



# Super 'secret' sauce

## It's a winner at international competition

By MICHELLE L. HAWKINS  
*Colby Free Press*

Little Audrey's best kept secret is her recipe for her award winning barbecue sauce. Only Audrey Gannon herself, and her two children, Nyla Domsch and Cliff Pennington are privy to the recipe.

This month, the barbecue sauce that Gannon has been making for 42 years earned second place in two categories at the American Royal International Sauce, Baste and Rub competition in Kansas City, Mo., the mild sauce category and the mild tomato category. The competition is the largest of its kind in the world.

The sauce, which is made locally by Domsch at the Kansas Country Store Deli Kitchen at Southwind Plaza, was up against sauces from 393 teams from all over the world.

"Second in an international competition is pretty good," said Pennington.

The competition was decided by over 2,500 judges. Pennington said that not all of the judges tasted everything, but were divided up over the many categories.

Domsch said that the entries are send in six weeks in advance and were placed in unlabeled cups which were numbered for the competition.



MICHELLE L. HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

Cliff Pennington, Audrey Gannon and Nyla Domsch read through the ingredients that brought Little Audrey's Barbecue Sauce international acclaim. The sauce, which has been made by Gannon for 42 years,

Only after the judging was complete could a judge check to see who made the sauces which were sampled.

During judging, each sauce would be sampled by itself and then on an unseasoned rib. Gannon said that all the ribs were cooked the same way so as not to alter the taste of the sauces.

Booths were set up throughout Kemper Arena and vendors could sell their product to the public.

Gannon began making the sauce at her restaurant in Atwood, the Tastee

Treet, and it gained quite a few fans in the area. She said that after closing the restaurant in 1992, people would run into her at the grocery store or other places in town and ask her to make them some of the famous sauce that was no longer available.

Requests for the hickory sauce continued to pour in, so Gannon decided to place it on the market four years ago under the name, Little Audrey's. The label on the product boasts a four-year-old picture of Audrey herself and is

claimed two second place prizes at the American Royal International Sauce, Baste and Rub Competition held at the beginning of October in Kansas City.

marketed as Saus Haus, Inc.

The family said that all of their sauces should be refrigerated after being opened since they are made from natural product and use no preservatives.

Since demand is growing for Little Audrey's, Domsch said plans are in the works to start a manufacturing plant. Under current operations, Domsch makes the sauce and then it is packaged, labeled, and shrink wrapped by hand. Domsch said that winning the

award will only help them build their business.

The sauce can be purchased locally at Dillons, the Kansas Country Store at Southwind Plaza, Em and Me, and Town and Country Beauty Salon.

When asked if they will compete again next year, Gannon, Domsch and Pennington all agreed they would.

"You bet we'll go again," said Gannon.

# Colby College is getting geared up to call all over the world

By DEBBIE SCHWANKE  
*Public Information Director*

It's time again for that familiar 'ring.'

Each year Colby Community College students call alumni and friends of the college on behalf of the annual Endowment Association Phonathon. Over the years the Phonathon has raised scholarship funds allowing many northwest Kansans to obtain an education. Last year total contributions were in excess of \$50,000.

## Campus close-up

Over 5,000 phone calls in four days will be made during Phonathon 2002 which will be held Sunday, Oct. 20, through Wednesday, Oct. 23. The money raised goes directly to the stu-

dents in the form of scholarships. In contrast to many institutional fund drives, all of the money raised in the Phonathon goes to the college's scholarship effort rather than to overhead or extraneous expenses. More than one-half of Colby College's students receive a scholarship.

"This is an all volunteer effort," said President Mikel Ary. "Every gift makes a difference. Ongoing support from our alumni and friends is an important component of our success in

recruiting and retaining students."

He said that "scholarships correlate to student enrollment numbers. In the recent past, most students and their families exclusively accounted for educational expenses incurred at colleges and universities. Today student loans and scholarships impact this equation. Moreover, student recruitment has become a highly competitive activity and scholarships are a key ingredient in this arena."

Ary concluded, "Education serves

northwest Kansans as a means to keep our young people in the area after they are educated and offers them an avenue to a better, more fulfilling life. Colby Community College has always enjoyed committed, meaningful support from our graduates as well as from their families and friends. Faculty and staff have greatly appreciated this support and we ask that you continue that help when called during the 2002 Phonathon." Calls will be made between 6:30-9:30 p.m.

# Dragnet covers Washington area following another shooting

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AP) — A dragnet covered suburban Washington today as authorities searched for a cream-colored van spotted moments after a woman was killed in a mall parking lot by a single bullet to the head. The shooting led to fears that the sniper terrorizing the area had killed a ninth person.

Police swiftly closed highways around Falls Church, about 10 miles west of the nation's capital, and said

they were on the lookout for a Chevrolet Astro van that was missing a left rear tail light and had a silver ladder on its roof.

The unidentified woman was shot in the head Monday night as she and her husband loaded packages into their car's trunk outside The Home Depot at the Seven Corners Shopping Center, said Ellen Qualls, a spokeswoman for Gov. Mark R. Warner.

Witnesses said the fatal shot came

from a light-colored van, according to Qualls. Witnesses at some of the earlier shootings also reported seeing a white or cream-colored van or truck.

"There's some pretty decent eyewitness information that maybe we haven't had in some of the previous shootings," Qualls said.

Members of a Maryland task force investigating the sniper attacks were conferring with Fairfax County authorities to see if the shooting was the

work of the sniper who has killed eight people and wounded two in the last two weeks.

"It's too early to tell at this time (if the shooting is linked), however we are working it and investigating it with that potential in mind," said Fairfax County Police Chief Tom Manger.

Monday's killing occurred at one of northern Virginia's busiest intersections, where major arteries come together to form seven corners. Virginia

State Police said the van was last seen traveling east on Route 50 from Falls Church. Interstates 66 and I-95 are nearby.

Clint Van Zandt, a former FBI profiler who lives in Fredericksburg, Va., said the location sets the slaying apart from the others.

"This is not bold, this is brazen," he said. "It's a much more highly congested area, even under the cover of darkness."

# Elderly get three advocates

By TOM (TD) DREILING  
*Free Press Publisher*

Score another first for the Colby-Hoxie area.

The office of Matt Hickam, state long-term care ombudsman — the state's advocate and mediator for long-term care facility residents — told the Free Press on Monday that it has certified its first-ever volunteer long-term care ombudsmen in this area.

Sister Donna Marie Kleinsorge and Fawna Haremza-McFee, both of Colby, and Helen Poland of Gem, earned certification. Sr. Kleinsorge and Haremza-McFee have been assigned to advocate for residents of Lantern Park Manor and Prairie Senior Living Complex in Colby, and Poland has been assigned to the Sheridan County Hospital Long-Term Care Unit in Hoxie.

Hickam, who directs the program, said he is pleased and thankful that these three northwest Kansans have decided to volunteer their time and assist the elderly in these long-term care facilities. "Through the volunteers' weekly visits and regular presence, a bond of trust develops between the residents and volunteers," Hickam said. "Facility residents know someone will be there to speak up for them."

The office of state long-term care ombudsman trains people to advocate for residents' rights to dignity and decision-making, in addition to their work resolving problems and mediating disputes, Hickam said. Sr. Kleinsorge, Haremza-McFee and Poland completed a 30-hour training course and a written examination leading to certification.

Residents wanting more information about the program can call toll free 1-877-662-8362.

# Fall harvest is days away

By DARREL PATTILLO  
*Colby Free Press*

Fall harvest is just around the corner, John Strecker at the Hi-Plains Co-op said this morning.

"Hopefully, we'll get started at the end of the week," he said.

Strecker also mentioned that he is expecting mainly corn to be brought in from Thomas and the surrounding counties. He doesn't anticipate seeing much milo.

"We've had a little bit of bean activity," he said. "But milo is a dryland crop, and with the drought, there just won't be a lot of it."

Strecker also said that while he's usually pretty close guessing how much will be brought in, he didn't want to go record with his guess.

## Railcar yields bodies

DENISON, Iowa (AP) — Workers at a grain elevator were cracking open rail cars left in storage when they came across a grisly discovery: Eleven decomposing bodies.

All the victims had apparently boarded the rail car in Mexico four months ago and were possibly smuggled into the country, said Jerry Heinauer, district director.

## WeatherWatch Colby-Oakley area

**The numbers**  
Monday's high, 70  
Low this morning, 26  
Year ago today, 52 and 32  
Temperature at 11:45 today, 56  
Records for Oct. 15, 93 in 1921, 20 in 1966

**The forecast**  
Tonight, clear, lows in the mid 30s. Wednesday, sunny and breezy, highs in the mid 60s, north winds 15-25 mph, gusting to 35, decreasing late in the day.  
Wednesday night, clear, lows in the lower 30s. Thursday, sunny, highs 60-65.

**Colby Water Usage**  
• Oct. 15 = 2.125 million gallons

## Briefly

### Colby City Council meets tonight

Colby City Council will meet tonight at 7:30 at City Hall. Agenda items include: discussion of Amendment to State Superfund Contract, and discussion of ordinance requiring registration of private domestic and non-domestic use wells in the city limits and within the three-mile zoning jurisdiction. The public is invited to this and all council meetings.

### CPR course scheduled Oct. 24

The Thomas County Red Cross Chapter will be sponsoring a CPR course on Thursday, Oct. 24, Mary Smith, chapter manager, said today. The cost is \$25 and the class will be held in the basement of the Lutheran Church, 5th and Country Club Drive. Registration can be made by calling the office at 462-7161. The class time is 6 p.m.

### School needs help with prizes

The Colby Grade School Parent Teacher Organization is still

seeking donations from area businesses for the raffle which will be held during the PTO Carnival on Oct. 26. Donations can either be mailed in or the PTO will pick them up.

Contact Becky Butts at 462-2774 or Julie Price at 462-3506.

### Sacred Heart auction is Saturday

Sacred Heart parish in Colby is having its annual charity action, "Underwater Safari," on Saturday at the Colby Community Building. Doors open with a silent auction at 6 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served throughout the night. The oral auction will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets must be purchased in advance at the parish rectory, or call 462-2179.

### Hospice Auction approaching

The annual Hospice fund-raising auction will be held at the Comfort Inn Convention Center on Saturday, Oct. 26. Those wishing to contribute to the auction or would like tickets can contact the organization at 462-6710 or 1-800-315-5122. Keep an eye on

the Free Press for more information. Proceeds from the auction ensure that Hospice support is available to terminally ill individuals and their family members.

### Flute, harp duo to perform

The Western Plains Arts Association will present the Flute and Harp Duo of Megan Meisenbach and Mary Golden at the Sharon Springs High School auditorium on Sunday, Oct. 20 at 3 p.m. (Central Time). They are highly acclaimed as among the finest touring artists today.

Admission at the door is \$8 for adults and \$4 for students or by WPAA season passes.

### History group sets meeting

The family history group will meet from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20, at Pioneer Memorial Library. Emma Rogers will report on the genealogy meeting in Norton with Jim Swan.

All are welcome. Come prepared to share if you wish.

