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Thermopolis  
Hot Springs

# Independent Record

SPECIAL INTERNET PREVIEW

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## Homecoming Week filled with numerous activities

by Cindy Glasson

Hot Springs County School District No. 1 is gearing up for one of the most fun annual events, Homecoming, which features a week filled with activities from Monday, Sept. 23 through Saturday, Sept. 28. This year's Homecoming theme is "Neon."

The week will kick off with students dressing as their favorite hero on Monday with Hero Dress Up Day, followed by Powder Puff football and Buff Puff volleyball that evening, sponsored by the sophomore student council members.

Powder Puff football will begin at 6:30 p.m. on the practice field west of the school. Buff Puff volleyball starts at 7:30 p.m. in the high school gym.

Things may look a little strange around the high school on Tuesday as the students celebrate Opposite Day, dressing as someone completely opposite of themselves.

The halls will be decorated for Homecoming on Tuesday, too, from 3:45 to 6 p.m.

A new event this year, a scavenger hunt—sponsored by the junior class student council members—will find students running everywhere from the high school to the grounds at Ralph Witters Elementary to Hot Springs State Park.

The scavenger hunt will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at dark.

### Coronation schedule

Coronation of this year's Homecoming king and queen will be held in the auditorium on Wednesday around 8 a.m.

Parents, grandparents and anyone else who may be there for the coronation may want to stick around for the return of the Air Band competition that will immediately follow the crowning of the king and queen.

Wednesday is also Decades Day, when students will be dressing from their favorite decade.

Class Color Day will be on Thursday with seniors donning neon yellow. Juniors will be dressed in black, sophomores will wear plaid and the freshman class will be in electric blue.

The senior Student Council members will be hosting a dodgeball tournament starting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the high school gym.

### Pep rally, parade, football game

The big day will be Friday, starting with a pep rally in the high school gym at 8 a.m. with everyone dressed in their spirited purple and gold.

Classes will have a chance to work on their floats for the parade in the parking lot following the pep rally.

Everyone will line up for the Homecoming parade at 10 a.m. with the parade commencing at 10:45 a.m.

Folks are invited to join the FFA for a steak dinner on game night starting at 5:30 p.m. in the high school commons.

Kick-off for the football game against the Kemmerer Rangers will be 7 p.m.

The final event for Homecoming will be the dance on Saturday from 9 p.m.-midnight in the high school commons.



Bill Kawlewski spins the Wheel of Fortune game at the Hot Springs Friends of NRA banquet Saturday night. Cindy Hart, a committee member, ran the game and explained how it worked to the various competitors. — J.D. Stetson photo

## Friends of NRA raises \$41,400

The Hot Springs Friends of the NRA Banquet Saturday night was a sold-out affair with all 150 tickets sold to the event.

The banquet raised a gross total of \$41,400 with \$19,000 in net revenue for the organization.

"I think the event went real-

ly well," said Cynthia Garbin, Friends of the NRA chairwoman.

The event had 35 firearms that were auctioned, raffled or won as prizes during the evening, which is double the number of firearms from previous years, said Paul Garbin, treasurer.

"I think everyone enjoyed themselves and had a good time," Paul said. "And we made a fair amount of money."

The event had both local and out-of-town participants and featured the Wyoming Event Team from the statewide organization.

## 3-on-3 to return in 2014; chamber elections next month

by J.D. Stetson

The Thermopolis 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament will return for 2014.

The Thermopolis-Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce voted Sept. 12 to bring the tournament back for one more year after receiving input from the public during a forum Sept. 10.

Additionally, the board included in the vote to keep the tournament on its traditional date, which is the first weekend in May, and to pursue negotiations with contractor World Events to include a Sunday bracket for teams unable to attend the tournament on Saturday due to sports or other school

conflicts.

During the discussion, the question was raised whether the 3-on-3 event fits in with the direction the chamber board intends to take into the future, which entails moving away from being an "entertainment committee." The board then discussed possibly allowing another

entity or group to take over the event.

Board member Tom Butler motioned to ask the Hot Springs County Lodging Tax Board if the board and its contract consultant would be willing to take on the event, but the motion failed for lack of a second.

Board president Phil Scheel

said, based on the public comment during the forum and for the sake of keeping tradition, the chamber has the ability to keep the event under the chamber's wing for another year.

The board also was very interested in feedback from the public forum asking the chamber to sell hats and T-shirts

to improve net revenue to the chamber from the event, and to use local businesses to supply the merchandise.

### Chamber elections coming up next month

In October, the chamber

See Chamber page 10

## Philips inducted into State Speech Coach Hall of Fame

Hot Springs County High School head speech and debate coach Ron Philips was inducted into the Wyoming State Speech Coach Hall of Fame in Saratoga last weekend.

"I was stunned. It was quite an honor," Philips said of the induction.

Philips began his career in coaching as a parent volunteer with the team before formally taking over coaching duties in 2002, bringing the team back from the brink of extinction.

Over the ensuing 11 years, he has taken at least one student to the National Speech and Debate competition nearly every year, and for the past four years a select number of students have competed at the Harvard University tournament under his tutelage.

Exposure to national competition has created an exemplary team in both debate and interpretation.

Philips has several state event winners on his lengthy roster as well as the state champion title for 2012.

The criterion for induction is a consensus among the members of the Hall of Fame who are still participating as coaches.



Ron Philips

"It's a real team effort," Philips said of the success of the HSCHS speech and debate program during his tenure. "We have talented kids. We have kids who come back from college to coach."

He gave credit to assistant coach Cindy Glasson for her ongoing contribution.

"I couldn't do it without her," Philips said.

### Accolades from other speech and debate coaches

Walter Farwell, Buffalo High School speech coach and former vice president of the Wyoming High School Forensics Association (WHSFA), had this to say about Philips. "Ron has really stepped up and has been quite visible within our ranks," he said. "He has taken on the responsibility of a

leadership role and is always willing to help judge when needed. He has become more and more an asset to the organization."

"Ron is very respected within our community," added Ted Menke, head speech coach for Greybull High School. "He is willing to step up and take on responsibilities at all levels."

"Ron has really stepped up in his officer role," said Mark Houser, head coach of the Jackson Hole High School team. "I have been very impressed with the thoughtfulness he has offered as an officer and his level-headed response to all issues that have come his way."

"I am so excited for Ron to receive this honor, as

See Philips page 10



Jed Hershey of the Bartlett Ranch ropes a steer to demonstrate a palomino gelding named Drawback A Buck,

nicknamed "Yucca" during the WYO Quarter Horse Ranch Sale performance preview Saturday. — J.D. Stetson photo

## Three horses top sellers at WYO sale

Ninety-four horses had their moment to shine in the ring Saturday during the 13th annual Fall WYO Quarter Horse Ranch Sale.

The event was the best fall sale the crew has ever had, said Carole Smith.

All of the horses sold were cultivated for auction by Bill and Carole Smith, Todd and Lorie Fike, Jack and Becky Wipplinger and Dr. H.B. "Woody" Bartlett.

Three horses—all geldings—hold the honor for highest price sold at \$20,000 each. The horses were 2-, 5- and 10-year-olds.

The 2-year-old, Watch Bucks Handle, is a buckskin gelding nicknamed "Cisco," and was raised by Bartlett. The buyer is from California, and it is the first 2-year-old

ever to go for \$20,000, Carole said.

The other two geldings—both sorrels—are Typical Pepper and Jimmy K. Typical Pepper is a 10-year-old bought by an Arizona buyer, and Jimmy K is a 5-year-old purchased by a buyer in Virginia.

Overall, the geldings averaged \$10,428. The Top 10 averaged \$15,000 and the Top 20 averaged \$12,775.

All of the averages, with the exception of the yearlings, were up from the previous year, Carole said.

The sale accounted for buyers from 21 states and Canada with 18 horses staying in Wyoming and 10 going to Colorado.

"It was a good crowd that stayed until the end," Carole said.



# Chamber

board of directors will have elections to fill vacant seats on the board.

Chamber member businesses will have the opportunity to vote on who they think should fill four seats coming up for vacancy. The chamber's nomination board has already sub-

mitted six people for possible election to the board.

New nominations can be added to the list so long as a petition is submitted signed by 10 voting member businesses by Monday, Sept. 23.

Ballots are due back to the chamber by 5 p.m. Oct. 7. The

chamber will announce the new board members during the board's Oct. 10 meeting.

The chamber also has two additional seats that were vacated by board members who resigned before their term was concluded. Those seats will be appointed after the election.

# Philips

he is a coach that inspires not only his students, but all involved in competitive forensics," said Dan Parson, president of the WHSFA. "He has been a role model and friend to so many of us as the vice

president of the Wyoming High School Forensics Association.

"Ron's students show not only a high degree of competitive skill, but also the sort of sportsmanship and class that can only come from

excellent coaching."

Philips is a Diamond Level coach with the National Forensics League, which requires at least five years of coaching and 1,500 points.

# Prayer Service set for Sept. 26

Several churches in Thermopolis are sponsoring a community-wide Prayer Service for Healing the Land at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26 in the Bicentennial Park, next to the Independent Record. The pastors are taking leadership in praying for good stewards of our land and all its natural resources, and for protection from drought, flooding, fire, storms and other natural disasters.

The Prayer Service is timely. The locals in Colorado flooding areas and the locals in the New Jersey area destroyed by a recent fire speak of the destruction as being of "Biblical proportion." By that, they mean that they feel called to prayer.

The theme of the Prayer Service is taken from the Bible in 2 Chronicles 7:14, "...if my people, upon whom my name has been pronounced, humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their evil ways, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins and heal their land."

Participating churches are: Community Federated, Holy Trinity Episcopal, Hot Springs Christian, Living Waters As-

semblies of God, Risen Son Southern Baptist, River of Life Fellowship, Roundtop Baptist

and St. Francis Catholic. The general public is invited to take part in the service.

## Ray Shaffer retirement



Penny Herdt passes along a slice of cake to Ray Shaffer during his retirement party last week. Shaffer retired from the county Road and Bridge Department after 30 years with the county.

—Cindy Glasson photo

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By Tony Deromedi

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**WEDNESDAY**  
Baked Pork Chops Over Bread Stuffing w/Gravy, Steamed Carrots, Cucumber Salad, Applesauce Cake w/Frosting

**THURSDAY**  
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