



COLBY
FREE PRESS

Dole Institute nears completion

By CARL MANNING
Associated Press Writer

LAWRENCE (AP) — Where others view dust and disorder, Richard Norton Smith sees a living legacy to Bob Dole.

Smith is director of the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics on the University of Kansas campus. As construction nears completion, there's still plenty of exposed dry-wall, dangling wires and hinges without doors.

Smith ignored the clutter in the 28,000 square-foot limestone building named for the former U.S. senator from Kansas and former presidential candidate.

"I've seen it from Day One. It's called vision. It may be an unrealistic vision, but it's a vision," Smith said. "The goal is to communicate something of the nobility of public service."

If his record is any indicator, Smith's vision will be reality when the institute is dedicated July 22 — Dole's 80th birthday.

"It's not a shrine nor a personal monument but neither are we a conventional ivory tower," Smith said. "Imagine a public policy institute that involves the public."

An author and authority on the presidency, Smith was director of four presidential libraries — Herbert Hoover, Dwight Eisenhower, Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan.

He took over the institute in December 2001, two months after its groundbreaking and four years after university officials came up with the idea.

"He's flattered and honored, but it's something he never sought. But he wants it to outlive him and it needs to be more than about him," Smith said. "Certainly it will be part of his legacy, but hopefully a living legacy."

Smith made design changes so the institute would more accessible and appealing to the public.

A reading room for scholars was scaled back to enlarge the main hall to 3,300 square feet. The kitchen was doubled in size to accommodate large public events. The 35,000 square foot reflecting pool in front of the institute was redesigned to double as a skating rink in the winter.

Smith has had close ties with Dole for more than 25 years and has a good idea what Dole wants the

institute to be.

"He wants it to be public as well as academic and relevant, and a place where young people can get a sense of service," Smith said.

Planned public programs include the annual Dole Lecture where a prominent person will talk about international politics. There also will be the Presidential Lecture Series each year, with a panel of notable individuals discussing the presidency.

Each year, the Dole Prize for Leadership will be awarded. The first recipient in July will be former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

Academic programs will be added to the agenda and efforts already are under way to record oral histories of Dole, former Gov. Bill Graves and others.

How much will be added will depend on how much money the institute can raise. Smith said the institute needs to raise a \$20 million endowment to keeping it running.

While there will be much about Dole, it won't be just about Dole.

"The institute uses Dole's life as clothes line on which to hang a much larger story of Kansas," Smith said.

"Above all, the relationship between Kansas and Bob Dole.

The entrance will have a 12-by-19 Kansas map of red granite in the floor. Nearby will be a 12-by-22 stain glass window depicting rural Kansas, paid for by Dole and dedicated to his parents.

World War II changed Dole's life and the institute will reflect his respect for war veterans.

Gravely wounded in Italy, Dole required years of therapy and even then his right arm was all but unusable.

That forced him to change plans from being a physician to law school and politics.

At one end of the main hall will be a 12-by-29 stained glass window of the American flag, a backdrop to Dole's Army uniform, the dog tags he wore when wounded and his Purple Heart medal.

On either side of the uniform will be 10 1/2-foot sections of metal beams from the World Trade Center with the rust and twisted metal still evident.

Nearby photographs of Kansans who served in World War II will cover a 400 square-foot wall.



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Mother's Day was even more special as mothers watched their sons and daughters receive their high school diplomas during the Golden Plains Commencement Ceremony held Sunday in Rexford. Brady John Dible, who was one of the 17 graduates, gave his parents Robert and Peggy a daisy as a token of gratitude.

Hundreds attend Golden Plains commencement ceremony Sunday

By PATTY DECKER
Free Press Editor

The Golden Plains School District held commencement ceremonies in Rexford on Sunday with hundreds filling the auditorium at the high school.

Frederick Lee Albers was the salutatorian and Michele Lynn Goscha, the valedictorian, spoke to their classmates, teachers, parents and friends about gratitude and the diversity of the 17 students that made up the Class of 2003.

Dr. Roger Baskerville, superintendent, introduced both Albers and Goscha and talked about their accomplishments.

Albers, he said, was active in a variety of organizations and extracurricular activities during his four years in high school.

Along with carrying a 3.89 grade point average, Albers was also active in scholar's bowl, forensics, football, basketball, track, and powerlifting. Baskerville said Albers plans to attend Butler Community College and continue on toward becoming a mechanical engineer. In his remarks, Albers thanked everyone for making a difference in his life and those in his class.

"Without parents we would be nothing," he said, "and we would not know the difference between right and wrong."

Albers also talked about the role of the community and teachers in helping students mature and prepare for their places in society.

As for his classmates, Albers quoted from Dr. Suess saying, "Be who you are and say how you feel."

"We worked well as a team," he said, "and remember you will always be Golden Plains Bulldogs."

Goscha held a 3.92 grade point average and was the secretary and



Michele Goscha



Frederick Lee Albers

vice-president of her class, Baskerville said in his introduction. She is a member of the National Honor Society and served as president her senior year.

Goscha was an All-American scholar, attended Girls' State, participated in band, forensics, CYO and more, he said. Goscha plans to attend Colby Community College next year and then attend a four-year institution.

In her remarks, Goscha spoke about early memories of grade school and other times during their 13 years of school.

"It seems like just yesterday were taking naps in Kindergarten," she said. She spoke of the class overcoming many things and being one of the most diversified.

Goscha had something to say about each of her classmates and the special gifts they gave to one another ranging from one student who always had an "ear" to listen or another with compassion.

Goscha thanked the teachers for sharing their knowledge and thanked others for giving her a deep sense of faith.

Her final message to her classmates was to remember that even though they are going their separate ways, "we are still together in our hearts."

In addition to Goscha and Albers speaking, Roxie Erickson, a teacher for 40 years with 28 of those years at Golden Plains Grade School, was the guest speaker. Erickson thanked Brandon Offutt, one of the seniors in the graduating class, for introducing her and referred to him as BMOC or Big Man on Campus.

In her remarks, she gave the students a top 10 list of things to remember as they go out into the world. Number ten was prayer and to trust in God by having faith. Nine was that life is too short, so eat the dessert first. "Be a good neighbor and have a happy life," she said. The number eight thing to remember was friendship and that there is always one more space in the circle for a new friend.

Number seven was having fun and Erickson said this was something the class had really succeeded in doing. "Savor the moment and let people know if they make a differ-

ence in your life. Numbersix, which she said was the hardest part of her life, was to be patient. "Life takes a lot of patience," she said, "as parents well know that it took patience to get these kids to 18."

Her number five choice was something her husband has displayed for many years, which was "You can't hoot with owls and soar with eagles," meaning that life is a series of growing and learning and like a race, there will be bumps and wrecks along with way.

Number four was what she referred to as "balancing your check-book." As Benjamin Franklin once said, "a penny saved is a penny earned." Even though money is important, she said, it cannot buy everything. It cannot buy love, respect, honesty or enjoyment.

Her number three choice was courage and the ability to admit when we are wrong. "Choose your goal and stay with it and stop at nothing to get there."


Kindness was the number two thing to remember, adding that we should never pass up the chance to wear a smile. The number one thing, she said, was ten two-letter words: "If it is to be, it is up to me."

Erickson told the class to follow their dreams and hopes. A video project by the class was shown highlighting each student through the years and Angela Fortin sang, "The Luckiest."

Editor's note: Awards and other scholarship information for each of the students will appear in a future edition.

WeatherWatch

Colby-Oakley area



Maybe showers

Thomas, Logan Counties
Tonight... mostly clear to partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. 20 percent chance of rain showers and thunderstorms after midnight. South wind 5 to 15 mph.

Tuesday...mostly to partly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s. East wind 5 to 15 mph with a 30 percent chance of rain showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Tuesday night...mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of scattered rain showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

Wednesday...cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs near 60. Chance of rain 30 percent.

Wednesday night...30 percent chance of morning rain with the rest of the day mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s

Water Usage/Colby
Average May 9-10-11 =1.238 million gallons

Colby hospital plans meeting

Citizens Medical Center is sponsoring a special community meeting at 7 p.m., Wednesday, in the Colby High School auditorium, said Vern Schwanke, president of the hospital's board of trustees.

The purpose of the meeting, he said, will be to discuss and answer any questions regarding the Colby hospital's critical access status and transition. The hospital recently applied for this status in order to all the facility more flexibility with many federal rules and regulations, he said.

"We are looking forward to the opportunities this program will provide," he said. For questions, call the hospital 462-7511.

Briefly

Retirement reception planned

There will be a retirement reception for Corky Delzeit, director of public power, at 3 p.m., Friday, May 30, in the council chambers of Colby City Hall, 585 N. Franklin. Everyone is invited to attend the celebration to honor Delzeit on his 36 years as a city employee, said Carolyn Armstrong, city manager.

Awards ceremony tonight

The Colby High School awards ceremony begins at 7 p.m., tonight, in the school auditorium. During the ceremony, many seniors will receive a variety of awards and scholarships. Earlier today, students in grades 9-12 were recognized for outstanding accomplishments by various departments. Everyone is welcome to attend the ceremony tonight.

Both clinics to offer physicals

Colby Medical and Surgical Center wanted to let students

and parents know that they will be offering free physicals to students again this year; however, the date has not yet been determined. In addition, the Family Center for Health Care is also offering physicals for students with a \$10 fee that will go toward the athletic program at Colby High School. The date for physicals at Family Center for Health Care is Wednesday beginning at 5 to 6 p.m. for those going into seventh and eighth and at 6 to 7 p.m. for grades ninth and up.

Youth plan performance Wednesday

A multimedia production called, "Come to Me," will be presented at 7 p.m., Wednesday, at the Bedker Building on the Colby Community College campus. The presentation is by *The Remnant*, a group of 10 young people who use drama, video, music, and dance to communicate a message of hope in hurting times.

The Remnant is a traveling ministry of Youth With a Mission. A free-will offering will be taken and the program is open to the public.

For questions call Rachael Walker at (785) 462-6432.

'Work days' set by carnival group

The Thomas County Amusement Association is planning to hold "work days" each Saturday until fair time and everyone in the community is encouraged to lend a hand.

The association, the driving force behind the home-owned carnival, has purchased several rides and with help on work days may be able to have some of those in operation by July 4th. Contact the association's vice president, Chad L. Zimmerman, if you need additional information.

Barbershoppers plan guest night

The Tumbleweed Barbershop Chorus is sponsoring a special guest night at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, May 15, at the Colby United Methodist Church. Barbershoppers are inviting everyone to come and enjoy the fun, food and fellowship of the Tumbleweed Chorus and bring a friend. For questions, call 460-8640 or 462-6552.

