

Don't look now...



A young man stands next to a mammoth skeleton at the Sternberg Museum of Natural History in Hays. The tusk found in Norton County is thought to be between 10,000 and 50,000 years old.

— Courtesy photo

Hundreds attend New Almelo event

By **BETTY OTTER**
Correspondent

The St. Joseph Parish Bazaar was held Aug. 9 with many former parishioners and community people making up the crowd. After several cooler days, everyone enjoyed a pleasant evening.

Figures show 286 adult meals and 24 children's meals were sold for the barbecued beef and pork all-you-can-eat meal.

Inside the parish hall were the bake sale with breads, cakes, cookies and jellies, and the fancy work stand, featuring baby blankets, dish towels and other hand-crafted items. On display were 15 quilts, a vintage quilt, two baby quilts, a baby Afghan and a large Afghan, a matted and framed oil painting of a Belgium team of work horses by Janice Linden of Denver, a metal hand-crafted windmill complete with a tank, and a metal planter wheelbarrow painted white with red hearts on the corners of the box, both of which were made by Wilber Johnson. All of these items were auctioned off.

Outside, the children's games,

a pop toss, a beanie baby game, a spinner with stuffed toys, and the color wheel, the fish pond, baseball throw, and the basketball throw with a regular goal and also a little tykes goal, were very busy with young people. Greg Otter's train gave rides all night.

The smell of hamburgers and porkburgers filled the air as they started cooking at 7:30 p.m. They also sold drinks and ice cream in cones and dishes. This stand is always the last to close — making sure no one goes home hungry.

Early in the evening and well into the night, Dan Wahlmeier provided vocal music to set the atmosphere of enjoyment out on the tennis court, in the center of activity.

Mike Weimer of Hoxie donated his auctioneering talents for the auction. The items are listed by name (or item), the buyer and the price paid: a quilt, "Formal Garden," Fran Otter, \$550; "Pink Log Cabin," Steve Otter, \$450; "Cats," Bill Persun, \$325; "Lavender Flowers," Diana and Larry Enfield, Jr., \$400; "Hearts and Roses," Leila Hall-Wheeler,

\$1950; "Scrolls and Flowers," Deb Anderson, \$350; Lone Star," Carol Otter, \$1200; "Country Grapes," Marjorie Unrein, \$800; "State Birds and Flowers," Renee and Jack Cella, \$1200; "Blue Snowflakes," Marion Otter, \$300; "Flowers So Fair," Angie Feldt, \$400; "Sunbonnet Sue," Randy Gassmann, \$1200; "Pansies and Stars," Ruby Heikes, \$1100; "Lacey Rose," Steve Otter, \$700; "Brown Leaves," Jerry Nickelson, \$350; Vintage "Bow Tie," Bill Persun, \$650; "Bears Baby Quilt," William and Michelle Slipke, \$400; "Baby Animals," Alan Goldsby, \$225; "Baby Afghan," Bonita Slipke, \$30; "Green and White Afghan," Marilyn Otter, \$60; "Windmill," Marion Otter, \$100; "Wheelbarrow," Sheryl Linden, \$100; "Oil Painting," Lelia Hall-Wheeler, \$400.

The winners of the raffle were: Quilt, Rhonda Shepard; \$50, Lorraine Long; \$100 Landon Slipke; \$200 Tonya Dreiling.

After the auction, Chuck Wright won the bingo game with a "black out."

Rodeo coming to community college

By **DEBBIE SCHWANKE**
Colby Community College

Contestants from 24 colleges in Kansas and Oklahoma will be competing in the 11th Annual Colby Community College National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association's Rodeo Sept. 12-14 at the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

Evening performances on Friday and Saturday will begin at 7 p.m. The finals on Sunday featuring the top 10 in each event will begin at 1:30 p.m.

Men's events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping and bull riding.

The women will compete in breakaway calf roping, goat tying and barrel racing.

Tickets at the gate are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. Children five and under will be admitted free with a parent. Advance tickets (\$7 for adults and \$3 for children) are on sale at Vanderbilt's and the Campus Bookstore in Colby.

The announcer for this premiere event is Tim Fuller from Claremore, Okla. Stock will be provided by the Hudson Rodeo Company with Deone Hudson, Sharon Springs, as producer of the event.

Allen Russell, Colby College's rodeo coach, served as the director of the Central Plains Region

of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) which includes two- and four-year colleges and universities in Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri for six years.

"The Central Plains Region is one of the largest and toughest in the NIRA," said Russell. "It will

be a great rodeo and I encourage everyone to attend all three performances. We believe this rodeo is one of the largest events hosted in Colby. The community support is outstanding and it's a great start to our season."

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Democrats open convention

By **Tom Betz**
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The opening gavel was eight hours away, but members of the Kansas Democratic delegation gathered Monday for breakfast and to get their credentials at the Doubletree Hotel in the Denver Tech Center.

The schedule will be the same for all four days of the convention with delegates and alternates required to be at the breakfast meeting to get their credentials each day, and there will be a lottery each day for any guest passes.

Etta Walker and her daughter, Catherine, 13, from Sharon Springs, were at the breakfast and after the drawing was held, Catherine got a guest pass to be with her mom all day.

The Kansas Democratic Party Chair Larry Gates, opened the breakfast and introduced the guest speaker Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer, who was elected in that mostly Republican state in 2004.

Schweitzer's message to the Kansas Dems was that things can be changed, and that Democrats can win even when the odds are

against them. In the 2004 election, Democrats took control of the state legislature as well as the Senate seats, which proved pivotal in capturing control of the U.S. Senate.

The youngest delegates at the convention are 18, and four of those are from Kansas, including Sean Buchanan who is an Obama delegate from the 1st Congressional District. He was excited and said he was actually 17 when he was elected as a delegate in Hays on April 12.

A group of students from Fort Hays State are at the Colorado Convention Center and were at the breakfast to hear the schedule and speaker.

Alicia Johnson, of the state party staff, talked about how the delegates could get around Denver using light rail and special shuttle buses. She said the buses to the Pepsi Center would start leaving from the hotel at 1:30 p.m. with the gavel of each day's session to begin at 3 p.m. Each day is expected to last until about 9 p.m., and the buses will be available to bring the delegates back to their hotels.

Walker and Elizabeth Busta-

mante of Garden City are both Hillary Clinton delegates, and are hoping to be able in some form to record their vote for her.

Both women agree they will support Sen. Barack Obama, but are worried that many of those who supported Clinton will not be so quick to switch to Obama.

Bustamante said she felt many Hispanics will be hard to convince to vote for Obama, but said she will be trying.

Walker said some of the Republicans she got to support Clinton will not give the same support to Obama.

Lynn Schamburg, who is an Obama delegate from the 1st District, said he felt the party would come together to support Obama, and the Clinton people are right about it being an important task.

Walker said she did not feel Obama could win without the Clinton people, and said she felt Hillary was working hard to help bring her supporters over to the Obama side.

The convention is pointing toward the big acceptance speech at Invesco Field at Mile High on Thursday evening.

Young ladies' mission: save theatre

By **BETHANY BETHUNE**
Special to The Telegram

The Theatre of the American West, in Republican City, Neb., is at least temporarily closed due to financial problems mostly related to the high fuel prices affecting heating the facility as well as the ability of performers from adjacent towns to get to rehearsals at the theatre. For families who have traveled there for many years, it is a great loss to Nebraska and Kansas communities.

Kris and Charlie Davies, in their retirement years, came to this area to set up the theatre to not only provide well-known and not-so-well-known plays and musicals for the public, but to afford an opportunity for young performers to learn all aspects of live theatre — scenery, costume design, directing, singing, acting, lighting, script-writing, interpretation, etc.

The Davies set up the theatre in the old school's gymnasium in Republican City. The performances have been of the highest caliber over the years, including such favorites as "The Wizard of Oz," "Big River," "Beauty and The Beast," "Cinderella," "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," "Bully," "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)," and dozens more.

Mr. Davies, a theatre performer at the University of Nebraska-Kearney, died in 2006, to the dismay of many. The theatre most recently has been under the management of Ryan Brehmer.

The University of Nebraska theatre department has provided much of this incredible talent. Many talented individuals have been the recipients of learning "theatre" through the entity of the Theatre of the American West and the generosity of the Davies family.

In trying to help preserve their artistic gift of top-notch entertainment and opportunity, Beverly Bethune of Norton and her two visiting granddaughters, Paige and Taylor Bethune of Gardner, circulated a petition in Norton to request from the University of Nebraska consideration of helping the Theatre of the American West reopen. Paige, 12, and Taylor, 9, have both attended performances at the theatre and

were shocked to find that the theatre was closed. They had hopes of seeing the scheduled performance of "Grease" while visiting Norton in July. The two young ladies wanted to do something to help reopen the theatre, so they decided to start a petition for the community to express support.

Mrs. Bethune approved the idea. Within a few hours, they had acquired approximately 100 signatures of concerned citizens. They wanted to collect more, but they had to return home to Gardner the next day.

The petition will be sent to the University of Nebraska in hopes that the plea will be heard to reopen the theatre.

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32nd Annual Labor Day Celebration
Sunday, August 31, 2008
Logan Golf Course, HWY 9, Logan, KS

Radio Control Fly-In... 8 am - ???
Ecumenical Church Service Sponsored by Logan C of C... 8 am
Sand Volleyball Tournament... 9 am - ???
22' Slide... 9 am - 5:30 pm
Climbing Wall... 10 am - 4:30 pm
Logan Chamber of Commerce Food Booth... 8 am
Sno-Cone Shack... 10 am
Dane G. Bales Jr. Memorial Car Show... 10 am - 4 pm
KS Hunter's Education Instructor's Assoc. Pellet Range... 10-4:30
Van De Creek's State Sanctioned Kids Pedal Pull... 2 pm - ???
RTS Express Train... 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Main Street Pizza - 5:00 pm
Prairie Dusters Mounted Drill Team AND
Buffalo Soldiers Mounted Drill Team... 4:30 pm
Live Musical Groups - 5:30 & 7:30 pm
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The McLemore Family Colby, KS

5:30 P.M. **7:30 P.M.**

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