



**By Jan Schultz**

***The Imperial Republican***

A baler that caught fire last Friday burned into several acres of wheat stubble just south of the Chase/Perkins County line, about 11 miles north of Imperial.

Imperial Fire Chief Nick Schultz said Jeff Pribbeno was in a tractor pulling the equipment that was baling wheat straw into large bales on farmground the family leases.

When he discovered the fire, he pulled the baler to a less vulnerable location off the field and disconnected it from the tractor, Schultz said. However, fire had started in the stubble.

The Imperial Volunteer Fire Department (IVFD) used water and foam to extinguish the fire that burned three to four acres of the stubble.

The baler, valued at about \$30,000, was a total loss. There was no damage to the tractor, according to Schultz's report.

The IVFD was on the scene for about an hour. The call came in at 10:35 a.m.