

Playing the part



The annual Sunflower Pioneer Power Association's power show was held last weekend in Alma. The two-day show featured tractors and machinery, western re-enactments, exhibits, demonstrations and a parade of vintage cars and farm implements. Pictured, members of the Solomon Valley Players perform a re-enactment at the show on Saturday.

—Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

Soccer team takes 2nd place

On June 2 and 3, the Norton Nopes, a group of experienced soccer players and their two coaches from Norton, entered a tournament in North Platte, Neb. They represented our local American Youth Soccer Organization group. The coaches were April Bashford and LaRoyce Brown.

Together they practiced the team three nights a week after the normal soccer season ended to prepare for tournament level play. The group met in North Platte on Friday, June 1 to stay in a hotel and get a good night's rest.

The tournament was on a point system which was six points for a win, one point for each goal scored in a game up to three goals and one point for a shutout (keeping the other team scoreless). On Saturday they played three games.

Their first game was against a North Platte team and they won 1-0. They played their best. Then they played again at 2:30 p.m. against a Wichita team. They won 6-1. At that point, they were in second place with points. The Kansas City team was in the lead with 19 points, Norton was in second with 16 points, North Platte was in third with 10 points and Wichita was in last with 1.

The last game on Saturday was against Kansas City. Norton ended up winning. That put the Norton Nopes in first place. They would play the same Kansas City team on Sunday in the championship game.

The top leading goal scorers were Garek Beckman, Ward Hayes and Tevin Brown. The team went out to supper to celebrate their accomplish-

ments and had some fun pool time at the hotel. They got a good night's rest and were up ready to play on Sunday.

Their game was at 10:30 a.m. Norton was up 1-0, then the Kansas City team scored on a corner kick, and tied the game 1-1. After the normal game time, it went into overtime. They played a 5-minute half, still tied. Then again they had a 5-minute half in overtime, still tied. Then it came down to a shootout.

Norton chose their five best kickers to go against the goalkeeper. The five kickers were Garek Beckman, Tevin Brown, Devon Mannel, James King and Ward Hayes.

Our spectacular goalkeeper was James Berry. Kansas City ended up beating the Norton Nopes by two goals making the score 4-2.

This team played their hardest. There were some calls by the referee that were unfair and the Kansas City team played a little rough, but the Norton Nopes played their best and played their game the right way. The coaches were very proud of the team as well as the parents. The parents that came to the tournament were very supportive in cheering the team on. The team consisted of 16 players from Norton and Lenora, including Rachel Koerperich, Jesse Bebb, Tevin Brown, Garek Beckman, Andrew Bashford (injured and did not play), Devon Mannel, James Berry (goalkeeper), James King, Evan Chambers, Ward Hayes, Seth Otter, Eric Wiltfong, Keegan Smith, Weston Hayes, Connor Haresnape, and Ricky King.

Nominations open for committee

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that the nomination period for local Farm Service Agency county committees begins today.

To be eligible to serve on a county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program administered by the agency, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area in which the person is a candidate.

Farmers and ranchers may nominate themselves or others, and organizations representing minorities and women also may nominate candidates. To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign the nomination form, FSA-669A. The form and other information about county committee elections are available online

at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections. Nomination forms for the 2012 election must be postmarked or received in the local Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1. Elections will take place this fall.

While county committees do not approve or deny farm operating loans, they make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other agricultural issues. Members serve three-year terms. Nationwide, there are about 7,700 farmers and ranchers serving on county committees. Committees consist of three to 11 members that are elected by eligible producers.

The agency will mail ballots to eligible voters beginning Nov. 5. The voted ballots are due back to the local county of-

fice either via mail or in person by Dec. 3. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office on Jan. 1, 2013.

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Biking Across Kansas travels through Logan

By Dick Boyd

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com
Biking Across Kansas, the 38th annual organized recreational bicycle ride through northern Kansas and the more than 800 cyclists plus support groups are causing quite a stir in the communities they visit.

This year's riders will have overnight stops in Oakley, Hoxie, Logan, Downs, Clyde, Centralia and Troy before reaching the Missouri border on Saturday morning and holding a celebration picnic.

After staying in Hoxie on Sunday night, they headed toward Logan on Monday and stopped in Lenora for lunch. They didn't all arrive at once, which helped their Lenora hosts. Bikers were invited to eat in three locations: the Time Zone, the Country Corner, who fed them in the Community Building and the United Parish Church where they ate in the basement and overflowed onto the outside lawn.

"They started arriving about 9 a.m. and by 11 to noon there were gobs and gobs of them," said Lenora City Clerk Gayle James. "The ladies serving them were tired at the end but everything went okay."

"The ladies at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in New Alma helped before they got to us with ice water and icy pops and restrooms."

The bikers also have "sag stops" set up by BAK organizers where bikers can periodically receive water and fruit.

As the bikers started arriving at Logan for their overnight stop, they were greeted by a welcoming committee at an information booth at the roadside park. There they received brochures and maps of the community and were invited to bike downtown.

The swimming pool was available for them to cool off and local cafes were serving. In addition, the bikers were invited to eat a different menu at any one of three locations: the City Building, where Lions Club and Chamber of Commerce volunteers were helping; the First Christian Church and the St. John's Catholic Church.

"We knew we couldn't feed all 800 plus in one place," said Logan mayor Max Lowry, who noted that the population of Logan is 600 people.

"We had a lot of community volunteers in all locations and it turned out really well. After they ate, we had live music for them downtown. They really enjoyed listening to 'The Three Jacks' from Norton. They also enjoyed seeing the Hansen Museum and just riding around and walking and talking to our people."

Biking Across Kansas officials had notified Logan that many of the bikers would head east early the next morning so breakfast for those interested began at 5:30 a.m. in the cafeteria at the high school. Serving continued until 8 a.m.

Where did the bikers stay? In

a multitude of places: the high school gym, high school hallways, tents on the football field, motor homes, travel trailers and rooms in local homes.

"They were tremendous people from all over the country," said the mayor. "They were grateful and pleasant to visit with. Our community enjoyed them very much. They were a very nice group to work with and they cleaned up for themselves tremendously before they left. They were very conscientious."

"Many of them told me how much they appreciated staying in our town and the hospitality we provided. Our goal was that when they left town, they'd think we had a pretty neat town and, from what I heard, I think

that was true.

"It was a positive event all the way through on both sides. I think the City of Logan got a lot of good will from their visit. We enjoyed them as much as they enjoyed being here."

"The Hansen Foundation generously helped a lot with the finances and the community put it all together. It was a great community effort."

After the cyclists left Logan on Tuesday morning, they had additional overnight stays during their 481 mile trip at Downs, Clyde and Centralia on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. They were scheduled to arrive in Troy this evening (Friday) and bicycle to the state line on Saturday morning before holding a celebration picnic.



Mary Jane Wahlmeier is the only Norton County person participating in Biking Across Kansas this summer. Pictured, she camps out at Logan High School and decides what to wear the next day of the eight-day, 481-mile trip across the Sunflower State. Wahlmeier said the cyclists had to fight 40 to 50 mile per hour winds for awhile after leaving Hoxie earlier in the day but that her second Biking Across Kansas trip was good so far.

—Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

JUNIOR GOLF Starts Monday, July 2

Junior golf will start on Monday, July 2 with registration at 5:30 and begin at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. and runs July 2 - July 9 - July 16

July 23 will highlight the year with a Pizza Party at 5:15, followed by a 9-hole golf tournament at 5:45 and a swimming party following golf

Cost this year is \$20.00 per participant aged 7 to 14. Registration this year will include a golf shirt. Come and learn the lifelong game of golf. Adults are welcome to come, watch, and help mentor the junior golfers

Pre-register for only \$20.00 by mailing it to: Tyler Rutherford, 1014 Truman Drive, Norton, KS 67654, 785-202-0214 or Connie Miller, 806 N. Valley Vista Dr., 785-877-5649 with the name, age, and shirt size of the participant.



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