



Corning farmer works to improve water quality

By Connie Pantle

John Rempe and his son Dan operate a typical diversified family farm, raising cattle, corn, beans, milo, alfalfa, sudex and grass, as well as managing a hog operation. But the farm's location has a unique feature.

Just behind the farmstead north of Corning in southern Nemaha County, the South Fork of the Big Nemaha River flows north, eventually ending up in the Missouri River. And in the farm's pasture just three miles south of the farmstead, Vermillion Creek flows south to the Kansas River. Thus the water leaving the Rempe farm meets up again where the Kansas River joins the Missouri River 125 miles away.

Because of this unique feature of his farm, John was especially interested in the quality of the water leaving the farm. With the help of Ed Reznicek, CWF-RFFP Field Organizer, John completed the Kansas Rural Center's River Friendly Farms environmental self assessment. According to John, completing the notebook gave him ideas on how to make improvements on his farm. "I learned quite a bit that you can do," he said, "to improve water and hold soil from erosion."

Using this knowledge, John went to work to improve water quality on his farm. John was approved for CWF-RFFP cost-share funds to implement several water

quality projects including: relocation of a lot away from the creek; installation of a sediment basin; establishment of a creek crossing, an alternative watering point and a windbreak; fencing a pond, and installation of a waterer.

As they often were years ago, some of the buildings and lots on John's farm were built near the creek. To comply with the renewal of his Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) livestock waste permit, John needed to move his lot farther away from the creek. John uses the lot as a calving pen for his 130 cows.

"The concern was the amount of water coming off the building and crossing the lot," John said. By crossing the lot, the rainwater becomes contaminated with the livestock waste. A grass buffer strip would help filter the nutrients out before reaching the creek. Therefore, John installed a buffer strip of brome between the lot and the creek, which is a tributary to the South Fork of the Big Nemaha River.

"Keeping livestock back from the creek allows drainage across grass sod before it hits the creeks," he said. After the cows have their calves, he moves them out to the winter pasture. This reduces the amount of time the cows spend in the lot, which in turn reduces the amount of waste in the lot.

To address runoff from



John Rempe has installed waterers to help reduce the amount of nutrients moving downstream as the cattle no longer drink from the pond and the streambed. The farmer used the Kansas Rural Center's River-Friendly Farms assessment to determine where water quality could be improved.

another lot — the finishing lot for 130 calves — KDHE asked John to revamp the terrace that was being used to filter runoff before reaching the creek below. Working with Joe Harner, Kansas State University Extension engineer, Mike Christian, KSU Water-shed Specialist, and KRC's Ed Reznicek John was able to find a solution.

Where the terrace once was, John installed a 250 foot sediment basin below the lot. The basin is drained by large PVC pipes with distribution

outlets into a three acre grass buffer, allowing the grass to filter and utilize the nutrients from the water before reaching the creek. John said the basin needs to be manually cleaned out occasionally, but for the most part seems to work well to contain the runoff from the lot. KDHE approved the changes and approved the renewal of John's livestock waste permit.

In addition, John said he wanted to "keep the cattle out of the creek and keep the water clean." To accomplish

this, a tube was installed in the creek to serve as a crossing for the cattle. The creek was then fenced to exclude the cattle. The cattle now rely on a waterer up the hill constructed from a recycled earthmover tire. Since the cattle are kept away from the creek and unable to use the trees as cover from winter winds and storms, he offers a windbreak in the form of a large bundle of recycled tires.

The Rempes also addressed water quality on the property along Vermillion

Creek. In this particular pasture, the cattle used a pond as their primary water source. John said he "wanted to put a waterer in and clean the pond out." John said he can see a difference in the pond water. "It isn't mucky — it is clear," he said. And the cattle seem to see the difference as well. "They drink there before they go to the creek," he said.

The pond project was not without obstacles, however. After the completion of the work, John said the pond would not hold water. While the pond was nearly empty, bentonite was applied to the pond basin. John is optimistic about the solution as the pond is now about half full.

John has adopted other management practices as well to reduce cost and improve water quality on the farm. The cattle graze standing sudex, eliminating the inputs from harvest and hauling manure. And John utilizes crop residue such as corn stalks and wheat straw by grinding it along with feed for the cattle.

John said he knows he is affecting water quality downstream by reducing the amount of livestock waste runoff. "The water leaving this place is a better quality than it was," he said. So as the water leaving the Rempes Nemaha County farms heads in two different directions, it'll be a little cleaner when it meets up again downstream.

Plan now for fertilizer needs; agronomist says tight supply could leave producers short

Supplies of nitrogen fertilizers, as well as phosphorus and potassium fertilizers, are tight throughout the United States, making this the time to plan ahead, a Kansas State University agronomist said.

In fact, it is currently difficult to buy fertilizer nitrogen for winter wheat top-dressing and/or this spring's row crops unless the supply has already been lined up — regardless of what the posted prices are, said Dale Leikam, K-State Research and Extension nutrient management specialist.

"The tight supply situation applies to all the main nitrogen fertilizer sources — UAN solution, urea, and ammonia — as well as other phosphorus and potassium fertilizers. Fertilizer prices are continuing to increase and supplies will likely remain very tight for the foreseeable future," Leikam said. "Therefore, producers should keep in close contact with their supplier in order to line up their anticipated fertilizer needs. Waiting until it is time to apply crop nutrients to make arrangements for fertilizer needs could leave producers on the outside looking in."

The sharp increase in price and accompanying fertilizer N shortage is not a sudden development, the agronomist explained. Unprecedented market forces have markedly changed the fertilizer industry over the past decade which has set

the stage for the current supply/demand imbalance and resulting high prices, he said.

"Over the past decade, much of our fertilizer nitrogen manufacturing capacity has shut down in the U.S. as a result of sharp increases and fluctuations in natural gas costs, lower-cost foreign competition, domestic environmental regulations, and so forth. In most cases, the domestic fertilizer manufacturing plants that have ceased operations will likely never come back on line despite the current higher fertilizer nitrogen prices," Leikam said.

As a result, more and more nitrogen fertilizer is now imported from countries in the Middle East, South America, the former Soviet Union, and other low-cost natural gas areas, he said.

"More than 50 percent U.S. fertilizer nitrogen supply is imported annually — and our dependence on foreign imports continues to increase. Also, global demand for this supply of fertilizer nitrogen continues to increase, especially in countries such as China and India with rapidly expanding economies," Leikam said.

Producers can do little about this situation except to keep in constant contact with their local fertilizer supplier and commit to needed products as soon they know what their needs are, the K-State agronomist said.

Growers to ask for increased assessment

The Kansas Association of Wheat Growers will seek from the 2008 Kansas Legislature an increase in the wheat assessment authority from 10 mills per bushel to 20 mills per bushel. The Kansas Wheat Commission plans to use any increase for additional investment in research and biotechnology, cellulosic ethanol and consumer education.

The proposed increase is a legislative authority increase only; essentially raising the assessment cap from one penny to two pennies per bushel. This does not raise the actual assessment to two pennies. If this legislative authority is approved, Kansas Wheat will then take its request to all producers before any decision is made by the Commission to collect a higher amount.

Kansas Wheat has developed a long-term strategic plan to help Kansas wheat producers meet the challenges of the future. Kansas Wheat is the cooperative agreement between the Kansas Wheat Commission and the Kansas Association

of Wheat Growers who have joined together to be leaders in the adoption of profitable innovations for wheat. Through several below average harvests and decreasing wheat acres, the Kansas Wheat Commissioners have done their best to maintain essential investments. Even with dramatic cuts in expenditures, reserves have been depleted. Maintaining essential investments is important, but to enhance the competitiveness of wheat by facilitating the development and adoption of innovation for wheat producers, additional investment is needed.

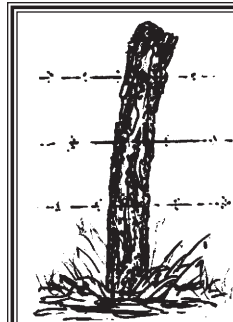
A 2007 survey of Kansas wheat producers found that 94% of respondents are willing to contribute 10 mills or more to the wheat assessment. Thirty-six percent of respondents are willing to contribute 15 mills or more, with 21% who are willing to contribute 20 mills or more. Respondents ranked research as their first priority for use of the wheat assessment.

There are three areas that producer board members have identified as priorities

in need of additional investment: research and biotechnology, cellulosic ethanol and consumer education.

Since 2001, Kansas State University has experienced a loss of 15-20% in state support, just in wheat research. For the past few years, wheat

Continued on page 3



The Learning Post

By Gordon Morrison
Concordia Rancher and
Former Agriculture Educator

Can Free Trade Put Our Military At Risk?

Last weekend I attended meetings at the Kansas Farmers Union annual convention. One of the speakers talked on a subject that I felt was the most crucial topic covered during the sessions.

In the meeting room was a large poster hanging on the wall which read: "Fair Trade; Not Free Trade." This was the topic our speaker discussed. Following his presentation, I met a friend in the hall and we continued the discussion by talking about the sobering subject of how America is being sold "down the river" through our trade with foreign powers. Neither of us could offer a good solution.

I am sure most of us have realized for years that the label "Made in China" is on much of the merchandise available in our stores. Some who have made a study of merchandise offered for retail say that over 90 percent of the goods in some of our big discount stores is made or assembled in foreign countries. I can remember when goods made in Japan were just junk — hardly worth taking home. This is not true today, for some of their products such as those made by Sony, Yamaha, or Toyota are often selected as first choice. Garments made in Korea and China 30 years ago were considered to be poorly made and shabby. That is no longer the case; the products are of good quality. It seems most of our clothing is made outside of the United States.

It has long been known that compared to other countries, American workers are well paid and are by far the highest paid. While a skilled senior worker may make \$20 or more per hour in this country, a worker in China may receive a dollar or less per hour. It did not take long for the enterprising American businessman to determine that there is much more profit for him in hiring an overseas work force to do the work with cheap labor. Thus, many jobs in America were moved overseas, and this situation has helped these foreign economies to move from very poor, to good, which in itself is a good thing. The Chinese, for example, are now able to afford not only basic necessities such as food and clothing but also conveniences such as cell phones, TV sets, motor bikes, and even some cars.

However, with their booming economies, these countries we have helped are now competing with the United States for oil, steel, plastics, and other raw materials, which has caused the price for these materials to go up dramatically, adding to the costs of goods in this country. They are eager to ship their products to this country for us to buy, but they are slow to use our products. A variety of excuses are given as to why

they do not buy our beef or whatever else we would expect them to need or use. This may be free trade, but it is not fair trade.

While this situation may be unfair, there is another aspect to the free trade arrangement that is a greater cause of concern. Robert Dumont, President and CEO of Tooling, Manufacturing, and Technologies Assoc. (TMTA) revealed to convention attendees last Saturday some facts that stunned most of those present. The audience became quiet and sober as he described some practices that are going on under the Free Trade agreement — conditions that are not only unfair but that could be risky and put our country in a life-or-death situation. It is one thing to farm out to foreign entities the jobs to supply the U.S. needs for home appliances, tools, garments and other domestic goods, but it is quite another matter when the job of supplying items for our military equipment is placed in the hands of foreign countries that could become our adversaries in the future. To give examples, Mr. Dumont informed us that brass casings for shells for various calibers of military munitions are being supplied to us by other countries. According to him, even tank turrets are constructed in China and shipped here for our assembly. As he spoke, the realization began to sink in that our free trade agreement in the realm of our military needs could be very risky for the survival of our nation. A slow shipment, no shipment at all, or intentional defective parts could be the cause of a military defeat. If this report is accurate, our country could be at risk.

We definitely need statesmen who have the power and the will to establish and set policies that have the well-being of the American people at heart and who will not bow to greedy businessmen whose goal is to make a big profit at all costs. It is imperative that we elect people into office in 2008 who are courageous, honest, and determined to keep America strong and capable of defeating any power or powers that may desire to destroy our way of life.

We must determine which of these men and women who are looking for our votes will put patriotism above excessive profits and accumulation of wealth. If we fail to ask the hard questions to determine who best will do the job and thus put the wrong people into power, the blame for our downfall will be upon us — the citizens. Yes, we must vote and vote right.

The book *Views from the Learning Post* can be ordered from Gordon Morrison, 1268 Key Road, Concordia, KS 66901 or may be available in a store near you. For information, call 785-243-3833.

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Over the Barn Gate

By Beth Gaines-Riffel

Just because we've always done things one way doesn't mean it's right. Doesn't necessarily mean it's wrong either. That being said, it may be wise to question some of the approaches we have to our farming operations. And I mean this coming from a couple of different standpoints. With some of the policy discussions that have taken place of late — both in terms of developing the new federal farm policy and the issue of horse slaughter — it is painfully clear that the urban public has little working knowledge of what it takes to get food in the grocery stores. From the length of time it takes a calf to go from birth to harvest and the care it receives along the way to the crop of wheat that is planted in the fall with a full complement of fertilizer and crop protection chemicals until the golden grain is harvested, delivered and milled into flour, the urban buying public doesn't know, understand, and many times doesn't really care — at least that's how it's been in the past. I'm finding that in some circles that is changing.

Could you explain why you do what you do on your operation if someone were to ask? You might think about how those daily tasks might be perceived by an uninformed consumer. Sure, they can see why you work so hard to move cows preparing to calve to a sheltered area — but taking a notch out of an ear or castration might take a little more information to fully understand.

But the notion of change shouldn't stop there. What about taking a new approach to how we do business?

Attending the sessions this past week on carbon credits and cattle handling highlighted for me, at least, how the daily ins and out of our farms and ranches could be tweaked just slightly and the result of not only improved family relations (we've all had those catch pen moments with our spouse, now haven't we?) but a boost for the bottom line. Those increases come in the form of improved gains and reduced illnesses requiring treatment.

What's best is that the changes required aren't ones requiring a huge investment in fancy new facilities or a

new gadget — but rather a change of the gray matter between the ears.

As the gloomy days of winter drag on, when you settle down in the recliner at the end of the day, instead of catching a nap or watching some re-run on the tube, pick up a some information or an article about a management style that may help cut costs or boost productivity in some facet of your farm.

The no-till conference in Salina is coming up at the end of the month and that's a great place to gain some really beneficial head knowledge for those that use the no-till approach for crop production.

That's about it for now. I'll chat with you next week, "Over the Barn Gate!"

COW POKES®

By Ace Reid



"Now if yer lookin' fer a place where the deer, antelopes, jack rabbits and rattle snakes play, we had better look fer another place, 'cause around here thay hafta work all the time!"

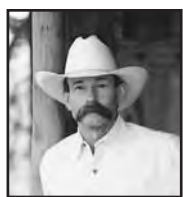
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BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

Polling For Presidents

Parents Magazine polled readers about which of the 2008 presidential candidates would make the best babysitter.

It's something I've always pondered when I look at Andrew Jackson or Kinky Friedman. And, the relationship between getting unruly third-graders to bed on time and getting the House of Representatives to pass your legislation is equally frustrating. It all goes back to relating to the candidate as a person. I remember in the 1992 election hearing that all three candidates, George H. Bush, William J. Clinton and Ross Perot were left-handed! No matter who lost, I won! I could be confident that the next president would be math-deprived, lessdislike, and smear everything he wrote!

There are always politically incorrect insinuations that women would vote for a woman candidate for the primary reason that they are both women! Or that blacks would vote for a black candidate, simply because they are black. Of course, they would! Or at least give it serious consideration.

The same with cowboys, vegetarians and paroled felons! It's natural to want to have someone in office who understands you. What percent of the Mormon vote will candidate Romney receive ... 99%?

How big a piece of the parasailing electorate did John Kerry garner? How many brush-clearing cedar whacks went for George W. Bush? There have been many bright visionaries who toyed with the idea

of running for president, but they registered low on the EMP factor: they were hard to empathize with — Ralph Nader, Jesse Ventura, Donald Trump. So, the EMP factor cannot be ignored. Given the opportunity to poll candidates, there are several questions I would proffer; i.e.,

1) Do you consider Miracle Whip and jalapeños essential nutrients in the Food Pyramid?

2) Do you prefer Copenhagen or Skool?

3) Do you have any nieces, nephews, cousins or children named after coon dogs ... Blue, Jake, Badger or Whoop?

4) Do you Head or Heel?

5) How long till you have to renew your (a) Farm Bureau Membership, (b) your subscription to Sports Afield, (c) the warranty on your wife's 4x4 Pickup?

6) And finally, do you already own one of my books or CDs?

This last one would show if you were a discriminating reader with a literary bent or were simply into recycling paper.

Moran accepting applications for internships

Rep. Jerry Moran has announced he is accepting applications for congressional internships in his Washington, D.C., Hays, Hutchinson and Salina offices for the summer 2008 term. Applications for the summer are due by March 3.

Congressional internships provide students with the opportunity to learn firsthand about the legislative process by assisting Moran and his staff with legislative and administrative projects. Summer internship dates are flexible, but generally begin in May and end in August.

To apply for an internship, students should submit a completed application form, cover letter, resume, college transcript and three letters of reference. The cover letter should explain the student's interest in public service and the goals the student hopes to achieve by participating.

Application forms are available in the Services section of Moran's website at www.jerrymoran.house.gov/. In order to ensure timely receipt of the application, students are encouraged to fax their application to (202) 225-5124. If stu-

dents are unable to fax their application, they may mail it to Moran's Hutchinson office, Attn: Intern Coordinator, P.O. Box 1128, Hutchinson, KS 67504. Students may call (202) 225-2715 with questions or for more information.

Growers want more money

Continued from page 1

producers have been asked to fill in this gap. This struggle for funding is making it harder and harder to keep young, aspiring scientists interested in wheat.

Advances have been made in crop science to utilize biotechnology traits such as plant resistance to insect or disease as well as tolerance to herbicide and environmental conditions such as drought. Yet wheat has not enjoyed any of these new traits because of consumer perceptions about this technology. As the world's most consumed food grain, we must work with consumers to gain acceptance. One developing value-added area is the use of biomass for ethanol production (crop residues such as wheat straw and dedicated biomass crops). Kansas Wheat believes that if a biomass industry is to grow and prosper in Kansas, producers need to have information available to make informed decisions about residue removal from their cropland.

The last time the wheat assessment authority was changed in statute was 1982. At this time, the authority was raised from 3 to 10 mills. It has been 26 years since the assessment authority was changed.

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See last week's Grass & Grain for complete listings.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2008 — 2:00 PM

Alma Community Center, 244 E. 11th Street — ALMA, KANSAS

Property address: 33346 Old K-10 Hwy. Approx. 6 miles SW of Alma on Old K-10 Hwy.

OPEN HOUSE: FEBRUARY 3rd, 2-4 PM

DESCRIPTION: 454 acres more or less with approx. 76 acres of farmland with the balance hay meadow, grass, creek and timber. Secluded stone house and buildings approx 1/4 mile off Old K-10 Hwy, a hard surface road. House has been occupied until December 2007. 4 bdr, partial new roof and lots of potential. Outstanding deer and game potential with the west branch of Mill Creek running through the heart of the property and lots of timber. Excellent production potential or a great place to winter cattle. Railroad runs across the northwest corner of the property.

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TERMS & CONDITIONS: 10% down payment due the day of auction. Balance due when merchantable title and warranty deed are delivered. Closing and possession on or before March 20, 2008. Property sells in As-Is condition. All buyers' inspections are to be done prior to the auction. Acreage amounts are based on FSA and county records and are deemed reliable, but are not guaranteed. Sale is not contingent on the buyer obtaining financing. Broker and Auctioneers are representing the Seller. For information contact Greg Hallgren, Broker and Auctioneer at (785) 499-2897.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This is truly an outstanding property. If you are looking for property with great hunting and recreational potential, this is it. Mill Creek in this area is a large creek with crystal clear water, which you must see to appreciate. Lots of timber, some of which may be harvested, creek bottom farmland and good hay meadow plus a stone house and buildings. Don't miss this opportunity.



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Kellee Rogers, Topeka, Wins Recipe Contest In Grass & Grain For The Week

Winner Kellee Rogers, Topeka:
SPINACH DIP IN RED CABBAGE
1 large head red cabbage
10-ounce package frozen chopped spinach, thawed & squeezed dry
1 cup sour cream
1 cup mayonnaise
1/2 cup chopped green onions
1/2 cup minced fresh parsley
2 teaspoons lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon dill weed
Assorted fresh vegetables
Gently peel back outer leaves of cabbage. Slice 1/2 inch from bottom of cabbage so it sits flat. Cut a 3-inch circle in the top of the cabbage, hollow out a third of the cabbage to form a bowl. In a large bowl combine the spinach, sour cream, mayonnaise, onions, parsley, lemon juice and dill. Spoon into cabbage bowl just before serving.

Sandy Hill, Eskridge:
“Serve over noodles for a full meal. Very good.”
SWEDISH MEATBALLS WITH SOUR CREAM SAUCE
Meatballs:
1/2 pound ground beef
1/2 pound ground veal
1/2 pound ground pork
1/4 cup dry bread crumbs
1/2 cup finely chopped onion
1/2 cup half & half
3 tablespoons snipped parsley
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1/2 teaspoon allspice
1/2 teaspoon grated lemon zest
2 eggs
Sour Cream Sauce:
3 tablespoons butter
3 tablespoons flour
1 1/2 cups beef broth
1 1/2 teaspoons dried dill weed
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
1/2 cup sour cream
Preheat oven to 375 degrees. For meatballs, combine beef, veal, pork, bread crumbs, onion, half & half, parsley, salt, Worcestershire sauce, allspice, lemon zest and eggs. Shape into 1 1/4-inch balls. Place in broiler

pan and bake 20 to 25 minutes. For sour cream sauce: melt butter over low heat. Stir in flour and cook, stirring constantly, until smooth and bubbly. Remove from heat and stir in beef broth, dill weed, salt and nutmeg. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly. Boil 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and mix in sour cream. Pour sauce over meatballs. Makes 4 servings.

Another one from Sandy Hill: “A cheery, cherry twist on a traditional chocolate fudge.”
CHERRY VANILLA FUDGE
2 cups sugar
1/2 cup dairy sour cream
1/3 cup light corn syrup

2 tablespoons butter
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons vanilla
1/2 cup quartered candied cherries
1 cup coarsely chopped walnuts
Butter an 8 1/2-by-4 1/2-inch pan. In a 2-quart glass measuring cup with handle, combine sugar, sour cream, corn syrup, butter and salt. Microwave on high 5 minutes. Stir well until sugar dissolves. Microwave on high 6 minutes, do not stir. Add vanilla and beat until mixture starts to lose its gloss (about 6 minutes). Stir in cherries and walnuts. Quickly pour into prepared pan. Cool and cut into squares or assorted shapes. Makes 48 pieces.

The next two are from Millie Conger, Tecumseh:
CAULIFLOWER & BROCCOLI AU GRATIN
1 pound large cauliflower florets
1 pound large broccoli florets
1/2 cup water
4 ounces cream cheese, cubed
1/4 cup milk
1/2 cup sour cream
1 1/2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese
10 Ritz crackers, crushed
3 tablespoons Parmesan cheese
Place cauliflower and broccoli in a 2-quart microwave dish. Add water and cover. Cook on high 8 to 10 minutes or until tender; drain and set aside. Microwave cream cheese and milk in a 2-cup measuring cup for 1 minute or until cream cheese is melted and mixture is well blended

when stirred. Add sour cream and mix well. Pour over vegetables, sprinkle with cheddar cheese. Microwave 2 minutes or until cheese is melted. Mix cracker crumbs and Parmesan cheese. Sprinkle over vegetables.

SWISS BURGERS
1 1/2 pounds ground chuck
1 pound sliced fresh mushrooms
1 can cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
1 cup water
6 slices Swiss cheese
6 hamburger buns, split
Shape chuck into 6 patties. In a large skillet cook about 5 to 7 minutes on each side until meat is no longer pink. Remove to platter and drain, reserving 2 tablespoons drippings. Sauté mushrooms in drippings until tender. In a microwave bowl combine soup and water. Cover and microwave on high for about 3 1/2 minutes or until heated through. Return patties to the skillet. Stir in soup and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer uncovered for 3 minutes. Top each patty with cheese. Remove from the heat, cover and let stand until cheese is melted. Serve on buns with mushrooms.

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The final two are from Mary Rogers, Topeka:
APPLE SALAD
3 medium red apples, diced
1/2 cup chopped celery
1/4 cup chopped pecans
1/4 cup dried cranberries
1/4 cup miniature marshmallows
2 tablespoons raisins
3/4 cup whipped topping
1/4 cup sour cream
In a bowl combine all ingredients except topping and sour cream. Mix sour cream and topping and spoon over apple mixture and toss to coat. Serve immediately.
WARM WINTER LEMON CAKE
2-layer yellow cake mix
2 cups cold milk
1 1/4 cups water
(2) 4-serving size packages lemon-flavor instant pudding & pie filling
1/3 cup sugar

2 tablespoons powdered sugar
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare cake batter as directed on package. Pour into greased 9-by-13-inch pan. Set aside. Pour milk and water into a large bowl. Add dry pudding mixes and granulated sugar. Beat with wire whisk 2 minutes or until well blended. Pour over batter. Place baking dish on baking sheet to catch any sauce that might bubble over sides of dish as dessert bakes. Bake 55 minutes to 1 hour or until wooden toothpick inserted in center of cake layer comes out clean. Cool 20 minutes. Sauce will thicken slightly as it cools. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Spoon into serving dishes to serve warm. Store leftovers in refrigerator.

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Cocks inc.: (1 gal Waconda Water jug (hairline on bottom); 3 Mason Fruit jars 1/2 gal; 2 qt. Mason Fruit jars; splash proof buttermilk feeder; salt glaze 3 gal rib cage, 2 gal target, 5 gal; Red Wing churns 2, 3, 4; 10 crock churn lids; cocks inc.: Red Wing 3, 4, 5, 6, 20; 3, 5, 12, 20 gal birch leaf crock; 2 gal elephant ear crocks; 3 & 5 gal Red Wing jugs; 4, 8 Coffeyville; Western 8 gal; Macomb 4 gal; 15 gal Crown; blue band lid); Coke 10 cent pop machine (Cavalier CS64C); Cushman 4 hp model C upright engine; Bowser Long Distance Gasolene pump; GB 16 visible 10 gal gas pump; Holsum & Bunny Bread door push's; Concordia 3' safe; Columina Graphophone w/ horn; Signs inc.: (Globe gas, DeLaval, Coca Cola, Jersey's, Velvet, Chief Paint, Gooch Best, 7 Up, Phone, Pennzoil, Marlboro, Monarch Range, Snapper, Earl May, Hams beer, several plastic & neon beer); Globe 2 gal oil cans; qt. oil cans (Studebaker, Lubri-loy, Derby); 5 gal Derby oil cans; Pennzoil rack; Winchester 2' level; Gooch's Best barrels; Pepsi & RC 6 pack carriers; Rainbo bread wire rack; pr. Western wooden floor lamps; 1918 WWI bayonet; German Eckhorn Solingen officers dagger; fancy German engraved officers dagger; German helmet (ET66); Guns inc.: Stevens 22 Crackshot, Savage 22, Mossberg 183K 410, Buck Jones 107 BB gun w/compass, Dazey BB model 96; Monark shells; Atwater Kent radio w/horns; Atwater Kent radio book; 6 anvils (160 lb, 140 lb, 99 lb.); 10 anvil hardy; 10 oak wall telephones; coin operated telephone; walnut chest; smoke stand; walnut wardrobe; Boye needle cabinet; Aviation goggles in box; green Aladdin lamp; Kellogg cast iron call box; ammo boxes (Western, Winchester, Remington, Peters); Hercules Dynamite box; Cow Brand wood box; White Eagle wood box; RC Cola cooler lids; Diet Pepsi clock; Western pictures; unusual wooden wringer; 1907 Pat rope maker; Fairbury bull 38 lb windmill weight; concrete football windmill weight; brass post office doors; cast iron & tin seats; car tags; Rocket Shot marble game; brass gas nozzle; Planters Munch & Go rack; cast iron pots; brass blade fan; oil jar carrier; metal pitcher & bowl wash stand; hat stand; 10 well pumps; red & blue globe lanterns; Dazey 40 churn; Structo dump truck; glass inc.: Ruby red popcorn set; 80 pieces Franciscan Poppy; Lamer Hotel ash tray; wooden blades & head for windmill;30 gal cast iron kettle; cast iron rail road X, 2 Track & Crossing signs; deer horns; stainless milk buckets; tractor mag; buck saws; iron wheels; hay knives; horse collars; hames; harness; wagon seat; cream can; PO planter box; copper boiler; milk bottles; forge; engine truck; ice tongs; platform scale; loading coil; Favorite cast iron stand; wooden chicken crates; well wheels; lard press; house jack; wash tub; John Wayne standup; Fordson coil box; acetylene torches; 4 new 14" tires; power hack saw; large assortment of other collectables.
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To order Kansas Gold, visit www.kswheat.com/general.asp?id=612 or call 1.866.75WHEAT.

Following is two examples of recipes included in the book.



KANSAS STATE CROWN BREAD

Makes 18 servings

A signature bread of Kansas State University, Manhattan, this popular recipe was printed in the Kansas Wheat Commission's 25th Anniversary Recipe Book in 1982.

2 packages RED STAR® Active Dry Yeast
1/2 cup lukewarm water (110-115 degrees)
3/4 cup lukewarm milk (95 degrees)
3 tablespoons granulated sugar
3 tablespoons vegetable shortening
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1 beaten egg
3 1/4 to 3 1/2 cups bread flour
1/4 cup pecan pieces
3/4 cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
3-4 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted
5-7 whole maraschino cherries

Whole pecans (optional)
In mixing bowl, dissolve yeast in water. Add milk, sugar, shortening, salt, and egg. Stir in 2 cups

bread flour and beat 2 minutes. Gradually add enough of the remaining flour to form a soft dough. Knead until smooth and elastic, 10 to 12 minutes. Cover; let rise until double. Punch down dough; cover, let rest 10 minutes. Grease with shortening or coat with nonstick cooking spray the bottom and sides of a tube cake pan. Sprinkle pecan pieces in bottom of pan. Mix together 3/4 cup sugar and cinnamon. Divide dough into 18 equal pieces. Form each piece into a uniform roll. Lightly coat each roll with melted butter or margarine and roll in cinnamon-sugar mixture. Arrange twelve rolls on the outside and six rolls in the middle of the pan. Cover; let rise until double. Bake in preheated 350-degree oven 40 minutes or until done. Tent top with foil if necessary to prevent over-browning. Let cool in pan 30 minutes before removing. Remove from pan placing upright. Place maraschino cherries on top in the space between rolls and decorate with whole pecan pieces.

Nutrition information per serving (one roll): 191 cal, 6 g fat, 18 mg chol, 204 mg sodium, 30 g carbo, 1 g fiber, 4 g pro, 58 mcg folate.

KANSAS GRANOLA CEREAL

Makes 5 1/2 cups

Kansas is the "Sunflower State" and "The Wheat State." This is an easy

recipe made by audiences at local, state and national youth programs.

3 cups rolled wheat flakes or rolled oats, uncooked (old-fashioned or quick-cooking oats)

1 1/2 cups wheat bran

1/2 cup flaked coconut

1/2 cup wheat germ

1/2 cup sunflower seeds, chopped almonds or chopped pecans

1/2 cup honey or brown sugar

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Note: For Heartland Mill rolled wheat flakes, go to www.heartlandmill.com.

Preheat oven to 325 degrees or heat a non-stick electric skillet on medium-low heat. Mix all ingredients. Spread in an ungreased 15-by-10-by-1-inch jelly-roll pan or

electric skillet. Stir every 2 to 3 minutes, cooking until golden brown, about 25 to 30 minutes. Cool thoroughly and store in a tightly covered container in the refrigerator or a cool dry place. Serve as a cold cereal or snack, or sprinkle granola on yogurt or ice cream.

Nutrition information per serving (1/2 cup): 225 cal, 5 g fat, 0 mg chol, 10 mg sodium, 43 g carbo, 9 g fiber, 7 g pro, 39 mcg folate.



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powder; donkey & cart toothpick; several pieces 60's carnival glass; Gleaner plate; Delft cat; Salem china; Blue Willow pieces; set mixing bowls; Harkerville; 12 place Lynmore china; McCoy spinning wheel; Shawnee covered wagon; 60's glasses; compote; ring boxes; music boxes; black telephone; kraut cutter; 4 qt. churn; wood table radio; ladies hats & dresses; 60's car spotlight; guitar; linens; anniversary clock; assortment pictures; cast iron skillets; granite coffee pot; blow torch; metal beds; metal lawn chairs; 60's pedal fire truck; assortment of other

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Imperfect Cream Pie Filling

Cream fillings used in baking pies can curdle when the eggs get too hot. It's essential that you temper your eggs before combining them with other hot ingredients. The idea is to slowly bring up the temperature of the eggs — if you heat them up too fast, they will scramble.

To temper your eggs, first place them in a bowl and whisk them thoroughly. Next, slowly pour about a cup of the heated milk mixture into the eggs while you whisk constantly. Now that the eggs have been gently warmed up, you can slowly whisk this mixture into the saucepan containing the rest of the milk.

If your filling recipe contains flour or cornstarch, it's OK to let the mixture come to a boil on the stovetop. Just don't let it boil rapidly or for too long, or it will burn.

However, if your recipe does not contain any starch, boiling will cause the mixture to curdle.

No matter what recipe you're using, remember to stir, stir, stir for as long as your filling is on the stove. If you still have curdling troubles, try making your cream filling in a double boiler.

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Students bring new life to Old Mill restaurant

OXFORD (AP) — Reopening the restaurant in the Old Mill at the edge of town is about more than giving high school students a project to work on and some real-world business experience.

It's really about restoring a small community's sense of identity.

The onetime water-powered flour mill has been intertwined with Oxford history since 1874.

Oxford's Best flour and cereals were the pride of the community for more than a century, until the milling operation shut down a few years ago.

Now, the Old Mill and its companion building, the New Mill — circa 1935 — sit vacant on a tree-lined dirt street at the northern edge of Oxford.

But that's about to change, the result of an effort by the Oxford school district and an 11-member board of directors averaging 16-1/2 years of age.

Oxford High School is about to reopen the restaurant and gift shop that occupied the Old Mill building from 1990 until about two years ago.

After flour production shifted to the New Mill, the Old Mill was refitted to provide hydroelectric power. The generator, which dominates the building's lower room, broke down in 1973, and the Old Mill building fell into disuse. By the late 1980s, the

building was in danger of collapse.

But starting in 1988, owners Wallace Champeny and Hal Ross spent more than \$500,000 restoring the Old Mill building.

The idea of reopening the restaurant and gift shop is the brainchild of Oxford school superintendent Deborah Hamm.

She knew of the landmark mill when she moved to Oxford from McPherson about two years ago. She said she was surprised and disappointed to find it closed.

"It made me feel like it was a real loss to the community, the county and the state," she said.

About a year ago, she got the idea to make it a student project. Since then, the plan has won support from the school board, the Chamber of Commerce and Arkansas City-based Cowley College. Eleven high school juniors and seniors have signed up for Introduction to Entrepreneurism, a college-credit level class. With guidance from Cowley College's business department, they'll spend the next semester putting together a business plan to get the Old Mill back on its feet.

They hope for a midsummer opening.

With an enrollment of 120, just about every student in the high school will have some role in implementing the plan.

For example, agricul-

ture students will handle the landscaping; food-science students will develop menus and recipes; business students will order supplies and keep the books.

Middle-school students are making crafts to sell in the gift shop.

And students already are tossing around ideas of what they want the mill to be.

Citing a shortage of performance space in the area, Phillip Zimmerman, a 16-year-old junior, wants to bring in live music and an open-mike night.

"We could bring bands in from as far away as Ark City," about 25 miles away, he said.

Design enthusiast Morgan Smallwood, 16, said she looks forward to fixing up the "just plain wood" restrooms at the Old Mill. That, and planting ivy to grow up the limestone walls.

"I'm so excited," she said. "I think the decorating is going to be really fun. There are so many opportunities here."

The adults involved are deliberately taking a back

seat in the planning to let the students make their own decisions — and mistakes.

Principal Rob Hampton said that will help prepare the youths for adult life.

"It's not just a book and answering questions," Hampton said. "Anybody can regurgitate. But can you think and make decisions and be able to learn from your decisions?"

"Everybody says this is just high school. Well, this includes the opportunity to see the ups and downs of the real world. With this opportunity, if we don't take advantage of it, we're cheating them."

The students — at least the ones in the core group — realize it's going to take some hard work to make the mill a success.

Businesswise, it's been a rough few years for Oxford.

The town, on K-160 between Winfield and Wellington, lost its grocery store nine months ago. The Wildcat Grill, the K&O Quickshop and several other downtown storefronts sit vacant.

The Census Bureau estimates the population has

declined 6 percent since 2000, from 1,173 to 1,102.

Now, there are only about three or four places left where a teenager can get a part-time job in Oxford, the students said.

The youths are counting on their project to create some jobs and an alcohol-free space where they can relax with friends.

"Whether it's planning it, or running it, or making the food, or just enjoying it, we'll have plenty to do," said Megan Hicks, a 17-year-old senior.

With its stone and rough-hewn wood construction, the Old Mill is like a bit of Currier and Ives' New England transplanted to the Kansas plains.

It's been featured on the city stationery and a patch for the town's police uniforms.

But to really understand what it means to the community, talk to someone like Phyllis Hege. She served 30 years as Oxford librarian and — now retired — is kind of the city's unofficial historian.

She remembers when

people from towns miles away would make the trip to Oxford just to buy flour at the mill. It had an old-fashioned flavor that was rare in a white-bread world, she said.

"This flour, everybody liked it," Hege said. "They knew if they got their flour at the Oxford Mill, their bread would be wonderful, perfect."

Around town, there was kind of a barter system in which the flour was currency. Women who were the best bread-bakers would swap with the best noodle makers; those with laying hens would trade their eggs for flour or baked goods, Hege said.

The high school's project is restoring a sense of community pride that took a big hit when the Old Mill shut down, she said.

"Everybody is so pleased they're doing something about that," she said. "The whole town would like to see it back in order again. I'm going to volunteer to help them out myself. It's too historical a thing to let it die."

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Mo. farmer turns farm waste into cleaner fuel

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Four years ago, seed company owner Steve Flick of Kingsville noticed he was spending a lot of time and money burning, burying or dumping the empty hulls left over from his grass seed.

It was a costly mess. And it gave him an idea.

"I think maybe I fell down the steps and got hit on the head," Flick said.

The idea was to use the excess material for energy. Flick decided to follow a method that is well-known in many European countries but at the time was nearly unheard of in the United States: turning prairie grass into fuel.

"I thought, we can do this here and do this better than anyplace in the world," he said.

Flick petitioned area farmers to form a co-op that could produce bails of "cellulosic" material such as switch grass, cornstalks or out-of-condition hay. The bails could then be ground up and formed into inch-long pellets.

These pellets can be burned alongside coal to produce a cleaner, renewable form of energy. The grass material typically has

high BTUs — a measure of energy released when matter is burned — but no nutritional value for livestock.

It also burns cleaner than coal, Flick said, for a simple reason.

"The carbon dioxide released in here was created last summer, the carbon dioxide released in coal was created three million years ago," he said.

That idea has turned into a movement.

In about a month, Montreal-based Evergreen Biofuels Inc. will open a \$6.5 million plant in Centerville capable of producing 100,000 pounds of biomass pellets every year.

Four-hundred farmers in western Missouri and eastern Kansas have signed on to contribute to the Show Me Energy Cooperative billed by Flick as the "first producer-owned biomass cooperative in the U.S." The co-op will supply the raw materials for the pellets.

When it begins production, the pellet fuel plant will be one of the largest in North America and capable of heating 20,000 homes and businesses.

"It's not real fancy, and

it's not real pretty, but one thing we do want it to be is real profitable," Flick said.

Experts say that Flick's program presents an exciting alternative for farmers who have ground where standard crops cannot survive.

"It's a fantastic idea because these perennial crops require no tillage or anything after establishment, and they create a wonderful root structure," said William Casady, a bioenergy and cropping systems engineer with the University of Missouri Extension. "These crops will grow on these marginal soils and help protect them."

Chuck Grimes sells grass seed mixtures to farmers interested in getting some production out of their "marginal soil" from his home in Hennessey, Okla. He said many farmers have

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wrongly given up on pieces of land that can easily be transformed into grass wildlife habitat and harvested once a year and sold to a co-op.

"When it comes to conservation and renewable energy, you can't separate the two," he said. "This is a hand-in-glove deal with the conservationists." The valuable grasses on these lands, he said, "were there before we came along, the good Lord designed it. We're just now picking it up and pushing it."

Tyson discounting for heavies

The nation's largest beef packer is getting very serious about controlling carcass weights and making sure the cuts from their beef carcasses will fit the box. Tyson Foods is phasing in a new cattle pricing grid designed to reward producers of animals that best meet their customers' needs — namely, animals that are not too heavy.

"Retail and foodservice beef customers have consistently expressed concern about excessive piece weights from heavy carcasses," the company said in a written statement. "These beef subprimals are subsequently difficult to portion and merchandize."

Heavier carcasses face significant penalties. Under Tyson's new "True Value Grid," beef carcasses weighing more than 1,000 pounds (lb.) are discounted \$15 per hundredweight (cwt.), while those more than 1,050 lb. are discounted \$35 per cwt. The grid also incorporates the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) regional weekly weighted average prices as well as average premiums and discounts based on quality.

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1:40-2:20 Mandatory Price Reporting, Brittany Drier - USDA
2:20-2:45 Market Update, Rike Pike - Schwieterman, Inc.
3:15-4:10 Cattle Handling / Packing House Audits, Dr. Temple Grandin - Professor, CSU
4:15-5:00 State Legislative Panel
5:00-6:00 Social Hour
6:00-10:00 Dinner/Bill Bullard/Calf Sale
10:00- 1:00 - Dance - Sponsored by GSR Calcium

Saturday, Jan. 26:
8:15 Trade Show Opens
8:30-9:30 COOL, Mike Schultz, R-CALF COOL Committee Chair
10:00-10:50 Creating Efficiency in the Operation, Dr. Larry Hollis - Professor, KSU, Glen Rabenberg - GSR Calcium
11:00-11:45 Laws on Agriculture Transporting, Doug Handy - Kansas Corporation Commission
12:00-1:45 Luncheon, Saddle Auction, Jeff Hiers Key Note Speaker - Sponsored by Winter Feed Yard
2:15-3:00 National Legislators Panel
3:00-5:00 Annual Meeting

Congratulations to Roger Strathman of Baileyville, who came by the KCA booth at the Topeka Farm Show. Roger correctly guessed the weight of our steer and won a beef bundle from Ranch Foods Direct. The steer weighed in at 786 lbs. Thank you to everyone who stopped by our booth.

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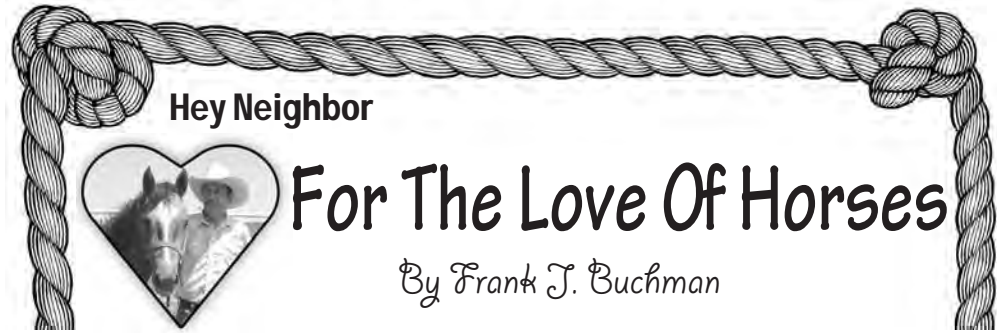
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For The Love Of Horses

By Frank J. Buchman

Glamorous, Big-Hearted Quarter Horse Mare Is World's Champion Superhorse

"She has a certain presence few (horses) have. Jill is real glamorous."

That charisma certainly paid off as sensationalism proved to be far more than skin deep for Shiners Diamond Jill.

While one might first think the initial description is of a Hollywood celebrity, it is in reality the owner's heartfelt portrayal of the biggest star in the Quarter Horse world.

Garth Gardiner of Ashland described the 2007 American Quarter Horse Association Superhorse simply in those words.

Owned by Gardiner in partnership with wife Amanda, as Gardiner Quarter Horses, Shiners Diamond Jill topped 51 Superhorse contenders. That was out of 2,074 horses from 48 states and six foreign countries totaling 3,303 entries at

the 34th annual World Championship Quarter Horse Show in Oklahoma City.

Nearly two months after collecting the hard-sought recognition in early November, Gardiner, saddling his horse at a year-end registered Quarter Horse show in Tulsa, Okla., still couldn't hide intensity of excitement as he talked about Shiners Diamond Jill.

"I never dreamt I would have the opportunity of doing this with Jill," Gardiner emphasized. "It wasn't our first horse show or our first world show, so we understood the degree of difficulty to accomplish what we did.

"Not only by having such a great individual but also having quite a bit of luck on our side because there were some tremendous horses we were up against. Any one of

them could have won it. We're very blessed again, and I owe it all to God."

Jill, a seven-year-old daughter of Shining Spark and out of Zans Diamond Jackie by Zans Diamond

Sun, qualified to compete in four events at the world show. She placed third in senior heading and was fifth in senior heeling, the fifth highest paying class of the show with a total purse of \$59,716.

Additionally, Jill rated 10th in senior working cow horse and was a finalist out of 34 entries in open performance halter mares, the largest halter class of the show.

"Jill is truly a once-in-a-lifetime horse," Gardiner insisted. "She has a tremendous amount of ability, but our trainer Brad Lund (of LaCygne) has as much ability as she does.

"We literally couldn't

have accomplished this without Brad," Gardiner contended. Ross Roark was also credited for showing Jill in the halter division.

Likewise, it's essential to recognize that Gardiner also rode the Superhorse mare personally to place tenth in amateur heeling earlier in the world competition. Adding to the uniqueness of owners exhibiting their own horses, Amanda also team roped in amateur heading at the world event.

The Gardiners first saw Jill in the fall of 2004 when breeder and owner Carol Rose of Gainesville, Texas, entered the mare in the world show. "Robbie Schroeder placed Jill in the

top ten in calf roping, and we were really attracted to her. She had that presence," Gardiner recalled.

Following their introduction, the Gardiners contacted Rose about purchasing the mare and eventually a transaction was completed. "We had Robbie show Jill the next year, and she again finished in the top ten in calf roping at the world," Gardiner credited.

Although she's a champion, the mare is "like a lot of professional athletes," Gardiner stressed. "Jill is a true athlete with a lot of talent and a big heart.

"However, there were

Continued on page 9



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En route to being named the Superhorse award honoree at the 2007 World Championship Quarter Horse Show in Oklahoma City, the seven-year-old sorrel mare, Shiners Diamond Jill, placed third in senior heading, fourth in heeling and tenth in working cowhorse. She is owned by Garth and Amanda Gardiner of Gardiner Quarter Horses, Ashland.

Continued from page 8
some obstacles for us to overcome in trying to show the mare ourselves. We struggled a bit but then made changes in our own program," the owner related.

The difference came when the Gardiners approached Lund about taking Jill, and other Gardiner Quarter Horses, into his training program.

"We had become acquainted with Brad at the shows and had been following what he could do with horses," Gardiner admitted. "Our program and Jill really started moving forward when Brad took over our training. This year has really been a blessing.

"Not only have we had

Continued on page 10

AUCTION

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See last week's Grass & Grain for complete listings.

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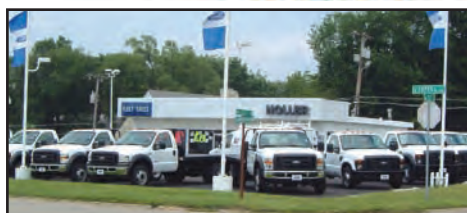
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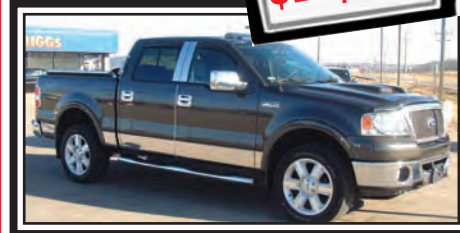
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Shiners Diamond Jill, owned by Garth and Amanda Gardiner of Gardiner Quarter Horses at Ashland, won the 2007 American Quarter Horse Association Sooner Trailer Superhorse title at the World Championship Show in Oklahoma City.



Continued from page 9
success with our horses, but we've formed a strong bond with Brad and Amy and their other customers. We're all one family," Gardiner recognized. "We all win together, and we all lose together. When we win, we're all happy, and when we lose we're all hurt."

Shiners Diamond Jill's mannerisms were again critiqued by her owner. "She is stout, strong and physical with a big engine," he evaluated. "I've ridden horses all of my life, but Jill was a challenge for me to even circle her at a lope in the beginning."

"After she'd been with Brad for a few months, he called and said he thought I would be able to show Jill personally. I really didn't believe him, but she definitely came around with Brad's training methods. His slow, quiet and persistent work sure quieted Jill down, yet she has the same athletic, physical ability," Gardiner assured.

Lund was also credited for assisting both Garth and Amanda in their roping and showing abilities. "He's made us better people. We're more gracious. We have more fun," applauded Gardiner, who has started heading and showing in working cow horse classes too.

The Gardiner name is synonymous with world class Angus cattle, having one of the largest herds and annual sales anywhere. "We are partners in our family's Angus operation, but Amanda and my Quarter Horses are separate," Gardiner explained.

About 12 mares are included in the Gardiner Quarter Horses breeding

program. "We have a top set of mares, most which have points in performance classes, and we breed them to top working stallions," he continued.

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are in the mares' pedigrees along with Shining Spark and Zan Diamond Sun lines.

"We have an own daughter of Jill who Carol Rose produced in an embryo transfer mare. We were fortunate to be able to buy this filly sired by Playin Stylish from Carol," Gardiner de-

clared. "Little Jill' is a great athlete too and placed in the limited open finals of the snaffle bit futurity. She could even turn out better than her dam. We will continue to show 'Little Jill' at the 4-year-old events this year."

Continued on page 11

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For The Love of Horses...

Continued from page 10

Jill is to be placed in a Gardiner embryo transfer program this year, as her training and showing are continued. "We haven't been able to justify any embryo work with our horses up to this point, but we can see this as a great opportunity," Gardiner said.

The mare is expected to return to the 2008 AQHA World Championship Show in amateur working cow horse, amateur heading and heeling and senior heading and heeling.

"The points are not all in yet, but now it looks like Jill will win the AQHA honor roll in heading and heeling, making her the high point horse in the nation in both events for the year," Gardiner tabulated.

"That might even be a bigger deal than the Superhorse title to some people, because unlike winning one show, it's a marathon to win that many points for the entire year," he added.

Plans for the future include producing a dozen top foals annually. "We hope to sell yearlings at the cutting futurity in Fort Worth, the snaffle bit futurity in Reno and the reining futurity in Oklahoma City," Gardiner stated. "We'll keep some foals for training and showing ourselves and then use them for our own production."

As his name was being called to compete in team roping at Tulsa, in hopes of completing an amateur championship on another horse, Gardiner was still flush about his Superhorse. "I've become attached to this mare. We've been through a lot of hard times. Jill is very special. I just can't believe it."

Conservation program takes hit as crop prices rise

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — As prices for corn and soybeans have risen, more Nebraska land has been taken out of a federal conservation program and put back into crop production.

Federal records show that the state's active inventory in the Conservation Reserve Program declined about 6.5 percent between September and November, from 1.34 million acres to about 1.25 million.

The program was started in 1986 to get highly erodible land out of production. Landowners sign 10- or 15-year contracts to plant grass and other cover crops in ex-

change for annual payments.

The renewable federal offer was especially popular in areas where fields were less fertile, irrigation was limited and aging farmers could use payments as a reliable source of retirement income.

Nationally, producers received an average of about \$50 per acre last year for enrolled acres.

Donald Bloss, who farms near Pawnee City, said high crop prices aren't the only reason land is being put back into production. Bloss said the government's annual compensation rates have

not kept up with cash rents or property tax bills.

Milton Rogers, state director of the Farm Service Agency, said he understands Bloss' concern about the level of federal payments. He acknowledged that CRP enrollment might be less attractive now that corn prices have reached \$4.50 a bushel.

Wildlife advocates are concerned about the loss of prime animal habitat.

"Given the call for acres and commodity crops, we have serious concerns over all for that program," said Tim McCoy, agricultural program manager for the Nebraska Game and Parks

Commission.

Bloss said he would leave his most fragile acres in the federal program. The land he'll put back into production, he said, has terraces, grassed waterways and other erosion control measures in place.

Bloss said farming methods, such as no-till application, have improved.

"You don't see nearly as much erosion as 20 years ago when we plowed and worked the ground," Bloss said.

But McCoy said other farmers might not be as discriminating as Bloss and pull vulnerable land from the CRP inventory in order

to cash in on near-record crop prices.

McCoy said he's also concerned the U.S. Department of Agriculture might relax rules and allow farmers to pull land out of the program before 10-year expiration dates without financial penalty.

Acting Secretary of Agriculture Chuck Conner said in September that he was not ready to offer what he described as "penalty-free early releases."

But, he said, "I will not hesitate in the future to make adjustments to USDA programs if needed to achieve balance in the agricultural sector."

Soybean performance test results online

Kansas agricultural producers are always looking for crops and crop varieties that will work best in their operation. The 2007 Kansas Soybean Performance Test report can help growers with those choices for the upcoming crop year.

The test results, found at <http://kscroptests.agron.ksu.edu/07/07beans/7b-test.asp>, are a program of Kansas

State University Research and Extension with support from the Kansas Soybean Commission.

A key part of the information available is the 2007 ratings for the soybean cyst nematode (SCN) and sudden death syndrome (SDS) resistance of all soybean varieties.

The data on the site are broken down by location

(research field in a particular county or counties) and by region (e.g., north central).

Summaries of yield, maturity, height and lodging at numerous locations in Kansas are included in the data. The report also provides two- and three-year yield summaries in bushels per acre and percent of test average.



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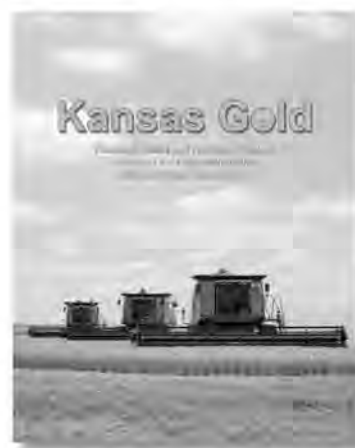
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Horsin' Around

By Don Coldsmith



"Horsin' Around"

From time to time somebody will ask something like "Why is your column called 'Horsin' Around?' You rarely write about horses."

The most recent inquiry about this came from a horseman, with a daughter who is involved in horse-ship programs in 4-H. They read the column in the weekly ranch paper, Grass & Grain. He was actually looking for an early book of mine, "Moon of Thunder." It describes in detail the training of a horse, using Indian methods. I had to look it up, because it was nearly twenty-five years ago that it was published. I had written dozens of books since then. Fortunately, with the help of our local book store, the "Town Crier" we found the book for her, on the Internet.

That's a long way around

the barn to refer to the fact that we're sometimes asked about the column, and why it is called "Horsin' Around."

In the beginning, it was to have been purely about horses. We were raising horses and exhibiting them, partly through our five girls' participation in 4-H programs. I was asked by a good friend, editor of the Emporia Times, a struggling weekly paper, to write about that. "Horsin' Around" seemed a logical title. I was doing a little "stringer" work for the Emporia Gazette, and the editor and friend, Ray Call, urged me to try it. Ray was my mentor as I blundered into the world of creative writing. "It will improve your writing, and there's no way to tell what it might lead to."

Prophetic words ... The Emporia Times folded

within a year or two, but by that time there were a couple of papers in Missouri, and one in Colorado, carrying the column. When I was on the lecture circuit, I'd send the column to their local paper for a few weeks, and then offer it as a regular weekly feature, moderately priced. About 1800 columns, at this time.

It's rarely horse-oriented anymore, but horsin' around doesn't actually require horses, does it? We have only one horse on the ranch now (no more daughters to take care of them).

Gradually, the column had fewer horse stories and more of general interest. The lecture circuit strategy still worked. Sometimes, I'd send a column or two to one of the horse magazines, and that became a fairly good place for Horsin' Around. Magazine-length articles are usually much longer

than the newspaper column, and I had to adjust, but that's part of the game.

All of this was going on while I was still practicing medicine. I delivered about three thousand babies, and sometimes I'd be at the hospital all night, waiting. No point in trying to sleep, so I'd write. Some of my early books were partly written on the back of hospital order sheets, in the middle of the night. Whatever works!

But, by lengthening the columns, or sometimes linking two or three together, some of my writing evolved into magazine articles. Horse magazines, of course. That expanded to the point that magazine editors would call and ask for an article on a specific horse topic. Most of them didn't even know about my "day job" as a physician.

The climax to that came

with a phone call while I was still in the practice of medicine. I was just finished an exam when a magazine editor called. My office manager/secretary told him that I could be on the phone in a minute or two, when I'd finished an exam.

When I picked up the

phone, the editor gasped, "My gawd, you're a doctor?"

I've mentioned that in the column before, I'm sure. But I think it's a great help to a columnist to have worked at a variety of jobs.

And, I'm still not certain what I want to be when I grow up.

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K-State's lab is Kansas' first line of defense

If the highly pathogenic strain of avian influenza ever comes to Kansas, diagnosticians at Kansas State University's Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory will be the first to know.

The lab, which is part of K-State's College of Veterinary Medicine, is the first place samples would be tested if there were a suspected case of avian influenza in Kansas.

Dr. Gary Anderson, director of the lab and professor of diagnostic medicine and pathobiology, says that the lab has been certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to perform avian flu testing. The lab also tests for swine, equine, and canine versions of influenza.

"K-State's Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory is known for thorough and timely diagnostic services," Anderson said. "And in the case of bird flu, were it to make it to Kansas, time would be of the essence. We presently have five employees who are certified by the National Animal Health Laboratory Network to perform avian influenza testing, which allows handling of a large number of samples and reporting the results within a short time frame."

Avian influenza was recently in the news because of two pre-Thanksgiving outbreaks in Britain. To date, the pathogenic strain of avian influenza — also referred to as H5:N1 — has been reported in Southeast Asia and a handful of European countries, but not in the U.S. It affects poultry — chickens, turkeys, ducks, etc. — and is particularly contagious among domestic flocks, although the disease is thought to originate with migratory fowl. "From a poultry standpoint, our biggest concern is that mi-

gratory birds from the North will mix in the summer breeding grounds and spread avian flu when they fly south for the winter," said Scott Beyer, a K-State poultry expert and associate professor of animal sciences and industry. "However, this has not yet happened in North America, which is somewhat of a surprise."

According to Beyer, if the bird flu does make it to the United States, poultry producers are prepared and have been taking precautions against the disease for some time.

"The chicken and turkey industries screen all flocks for avian influenza prior to sending them to the processing plant," Beyer said. "For many years, the U.S. policy has been never to allow any form of avian influenza to persist in the birds. So, even the most benign form is not allowed to exist in flocks. If we do have an H5:N1 outbreak, which is

the highly contagious kind, our system would pick it up very quickly."

If a producer or member of the public sees a sick bird or birds, K-State also manages the Avian Influenza Hotline at 1-800-566-4518. The hotline is a cooperative service provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the K-State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. All questions concerning dead birds or birds that appear to be sick can be re-

ferred to this number.

Typically, a single dead bird should not cause significant concern, Anderson said. "We start to worry when there is a large group of dead birds or migratory waterfowl in a relatively small area," he said.

Anderson encourages anyone with questions to call the hotline so the veterinary professionals manning the phones can help determine whether the death or sickness is an indicator of serious disease.

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Check Extension office for Walk Kansas, 2008 information

Tired of winter weather? Check with the local K-State Research and Extension office for Walk Kansas, 2008 registration information.

The popular, low-cost fitness program is scheduled to begin March 9 and continue until May 3, said Sharolyn Jackson, state coordinator for the Kansas State University Research and Extension program.

The eight-week fitness program encourages heart-healthy aerobic exercise and offers flexibility for exercising at a time and place that will work with already busy schedules.

Compiling miles with friends and co-workers to equal the distance from the state's east to west borders — 423 miles — makes exercise fun, Jackson said.

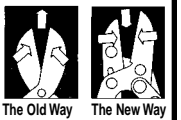
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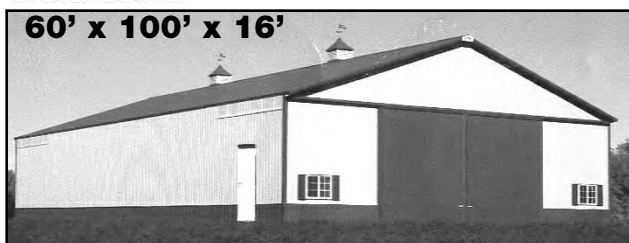
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Letters to the Editor

Editor:

The Dec. 30 news accurately reported that more than 80% of the wheat farmers sold their wheat for \$5 to \$6 per bushel back in July and August, yet the price of wheat in Hutchinson Dec. 12 reached \$9.56 per bushel. Had all those bushels been sold at \$9.56 per bushel, Kansas farmers would have had nearly 800 million dollars more to invest in our economy!

I believe the primary reason those farmers sold their wheat that cheap was because they had not been informed by leaders in the wheat industry, such as the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers and Kansas Wheat Commission, that world wheat stocks have been reported to be as low as they've been in 59 years!

Back in March, 2007 Farm Journal briefly reported that Darrel Good, University of Illinois, stated "We're

looking at the lowest year-ending stocks-to-use ratio on record," and there were several similar reports last spring but to the best of my knowledge, Wheat Growers never once alerted wheat farmers to the fact that wheat stocks were extremely low, in spite of the fact Wheat Commission spent \$105,000 of our wheat tax advertising in 2007!

And now the Wheat Commission plans to ask the Legislature to allow them to double the tax on wheat even though they had 2007 reserves of \$3.1 million and \$2.7 million income, none of which was used to alert farmers to worldwide wheat conditions. Since one Wheat Commission expenditure is to be used for education, keeping farmers abreast of world wheat supplies and growing conditions should be at the top of their list!

In addition to keeping wheat farmers up to date on

world wheat supplies, the Wheat Commission should also diligently back the development of a pricing system. When I was on the Wheat Commission we passed a motion on Aug. 9, 1993 directing K-State to expedite and aggressively pursue the development of a pricing system — more than 14 years have passed, and K-State has done nothing, nor has the Wheat Commission pushed for an extremely important pricing system to be used for farmers to price their wheat rather than let gamblers continue to come up with prices that have no connection at all to the nutritional value of wheat, or return on a farmer's investment.

Recently one Wheat Grower member said that getting \$10.50 for wheat was unrealistic. Actually, it is far more unrealistic for Wheat

Growers to refuse to support a pricing system that would enable farmers to get \$10.50 for their wheat.

Clear back on April 13, 1981, a major Kansas farm weekly very wisely got it right: "any device that would help farmers and ranchers set a price on his own product would be a welcome development in the agricultural economy." But wheat leaders refuse to listen!

Even with all the sophisticated technology we have today, farmers still don't have a way to ask anything for their products — the price of wheat might go much higher than \$9.56 per bushel if farmers would ask for more!

Doug Wildin
Hutchinson

Dear Editor,

As policymakers in Washington negotiate the finer points of our next farm bill, farmers and ranchers across the nation are being asked by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service to provide detailed in-

formation about their operations for the 2007 Census of Agriculture.

The census garners the most complete, uniform set of agricultural data around. It documents land use and ownership practices, operator characteristics, production practices, and income and expenditures. Your answers to census questions show to all the value and importance of U.S. agriculture. Your answers also influence important policy decisions, like those being made about our next farm bill. Census results are also useful right here at home.

Data can be used for community planning, transportation and marketing, where to locate USDA service cen-

ters, and farm succession planning. Your input has the potential to have a positive impact on your farming operation and on your community. You can be confident your answers will be kept confidential. Federal law requires it. Plus, your individual information cannot be shared with any federal, state or local government agency.

I encourage all Kansas farmers and ranchers to complete the census by the February 4 deadline. It's your opportunity to let your voice be heard so you can help shape the future of agriculture for years to come.

Adrian Polansky
Kansas Secretary of
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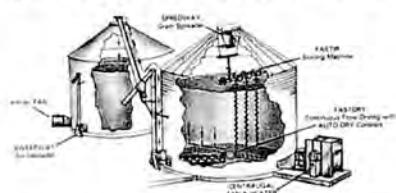
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Auction Sales Scheduled

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January 22 — Real Estate at Clay Center for Alwin Trumpp Estate. Auctioneers: Kretz & Hauserman Auctions.

January 22 — Land auction at Odell, NE for Joe Hawkins. Auctioneers: First State Realty-Donald Kracke, Broker.

January 23 — Shawnee Co. Farmland at Silver Lake for I&C Investments LLC. Auctioneers: Vern Gannon Auctions & Real Estate.

January 24 — Real Estate at Concordia for Georgia Trost Trust. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

January 25 — Farmland at Washington for the Evelyn Pfeiffer Estate. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

January 25 — Farmland at Washington for Orville Loges. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

January 26 — Rescheduled appreciation sale of miscellaneous & guns at Herington. Auctioneers: Bob's Auction Service.

January 26 — Residential real estate at Wakefield for Raymond Johnson Trust. Auctioneers: Clay County Real Estate, Greg Kretz & Gail Hauserman, salesmen & auctioneers.

January 26 — Antiques, household, misc. at Clay Center for Doris Meyer. Auctioneers: Kretz, Hauserman, Bloom Auction Service.

January 26 — Annual January machinery consignment auction W. of Paris, MO for Area Farmers &

Dealers. Auctioneers: Wheelers Auction.

January 26 — Farm machinery at Lakin for Tom Wright IV. Auctioneers: Larry Johnston Auctions.

January 26 — Civil War gun & memorabilia at Emporia. Auctioneers: Paul Hancock Auctions.

January 26 — Furniture, figurines, antiques, collectibles, cookbooks, household & tools at Salina for Frank Polach. Auctioneers: Reynolds, Mugler & Geist.

February 2 — Household & antiques at Clay Center for area consignors. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service LLC.

February 2 — Annual consignment at Axtell for Axtell Knights of Columbus.

February 2 — Tractors, trucks, farm machinery, ATV & farm related items at Burns for Jerry & Donna Nickel. Auctioneers: Van Schmidt Auctions.

February 2 — Antiques, collectibles, old tools, guns, van, camper & misc. at Osage City for Mr. & Mrs. Francis Marsh & Melinda McKay. Auctioneers: Beatty & Wischropp.

February 2 — Tractors, combines, trucks, farm equipment, irrigation items, shop & farm items, household & antiques at Leoti for Tim Mai & Neighbors. Auctioneers: Berning Auction.

February 5 — Kiowa County Colorado land at Lamar, CO for Steckel Farm. Auctioneers: Farm & Ranch Realty, Inc.

February 7 — Flint Hills

Ranch at El Dorado. Auctioneers: Sundgren Auction & Realty.

February 7 — Guns, ammo, Army surplus items, coins & misc. at Clay Center for Marliese Tiffany. Auctioneers: Kretz, Hauserman, Bloom Auction Service.

February 9 — Black Hereford Sale at Leavenworth for J&N Ranch.

February 9 — Hay auction SE of Marysville for R.J. Vogelsberg. Auctioneers: Cline Realty & Auctions.

February 9 — Antiques, collectibles, furniture & misc. at Council Grove for Edith Keys. Auctioneers: Greg Hallgren Auctions.

February 13 — 10th Annual Simmental Genetics Production Sale at Manhattan for River Creek Farms.

February 16 — Spring machinery auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

February 16 — Farm equipment at Vermillion for John Bramhall. Auctioneers: Joe Horigan Auctions.

February 16 — Wabaunsee Co. land at Alma for Florence Simon Heirs. Auctioneers: Greg Hallgren Auctions.

February 16 — Limousin sale at Garnett for GV Limousin.

February 18 — Republic Co. land at Republic for Cynthia Remacle. Auctioneers: Roger Novak Real Estate.

February 18 — Washington Co. land at Washington for Harvey Helms. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott Realty & Auction.

February 18 — Washington Co. land at Washington for Richard Wieland. Auctioneers: Raymonds Bott Realty & Auction.

February 21 — Real estate at Courtland for Ray Nelson family. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

February 23 — Farm equipment S. of Waterville for Gene & Sandy Harding. Auctioneers: Raymond Bott, Lee Holtmeier & Luke Bott.

February 23 — Farm sale E. of Flush for Lenherr Brothers. Auctioneers: Everett Hoobler & Dennis Rezac.

February 25 — 52nd anniversary sale at Allen for Vohs Angus Farms.

February 25 — Farm sale N. of Courtland for Dan & Shirley Sandell. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

February 26 — The Brand That Works Production Sale at Manhattan for Mill Creek Ranch.

February 28 — Wildlife habitat & native grassland at Blaine for Ed & Janice Murray. Auctioneers: Murray Auctions & Realty.

March 1 — 30th Gelbvieh Balancer & Red Angus bull sale at Pomona for Judd Ranch. Managed by Cattlemen's Connection, Roger Gatz, Hiawatha.

March 1 — Republic Co. land at Munden for Evelyn Flaska. Auctioneers: Roger Novak Real Estate.

March 1 — Farm sale E. of Flush for Eichman Brothers. Auctioneers: Everett Hoobler & Dennis Rezac.

March 1 — Rental equipment at Concordia for Performance Lawns & Rental Equipment. Auctioneers: Larry Lagasse Auction & Real Estate.

March 8 — 22nd Annual Concordia, Kansas Optimist Club consignment at Concordia. Auctioneers: Kenneth Johnson & Ronnie Lagasse.

March 8 — Consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

March 8 — Farm machinery, trucks, trailers, lawn mower, guidance system, tools & misc. at Altoona for Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Rettmann. Auctioneers: Larry Marshall Auctions.

March 9 — Annual registered Angus bull & female production sale W. of Topeka for Mission Valley Ranch.

March 16 — Angus bull & female sale at St. Joseph, MO for April Valley Farms.

March 20 — Angus bulls at Esbon for Benoit Angus.

March 22 — Farm machinery & miscellaneous SW of Clay Center for Labe Bertrand. Auctioneers: Kretz & Hauserman.

March 29 — Farm equipment & complete dispersal S. of Clay Center for Walter & Evelyn Mugler. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service.

March 29 — Mature cow dispersal & 42nd annual bull sale at Greeley for H&M Angus Farms.

March 30 — Angus Bull & Female Sale south of Manhattan for Lyons Ranch.

April 5 — Spring machinery auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

May 26 — 15th annual Memorial Day consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

June 14 — 7th annual consignment auction at Abilene for The Mid-America Pony & Miniature Ponies. Auctioneers: Don Chegidden & Charley Konig.

August 2 — Consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

September 1 — 13th annual Labor Day consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

September 6 — Fall machinery auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

November 1 — Consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

November 15 — Late fall machinery auction at Clay Center. Auctioneers: Mugler Auction Service, LLC.

January 1, 2009 — 24th annual New Year's Day consignment auction at Lyndon. Auctioneers: Harley Gerdes Auctions.

LAND AUCTION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7 — 6:00 PM

635.1 +/- acre Flint Hills Ranch

AUCTION LOCATION: El Dorado Civic Center, 201 E. Central, EL DORADO, KS.

LAND LOCATION FROM WICHITA, KS: 38.5 miles East on Hwy 400 (Kellogg Rd.), then South 2 miles on Stoney Creek Rd. Watch for signs.

Excellent native bluestem grassland, several pounds, rolling terrain, timber, creek and draws. 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with a large open kitchen/living room, large mudroom, attached garage and several outbuildings including an old 1 room house and a large older hay/livestock barn. This property would make a great ranch headquarters, vacation home or hunting lodge.

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AUCTION FARM MACHINERY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2008 — 10:00 AM

STORM DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

LOCATION: From Lakin, KS 5 miles North on Hwy. 25 to Rd. 200 then West 4 1/2 miles.

Machinery will sell at about 12:00. Machinery is in good condition.

TRACTORS, GUIDANCE SYSTEMS, FORKLIFTS, ROAD GRADER & ROGATOR
'03 JD 8520 tractor, MFWD, triple 380-90R 54 rear & dual 38D-80R38 front, 3575 hrs.; '97 JD 8300 tractor, MFWD, triple 320-90R50 rear & 320-85R34 front, 5593 hrs.; JD 4440 tractor, loaded, 8529 hrs.; 725 loader, will be sold separate & as a unit; 2 WJ D Starfire Auto Trac. guidance systems; '02 Rogator, 1254, 80' booms, 1850 hrs.; '58 Clark forklift; '85 Hyster forklift; '69 Caterpillar road grader 112F.

HARVEST EQUIPMENT
Frontier CG 1110 grain cart w/duals, 20.8x42" tires; 2000 JD 1252A row crop head, 20"; 1999 JD 1890 corn head, 20"; '02 Unverferth HT30 header trailer.

TRUCKS, TRAILERS & PICKUPS

'84 cab over Peterbilt truck, 400 Cummins, 10 sp. road-ranger, twin screw; '84 Peterbilt truck, 400 Caterpillar, 13 sp. conventional; '72, 8,000 gal. Trailmobile fert. trailer, 4 compartments, Honda 9 HP, 3" pump; '93 Timpe grain trailer, 40', 64"/sides w/tarps; '79 Timpe grain trailer, 40', 64" sides w/tarps; '74 Ford tandem truck, 10 sp., Caterpillar diesel engine, twin screw, 20' bed & hoist; '71 F600 Ford tandem axle truck, gas, 5 sp. w/sp., 20' bed & hoist w/tarp; '04 Ford F-250 pickup, 4x4; '01 Ford F-250 SD crew cab pickup, Lar, V-10, auto, leather, loaded, 175,000 mi.; '01 Ford F-350 pickup; '96 Ford F-250 pickup, 4x4, V-8 350, auto, 30,000 mi. on new motor; '94 Ford F-250

pickup, V-8, auto, service bed; '85 Ford 250 pickup.

MACHINERY

'93 JD 7300 planter, 24 row, 20", on Orthman bar, hyd. dr., liquid fert. attach; '05 JD 1890CCS drills, 40', 10" spacing w/liquid fert. attach; Sunflower 36' disc, front 23" & rear 24"; DMI 5300 Nutri Placer, 42", 24 row at 20" spacing; '85 Flex King 9-5 sweeps w/pickers; '04 & '98 Friesen Seed Tender's; '94 Norwesco 2600 gal. fert. tank; '40 double tool bar roll-a-cone, shanks, ga. wheels; 20' double tool bar roll-a-cone w/shanks, dammer diker; 2 - 30' Hamby tool bars w/shanks; 19' Sunflower Soil Saver, model 4212-19; 1984 JD rotary hoe 30', 3 point; 20' Dandyl flail chopper; '92 Hamby 30' roller; '70 Howard Rotovator; '92 61' Baker field cultivator mod. 7200.

IRRIGATION MOTORS (in good condition) & PIPE

3 - 454 Chevy irrigation engines, 2000 & 1999; 7 - 350 Chevy irrigation engines, 1993 to 2000; 1 - 300 Ford irrigation engine, 1992; 3 - JD 4045 DF150 irrigation engines, 2004, 80 HP; 1 - JD 4045 TF150 irrigation engine, 2004, 100 HP; 4600' gated irrigation 10" pipe, 30" spacing, some 8".

MISCELLANEOUS

600 gal. helicopter saddle tanks for JD 8520 tractor; saddle tanks for 8300 JD tractor; '87 DMC seed cleaner; '97 Hutchinson/swing out hopper auger 12"x82"; '85 Mayrath 10"x72" auger w/hopper; 2 trailers full of small items; 4 - 1,000 gal. diesel tanks.

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Deadline for Ag Day essay contest is Feb. 15

The Agriculture Council of America (ACA) is calling on seventh to 12th-grade students to submit an original essay of 450 words about the importance of agriculture. This year's theme is "Agriculture — Bigger Than You Think," and the deadline is Feb. 15. Teachers are asked to encourage their students to participate.

This year's topic highlights a broader focus of agriculture, showcasing the diversity of today's American farms. Though row crops and livestock are still very much a part of the foundation of the industry, agriculture today has multiple touch points in our daily lives and many career opportunities.

"This year's essay contest provides a great opportunity for all of us to learn more about the vision our young people have for the role of agriculture in their lives and in our country's future," says Linda Tank, Vice President of Communications for CHS Inc. "Their understanding of the tremendous impact agriculture has on our daily lives is key to the future of this vital industry." This year's national winner will receive a \$1,000 prize and round-trip ticket to Washington, D.C., to be recognized during the March 11 Celebration of Ag Dinner held at the Whitten Patio.

Statewide winners of the contest also will be selected. Each will receive a \$100 prize.

This is the 35th anniversary of National Ag Day. The goal of the ACA is to

provide a spotlight on agriculture and the food and fiber industry the first of each spring (National Ag Day), to help consumers understand not only how food and fiber products are produced, but to celebrate accomplishments in providing safe, abundant and affordable products.

The Ag Day Essay Contest is sponsored by CHS Inc., The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, High Plains Journal.

All entries should be sent to: Ag Day Contest, Agriculture Council of America, 11020 King Street, Suite 205, Overland Park, KS 66210, or submitted by e-mail to essay@agday.org. Entry applications and official rules for the contest can be found at www.hpj.com/agdayessay.

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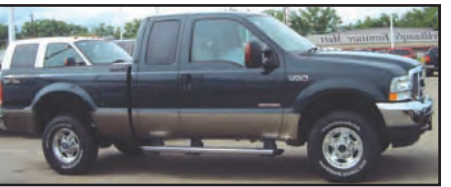
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