas and Logan County Attorney, and Scott Showalter of Goodland, all Republicans, have filed for the position.

The Aug. 5 primary will decide which will most likely be the 15th Judicial District Judge. The three candidates have been out in the seven-county area, beating the

streets, knocking on doors and several weeks ago, met in Sharon Springs for a forum.

If elected, Mr. Berens plans to use "integrity and impartiality with the right kind of knowledge and experience."

Mr. Berens has been an attorney with James Milliken, Chartered, in St. Francis since 1999. His legal practice takes him all over the 15th Judicial District and in other parts of Kansas and Colorado.

Mr. Berens said his diverse practice has provided him with a broad understanding of the law, the ability to apply the law to the facts of

See JUDGE on Page 9A



Berens

Bird City girl takes 2009 title

By Karen Krien

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Bird City girl, Amanda Walden, took home the title of 2009 Cheyenne County Young Miss at Saturday's program. She was one of 11 girls performing.

Held in the school auditorium in St. Francis, the first runner up was Andrea Holzwarth, St. Francis; second runner up was Courtney Douthit, St. Francis, and third was Sydney Busse, Bird City. Nikki Johnson, Bird City, was voted as the Contestant's Choice Award.

Each contestant was judged in the categories: Academics, Individual Interview, Performing Arts which was the talent they performed on Saturday evening, Endurance in the special presentation; and Grace and Elegance, as, in evening gowns, they were presented to the judges. The Academics category is worth 30 percent of the scoring.

Sydney earned the Academics award. Jami Pevler was presented the Individual Interview award. Andrea earned the Grace and Elegance award and the Endurance Award. Courtney dancing to "I Fought The Law," won the Performing Arts award.

Others competing were Cara Hunt, Kimberly Voeller, Joni Pevler, Taylor Kennedy and Sarah Guthmiller.

The 2008 Cheyenne County Young Miss, Holly Keller, was introduced during the program and gave several special numbers. Morcees were David and Talley Morrow, who, with humor, helped



Mandy Walden



Claiming the title of Young Miss was Mandy Walden, left. Andrea Holzwarth was the first runner up.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

keep the show moving.

During the intermission, a slide show presentation of the week's activities was shown.

Young men escorting the contestants were Matt Raile, Trent Raile and Drew Zwegardt.

Judges for the Young Miss program were Amanda Weissbeck, Topeka; Richard Bartholomew, Benkelman; Mary Joe Cress, Sterling, Colo.; Lindsay Stamm, Benkelman; and Cindy Preston, Benkelman. The scholastic judges included a panel with educational backgrounds.

Vickie Cress, director of the Young Miss program, said the goal of the Cheyenne County Young Miss is to boost self-esteem, build character, encourage educational value, motivate creativity and stimulate competitiveness in college-bound senior girls. The contestants are also awarded numerous scholarships.

The 2010 Cheyenne County Young Miss program has been set for the third weekend in June 2009. This year's juniors will be the participants.