



BIDS WERE OPEN with Tom Quiggle and Troy Porter auctioning off a number of items. Samantha Jensen assisted during the banquet.

Bird City hosts wildlife banquet

By Casey McCormick

Bird City hosted one of Cheyenne County Wildlife organization's biggest events of the year. Members gathered to raise funds and awareness of the importance of wildlife preservation and the ability of residents to hunt.

Many attended the festivities at the American Legion hall as they bid on many items which focused on the outdoor theme. Prints by local artist Marilyn Frisbie, rifles and bird calls, as well as other sporting goods, and actual live certificates for pheasant chicks were eagerly spoken for by the participant.

This event used to be a part of larger groups which would take local funds out of the area. Organizations such as Ducks Unlimited and Quails Unlimited would do similar fund raisers. However the money produced would either go to places out of this community, be it out of county, out of state, or even out of country like Canada for Ducks Unlimited.

Now the money made by the evening's activities will go to Cheyenne County to aid in wildlife awareness.

"We are one of the first to break away [from these larger organizations] using these funds for hunter education for the youth and trees for wildlife habitat for this area," said Local hunter and business man Ken Krien.

Mr. Krien shares the view of many of the local population when he said "we want our children and grandchildren to grow up with the outdoor life that we have experienced."

Not only did Cheyenne County folks participate but people from



Steve and Craig Busse enjoyed looking over the hunting items displayed during the wildlife banquet.

Times staff photos by Casey McCormick

Colorado, Nebraska, and as far away as Alabama, were there. Jim Baxter, Mobile, Ala., attended the event with his brother Tim of St. Francis.

Some of the night's fun came from a live auction, prize drawings and a great deal of happy individuals. Many men were there with several generations being represented.

Prizes were distributed by area young ladies: Samantha Jensen, Joy Zumbahlen, Amanda Poore and

Ashley Holzwarth. The prime rib supper was prepared by Kerby and Kody Krien and served by Deanna Nelson and Avis Hazuka.

The evening concluded with the final drawing for a unique gun safe. All held tickets in anticipation to find that Aaron Linner of Bird City had the lucky number. Congratulations to him and all who appreciate the ability to hunt and preserve our local habitat.

Cheylin Honor Roll

The Cheylin School System has released the names of those students receiving academic honors for the third nine week period.

Those students named include:

Seniors

Honor roll: Andrew Smith, Stephanie Snyder, Matt Wilson, Hollie Louderbaugh, Amanda Poore, Jill Zumbahlen, Joy Zumbahlen, Annie Hengen

Honorable mention: Michael Sager, Samantha Jensen, John Simmonds, Jennifer Weinstein, Kelly Garner

Juniors

Honor roll: Cristi Antholz, Kylie Dixon, Hayley Young, Brittany Kehlbeck

Honorable mention: Amanda Banister, Stephanie Hubbard, Sara Moore, Shellie Felzien, Chase Krien, Megan Sramek

Sophomores

Honor roll: Rebecca Mason

Honorable mention: Alex Hengen, Justin Antholz, Ailysa Carpenter

Freshmen

Honor roll: Jacob Jensen, Josh Moyer, Kori Underwood

Honorable mention: Afton

Krien, Hannah Louderbaugh

Eighth grade

Honor roll: Josh Johnson, Aubrey Kehlbeck, Samantha Beeson

Honorable mention: Terry Jensen, Jessica Marshall, Nathan Ketzner, Emily Holub

Seventh grade

Honor roll: Vanessa Antholz, Kaedra Dixon, Colleen Sharder

Honorable mention: Jessica Davis, Lincoln Pochop, Sarina Burmester, Taylor Leibbrandt, Christopher Basnett, Amber Mason

Golf team ready for action Tuesday

By Casey McCormick

Golf is back at Cheylin High School and the coach and players are ready to hit the links. Head coach Ken Hankins said, "we're a little shallow on experience (only 4 returning lettermen) but I hope to have the progress and be sharp by state."

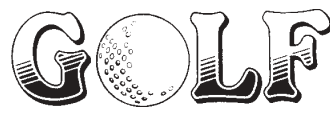
This year's team will have a good mix with six ladies, who are required to play men's rules, and several new men players. The seniors are Michael Sager, John Simmonds, Andy Smith and Matt Wilson. Juniors playing will be Amanda Banister, Andrea Carpenter, Kylie Dixon, Stephanie Hubbard, Tyler Knapp, Jay Poore and Megan Sramek. The lone sophomore is Andrew Marshall and the freshmen are David Banister, Brandon Gordon, Jacob Jensen and Afton Krien.

The golfers will play a full schedule of 11 events at area courses. Play will vary, depending on course design, on whether they will be on grass or sand greens. The first competition will be on April 8 as the varsity players will travel to Benkelman, Neb., for the Dundy County tournament. This is one of only three events that are for varsity players alone.

Coach Hankins is optimistic when he said, "we have a good tradition of players going to state in the past."

His team will likely be playing for individual medals rather than team trophies.

He said, "the kids are looking forward to bringing home the hardware (medals)."



Ag department students make "Birdie Board"

Bird City has a new portable bulletin board in the center of town. It is called "Birdie Board".

"The former bulletin board was drawing its last breath and its demise was discussed in a PRIDE meeting," said PRIDE spokeswoman, Donna Johnson.

They decided to hand the project over to the Cheylin High School Ag department.

Ag instructor Max Keltz put Andrew Marshall and Justin Antholz in charge of construction.

"It will be there for a while," Andrew said, referring to how sturdy the bulletin board is. "It's good to give something back to the community since they are always there to

support us at football, basketball and other events."

Building materials were donated by Marion Dowdy and Hot Brush provided the PRIDE sign. The new bulletin board can be wheeled to the center of Bressler Street and Bird Avenue to display announcements to the people of Bird City. Another recent addition which keeps residents informed is the brightly lit motion sign at First National Bank.

Melvin Mast, who was city superintendent some years ago, recalls a barrel being used as the first way of communicating local events to the public. He remembers Harold Nelson as being the one who mounted the barrel on wheels.

In the past few weeks, there has been concern about House Bill 2027 which deals with prairie dogs and who would control the eradication of these pest-ridden critters. However, on Friday, in a bill that had once again been revised, the House passed the bill which will allow county commissioners to authorize the purchase of materials and employ someone to control prairie dogs, moles and gophers.

The words "destroy and manage" were replaced with "control." A landowner may also control prairie dogs on their land.

Prairie dogs were determined as "a species of management concern requiring control." No longer are they determined as an endangered species.

When a colony of prairie dogs is found and the commissioners find that they are a threat of "destructive, injurious or detrimental effect" to surrounding lands, they can give a written notice that the prairie dogs are causing a threat and need to be controlled.

The landowner will need to control the prairie dogs or the commissioners will have them controlled and the cost will be charged to the landowner.

Plans will need to be submitted but anyone interested in eradicating or controlling the prairie dogs should contact one of the commissioners, the county clerk or the noxious weed supervisor.

Also contained in the bill is the statement that it is illegal to transport and relocate prairie dogs. And prairie dogs cannot be harvested for commercial purposes.



You are invited to a
Bridal Shower & Sit Down Brunch
for DeAndrea Wright
Bride-Elect of David Krien
Sat., April 12 • 10 a.m.
St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Hall
Bird City

Bring your favorite recipe!

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Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Annual Meeting
Tues., April 8, 2003

Prairie Land Headquarters
in Norton, KS

Dinner at Noon — Meeting at 1 PM

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