



Leagues talk about combining

By Karen Krien
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In recent months, both Goodland and Colby schools have pulled away from the Northwest Kansas League and have joined the Great West Activities Conference. This has left St. Francis, along with Hoxie, Oberlin, Oakley, Atwood and Quinter, short two teams to compete with.

However, it doesn't stop there, Hoxie will be playing 8-man football in the 2010 school year. Quinter began 8-man play this year. This leaves only four schools in the league to play 11-man football.

Scott Carmichael, principal, said, at the Northwest Kansas League meeting on Thursday, they were talking to members of the Mid-Continent League. This league is also losing schools which are going to eight-man football.

Mr. Carmichael said the athletic director from Osborne is concerned because of the distance between St. Francis and Osborne (approximately 175 miles). There are and will be other concerns as

plans progress.

If the leagues combine, there will be league basketball and wrestling tournaments with the 15 teams. There will also be football playoffs. However, these contests will be divided into upper and lower divisions based on yearly team records.

Mr. Carmichael said, in combining the two leagues, there would be advantages for music, vocal, band, speech, forensics and art as they will have contests within the league. There is also a chance that the scholar bowl competition will be back.

Both Mr. Carmichael and Tim Lambert, athletic director, voted to take a look at combining the leagues. The Northwest Kansas League is here for another year, said Mr. Carmichael, but, after next year, Colby and Goodland are gone.

Mr. Carmichael said this was a preliminary plan and all members of the league were to take the information back to their school boards.

2009 fair theme, events decided

By Linda Schneider
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The first of the year has arrived and the Cheyenne County Fair Board are already discussing plans for the 2009 fair. "A Family Tradition" was selected as the theme.

In the October board meeting, Karol Lohman, board member, suggested the 4-H clubs have a contest in naming the fair's theme. The board members liked the idea and asked Joe Liebbrandt, county extension agent, to contact the 4-H leaders.

Mr. Liebbrandt submitted the

suggested themes and the members voted without naming the club. While all the suggested themes were good, the board voted to accept "A Family Tradition" as the 2009 fair theme. The winning 4-H club, Pleasant Hill, won a pizza party.

The members were discussed some entertainment ideas for the fair. Clay Zimbelman, member, suggested having a horse verses four-wheeler contests. The members thought it was a good idea to add to the schedule of events.

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County officials sworn in; state says landfill in violation

By Karen Krien
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The Cheyenne County Commissioners met on Monday with the first order of business being to swear in the newly elected officials. New officials sitting at the commission table were Dale Patton, commissioner, and Kari Gilliland, county attorney. Andy Beikman was sworn in for another term as commissioner and Terry Miller, as county clerk.

A letter from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment stated the county owed a \$4,500 fine for failure to comply with violations at the landfill. The letter stated there was failure to document inspections on incoming loads, to adequately apply cover on trash, maintain a log of dates when cover is applied and to conduct quarterly gas monitoring at the landfill.

It was noted that the inspection was done two years ago and the necessary letters regarding completion of the violation work had been sent. The supervisor thought there were no further problems.

There was a question as to why this information was coming now and were other counties seeing the same situations?

The commissioners, on the advice of the county attorney, decided to arrange a conference call with the Department of Health and Environment. In the meantime, Mr. Flemming will see if he can find more information and it will give Ed Garner, landfill supervi-



JUDGE ROBERT VAN ALLEN signs the certification after being sworn in by Terry Miller, clerk, Monday morning.

sor, time to produce the necessary logs.

Without more information, Mr. Beikman said, it is hard to figure out what we need to do.

Road and bridge report
The commissioners signed a contract for \$99,882 to allow



AMY DIANNE YANEZ was the first baby born in 2009. Holding a package of new sleepers is her 4-year-old sister, Vivian. Her parents are Vivana and Juan Yanez, pictured.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

First baby of 2009 arrives at hospital

By Karen Krien
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The first baby to be born in Cheyenne County arrived early Monday morning.

Amy Dianne Yanez, daughter of Viviana and Juan Yanez of St. Francis, was delivered by Dr. Rebecca Allard at 7:48 a.m. at the Cheyenne County Hospital in St. Francis. She weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20-inches long.

She has a big sister, Vivian Nicole, 4, who was excited to welcome her new sister.

Her grandparents are Lourdez Martinez and Gustavo Alarcon, and Manuel Yamez and Ama Derma, all of Mexico.

The Yanezs received: baby gift from Owens True Value, a gift basket from Hilltop General Store, a \$25 Busy Bee's B-E-E A Saver savings account from Bankwest, \$25 gift card from St. Francis Super's, a baby

gift from Krien Pharmacy, a \$50 savings bond from Western State Bank and a year's subscription to *The Saint Francis Herald* or *Bird City Times*. The Prairie Piecemakers Quilt Guild also gave a quilt to the new baby.

The rules for this year's first baby changed from year's past. The baby must be born at the Cheyenne County Hospital. With the arrival of Dr. Allard, the hospital began delivering babies. Last year, 14 babies were born at the hospital and, this year, 14 are already scheduled through the first week in August.

First baby born in 2008

Last year's first baby was Grace Anne, daughter of Jeff and Becca Landers. She was born at the Cheyenne County Hospital in St. Francis on Jan. 23. She weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces.



First Baby - 2008
Grace Anne Landers



JOEL HILL checks out the different calls at the FoxPro's Midwest Coyote Calling Contest Friday afternoon. His dad, John, stands behind him. More information about the contest will be printed in next week's paper.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick