

## Singin' it up...



Headlining his one-man show (with two people) Randy Sparks, left, founder of the New Christy Minstrels, entertained a small, but enthusiastic, crowd Monday night in the East Campus Auditorium after rain forced the concert to move indoors from Water Tower Park. Performing with Mr. Sparks was Becky Jo Benson, one of the original Minstrels. The concert was sponsored by the Norton County Arts Council, Norton Travel and Tourism and the Norton County Historical Society and Museum.

—Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

## Wheat planting is around the corner

With this year's fall wheat planting around the corner, there are a few things to keep in mind; namely seed quality, fertility, Hessian fly and diseases. For the most part, seed that is light test weight say, 56 lbs, should still be okay, especially if it has a good germination. Lighter test weight seed may not have as good seedling vigor and may not be able to push out from deeper depths. Plant low test seed no deeper than 1 to 1.5 inches. Lighter wheat can be cleaned and the test weight raised a little. You should consider raising your seeding rate 20 to 50 percent more for lighter test seed. Also, slow the drill down to make sure a solid seed bed is made. You should also consider using a seed treatment to ward off seedling disease. KSU research would indicate a slight advantage in treating seed, enough for insurance sake to pay for the treatment at least and especially for no-till situation.

Some surveys of soil nitrate are warranted especially due to the rainfall we've had. In furrow application will work very good or banding into the soil with phosphorous, since the phosphorous will not move through the soil very well. Applications of urea should be incorporated with rain or tillage since ureas can volatilize away on the surface. Apply urea band at right angles to seed placement, usually deeper than seed for best results. Low test soils will usually show a response to phosphorous either with deep placement or broadcast but on medium or high test soils, it's best to apply deep. With wheat, there's not as much concern with nitrogen burn to seed in furrow as compared to other seedlings. Usually 10 to 20 pounds of nitrogen are okay. Splitting application for spring and fall are strictly a management decision. Regarding split applications, research has shown the important thing is to have the fertility there when it is needed early rather than too late in the year after the jointing stage.

Hessian fly has been a problem this past year with the higher moisture levels. The fly can have a fall brood or a late spring brood. The fly eggs are now in previous affected residue awaiting their

**Views with Van Keith VanSike, Extension Director**



to just one variety but rather 3 to 4 varieties.

This past year the varieties that had Jagger in their pedigree such as Cutter, Jagger, Jagalene, Nuhills, etc., did poorer than most because of the late leaf rust that hit the area. The predominant races of rust are targeting the Jagger types at this time. Fuller, a sister-type to Jagger, did well across many areas since it does have some strong leaf rust resistance. Overley, an early variety, has done well but it can shatter easily and should be harvested earlier. Smoky Hill, a medium late maturity, has some good disease resistance and is a newer one from Westbred. RonL is a white wheat that is like a super Trego and does have some actual genetic resistance to Wheat Streak Mosaic. It does not have a real good tolerance to leaf rust disease.

Some other good varieties to look at for our area are Danby and Nuhills (white); Fuller, Post Rock, Hatcher, Wesley, T81, Tam111, 2137, Mellinium, Thunderbolt. Varieties such as 2137, Jagalene, Jagger and Tam 111 and others with Jagger parentage in them are still good varieties but you may need to consider a plan to apply leaf fungicide to get optimum performance from them, and predicting leaf rust at the right stage of growth for the wheat can be very difficult, but in optimum conditions these Jagger types can be very good. For continuous dry land or no-till wheat take a good look at disease resistance such as resistance to Tan Spot and varieties like Smoky Hill, Post Rock, Overley, Jagger, Karl92, Tam 111, 2137 and Dominator. Tan Spot is carried on previous residue and a wet spring causes the fungus to attack the new seedling tillers.

## Development joins Chambers

By VERONICA MONIER  
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The Norton County Economic Development Board is going to be a supporting member of the Almena and Lenora Chambers of Commerce.

Economic Development Director Diane Becker said associate memberships with both Chambers would cost the board \$50 a month, giving each Chamber \$600 a year.

Board Chairwoman Deena Wentz said she was in favor of being a member of the Chambers, but thought that they should maybe give them the same that they are giving to the Norton Chamber, which is \$175 a month.

Board member Curtis Eveleigh disagreed, saying the Norton Chamber is bigger and does more and so should receive a bigger membership. He said it is the place where people go first for informa-

tion.

Ms. Becker, who said she came up with the amounts, said both Chambers thought the same and are happy to receive whatever help the board is willing to give.

She said the amount was something she came up with and thought was fair, being about a third of what the Norton Chamber was getting.

Mr. Eveleigh asked if they could just pay them in a lump sum at the beginning of the year.

Board member John Miller said if they were going to do that, then they should pay the Norton Chamber in a lump sum at the beginning of the year as well.

A motion was made to pay both the Almena and Lenora Chambers \$600 each at the beginning of the year, and to also pay the Norton Chamber \$2,100 at the beginning of the year.

The motion passed.

In other business, the board:

- Discussed several upcoming events in Norton, including the viewing of the documentary "Voice of Agriculture" and a teleconference at the library.
- Agreed to give three \$50 scholarships to retail business owners who wish to attend a conference on environment and economic growth and bettering their businesses on Nov. 3. The scholarship covers the registration fee.

- Discussed a bid received to do a structure inspection for a building downtown. The bid was for \$7,500. The board decided to put the issue aside for the moment.
- Approved its bylaws as amended.
- Approved the donation form as amended.
- Appointed Mrs. Wentz to work on getting information together to put on a call center website.
- Bought a Brother copier from Western Kansas World in WaKeeney with accessories at a price not to exceed \$1,800.
- Tabled a donation request from the Lenora Jubilee until more information can be obtained. Board member Gayle James abstained.
- Asked Verla Grysch to price name tags for the board members.
- Passed a motion to recommend an amended Neighborhood Revitalization Act to the Norton County Commission and invest up to \$1,000 for legal notice fees that will be needed to get the act going in the county. Some of the changes include a \$50,000 residential cap with no commercial cap and authorizing it for three years to begin with, adding up to a total of 13 years.
- Learned that the old Economic Development sign cannot be removed and that a new, larger sign was put up at the new office. Nothing more will be done at this time.

## Concrete project still on-line for airport

By CAROLYN PLOTTS  
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All Norton City/County Airport Board members were present and accounted for at last Monday's meeting.

Board chairman John Miller reported that the airport concrete project is still on-line and might even get started this month. It was initially planned to begin in October.

City Council representative, Ron Briery, reported that the council has revised its budget to accommodate its support of the airport. He said the council has to approve it and he will get the exact amount and bring it to the next meeting.

In other business the board:

- Approved bills totalling \$25,881.43
- Heard from Airport Manager Delvis Miller that regular air traffic is down but there is still quite a bit of corporate traffic.
- Learned that the airport has been mowed twice this summer. One final mowing is planned for the last of the month.
- Chairman Miller reported that a representative from the Federal Aviation Administration called him regarding a repairman sent to fix the Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS). Mr. Miller said he was asked if the person was knowledgeable and was he (Mr. Miller) treated courteously.
- Learned the Parks Department and the City Code Inspector have moved into the office space at the airport.
- Learned nobody in town wants to deal with the mouse problem in the structure housing the non-directional beacon.
- Economic Development board member Deena Wentz reported that a representative from a call center had flown into Norton and told her he was impressed with the size of the airport.

The next meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 5 in the City Hall basement.

Thanks for Reading

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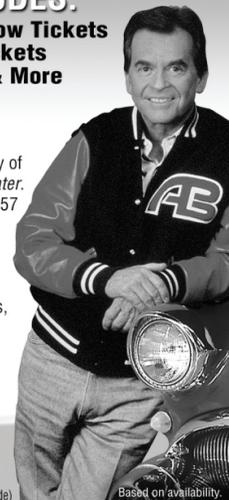
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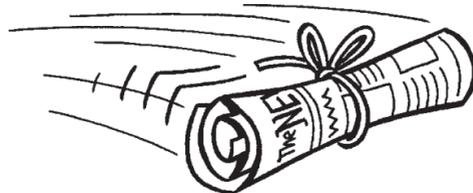
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