



COLBY FREE PRESS

Fashionable flashbacks



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Karissa Call (left) Shalin Brogan (middle) and Samantha Shannon dressed up for Throwback Thursday as part of Colby High School's homecoming activities this week. The Eagles will take on the Holcomb Longhorns at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Dennen Field.

Weekend event turns Colby into 'Cowboy Capital'

By TISHA COX

Colby Free Press

You might say Colby will be the Cowboy Capital of the Universe this weekend.

College cowboys and cowgirls by the hundreds will be rolling into town as Colby Community College hosts its seventh annual National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association rodeo Friday through Sunday at the E.L. Garrett Arena at the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

Evening performances will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and the finals will be at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, with the top 10 from each event competing.

More than 450 contestants from 22 colleges in Kansas and Oklahoma will compete in timed and roughstock events.

Colby College rodeo coach Allen Russell said the college's 47-member rodeo club is putting on the event, adding that 26 members make up the school's rodeo team and will compete this weekend.

"We have 713 entries, which is the most we've ever had by far," he said. "Last year we had 640."

He said the college is part of the Central Plains Region, which includes all of the two- and four-year schools in Kansas and Oklahoma. It is the largest college rodeo region, based on numbers.

"The team roping is the largest event," Russell said, with 182 teams entered. The second largest is bar-

rel racing with 106 entries. "Kind of giving the women equal time there," he said.

Spectators will also get a chance to see cowgirls compete in more than just barrel racing. Russell said they can also do goat tying and breakaway roping.

"They can also enter the team roping," he said.

The rodeo will also feature regular events like bull and bronc riding, calf roping and bull dogging.

Russell said there will also be two slack performances, which are free and open to the public.

Friday's slack will run from noon to 4:30 or 5 p.m. and will have 186 runs. Saturday's slack starts at 8:30 a.m. with bull riding first thing and will feature 302 runs.

"It's going to be a long two days," he said.

Russell is excited about the rodeo but he said it's taken some extra work because more pens have had to be set up and there's more planning and livestock to deal with.

In addition to the participants, the rodeo is also expected to attract a large following.

Gate admission is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Kids 5 and under are admitted free of charge if accompanied by a parent.

Advance tickets are available at Vanderbilt's and the college bookstore.

For information, call (785) 462-3984, Ext. 253.

He didn't itch, but...

Here's a scratch that really paid off

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

An Oakley man who manages a business in Colby, and a woman from St. Francis were both surprised recently when they were Kansas Lottery winners.

Paul Van Eaton won \$3,008 when an employee bought him 10 scratch tickets that she put in his birthday card, and Sherry Jones played in the second-chance drawing for a trip to Las Vegas and won.

For Van Eaton it was "amazing," and for Jones she said the closest she thought she would ever get to Las

Vegas was just entering the contest.

"I nearly had a heart attack," Van Eaton said. "I had to look at the ticket a few times."

The co-worker who gave Van Eaton the scratch tickets, Brandy Boeger, is a waitress at the Pizza Hut in Colby. To everyone's surprise five of the ten tickets were winners, including a ticket that was a \$3,000 winner.

Van Eaton said he scratched the tickets while on break and when he discovered the winnings he quickly told Boeger and the cook — then his wife, Sarah.

"Thanks to my wonderful waitress and the lottery," he said, "my 25th birthday was awesome."

Van Eaton manages the Colby Pizza Hut, but he and his wife live in Oakley, along with their one son and daughter. In addition to buying his wife something special with the winnings, he said he planned to pay off some bills.

As for Jones, who has since returned from her trip to Las Vegas, it was a lot of fun. Instead of taking her husband, she said she took her daughter, Amanda.

"My husband just started a new

job and didn't feel that he could take time off for the trip out there," she said.

"We had a really good time," she said. "We heard about all the celebrities that were in the area and we walked down the strip, bought souvenirs and watched the water show at one of the hotels."

Jones said she works at the Good Samaritan Village in St. Francis and her husband, A.J., works for No-Bul Enterprise Callicrate Cattle Company as a lot manager.

The couple have three children, Amanda, 16, Talon, 13 and Echo, 6.

Cattlemen to unveil new quarters

By TOM (TD) DREILING

Free Press Publisher

Something new in downtown Brewster will be officially unveiled for public scrutiny next month.

And those behind the big event are hoping for a large turnout from all over the territory.

The Kansas Cattlemen's Association has scheduled an open house from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4 at their new headquarters building at 402 Kansas Avenue. They moved into the structure last month.

Mike Schultz of Brewster is executive director of the association and he said growth and membership support enabled the association to

purchase the new building.

"We're excited to be in our new building," Schultz said. He said that it was a needed change as the association prepares to move to the next level for its producers.

We hope that members will make plans to come and join us."

He said the open house will feature, among other things, a noon barbecue that will showcase USA natural beef hamburgers from Ranch Foods Direct, which he described as a branded beef company based in St. Francis. Guests will have the opportunity to meet and visit with other members of the Kansas Cattlemen's Association, its board of directors and the

association's staff.

Schultz said a special presentation of the 1st annual "KCA Legacy Award" will be made at 1:30 p.m. "This award is designed to honor individuals in the industry that have shown leadership and determination to make a difference in all aspects of the cattle industry," he said. "So many times we fail to recognize individuals for their expertise, time and commitment spent working for change. We are pleased to be presenting this special honor as part of our open house."

Schultz said to help with meal preparation, please RSVP to the Kansas Cattlemen's Association at 877-694-2906 by Oct. 2.

West Nile cases in Kansas reach 41

TOPEKA (AP) — State health officials have confirmed six new human cases of West Nile virus in the past two days, bringing the total for this year to 41.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment said

Wednesday it had confirmed cases in an 88-year-old Jackson County resident, a 74-year-old Clay County resident and a 63-year-old Wallace County resident.

On Tuesday, KDHE reported cases involving 49-year-old and 75-

year-old Sedgwick County residents and a 71-year-old McPherson County resident. All such cases involve people who develop encephalitis, a swelling of the brain, or meningitis, a swelling of the lining around the brain and spinal cord.

Briefly

Tree/shrub trimming starts Monday

The City of Colby Street Department will be trimming any sight-restricting or passage-restricting trees or shrubbery around street and signs or walkways starting on Monday. For those who have an ornamental tree or specimen plant that is causing a street sign to be obscured or a sidewalk to be impassable and the resident would rather trim it themselves, they can do so before 8 a.m. on Monday (Sept. 29). "We want to thank everyone for keeping our City of Colby streets safe by clearing our walkways and street signs of obstructions," said Gerry Bieker, director of public utilities.

For questions call, 462-4420.

Popcorn fund raiser scheduled

Colby area Cub and Boy Scouts are selling Trails End Gourmet Popcorn again as part of their annual fund raiser. Orders will be taken in October and money is collected when the popcorn is delivered in mid-November. Contact Mark

Goudy at 694-2599, or Alan and Tonya Sager at 462-7361 or 460-8088.

Red Cross to offer classes

The Thomas County American Red Cross is offering a first aid class at 6 p.m., Monday and an adult infant and child CPR calls at 6 p.m., Monday, Oct. 6. Both sessions will be held at the Thomas County Office Complex conference room, 350 S. Range Ave., Colby. For questions or to register, call 462-7161.

Author to speak at library

Roy Bird, author of "In His Brother's Shadow: The Life of Thomas Ward Custer" will speak about the Custers and his book Wednesday, Oct. 1 at Pioneer Memorial Library.

Checks still need to be picked up

Premium checks for this year's Thomas County Fair need

to be picked up at the Thomas County Extension Office, 350 S. Range, Colby, before the end of September.

Anyone entitled to receive a check and haven't done so yet are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

Free program offered in October

The Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center in Oakley is sponsoring a presentation geared for parents, childcare providers, preschool staff and kindergarten through third grade teachers.

There are two opportunities available with the first from 1 to 4 p.m. and the second from 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9. The presentation will be made by Chuck Smith, state specialist in Kansas Research and Extension with the program called, *Raising Children Who Have Courage and Conscience*.

To register for either presentation, call the service center at (785) 672-3125, ext. 124 by Monday, Oct. 6. Free childcare is available upon request and there is no cost for the presentations.

Storm's aftermath puts couple on road

By TISHA COX

Colby Free Press

Jim and Molly Oliver of Colby are headed to Baltimore, Md. to help with the clean up efforts in the wake of Hurricane Isabel.

The two are driving the Thomas County Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle. The two are Red Cross Disaster Services Human Resource volunteers. "That's a national volunteer," Jim said.

Jim said it will probably take about three days for them to drive and they'll be there a maximum of three weeks.

He said Baltimore is experiencing flooding now that the hurricane has passed and had tornado activity Tuesday night.

"Tornadoes evidently follow hurricanes," Jim said.

Molly said the response vehicle is one of seven in the state.

"Four are already there," she said. "We're the fifth one going."

Jim said they will operate in a support capacity with the vehicle, providing mass care to people affected by the disaster.

The two will be serving meals, snacks and water out of the vehicle, mainly to people who have

lost everything due to the hurricane or to people working on the clean up.

They will serve two meals a day to up to 600 people at a time.

Molly said they will stay in one spot or will be on the move feeding people and workers.

Jim said the vehicle will probably stay until the cleanup is done and they'll fly home at the end of the three weeks.

"That happens often," he said. "Eventually they'll bring it back to us."

Out of 12 counties in the area, they two said they're the only two volunteers willing and qualified to go to such disasters.

The Olivers' have also helped with the aftermath of other disasters, including lending support in New York City at Ground Zero after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Hurricane Floyd and Hurricane Lilly.

They don't get paid for their time but they said it's very satisfying to help people in need.

The two also added that the Red Cross is in need of volunteers to help out in disasters.

For information, call (785) 462-7161.



Tolerable

Colby, Oakley, Hoxie area

Tonight... Mostly clear. Lows around 50. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph. Gusts up to 20 mph in the evening.
Friday... Mostly sunny in the morning then becoming partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s. Northwest winds 5 to 10 mph.
Friday night... Partly cloudy. Windy. Lows in the lower 40s. North winds 20 to 30 mph.
Saturday... Partly cloudy. Breezy. Highs in the lower 70s. North winds 10-20 mph.
Sunday... Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s.

By the numbers
Wednesday's high, 72
Low this morning, 36
Records for the date, 96 in 1966 and 21 in 1926
Year ago today, 73 and 46
24-hour precipitation to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
Month's precipitation, 0.02
Year's precipitation to date, 14.02
2002's precipitation to date, 9.94

Water usage/Colby
Sept. 24 = 2.551 million gallons

The forecast is from the National Weather Service, and other numbers are from the Northwest Research-Extension Center, Colby and the Colby Public Works Department.

