



**RUSSELL JACKSON**, city worker, was helping Brad Schneider, city manager, cover the area where a tank of road oil material spilled. The tank had contained the liquid since the 80s and not being used. Most of the road oil material was salvaged, removed

and stored at another location for further use as instructed by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

*Times staff photo by Norma Martinez*

## Meeting planned to discuss community wellness center

An organizational meeting concerning the proposed combined Cheylin Schools and Community Wellness Center will be held in the Cheylin School cafeteria Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 7:30 p.m.

As envisioned, the building will be multi-purpose, providing fitness equipment in a user-friendly environment for everyone's present and future exercise and physical therapy needs.

Located on school property,

it will provide easy access to all students and athletes and still be available for use by citizens of all ages in the Bird City and McDonald communities.

Possible funding will be discussed and hopefully a combination of public funds, local organization support, government grants and private donations can become available.

As planned, Cheylin students enrolled in the building and carpentry classes along with com-

munity volunteers under the supervision of Mr. Hengen will do the actual construction. This will provide excellent hands-on training for the students while allowing them to do community service.

This will be a community project, requiring community support, for the present and future health of our communities.

Please plan to attend and bring everyone you think would be interested in the health of our citizens.

## Center to hold annual election

Bird City Senior Center will be holding their annual election of officers at 2 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 12.

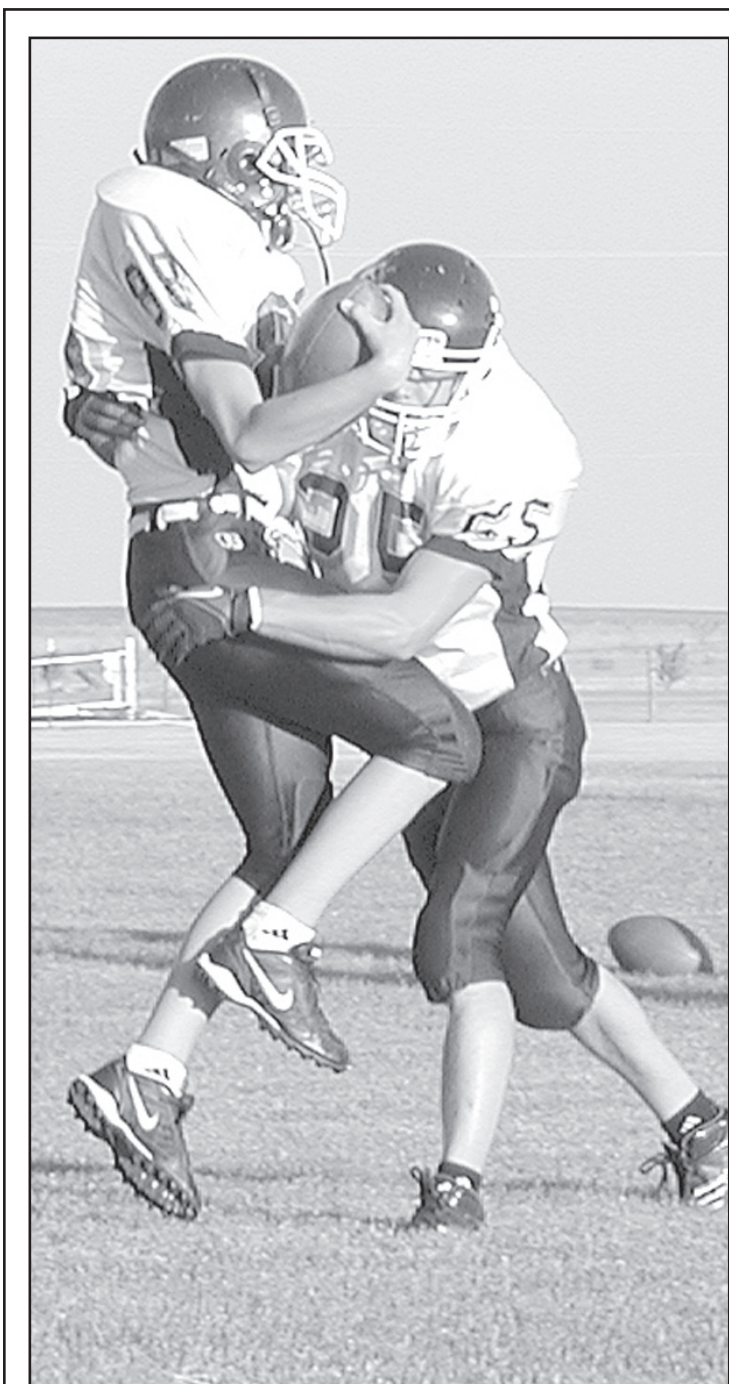
Everyone over 50 years of age is eligible to vote, so please plan to attend.

The following have volunteered to serve if elected, however, write-ins will be accepted and counted: President - Doris Amsberry, Bonnie Burr; vice-president - Rodney Klepper; secretary - Esther Boone; treasurer - Dee Dorsch.

For the three at-large board members, the following offered to serve: Lee Amsberry, Mary Dorsch, Wanda Dowdy, Beverly Higgins, Edna Roesener, Marlene Young and Treva Henry.

Following the election the Cheyenne County health nurse has been asked to attend to check blood pressure, test blood and give a short talk about seniors and healthy life styles.

At 3 p.m. the monthly birthday celebration with cake and ice cream for all will begin, so plan to come early and stay late. Good fellowship with cards and games will follow.



**THE FOOTBALL TEAM** is getting ready for their first football game. A soap scrimmage was held on Friday night.

*Times staff photo by Norma Martinez*



**MIKE RUMSOWER** carries his cross along U.S. Highway 36 on his way home.

*Times staff photo by Norma Martinez*

## Man seen carrying 40-pound cross

*By Norma Martinez*

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Everyone traveling on U.S. 36 last Wednesday could not help but notice a man carrying a 40-pound cross on his shoulder and pulling a 180-pound trailer.

Mike Rumsower was passing through on his way to his destination and home in Gallitan, Mo. This journey was started on March 30 by walking across the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, Calif..

It has taken longer than anticipated to get this far because of many difficulties. On this morning, he was just starting out after spending two days in the Empire Motel in St. Francis because he was not feeling well. When asked when he plans on reaching Gallitan, he said, "God's timing is different than mine," but Mr. Rumsower is guessing he will not reach his destination for at least another month.

When Mr. Rumsower was first approached, Phyllis Carson, Bird City, was just leaving after returning to bring him an Orange Crush soda, and his first words were, "Will this be from the heart and will it be about God and not me?"

He decided to do this "Calvary Trek" after having several visions. He told his pastor about the visions and he realized what God wanted him to do. On faith without advance training or backing of any kind, he packed his trailer with a tent, sleeping bag and other necessary items and set out on his journey.

"It has been trying, struggling, exciting, fun and definitely God prov-

ing," he said about his experience. People have been good to him, he said, and gave him food and money, but others have spit on him, called him crazy, and even pointed a gun at him. One man stopped and carried his cross for him for time enough to rest his shoulder.

Then he told this story: When he was walking through the desert, he was hot, thirsty and hungry and screaming to God, "Why am I here?" "What have you put me here for?" All I want, he said, was a burrito supreme from Taco Bell.

He had walked for over two and a half hours not seeing anyone when a car came over the hill and stopped. After talking to him and sharing his feelings at the moment, they said, "God put you here for us, we needed the encouragement you have given us."

They continued talking to him even after two more cars stopped and told him the same thing. They left and as the first car started to leave the woman said, "We have these two burritos from Taco Bell, would you like to have them?" After sitting down on the road and eating them, he then realized what God's purpose was for him.

Because of the laws, Rumsower can not walk on the interstate, and in the mountains and dangerous areas he has had to take rides for over 200 miles of his journey.

Mr. Rumsower has spent most of his nights sleeping in his tent and sleeping bag. In sharing one of his visions he had before starting his journey, he saw a field of lavender with scorpions and snakes.

In his journey through the desert, he found out if he rubbed lavender oil on a horsehair rope and put it around the tent, it kept the snakes and scorpions from crawling into his tent at night. In places where he cannot find a place off from the road to sleep, he sleeps in a motel.

His goal for Aug. 24, was to reach Atwood where he had reservations made for the night. After approaching Wesleyan Church he saw cars and stopped to check things out. The church was feeding dinner to the group with the Todd Becker Foundation before their performance at the Cheylin School. Pastor Dan Carson invited him to join them to eat, then to the performance, and gave him a ride to Atwood. When he got there, his room had already been rented out, so he ended up sleeping on the floor and sharing someone else's room.

Mr. Rumsower left Cheyenne County feeling really blessed thinking Cheyenne County resident's are "from the heart, about God and not just them," he said. The people here also live up to my second expectation, "Preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words." It's not just people working here, but God. He said he left feeling blessed, but anxious to return home and join his three children ages 10, 9, and 7.

Those interested in following Rumsower's final miles of his 1,600 mile journey to Missouri, learn more about him, or read what other people have posted, visit [www.thewalkforchrist.com](http://www.thewalkforchrist.com)