By Russ Pankonin

The Imperial Republican

Chad Cochran of Imperial looked to be out of the main heat of the weld division of the Chase County Fair demo derby held by the Imperial Jaycees. Instead, he came back and won it.

His right front tire of his 1976 Buick was laying flat on the ground and Cochran looked to be stranded in the arena. That was until he got a hit that brought the tire back upright.

He could move again and the tire held on long enough for him to outlast the other cars to take first place.

Cochran is a new faculty member at Wauneta-Palisade Schools. Cochran teaches fifth through eighth grade art as well as art I, II, III and independent art at the high school. He will also teach foods the second semester.

In the no-weld division, Chet Ely of McCook drove the last car still moving, taking out Sean Mitchell, Imperial.

The derby drew 20 cars and two pickups. Brothers Kelvin and Nathan Robertson of Ogallala share the prize money after knocking each other around pretty good.

Winners

No-weld division—1, Chet Ely, McCook; 2, Sean Mitchell, Imperial; 3, Dan Collins, Ogallala; 4, Austin White, St. Francis, Kan.; 5, Brandon Brott, Indianola.

Weld division—1, Chad Cochran, Imperial; 2, Christy Bolio, Benkelman; 3, Larry Steinbeck, McCook; 4, Brandon Watson, North Platte; 5, Cody Prosser, Champion.