



CLOUDS WERE ROLLING IN as the harvesters cut the wheat off Junior Knorr's field southeast of Wheeler. Kyle Buffington is driving the combine.

Herald photo by Carol Sloper

## Wheat harvest yields disappoint farmers

A disappointing wheat harvest is all but wrapped up in the county.

"I have just a couple of loads left to come in," said Dale Weeks, Wheeler Equity. "We expected it, and it turned out to be a poor harvest."

The custom crews have loaded up and headed to their next destination.

"Now we total up, settle up, and get the yield information to the producer to split with his landlords and to take to his insurance carrier," said Shirley Zweygardt, St. Francis Equity. Proving a history of yields is necessary for producers crop insurance claims.

When asked if this was a "50 percent,

30 percent, what percent of normal" kind of harvest, none of the managers for the county grain elevators wanted to give a hard number.

"Let's just say this is way below normal, and way below where we would have liked," said Ray Magnani with Frontier Ag.

Most of the rest of Kansas has reported excellent yields, except for the extreme western counties. The county grain managers reported that test weight and quality remained good throughout harvest, even with the stress the wheat had suffered.

"There were reports of some really bad

fields south of town, and some really good fields in the northwest part of the county," said Steve Douthit, while getting some information at the Wheeler Equity. "Most of our fields suffered. I'm glad harvest is done. I'm a farmer, so I always hope next year is better"



STAN WAMHOFF, left, and Norm Dorsch moved the miniature steam engine into the shop. They had spent the morning cleaning up. The homemade steam engine, patterned after

a Russell steam engine, was made by Fred Brubaker. His grandson Stan Whamhoff is the present owner.

Times staff photos by Norma Martinez

## Preparation for 2013 show in progress

Workers are putting in extra hours getting ready for the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show which begins Thursday, July 25, at the showgrounds east

of Bird City. The new Thresher Queen's identity will be revealed at 1:15 on Thursday. Bailey Merklin will be on hand throughout the show to

throw in the first bundle of wheat to be threshed.

Through Saturday visitors will find the antique steam engines in action, threshing, plowing, corn

shelling and wood sawing. The parade of cars and tractors will be held each day at 1:15 p.m. Earlier, the parade of old machinery and

See SHOW on Page 9

## Carnival people need to sign up

The fair is only weeks away and people are needed to run carnival rides and games during the fair. This year, Raedell Winston is lining up workers.

I am running into a brick wall, she said. People are not signing up.

If we can't fill the roster, she said, games and-or rides will not be open. Many slots are open on Saturday nights. People are not signing up for this evening and this is when there are the most people.

People, whether they are county residents or visitors from out of town, call Raedell, 785-332-4391 or Lucinda Straub, 785-772-7380, and sign up to fill a time slot.

Volunteers in the past who have signed up for a time running a ride or game have reported it being fun to be a part of the carnival, knowing that they have

helped make one of the biggest events in the county a great success. Besides, they see people they haven't seen for years because they are where all the action is.

Getting rides, booths ready

People are still needed to help get the rides and booths up and running before the fair. If you can run a lawnmower or use a paint brush, show up at the fairgrounds on Thursday evening.

Just like getting the rides and booths ready, unless there are people to run them, they can't open.

During the fair, people are needed not only to man the rides and booths but also to collect and distribute tickets and tokens.

There are various other jobs that need people. Call Greg Walz, 785-332-3486 or Bill Ehrman, 785-332-2748.

## Time to start planning a float

The Cheyenne County Fair Parade is less than a month away, Saturday, Aug. 3 - Still plenty of time to plan an entry, whether it be a float, an individual entry, horses, antique and derby vehicles, just to name a few.

This year's theme is "Kickin' off your boots and getting' to your roots."

"With this theme, people will be able to create amazing floats," said Carla Lampe, parade coordinator.

The parade was formerly organized by the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce. However, when the Chamber dissolved

earlier in the year, First National Bank assumed the responsibility with Mrs. Lampe in charge.

The floats will be judged by three people. Criteria for judging floats include: 1) unique theme creation; 2) creative use of material; and 3) originality.

There is a grand champion overall winner and three divisions: Family; Organization/Church; and Commercial.

"We are encouraging every individual, family, business and organization to make a float," Mrs. Lampe said.

See FLOAT on Page 9