



**SHADRYON BLANKA took down his opponent on his way to first place in the Colby Open tournament this past weekend.**  
Photo courtesy of Shawna Blanka

## Wrestlers place in Colby Open

Wrestling is in full swing, now that the junior high and kids wrestling seasons have started.

Coach Dylan Loyd reported three young Indian wrestlers competed in the Colby Open this past weekend. All three showed great improvement throughout the day, he said.

Bringing home a gold medal was Shadryon Blanka. Logan McCarty brought home a silver medal, and Jaxon Nelson came two matches away from placing in his very first wrestling tournament.

Jaxon, wrestling in his very first tournament, did very well. He was in the 6 and under, 43 pounds, and

he lost his first match by a fall. He lost his second match 7-12, much improved from his first match.

Logan, 8 and under, 58 pounds, placed second. He won his first and second matches by falls; won an exciting match in overtime 4-2, and then lost 0-2 to place second.

Shadryon, 10 and under, 95 pounds, placed first. He won his first match by fall; won by forfeit and then won 12-0.

As a coaching staff, coach Loyd said, we are very proud of these young Indians. They have all shown the initiative to get better, and by going out and seeking competition that is exactly what

they are doing.

We have been practicing for a couple of weeks now and have had a great turn out for practices, Coach Loyd said. Coaching these young wrestlers is a joy, it's a lot of fun to see all the excitement and the willingness to get better. This upcoming Saturday we hope to have a good number of kids compete in the Atwood Open.

We have been practicing for a couple of weeks now, our practices are every Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. If there is any kids that are wanting to start, it's never too late, and the more the merrier.

## Obituaries

**Harold Melvin (Mux) Johnson**  
Jan. 7, 1932 - Jan. 2, 2014

Harold Melvin (Mux) Johnson, 81, died on Jan. 2, 2014, at the Good Samaritan Village in Saint Francis, Kan.

Mux was born Jan. 7, 1932, in Cheyenne County, Kan. to Harold T. Johnson and Velta Katherine Pyle Johnson. The family moved to the Evergreen community, then to Pleasant Valley community, then to the Big Timber community. He attended school at Pleasant Valley and Porter, then graduated Bird City High School in 1949.

He married Raoma Jean Purvis on July 19, 1951, at the Methodist Church in Bird City. To that union was born Darrel Raymond Johnson, Christina Ann Johnson and Alan Leroy Johnson.

Mux first farmed for Curley Kehlbeck and later Jim Hickert. He then worked at a cotton gin in Arizona, and then returned to

help build the Co-op elevator in Bird City. He also worked a year with the Kansas State Highway Department, then at the Bird City Co-op, before spending a year with the Cheyenne County Road and Bridge Department. From 1967 to 1972, he and his brother Merle operated the Wheeler Truck stop in Wheeler. He then began driving a truck for Consolidate Freightways, retiring after 21 years in 1993. Mux had been transferred to Torrington, Wyo., in 1980, and returned to Bird City in 1998 to spend his retirement years at his home in Bird City. His greatest pastime was repairing and trading used vehicles.

Mux was preceded in death by both his parents, his wife of 59 years, Raoma, and their infant daughter Christina, his brother-in-laws; Clifford Chipperfield, Don Spiker, Jim Underwood and

Darrel Purvis; and a sister-in-law Yvonne Underwood.

Mux is survived by his sons: Darrel Raymond Johnson and wife Pam of Bird City.; Alan Leroy Johnson and wife Ana of Goodland; grandchildren Nikki Johnson and Shayna Johnson, Leandra Johnson and A.J. Johnson, and four great-grandchildren; a brother, Merle L. Johnson and wife Doris of Texas; sisters Dorothy Chipperfield of Bird City, and Delores Spiker of Goodland; numerous nieces and nephews, cousins, and a host of friends.

Services were held at the Wesleyan Community Church in Bird City on Monday, Jan. 6 with Pastor Dan Carson officiating. Burial followed at the Bird City Cemetery.

Please send memorials to Hospice Services and Wesleyan Church in Bird City.

**Leonard Leroy Vyzourek**  
Feb. 6, 1920 - Dec. 30, 2013

Leonard Leroy Vyzourek, 93, of McDonald, died on Dec 30, 2013. He was born Feb 6, 1920, to Frank J. and Nan L. (Bahret) Vyzourek in a sod house near Beardsley.

He graduated from McDonald Rural High School in 1938. After graduation, he left Rawlins County for Venice, Calif.

He was called into the United States Army in 1941; he served 50 months with honorable discharge on Jan 12, 1946. State-side duty was at Sunnyvale-Fort Ord, Camp San Luis and Camp Roberts in California, Camp Bowie and Ft. Hood, Texas. Overseas duty was at Scafield Barracks, Hawaii, the Islands of Leyte in the Philippines.

He married Helen L. Glover on July 4, 1942, and to this union three children were born; a daughter Patricia Ann and two sons, Leonard L. Jr. and Paul Dennis. Leonard married Darlene A. McCarty on Oct 26, 1976, and to this union one son was born, Treg Alan. Leonard worked as an automotive painter

in Los Angeles until returning to Rawlins County to farm in 1958.

In 1972, Leonard turned the farm over to Leonard Jr. and he purchased Vyzourek Retail Liquor and operated it until retirement in 1987. He was instrumental in the organization of the baseball program in McDonald, serving as coach, mentor, groundskeeper and bus driver for many area youth. He was a member of the American Legion, Chester Phipps Post 229 from 1958 to 2013, holding every office within the post. He served on the board of directors for the Beardsley Coop from 1960 to 1981; 13 of those years he was secretary of the board. He was a member of the Atwood Country Club and a member of the Senior Citizen Center of McDonald. More recently he rediscovered his enjoyment for dancing, especially with his special dance partner, Betty Rodgers from Wray, Colo. He loved his community, family and especially his grandchildren. There was not a conver-

sation with him that didn't include his grandchildren in some way.

He is preceded in death by his parents and three grandchildren, Lori, Joshua and Heather.

He is survived by daughter, Patricia Ann (Thomas) Brazil, of Santa Margarita, Calif.; three sons, Leonard L. Jr. (Pam), of McDonald, Paul Dennis (Marilyn), of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Treg Alan (Cameron), of North Platte, Neb.; 20 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and other family and friends.

Funeral service was held on Friday, Jan 3, at Baalman Mortuary, Atwood. Burial followed in Grace Cemetery, McDonald, with military honors by the American Legion, Chester Phipps Post 229. In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to Rawlins County K-18 baseball program in care of Baalman Mortuary 109 N 2nd, Atwood, KS 67730. Online condolences: www.baalmanmortuary.com

## Moments With Mila

*Kansas influenza cases increasing*

Flu seasons are unpredictable in a number of ways.

Although widespread influenza activity occurs every year, the timing, severity, and duration of it depend on many factors, including which flu viruses are spreading, the number of people who are susceptible to the circulating flu viruses, and how well the flu vaccine is matched to the flu viruses that are causing illness.

The timing of flu can vary from season to season. In the United States, seasonal flu activity most commonly peaks in January or February, but flu viruses can cause illness from early October to late May.

Flu viruses are thought to spread mainly from person to person through coughs and sneezes of infected individuals. People may also become infected by touching something with flu virus on it and then touching their mouth, nose, or eyes.

For this flu season, the Center for Disease Control has received a number of reports of severe respiratory illness among young and middle-aged adults many of whom were infected with influenza A (H1N1 and pH1N1) virus.

Multiple pH1N1 associated hospitalizations, including many requiring intensive care unit admissions, and some fatalities have been reported. Cheyenne County has fallen into these parameters by having a young person confirmed with this form of influenza in which required intensive care unit admission with intensive respirator treatment.

In an effort to continue to protect residents of the county, Cheyenne County Health Department will be hosting two Influenza vaccination clinics on Jan. 16, and Jan. 23, at the health department. No appointments necessary and we will be open from 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. and open over the lunch hour for both clinics.

With all of the holiday travel, Kansas influenza cases have continued to increase these past few weeks.

People who have the flu often feel some or all of these signs and symptoms:

- Fever or feeling feverish/chills.
- Cough.
- Sore throat.
- Runny or stuffy nose.
- Muscle or body aches.

• Headaches.

• Fatigue (very tired).

• Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

You may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick. Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 5 to 7 days after becoming sick. Some people, especially young children and people with weakened immune systems, might be able to infect others for an even longer time.

The single best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year. Everyone who is at least 6 months of age should get a flu vaccine this season. While everyone should get a flu vaccine this season, it's especially important for some people to get vaccinated.

• People who are at high risk of developing serious complications (like pneumonia) if they get sick with the flu.

• People who have certain medical conditions including asthma, diabetes, and chronic lung disease.

• Pregnant women

• People younger than 5 years (and especially those younger than 2), and people 65 years and older.

• People who live with or care for others who are at high risk of developing serious complications.

• Household contacts and caregivers of people with certain medical conditions including asthma, diabetes, and chronic lung disease.

• Household contact and caregivers of infants less than 6 months old.

By  
**Mila Bandel**  
County Health Nurse



• Healthcare personnel.

People who have ever had a severe allergic reaction to eggs may be advised not to get vaccinated. People who have had a mild reaction to egg – that is, one which only involved hives may receive a flu shot with additional precautions. Make sure your health care provider knows about any allergic reactions. Most, but not all, types of flu vaccine contain small amount of egg.

Good health habits like covering your cough and washing your hands often can help stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses like the flu. There also are flu antiviral drugs that can be used to treat and prevent the flu.

1. Avoid close contact. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.

2. Stay home when you are sick. If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.

3. Cover your mouth and nose. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.

4. Clean your hands. Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

## Student News

Cody Sherlock, St. Francis Community High School 2011 graduate, was among 469 students to make the fall semester Dean's List at Benedictine College in Atchinson. Cody's parents are Gilbert and Cindy Sherlock.

Naomi Reeh of McDonald was also among the students to make the fall semester Dean's List at Benedictine College in Atchinson. Naomi's parents are Ms Jolene Reeh.

Colby Community College has announced the Fall 2013 Honor

Roll recipients. The Dean's Honor Roll includes students with grade point averages of 3.75-3.99. The President's Honor Roll includes only students with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Cateline Isely of Bird City was named to the President's Honor Roll. Cateline's parents are Jeter and Nina Isely.

Steven Nelson, St. Francis Community High School 2013 graduate, was named to the Dean's Honor Roll. Steven's parents are Randy and Brenda Nelson.

## Herald And Times Happenings:

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## Winter Sports Special Section

This supplement will feature St. Francis and Cheylin

Jr. High and High School Basketball players, Wrestlers and Cheerleaders!



To participate in a Special Section contact Tim

**The Saint Francis Herald**  
P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • 785-332-3162  
— and —

**Bird City Times**  
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## ATTN: Area Farm Producers



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