

## Agriculture expo returns

By Karen Krien

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For the second year, the McCook Farm and Ranch Expo is coming to McCook on Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 18 and 19. Held at the Red Willow County Fairgrounds, the expo starts at 9 a.m. both days and ends at 7 p.m. on Nov. 18 and 4 p.m. on Nov. 19. Admission and parking are free.

"It's a great place to come see the newest and latest in farming and technology practices, said Darren Dale, show manager. We are expecting 300 vendors from 20 states and Canada."

Exhibitors include displays from farm and ranch equipment, seed and chemicals, agricultural service, irrigation manufacturers, financial providers, commodity organizations, colleges, governmental services, home services,

furniture and art galleries. Expo attendees will be able to meet Will Lowe, three-time Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association world champion bareback rider, who will sign autographs both days. Pig races will be held throughout both days.

Corporate sponsors for the expo include Southwest Implement and Hometown Family Radio.

Last year, the parking lot counts showed vehicles from 37 Nebraska counties, 20 Kansas counties, 13 Colorado counties and 10 other states, Mr. Dale said.

The fairgrounds are in north central McCook near West Fifth and O Streets. For more information, contact Darren and Tana Dale, 866-685-0989 or dales@bwtelcom.net or go online to www.mccookfarmandranchexpo.net.

## October sees snow

The month of October has seen more snow in one month than in the total snowfall between Jan through April of 2009.

October had 11 inches of snow with the maximum precipitation fall within 24-hours of 1.49 inches on Oct. 22. The total amount of precipitation for October was 3.62 inches

The temperatures revealed a wide range with the minimum of 18 degrees on Oct. 10 and highest of 86 degrees on Oct 18, and wind gusts of 46 miles per hour recorded on Oct. and wind chill factor at its lowest on Oct. 10, at 6 degrees. Report submitted by Troy Burr, Weather Observer.



HALLOWEEN WAS fun for big and little kids. This girl receives a treat from Jane Young at the Cheylin gymnasium.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider



PLAYERS STRUGGLE with each other and the elements. Playing in blizzard like conditions, the Cheylin Cougars season came to an end against Golden Plains on Thursday night.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

## Team plays in a blizzard

Athletes from Cheylin and Golden Plains met on the football field Thursday night with less than ideal playing conditions due to the falling, blowing snow and the cool temperatures.

The Cougars suffered a 28-8 loss which ended their football season.

"This was a tough game in tough conditions" said Coach Max Keltz.

Cougar player Hudson Louderbaugh received an injury in the third quarter and was taken to the hospital. Players from both teams surrounded him on the field to help block the wind, cold

and snow prior to his trip to the hospital.

After the injury and with the snowstorm, the game was called in the third quarter.

"We didn't end the season like we would have liked to," Coach Keltz said. "I was proud of the effort the kids displayed and am looking forward to good things to come."

Offensively for the Cougars, Jared Cahoj, junior, had 11 rushes for 101 yards; Caleb Keltz, junior, had four rushes for 2 yards; Adrian Garcia, junior, had two catches for 21 yards; Dalton Magnani, sophomore, had two catches for 9

yards and Keltz completed four of six passes for 30 yards.

Cahoj made the touchdown for the Cougars with Magnani running in the two-point conversion.

Defensively Max Hengen, senior, and Cahoj had 16 tackles each; Garcia had 15 tackles; Chris Walden, junior, had 11 tackles; Keltz, Magnani and Kenan Reeh, freshman, had seven tackles each; Louderbaugh, senior, had four tackles; Jeremiah White, sophomore, had three tackles; Mitchel Jensen, junior, had two tackles; Craig Busse, junior, had one tackle.

## Cheylin runner places second

Cheylin cross country runners, Naomi Reeh, Stephanie Busse and Vance Churchwell, represented the Cougars at the state 1A cross country meet which was held at Wamego Country Club on Saturday.

This was Cheylin's first year to have cross country and the team proved that they were ready for the challenge. Three out of five team members qualified for the state meet and two of them medaled. Other members of the team were Adrian Garcia and Heath Churchwell.

The girls division at state was very competitive as the Cheylin girls were running with Rachel Renken, 2008 state champion from Downs-Lake, who was working to defend her title.

Reeh, the reigning Kansas State 3200-meter champion, from Cheylin High School, took the lead from Renken with 800 meters to go, but Renken was able to pass Reeh just feet before the finish line.

"Renken had to turn in a superior performance to keep her title," Coach Jolene Reeh said.

"Naomi showed a lot of character in the way she ran this race as she was just coming off of a bout with pneumonia."

Reeh finished second out of 86 runners with a time of 15:57.44. This was her personal best time, an improvement of 25 second over her previous best.

"Stephanie ran an excellent race while medaling in 14th place as a freshman having never ran anything over a 400-meter before this season," Coach Reeh said.

Busse had a time of 17:19.97. In the boys division, V. Churchwell placed 51st out of 98 runners with a time of 19:57.97.

"Vance also had a fine race, definitely one of his best outings for the season," Coach Reeh said. "The Wamego course is a difficult



NAOMI REEH PRESSED the returning state champion, ending the race with a 2nd place.

Photo courtesy of Jolene Reeh

course especially for those who are there for the first time."

### Regionals

Reeh, Busse and V. Churchwell qualified for the 1A state cross country meet by placing at regionals on Saturday, Oct. 24. Fourteen teams attended regionals which was held at Wheatland High School in Grainfield.

Reeh and Busse were two of 30 runners at Grainfield. Reeh placed second with a time of 16:34. Busse, who ran with a personal best time of 17:12, placed sixth.

Churchwell placed 14th out of 39 runners with a time of 19:26 which also qualified him for state. Also running for Cheylin at regionals was Adrian Garcia. With a time of 20:23, he came in 39th.

### 2009 season

"Both girls, Naomi and Stephanie,

also played on the Cheylin volleyball team, and both boys Adrian and Heath were playing football," Coach Reeh said.

"All practices were held at 6:45 a.m. so that Naomi, Stephanie, and Adrian could also get to choir practice before school started at 8:15.

"In the month of October, the kids have run in the dark and cold of the morning. We ran a shortened schedule with the girls only running three meets and the boys running four meets before regionals. Any other meets would have interfered with their other sports.

"Four out of the five athletes have run two-a-days for two and a half months! I am extremely proud of these five athletes and how hard they have worked."

## County airport runway should reopen middle of December

The cement has been poured and the Cheyenne County Municipal Airport should be open by the middle of the month.

Diane Hofer, project engineer for Olsson Associates, who is overseeing the runway project, was in St. Francis Thursday afternoon.

She said the project had gone very well. The contractor had 60 working days to complete the project and, if the weather had been better, the runway would probably be open now, before the 60-day schedule

was up.

The runway is 6-inches thick which the contractor's crew finished pouring on Oct. 16. The runway was replaced with concrete and also widened to 75 feet. The concrete has relief cuts every 15 feet and each seam is beveled so that snow can be removed without catching an edge of the relief cut.

The new runway lights have been installed and are working. The grass has been planted.

Left to complete on the runway is

painting the markings and putting a joint sealer in the stress cuts.

Earlier that day, Dave Yost and Ron Loudon, Airport Authority members, were at the commissioners' meeting to inform them of the progress of the project. They said the land to the southeast has been purchased and was ready for the runway extension plans.

Next year, they said, the tentative plans for extending the runway to 5,200 feet will be surveyed, the design drawings are planned for

2011. The extension work will be completed (tentatively) in 2011 and 2012.

The extension is the final phase of the airport runway project which is funded by the Kansas Department of Transportation with federal funds. The extension will cost between \$1.8 to \$2 million. Since it is a 95/5 percent grant, the county's share will be around \$100,000.

The commissioners have been putting away money each year and, by the time the runway is completed,

there should be enough money to pay the county's share. The project has been underway for 6 years.

In hot weather, larger planes need a longer runway for a safe takeoff distance. The present runway is 3,138-feet long — one of the shortest runways in the area.

Robert Grace, airport manager, had looked into the lengths of other runways and reported that Oberlin had the next shortest runway at 3,800 by 50 feet, followed by Hoxie, 4,400- by 50-feet; and

Norton, 4,700- by 60-feet.

Having the largest runways in the area are Hays and McCook, each having a 6,500- by 100-foot runways. Goodland has a 5,500- by 100-foot runway; Wray, a 5,400- by 75-foot runway; Burlington, 5,200 by 75; Colby, 5,110 by 75; Hill City, Atwood, and Oakley each have 5,000- by 75-foot runways.

When the St. Francis runway is completed, it will be 5,200-foot long by 75-feet wide.