



LEFT TO RIGHT, Cheylin seventh graders, Shayna Johnson, Ellie Pochop, Walker Janicke, Ty Carmichael and Shayla Hubbard working on a math problem during Monday evening junior high scholars bowl and the competition was challenging against 10 other schools. The next competition will be held Nov. 3 at Golden Plains.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

## Cheylin scholars host bowl

On Monday, Cheylin junior high school hosted the first scholars bowl of the 2008-2009 school year.

Some of the questions during the competition were quickly answered, and some had the adults scratching their heads.

"When the night was over, the Cheylin seventh and eighth graders performed well and we are proud of them all," said Kale Schields, junior high scholar bowl coach.

The Cheylin eighth graders, Stephanie Busse, Adam Orten, Joshua Keltz, Kenan Reeh, Jessie Smith and Grant Shrader finished in second place.

Cheylin had two seventh grade teams, on Cheylin A-team was Walker Janicke, Ty Carmichael, Shayla Hubbard, Shayna Johnson and Ellie Pochop and they finished eighth in the competition. And Cheylin B-team, Connor Hazuka, Martin Veleta, Eddie Frisbie, Jacob Brubaker (sixth grade), and Shawn Pochop (sixth grade) finished second.

## Cheylin School Board approves audit report



By Linda Schneider  
dublinls@hotmail.com

At the October Cheylin Board of Education meeting, Brian Stats, representative for Adams, Brown, Beran, and Ball auditors, reported there were no problems in compiling the audit report and the school reports complied with state budget law. In addition, he reported there were no state statute violations in funds reported as of June 30.

However, Mr. Stats reported that the school had two state violation, one is the state law requires that there be a treasurer and a clerk

in the office. Moreover, each is to have a set of books. He continued by saying that Cheylin has never had this arrangement; but he is required by law to report it.

The other violation is one board member has not filed a 'special interest' form with Cheyenne County. The purpose of the form is to list all outside business interests and to guard against a conflict interests at voting. A short discussion followed and Jane Young, district clerk, following up and reporting back.

He reported finding a balance

of approximately \$26,000 in last year's budget report when there should have been a zero. He speculated that it was due to a mistake in the spreadsheet cells interlinking with formulas during the preparation of the report and calculations were off. Furthermore, the state will reduce the school's funding by that amount.

Mr. Stats informed the board it meant that the taxes the Internal Revenue Service was estimating the school was to receive was actually \$26,000 less than what the school received,

and the state gave too much money last year.

"Basically, the state is saying they loaned you money and now taking it back next year at no interest," said Mr. Stats.

Mr. Stats ended his report with several recommendations to the board for strengthening their control over the school's finances.

To have more checks and balances, one recommendation was to have a second pair of eyes go over the bank's statements periodically and someone who could step in and do the clerk's duties

in the event of her absence. Another was to have at least two of the three signatures on checks to be "live" and not stamps. In addition, he recommended that at least two persons handle the signature stamps.

"When counting money from sports events and concession, have two persons count and sign off the amount. This helps in tightening the control the board has because it is your responsibility," said Mr. Stats.

Another recommendation was to have a segregation of job duties listed and not having

the same person solely responsible for activities and function funds.

In conclusion, he asked the board to have contingency plans and these are recommendations. He told them some issues with frauds and thefts are not as prevalent at Cheylin as in bigger schools; however, they do help in management, catching oversight and preparing future audits. Motion carried to accept financial report with their recommendations and with discretion given to Superintendent Bill Porter on those recommendations



VERNETTA HAACK LOOKS OVER and buys one of Lily Ruth Edmonston's (right) craft items during last year's Craft Show.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

## Setting up booths for 25 years

By Linda Schneider  
dublinls@hotmail.com

For nearly 25 years, Lily Ruth Edmonston has been setting her craft booth up for the Craft Show held annually in Bird City, and maybe the oldest attending vendor of the show that started in the late 1980s.

Mrs. Edmonston's love for making handmade items began in the 1930s during her early teen years. Born and raised in Bird City, her mother, Mary Edna Gipe, taught her the art of crocheting and embroidery.

Mrs. Gipe started her young daughter crocheting dish towels, chair sets and vanity sets.

"The chair sets were three piece

doilies, one piece went over the back of the chair and two smaller pieces over each arm," said Mrs. Edmonston.

Her first experiences with selling her crafts started in Colorado Springs during the time she was attending a business college to learn to be a secretary. When she found that secretarial work did not suit her, Mrs. Edmonston found work at a local cafeteria and during her work breaks started making aprons and selling them.

Today, at 83, she has been making and selling craft items for 70 years and still sets up her own booth. She is busy with St. Francis Farmer's Market, the An-

tique Engine and Thresher Show in Bird City, Gun Show in Colby, U.S. 36 statewide yard sale, and Beecher Island flea market.

Over the years, Mrs. Edmonston has added few new items to her display, but she continues to offer her cloth books and Christmas ornaments that she has found customers returning for repeatedly.

The Craft Show begins on Saturday in the Bird City American Legion Hall. Along with Lily Ruth crafts, attendees get the opportunity to browse and purchase handcrafted, baked, and many other items from talented vendors who come together once a year under one roof.

## Teaching goal is 'to be active'

By Linda Schneider  
dublinls@hotmail.com

Walking into the Cheylin gymnasium, or onto the outside playing fields, looking for the physical education teacher might cause some confusion. That is because Jeremy Stefan, 25 years old, looks more like a student than a staff member. However, beneath his youthful appearance is a teacher who wants his students to learn that making the right choices in how they live will lead to a long and healthy life.

Native of the northwest corner of Kansas, Mr. Stefan was born and raised in Goodland and graduated from Goodland High School in 2001. His parent, Bernard and Diane Stefan, raised him, his brothers and sister, Eric, Megan and Kyle, to be independent thinkers and supports their career choices.

After graduating from Goodland, Mr. Stefan attended Emporia State and in 2007, received a Bachelors of Science degree in education with a major in physical education and a minor in health education. Before accepting his present teaching assignment with Cheylin, Mr. Stefan taught seventh through high school physical education and health at Dighton School.

During his growing years, Mr. Stefan recognized the importance of good nutrition and exercise. Even going to grade school, he enjoyed playing sports and being outside more than playing video games.

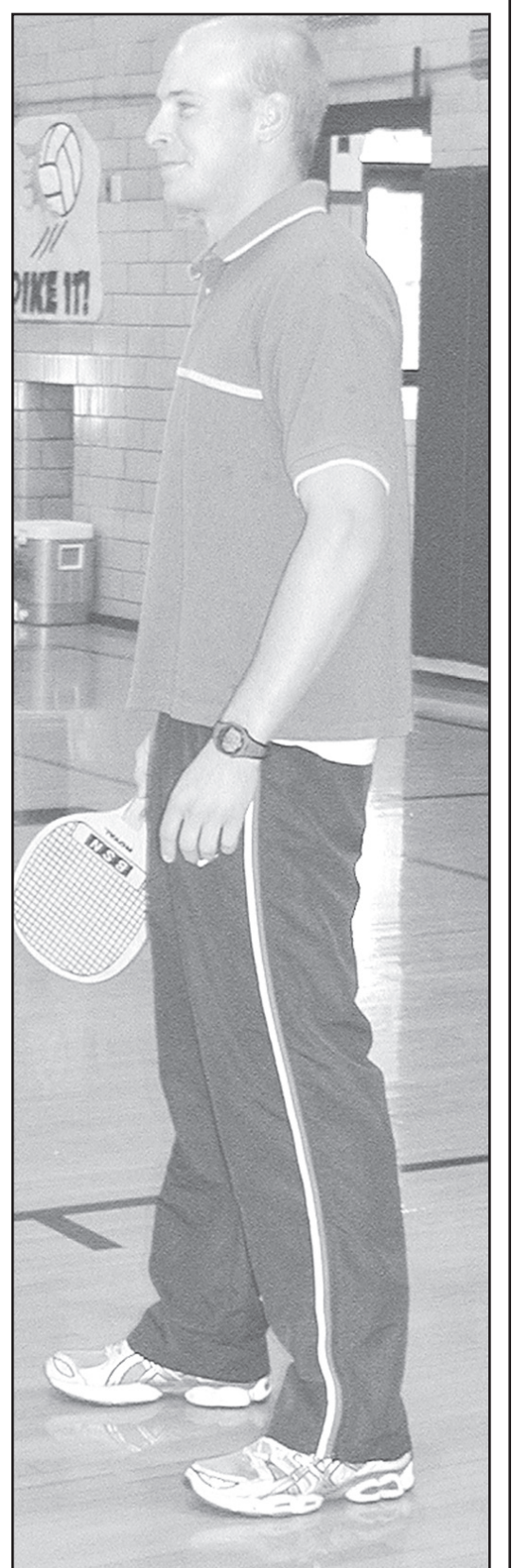
In making his decision to teach, he will admit there was no flash of lightning and he did not decide as he started college. Nevertheless, one thing he wanted to do was make a difference and while many people have influenced him throughout his life, the person who played an important part in his decision to teach physical education was Coach Jon McClean of Goodland High School.

Today, teaching at Cheylin, gives him the chance to show students alternatives to healthy living. By example and illustrations, introduce his students to that proper nutrition and exercise promotes good thought processing and wards off cardiovascular diseases.

"What good is it if a person can do math, but die of a heart attack at the age of 30?" said Mr. Stefan.

When the weather gets too cold to go outside for class, Mr. Stefan looks forward to teaching the health course to his classes; especially the seniors. He says one of the biggest challenges facing them when they go off to college is staying physically active and eating the right kinds of food.

He wants his students to walk out of his class armed with understanding and knowledge, giving them the information to do the right thing.



PADDLE UP! Jeremy Stefan shows students physical activities are an important part of the day.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider