

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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## SORC crowd enjoys an all new kind of race



### Pedaling to the Finish Line

Taking a break from the regular races at last weekend’s Sandhills Open Road Challenge, four drivers traded in their high performance cars for tricycles for the Drag Races held on Friday afternoon. Dustin Sabatka of Valparaiso, Ryan McFadden of Lexington, and Kevin Hanschu and Rick Cain, both from Wichita, Kansas, good-naturedly offered to compete in the first-ever event, with McFadden (right) easily pedaling past Sabatka in the top-three eliminator race. A crowd of some 200 people lined the street to watch not only the drag races, but the burn-out contest as well.

Hundreds of racing enthusiasts turned out to experience all of the events over the three-days of SORC, including the Loup 2 Loup, Mile- and Half-Mile Shoot-Out, car parade and show, Saturday’s open road challenge, and the barbecue and awards ceremony held at the city park. The night ended with Borderline performing at Grazers Bar & Grill.

Cool and cloudy conditions prevailed for the three days. Josh Cool, who serves on the SORC Board and is in charge of timing and scoring, said, “In my 24 years it was the best weather we’ve had by far. Except for a small rain delay at the Loup 2 Loup, everything went off really well. We are really looking forward to the 25th anniversary next year and will have some special things planned.”

Complete results of the Shoot-Out and the Sandhills Open Road Challenge are inside this issue.

- Debbie Connelly Photos



## School’s Back In Session



Kelly Morgan (left) and Jaycee Anderson (right) have joined the staff at Arnold Schools, teaching K-3 Special Ed/Spanish and 2nd Grade, respectively. The women already know each other, as they both previously taught at Gothenburg Schools.

Kids will be seeing a lot of changes in staffing when they head back to school on August 15. APS has hired three new teachers and made a number of faculty swaps in classrooms.

New teachers are Kelly Morgan, who will be teaching K-3 Special Ed and Spanish; Brittany Payne, Pre-school; and Jaycee Anderson, 2nd Grade.

This will be Mrs. Anderson’s first year of teaching. She earned her degree in Elementary Education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney and student taught in the 3rd Grade at Gothenburg Public Schools. During her student teaching time, she and her fiancé moved back to Gothenburg, where they both grew up and graduated high school. Her fiancé has worked for the Nebraska State Patrol for a little over a year now, and they have a dog named Maverick. The couple will be living in Gothenburg, as her fiancé has to live within 40 miles of the

Lexington Station.

Mrs. Anderson said she chose Arnold Public Schools because it was close to home and seems like a really great little community.

“I’ve drove through Arnold more times than I can count, going to my grandparents’ house over the years, and anytime we’ve stopped for a snack or gas, everyone was always super friendly! I wanted a change and something new from what I was used to, and the Arnold staff was very welcoming during my interview and still is. The Arnold community has been nothing but welcoming and helpful in my new journey. I can’t wait to get to know the community better,” she said.

Mrs. Anderson said she wanted to become a teacher to make an impact on children and build the same relationships her teachers did with her.

“My goal in being a teacher is to build relationships with each of my students to help them grow and learn to the best

of their abilities. I hope to do my best in providing each student with the tools and resources they need to strive,” she said.

Mrs. Morgan had been teaching Spanish in Gothenburg for the past nine years, and chose to teach at APS because of its strong reputation for academic excellence and innovative programs.

“The administration goes above and beyond to ensure students and staff needs are met. I value the school and community partnership. The patrons of Arnold are welcoming and with a mission to keep Arnold progressively growing, it makes it a great place to live and work,” she said.

Mrs. Morgan, who lives in a country home outside of Arnold with husband Joel, and sons Jett and Jeremiah, received her Secondary Education Degree with Endorsements in ESL and Spanish, Reading Specialist Master’s Degree PK-12, School Library Media Master’s Degree, all from the University of Nebraska at Kearney, and a degree in Special Education Endorsements K-6 from UNO.

“Being a teacher is a great opportunity to positively impact student’s lives and contribute to their personal and academic growth. It provides a chance to inspire and motivate students and help them figure out where they want to go in life and what dreams they wish to pursue,” she said.

Superintendent Joel Morgan said last week that they are hoping to fill a couple of other open positions. Applications have been coming in for an assistant cook, but there hadn’t been any applicants for an assistant custodian as of Friday.

As far as updates, new carpets have been installed in some of the rooms, and new countertops for storage were installed in the elementary.

“Mr. Mohr and Mr. Neth did a great job on the countertops, with help from Trey Connell and Malachi Neth,” said Mr. Morgan.

He also said that doors for controlled access to the school will be coming any day.

## It’s In The Genes



Young Jayda Jordan is following in her family’s footsteps. Her talent with horses was apparent at this year’s Custer County Fair, as the pre-junior competitor took home purple ribbons in several classes, from halter to taking on the poles and barrels on her horse. Her mom, BoDell (Gracey), and generations of other Graceys are well known in Arnold and the surrounding area for winning competitions and training horses. Turn to pages 4 and 5 to see more photos and read complete fair results for the South Loup 4-H Club. - Courtesy photo