

# Bergman hired as Kiddie Cats director

By KENT THOMPSON

The Kiddie Cats Childcare and Learning Center has announced the hiring of a director for the new facility.

Heather Bergman was originally hired as a teacher and when the director position opened, she was offered the job.

Bergman is a native of Britt in nearby Hancock County. She worked at a day care there for three years, basically becoming the assistant director, although that wasn't her official title.

She recently moved to the community and found the opening at Kiddie Cats dovetailed wonderfully with her personal and career goals.

"I'm looking forward to starting on my own at a new center and having the backing of a dedicated local board and working with kids," Bergman said.

"I want this center to be something that Humboldt and Dakota City are proud of. I want this to be a place where people want to send their kids and have a waiting list of children to come here. I want the kids leaving here every day saying that they want to come back," Bergman said.

Since the center opened in late June, enrollment has been growing steadily with more children expected once school starts.

"We are at about 25 children. It's a learning process as we develop a daily schedule, which will take shape

as we get more kids in the different centers. We want families and kids to be comfortable with the Center.

"Right now we are using three classrooms, the infant room, the 2-3-year-old room and 3-4-year-old room. The 5 and older children are with the 3-4-year-olds until school starts," Bergman said.

She said having the aid of high school students this summer while the Kiddie Cats Child Care and Learning Center gets going has been very helpful, especially with staffing.

The Center is still seek-



Heather Bergman

ing full and part-time classroom staff. If a person is interested, they can download an employment application at the center's website, [www.kiddiecats-childcare.com](http://www.kiddiecats-childcare.com), or they can stop by the center, 25 3rd St. N. in Dakota City, 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Friday, or can contact Bergman at (515) 332-9710.

"Getting to know the community and the resources (who to go to for what) has probably been the biggest challenge so far," Bergman said.

The Center is fairly well furnished, but can take toy donations of new and gently used items.

The center's objective is to provide a child-focused environment that engages young minds through learning and play.

The new director said she is looking forward to the first year of operations.

"I'm one of those persons that says, 'I love my job every day. That makes what I do the best job ever.'"