

Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.

Cozad laptop program expands to sixth graders

COZAD—Sixth graders will now receive lap top computers as Lexington Public Schools expanded its one-to-one computer initiative. In a 5-to-1 vote, board members approved spending \$204,608 for about 200 computers so each sixth grade student can received one. The new action means all LPS students in grades 6 to 12 will have their own personal computer to use during the school day and at home, with parent permission and a \$50 insurance fee.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

District 25 School bond issue fails again

BROKEN BOW—For the second time in just over two years, voters in School District 25 have voted on a proposed bond to build and/or renovate the district's elementary schools. And both times the voters said no. Members of the Broken Bow Board of Education approved a resolution requesting a special bond election, calling for an Aug. 10 special mail-in election requesting a bond not exceeding \$9,955,000, the cost of the school project plus costs of issuing the bonds. Ballots were sent out with a 60% voter return. Final numbers were 1,342 against, and 925 for.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

Lost Minnesota couple found after 18-hr. search

OGALLALA—Perseverance and dedication of many local firefighters, rescue personnel and law enforcement officers as well as volunteers resulted in a lost Minnesota couple being found safe. The couple had made a 911 call reporting they were lost with a broken down vehicle, however the phone had not given strong coordinates and the couple knew nothing of the area or landmarks. They were found 18 hours later off a trail road in rural Keith County. "It was pure luck we even stumbled upon their car," Ogallala Volunteer Interim Fire Chief Mike Bell said. "They had driven almost clear down to the river's bank." The couple were dehydrated and were taken to the hospital for observation.—reported in the Keith County News.

NRD wrestles with IMP and adopts revisions

CURTIS—After a lengthy discussion recently, the board of directors of the Middle Republican NRD voted to adopt the Integrated Management Plan (IMP) presented with minor changes. The Department of Natural Resources has concurred with the changes presented and will also adopt the plan. The DNR Director praised the board by saying, “The adoption of this plan by the Middle Republican NRD Board of Directors shows their commitment to ensuring Nebraska will stay in compliance with the Republican River Compact, while also allowing for the continued economic viability of the part of the basin within the Middle Republican NRD.”—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

SORC racers arrive from 40 states and Canada

ARNOLD—The Pinnacle Bank sponsored Sandhills Open Road Challenge (SORC) was to have its 10th annual event beginning with the One-Mile Shoot-Out near Callaway on Aug. 13. An afternoon SORC parade, car show and burn-out contest was to take place in Arnold. A new feature had been added this year with the arrival of a mobile dynamometer, allowing anyone the chance to see how much horsepower their car really had. This year’s event had 120 entrants from 40 states and Canada.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

South Loup Bobcats’ homecoming Sept. 7-11

CALLAWAY—The first test of District 180 is proving to be Homecoming. The new co-op between Callaway and Arnold is facing their first challenge for the South Loup Bobcat sports teams. Homecoming is scheduled for Sept. 7-11 and will culminate with visiting Anselmo-Merna, the second football game of the season. The dance will be Saturday after the Seven Valleys Volleyball Tournament in Callaway. Cheerleaders and sponsors from each school are to meet and determine the theme, and it was decided a king and queen would be crowned from each school—reported in the Callaway Courier.