

# 4-H'ers compete in Goodland

Four Cheyenne County 4-H'ers participated in the 4-H Shotgun Shoot held on Sunday at the Sherman County Fairgrounds in Goodland.



Hansen



Isley



Reed



Elfers



Radcliff

The shoot determined which 4-H'ers would go on to the state competition.

The county 4-H'ers were Bradey Hansen and Celine Isley in the senior division, and Dallas Reed and Emily Elfers in the junior division. Bradey, with a total score of 79; Celine, 57; and Dallas, 68, will be competing at state. Emily, even though she had a score of 57, did not make the state cutoff.

These four 4-H'ers have been

competing for the last four years. Their instructors are Rodney Radcliff, Francis O'Leary and Dr. Rebecca Allard. They practice on Thursdays throughout the year, as weather permits.

Last year, there were six placers at the state shotgun shooting. They included Bradey Hansen, Trevor Reed, Laramie Jenkins, Valerie Wurm, Emily Elfers and Dallas Reed. Trevor placed fifth in the state, hitting 95 out of 100 and

the Cheyenne County team placed 11th.

The state archery qualification shoot will be held in the near future but, as of Tuesday, the date and place was still undetermined.

State competition for the shotgun shooting sports will be held on Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Ark Valley Gun Club, Valley Center. The state archery contest will be held on Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Capital City Gun Club, Topeka.



RETURNING VOLLEYBALL COACH Talley Morrow talks to her squad during drills on the first day of practice last week. Herald staff photos by Nathan Fiala

## Volleyball starts next Tuesday

By Nathan Fiala  
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St. Francis student athletes started school on Tuesday but have already been practicing for over a week. The Lady Indians volleyball squad is short on older players but have a strong pool to select from that played at a junior varsity or junior high level and they look to improve upon last season's 2-19 record. Talley Morrow returns to the head coach position this year with Jeff Olofson as the assistant coach. Returning letter winners are seniors Laura Brunk and Clarice Neitzel, junior Aly Schleppe, and sophomore Justice Wiley.

The volleyball and football open house is on Friday at 7 p.m. in the high school gym.

### Roster

Seniors: Laura Brunk and Clarice Neitzel.

Juniors: Aly Schleppe, Randee Grover and Bailey Merklin.

Sophomores: McKayla Taylor, Justice Wiley, Echo Jones, Ashlee Orth, Dallas Reed and Kyla Bandel.

Freshmen: Hannah Stafford, Emily Elfers, Carol Eve Harris, McKenzie Taylor, Journey Lee, Kylie Sherlock, Alexis Frink, Kayla Reed and Sydney Sundstrom.

### Schedule

Friday, Aug. 24, 7 p.m. - Open house in high school gym.

Tuesday, Aug. 28, 4 p.m. - vs. Hoxie and Golden Plains at home.

Tuesday, Sept. 4, 4:30 p.m. - vs. Oberlin and Colby at Colby.

Thursday, Sept. 6, 5 p.m. - vs. Wauneta/Palisade at home.

Saturday, Sept. 8, 9 a.m. - Gove County tournament at Grinnell/Grainfield.

Tuesday, Sept. 11, 4 p.m. - vs. Atwood, Dighton and Sharon Springs at Sharon Springs.

Saturday, Sept. 15, 9 a.m. - Oakley tournament.

Thursday, Sept. 20, 4 p.m. - vs. Benkelman and Imperial at home.

Tuesday, Sept. 25, 4:30 p.m. - vs. Cheylin and Oberlin in Oberlin.

Saturday, Sept. 29, 9 a.m. - Oberlin Invitational.

Saturday, Oct. 6, 10 a.m. - St. Francis quad (vs. Dighton, Holyoke, Hayes Center, Benkelman).

Tuesday, Oct. 9, 4 p.m. - vs. Triplains, Leoti and Sharon Springs at Sharon Springs.

Saturday, Oct. 13, 10 a.m. - Northwest Kansas League Tournament at Oakley.

Saturday, Oct. 20 - Substate Volleyball.

Friday, Oct. 26 - State Volleyball.

Saturday, Oct. 27 - State Volleyball.

## Lightning strike causes large fire

By Kevin Bottrell

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Details have emerged in what could be one of the biggest fires in Sherman County history.

Emergency Management Coordinator Ryan Murray issued a release late last week, saying that according to aerial estimates and reports from landowners, the fire burned some 15,000 acres in southern Sherman County and northern Wallace County. Sherman County Fire Chief Brian James said he has been told the fire - which was started by lightning - is one of the biggest in the history of the county.

Though the exact location of the lightning strike is unknown at this time, based on wind speed and direction, James said the strike was likely somewhere around Sherman County Roads 50 and 25, on the northwestern side of the burn area.

Wind and dry conditions helped spread the fire quickly. It burned around seven sections of the T-Bar Ranch as well as sections owned by other landowners. James said the ground was mainly Conservation

Reserve Program grasslands, with a few fields of crop stubble.

The fire started around 5 p.m. Wednesday night and continued to burn through the night. It got far enough east to enter the southwestern corner of Thomas County and the northwest corner of Logan County.

James said firefighting units and tankers were dispatched from Weskan, Logan County, Colby, Oakley, Cheyenne County, Brewster, Kanorado and Wallace County departments. Three or more discs owned by area farmers were brought out to help control the fire. Crop Production Services, Frontier Ag and Helena Chemicals all provided tankers. James said at one time there were as many as thirty vehicles hauling water around the fire. A command post was set up at the intersection of County Roads 25 and 57.

The firefighters also received assistance from The Sherman County Sheriff's Office, Sherman County Emergency Management, Kansas Wildlife and Parks Department, Logan County

Emergency Services, the Thomas County Sheriff's Department, the National Weather Service and the American Red Cross.

There was also one plane that dropped a load of water on the fire. James said nobody knows who the plane belonged to, and the first he knew of it was when it flew over his head. Unfortunately, he said, the blast from the plane's propeller actually helped the fire flare up in one area.

Ambulances were standing by in several locations, but no one was hurt in the fire, James said, aside from one firefighter's cut hand. The only real problem of the night was communication. James said the radio repeater kept going down, which made it difficult to coordinate firefighting units. However, Murray brought down some 800 megahertz radios, which helped.

"Everyone from all the departments worked great together," James said.

James said the firefighters cleared the scene at 3:30 a.m. Thursday morning.

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