By Carolyn Lee
The Imperial Republican

A familiar face is behind the pharmacy counter at Adams Drug Inc. in Imperial. Native Jason Burke is completing a rural retail pharmacy rotation as part of his University of Nebraska Medical Center program.

Burke, a fourth year pharmacy student, began working at Adams Drug July 30, and will be at the counter until Aug. 24.

The 2004 Chase County High School graduate must complete 10 rotations before graduation. He has already worked at a hospital and in a retail pharmacy in Omaha, where he and wife Whitney (Paisley) live.

Burke, 27, chose Imperial as his rural retail rotation because he grew up in and has family in Imperial. As for Adams Drug, “Between Jim and Jamie (Hanes), there’s a lot of experience there. I have a lot to learn from Jim and Jamie. It seemed like a good place to go for a month.”

The Hanes own Adams Drug Inc. and are the pharmacists.

Burke said he really enjoyed the hospital and retail rotations he’s already served. Imperial is special, though.

“I really enjoy the small town. You get to visit with people and get to know them better.”

Burke obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in business from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2008. But, part way through school he realized he wanted to attend pharmacy school, inspired in part by sister Jessica, who was then in an on-line pharmacy school at Creighton University in Omaha.

Burke “crammed in” chemistry, biology and other prerequisites to be able to apply to the Med Center program.

His parents are John and Cheri Burke of Imperial.