

Two local barrel racers, Deb Christy and Shawna Blanka each won saddles for their efforts during last year's barrel racing season. They received their saddles at the KS07 membership meeting and awards banquet on March 5 at Riverside Recreation. There were 70 people present at the banquet.

Over \$8,000 were given out in eight saddles (four open, four youth), eight buckles and various other prizes for the open, youth and pee-wee divisions in barrels and the open and youth poles. The cookie dough money raiser helps fund the nice awards. There are various other fund raisers which also helps with the awards.

Special awards were given to the top two sellers in the cookie dough fund-raiser. Lexie Renner, Sharon Springs, and M'Lynn Hinger, Goodland, received National Barrel Horse Association jackets for their efforts.

Mrs. Christy was recognized for her outstanding job as District Representative. She maintains the website, and for all of her work on the stud auction plus many other tasks she received a blanket with tooled corner plates with her title on them. Sara Hill, Goodland, and Sandy Hanson, Tribune, both came on board as representatives this year. They provided great assistance and received NBHA brief cases.

Others presented with awards for their continued help throughout the year were Steve Christy and Shawn Blanka, both of St. Francis, and Darwin and Jeanette Benedict, Yuma, Colo.

Mrs. Christy presented a glass sculpture with a barrel racer and



**LOCAL BARREL RACERS** Deb Christ, left, and Shawna Blanka each won saddles for last year's barrel racing season.

*Photo by Deb Christy, District Representative*

Shawna's name on it plus a night's stay at the Bed and Breakfast in Scott City to Mrs. Blanka for her continued hard work as the District Director.

Prizes in the Open 4D barrels were: First, Gerald Bethune saddle; second, Lonestar Silversmith buckle; third, BCR plaque; fourth, embroidered bale bag cover; fifth, NBHA gear bag. Each saddle winner got to choose their seat color.

Open 1D: First - Angie Russell, Colby; second - Cindy Gillespie, Ransom; third - Amanda Howard, Cheyenne Wells, and Becky Larson, Sharon Springs; fourth - Pam Howard, Cheyenne Wells and Brenda Delano, St. Francis.

Open 2D: First - Deb Christy; second - Becky Larson; third - Jessica Bertrand, Sharon Springs; fourth - Pam Howard and Cindy Gillespie.

Open 3D: First - Kathy Pelton, Cheyenne Wells; second - Deb Christy; third - Sandy Hanson, Tribune; fourth - Becky Larson and Cindy Gillespie.

Open 4D: First - Shawna Blanka; second - Nicole Clyncke, Cheyenne Wells; third - Dawn Dee Engelbrecht, Cheyenne Wells; fourth - Angie Berens, St. Francis; fifth - Tamie Margheim, Monument.

Prizes in the Youth 4D barrels were: First, Gerald Bethune

saddle; second, Lonestar Silversmith buckle; third, BCR plaque; fourth,

Youth 1D: First - Lacey Baehler, Sharon Springs; second - Jessica Bertrand, Sharon Springs; third - Abby Pelton, Cheyenne Wells; fourth - Samantha Foons, Tribune.

Youth 2D: First - Abby Pelton; second - Brodie Williams, Wallace; third - Skye Howard, Cheyenne Wells; fourth - Sarah Knudsen, Cheyenne Wells.

Youth 3D: First - Skye Howard; second - Sarah Knudsen; third - Abby Pelton; fourth - Samantha Foons.

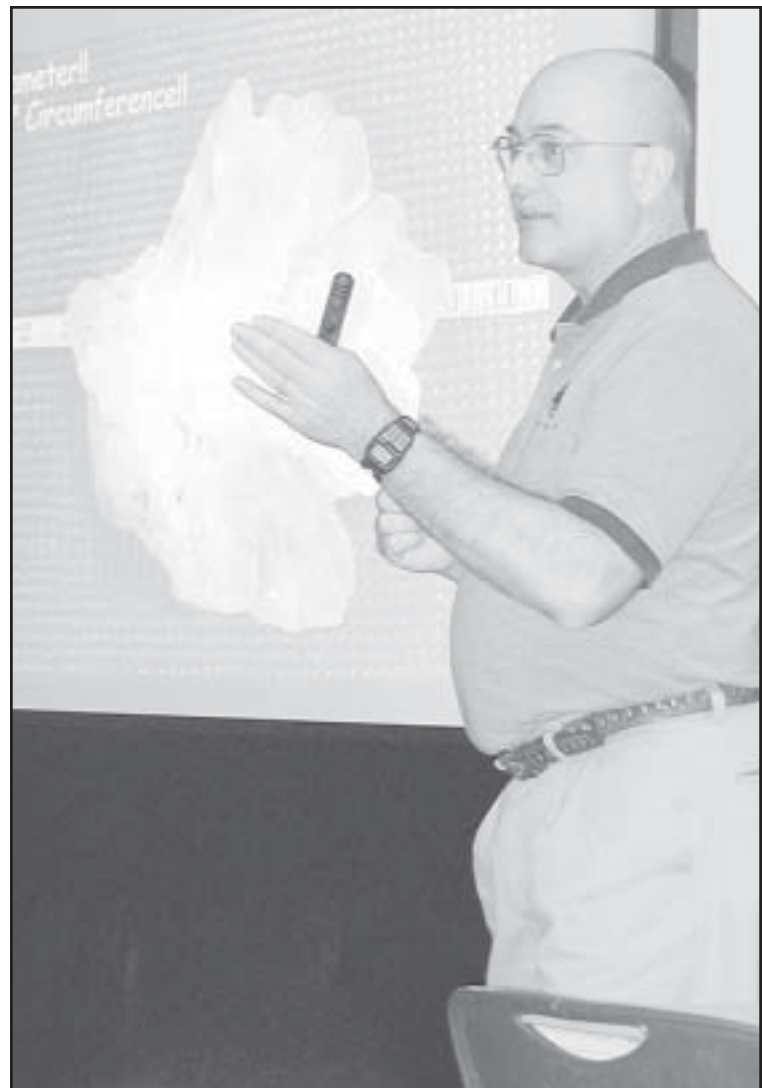
Youth 4D: First - Samantha Foons; second - Skye Howard; third - Taylor Colborn; fourth - Taylor Weinland, Sharon Springs.

### PeeWee division

This was the first year for awards for the PeeWee division which is 8 and under. There were 13 participants and there was a tight race in the top three. First place received a jacket and shirt; second and third gear bag and shirt. Everyone else received Martha Josey barrel reins.

First: Courtney Engelbrecht; second Lexie Renner; third: Ashley Clyncke, all of Cheyenne Wells; fourth Shakotah Blanka, St. Francis; other area youth were Jamie Nemechek and Parker Nemechek, both of Goodland.

The season started for District 07 with a double-header race at Scott City on March 28 and the state finals will be held in Topeka on April 30-May 2. For more information contact Shawna Blanka at 785-332-2875.



**SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTER** training was held Monday evening with David Floyd, warning meteorologist, talking about how to spot a tornado or severe weather.

*Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

## Weather spotter training is held

The Cheyenne County Severe Weather Spotter Training meeting held Monday evening in St. Francis drew a crowd of 40 people concerned about severe weather and giving information to the National Weather Service in Goodland.

David Floyd, warning meteorologist with the National Weather Service, talked about how to spot a tornado or severe weather and when to call a possible serious condition into the Service.

Mr. Floyd said that last year, there were 91 tornadoes reported in Kansas and that is 39 above the normal number. He also said that most tornadoes occur between the hours of noon and midnight and most tornadoes are reported in May. In fact, on May 8, there were 21 tornadoes reported.

However, tornadoes have been reported as early as February and as late as December.

If there is a tornado warning, people are urged to go to the basement or to an interior room on the lowest floor such as a closet or bathroom. Then wrap or cover themselves in coats or blankets to protect the head and body from flying debris.

If away from home, go to an interior room or hall on the lowest floor and stay away from glassed-in areas or wide-span roofs such as auditoriums and warehouses. Crouch down and cover the head. Also, don't take shelter in halls that open to the south or the west.

If in a car or mobile home, people are advised to abandon them immediately as most deaths from tornadoes occur in cars or mobile homes.

If there is no suitable structure nearby, lie flat in the nearest ditch or depression and cover the head

with your hands.

Always be prepared for a tornado by having a store of clean covered containers of water and a disaster supply kit which includes a flashlight, candles, matches and a radio.

If someone missed the training on Monday, there are two more classes in the areas. The Rawlins County class will be held at 7 p.m. on April 5 at the Prairie Development Center in Atwood. Another class will be held in Dundey County at 7 p.m. mountain standard time on April 22 at the Benkelman High School (location tentative).

Or, for more information, contact Gary Rogers, Cheyenne County Emergency Manager, at 785-332-2560.

## Wedding is planned

Chuck and Lynne Ferguson of Holyoke announce the engagement of their daughter Lindsey Rae Neitzel to Casey Wade Goddard, the son of Claude and JoAnne Goddard of Haxtun.

Lindsey is a 2000 graduate of Holyoke High School and will graduate from Colorado Christian University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education.

Casey is a 1997 graduate of Haxtun High School and a 2001 graduate of Colorado State University with a bachelor's degree in ag business.

They are planning a May 29 wedding.

Lindsey is the granddaughter of Manson and Bonnie Jones and the late Margaret Neitzel.

## Student competes at State

St. Francis fifth grader competes in State Spelling Bee

Mikaela Grace, 10, competed at the All-Kansas Spelling Bee held on Topeka's Washburn campus on Saturday. The fifth grader represented Cheyenne County and missed the word "mosey," on the sixth round. That round ended with 21 contestants still on the stage.

Despite the rainy weather, 200 to 300 spectators gathered to watch 99 participants from grades four through eight, each representing a different Kansas county, compete for the title of state champion and the chance to attend the National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC, June 1-3.

A triumphant smile and a light step silently signaled a correct spelling attempt. An incorrect spelling usually resulted in a sad demeanor as the speller of the incorrect word left the stage. Each round



Grace

resulted in 10 to 15 more empty chairs on the stage, so that the contest resembled a combination of Scrabble and musical chairs.

After more than four hours, a winner was declared. Labette County contestant Kendra Frazier, an eighth-grader, correctly spelled both "noisome" and "callow" to win the contest. Some of the other words Kendra spelled correctly were: catamaran, congeal, coniferous, dolorous and hypercritical.

Mikaela won the Cheyenne County Spelling Bee on Feb. 17 by correctly spelling "sorcerer" and "mangle."

## Procedures told for controlled burning

With spring upon us and summer just around the corner, The St. Francis Volunteer Fire Department would like to clarify the procedure surrounding controlled burns.

Controlled burns done by the St. Francis Volunteer Firemen are done for a number of reasons including elimination of possible fire hazards, structure removal and clean-up purposes. Also, it provides training opportunities for the firemen.

"If you are planning your own controlled burn, remember to call the dispatcher at the power plant in St. Francis," said George Harper, St. Francis Fire Chief.

If a controlled burn is not reported by the landowner and the fire department is dispatched, the landowner could be subject to a fine.

The fire department does not receive any pay from the county or the

city for performing a controlled burn; it is done by the members on their own time.

Any funds received from the landowner or tenant for the controlled burn is used for the firemen's kiddy train, Fire Prevention Week at the grade school and other philanthropies the fire department is involved with.

Those having questions or concerns should contact a fireman.



## School Menu

April 5-9

Monday: breakfast: French toast stix, syrup, cereal, apple juice, milk; lunch: turkey or beef, bun, lettuce and tomato, pickles, potato chips, celery and carrots, banana, cookie, milk

Tuesday: breakfast: scrambled eggs, buttered toast, grape juice, milk; lunch: chicken fajita, seasoned rice, tossed salad, pineapple slice, fortune cookie, milk

Wednesday: breakfast: breakfast taco, salsa, orange juice, milk; lunch: baked ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, crescent rolls, strawberry shortcake, milk

Thursday: breakfast: pancakes, syrup, cereal assortment, apple juice, milk; lunch: chicken casserole, peas, hot rolls, fruit cocktail, milk

Friday: no school  
Monday/Thursday: junior/senior high salad bar

## Student News

### Fort Hays State University

Fort Hays State University's agricultural honor society, Delta Tau Alpha, initiated several new members in February.

To become members, students must rank in the top 35 percent of their classes and have completed a minimum of 45 hours with nine of those hours in agriculture.

Among the students initiated was Jody Gienger of St. Francis.

### Ottawa University

Daniell Halpin, a St. Francis Community High School graduate, was on the dean's list at Ottawa

University and will be honored at the Spring Honors convention at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 29, at the University Chapel in Ottawa.

To qualify for the list, Halpin had to be a full-time student, earn at least 24 hours and have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

**FROM THIS DAY FORWARD**

**Trista Kreigh**  
~ and ~  
**Matt Smull**  
Wedding • May 29

SHOWER: Sun., April 4  
They have chosen the pattern  
Mocha Java by Noritake

**R.W. Stuart**  
~ and ~  
**Krista Paul**  
Wedding • May 1

They have chosen the patterns  
Spectrum by Noritake,  
Frost by Oneida

**Stuart's Jewelry**

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Fri. & Sat. • 11 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Sun. • 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

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**Friday, April 2 • 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Stop in and enjoy a hot dog and let us introduce you to our **Mineral Promotions!**

**MILL & SEED** 300 W. Emerson  
NEW OWNER: Randy Dinkel St. Francis  
785-332-3191

**Come & Go Bridal Shower**  
for Lindsey Rae Neitzel  
Sat., April 3 • 2-4 p.m.  
St. Francis Equity Meeting Room  
Lindsey would enjoy visiting with friends & family in the area  
She is registered at  
www.bedbathandbeyond.com • www.target.com

**James E. Reeves, DPM**  
Podiatrist/Foot Specialist  
Reconstructive Surgery  
Foot & Ankle Injuries

For appointments call:  
**Rawlins County Health Center**  
785-626-3211  
**Wed., April 7**  
Cheyenne County Hospital - P.M.  
210 W. 1st • 332-2104  
**Thur., April 8**  
Atwood - A.M.  
Colby - P.M.  
CSMC, 175 S. Range  
462-3332  
CMC, 100 E. College Dr.  
462-7511  
**Fri., April 9**  
Atwood - All Day

It's your turn now,  
**DOUGIE LEE!**

**Happy 50th Birthday**  
Fri., April 2

**Wedding Registry**

**Trista Kreigh**  
~ and ~  
**Matt Smull**  
SHOWER: Sun., April 4  
Wedding • May 29

**R.W. Stuart**  
~ and ~  
**Krista Paul**  
Wedding • May 1

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