By Jan Schultz
The Imperial Republican

They didn't roll their best scores of the season, but four members of Chase County's team qualified for state in the first year for high school bowling here.

Coach Denise Smith said the two boys and two girls from the local team probably felt they didn't bowl their best, as they finished about average or below.

However, three of them will be able to compete again next year, as there are plans for another team in 2009-2010.

Kerry Swanson and Chevy Smith represented the boys' team at state Feb. 14, while Taylor Wilson and Kacia Smith qualified form the girls' team.

Their state scores from a three-game series were: Chevy Smith 406, Swanson 334, Wilson 384 and Kacia Smith 369.

A total of 50 boys and 44 girls qualified as individuals for the state competition, held in Lincoln.

All of Chase County's bowlers gathered for an end-of-season get-together Feb. 18 at Imperial Lanes.

There, they received charter Imperial team member pins, as well as pins from the state federation recognizing their highest games this season.

It was also announced that night Kerry Swanson would receive the team's $100 scholarship, provided by the Nebraska High School Bowling Federation. Each high school team in the state receives $100 for use as scholarship money, Denise Smith said.

There are plans for teams again next year, she said. An organizational meeting will be held in the fall, with tryouts and practices beginning in November.

Kelen Fortkamp also assisted with coaching the teams this year.