By Jan Rahn
Managing Editor

A smooth transition to new ownership has taken recently place at the Plainsman Inn RV Park and Storage toward the north edge of Grant.

Ryan and Taren Hendricks are the enthusiastic new proprietors, purchasing the motel from Warren and Cindy Christophersen.

The motel's name will remain, as will the RV park, storage units and truck parking.

Having grown up in Perkins County, Ryan Hendricks said his heart is in the community. Noticing the improvements the Christophersens made, when the business became available for sale he and Taren felt like they could continue the business and make it an asset to the community.

Hendricks works full-time with his father, Cecil Hendricks in the family business, Walking-7 Feedlot. The 2000 Grant High School graduate majored in ag education at UNL, then moved back to Grant where he taught high school ag courses for two years from 2006-2008 before returning to what he terms his "lifestyle" to work with his dad.

Taren, a Kimball native with an early elementary education degree from UNL, teaches kindergarten in Ogallala and will be an equal partner in the young couple's new venture of motel management.

Although the seven motel rooms are "super clean," said Hendricks, they will continue to update them. There are several new beds and a coin-operated laundry room with a pop machine available to guests. The Hendrickses also plan to make wireless internet available in the rooms.

Another feature to be added soon is a dog/pet kennel for travelers and hunters who need shelter for their animals during their overnight stay.

There are 27 RV hookups that offer full service electricity, water and sewer. Twenty-eight storage units are available on the property at a very reasonable fee.

With the help of the City of Grant, the Hendrickses were able to secure a loan from the Economic Development Program.

"For people wanting to get started it's a really good program the city offers," said Hendricks.

Besides financial assistance from the City of Grant, the couple received a lot of help and support from the Christophersens while taking over the business, which remained open and running smoothly throughout the change in ownership.

To make reservations at the Plainsman Inn, visitors to the area may call 308-352-2454 or e-mail plainsmaninn@gpcom.net. Credit cards are accepted. To contact a guest who is staying on the premises, call 308-352-4444 or 352-4443.

The motel will have a web site in the near future: www.plainsmaninn.com

There will be an open house this fall for the public to view the units at the Plainsman Inn and get acquainted with the new owners and their 13-month-old son Carter.