

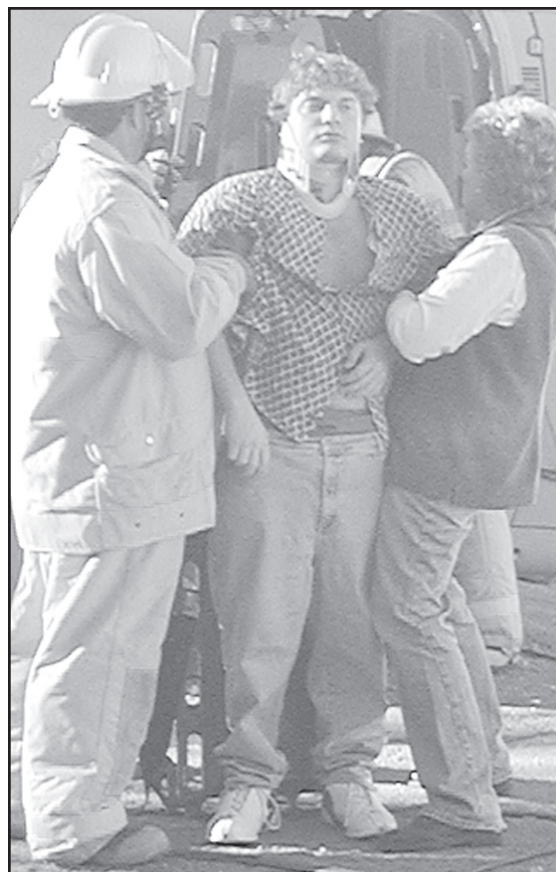
Mock emergency disaster gives practice



A MOCK ACTION was held Dec. 28 and emergency medical technicians scrambled to the accident. The bus was turned over and technicians worked to get inside.



The mock disaster began with the county equipment turning over the bus (counter-clockwise) Larry Gabel, Cheyenne County Emergency Medical Service director, checks off how technicians are doing. Removing the patient are Ryan Zwegardt, Tyler Raile and Ben Smull; Janelle Bowers and a fireman help David Banister; Chaylene Kriegh, Wendy Richmeier and Dave Hubbard carry Kori Underwood; Wendy Richmeier, a fireman and an unidentified technician carry a patient.



Photos by Kathy Vrbas and Karen Krien

County technicians participate in mock accident

By Karen Krien

A mock school bus/pickup accident was held on Dec. 28 west of McDonald but in Cheyenne County.

Cheyenne County and Rawlins County emergency medical technicians rushed to the scene after the announcement was made on

their pagers.

The accident was set up by Rod Young, Bird City; Beth Gabel, St. Francis; and Mitch Miller, Atwood. The bus, an old school bus once used by the Cheylin District, was brought to the scene, along with an old pickup.

The accident involved 10

Cheylin students, a bus driver, a pregnant woman as the driver of the pickup, and an infant passenger. Students were coached on what their injuries were and how to act when the technicians arrived on the scene. Each student had a tag attached to them which told his/her injuries and technicians

were to treat the injuries.

"The mock accident gave technicians a chance to get practice, hands-on experience and to fine-tune their skills," Larry Gabel, emergency service director, said. "The practice will help them if there is ever such an accident."

All ambulances were on the

scene and technicians were load-

ing them to take to the hospital. Following the practice, the Cheyenne County technicians met at the Bird City ambulance barn where they reviewed the afternoon's activities, talking about what could have been done different and how to improve if

this were a real accident.

"I really appreciate the work Rod and Beth did in setting up the accident—it took a lot of time," Director Gabel said. "The technicians are also to be commended because they gave up the afternoon, some without pay from their jobs, to participate in the practice."