

Students from Colby Schools recognized for excellence

By **PATTY DECKER**

Free Press Editor

Some 148 students from Colby Public Schools were recognized recently for having accomplished the Standard of Excellence in reading, mathematics, science, social students or writing on last year's 2003 state assessments.

Students participating last year were either in the fourth, fifth, seventh, eighth, tenth or eleventh grades.

"Our entire student body at these grade levels did an excellent job," said Kirk Nielsen, Colby superintendent

"We scored above the adequate yearly progress to surpass *No Child Left Behind* standards," he said.

Officials at the State Board of Education also praised the students for their efforts in surpassing the average standards.

"These students (from Colby Public Schools) can take pride in meeting such a high standard of academic performance," said Janet Waugh, chair of the board. "Their accomplishment also reflects well on the

efforts of teachers and their schools."

As for the coming years, Nielsen said, teachers and students need to continue making progress.

"Our teachers and students have the ability and desire to make that happen," he said.

The following students were recognized for their performance on the state assessment and each of them received a certificate of recognition from the State Board of Education commending their accomplishments.

Students named in the standard of excellence reading category included **fifth graders**: Courtney Brungardt, Gunner Gawith, Caitlyn Gordon, Gray Henry, Orin McMahon, Kalen Rasmussen, Collin Rous, Torey Taylor, Jordan Voss, and Kaitlyn Wilson. **Eighth grade** reading honors went to Amanda Albers, Ashley Barnes, Lindsey Bugbee, Kristin Cox, Elizabeth Erickson, Mitchell Gatz, Caitlin Henry, Rishonna Martin, Jennifer Mills, Rebecca Muirhead, Trenton Powell, Trevor Siebert, Brandi Stupka, John Tole, Andrew Toth, Bobby

Weiss, and Hannah Woofert. **Eleventh graders** participating and honored were Bruce Arnberger, Joshua Cox, Ericka Erickson, Christopher Gordon, Joshua Houtz, Matt Hull, Theodore Kleinsorge, Taylor Miller, Amanda Seemann and Katie Wahlmeier.

In the math testing, students in the fourth, seventh and tenth grades participated with the following having attained the recognition.

Fourth graders were Jordan Baker, Amanda Barnum, Sunee Creighton, Cody Duffey, Andrew Flanagan, Mason Fromholtz, Samuel Kendrick, Andrew Ketchum, Sara Martin, Tera Raymond, Shanell Sager, and Shelby Terrell. **Seventh graders** were Joshua Baden, Bryan Brewer, Jenny Dickman, Joseph Hutfles, Kevin Lang, Lissa Mazanec, Michael Phillips, Austin Plumisto, Laurence Taylor, Mitchell Tuma, Johnna Wiens and Todd Ziegelmeier. **Sophomores** were Adriana Buchanan, Jordon Cranston, Christopher Finley, Rusty Helin, Travis Helus, Valarie Higerd, Marcia

Kaus, Adam Mead, Sean Mengel, John Morgan, Travis Powell, Andrew Strange, Brianne Swob, Clarissa Unger and Shane Waterman.

In the science standard of excellence category, those recognized were also from last year's fourth, seventh and tenth grades. They were in **fourth grade** Jordan Baker, Amanda Barnum, Sunee Creighton, Samuel Kendrick, Andrew Ketchum and Sara Martin. In **seventh grade**, students were Joshua Baden, Bryan Brewer, Dale Brungardt, Bradley Dible, Emily Geschwentner, Lissa Mazanec, Courtney Ressa, Justin Shields, Laurence Taylor, Mitchell Tuma, Cody Wark and Johnna Wiens. **Sophomores** were Brett Bandy, Adriana Buchanan, Derek Elliott, Christopher Finley, Rusty Helin, Alex Marshall, Blake McLeMore, Andrew Strange, Kristin Theimer, Clarissa Unger and Shane Waterman.

Social studies standard of excellence testing was given to the sixth, eighth and eleventh grade students last year. Those recognized in **sixth grade** were: Breck

Arnberger, James Boyles, Cade Carter, Katelyn Houtz, Samuel Matzek, Matthew Ryan, Cory Sager, Adam Schroeder, Mark Tole, Gabriel Waterman, Zachary Webb, and Thomas Wieland. **Eighth graders** were Lindsey Bugbee, Nicholas Harlow, Steven Juenemann, Justin Kennedy, David Kinderknecht, Henry Lamm, IV, Rishonna Martin and Bobby Wiess. **Eleventh graders** were: Bruce Arnberger, Shane Breese, Shane Carter, Joshua Cox, Ericka Erickson, Christopher Gordon, Joshua Houtz, Matt Hull, Theodore Kleinsorge, Taylor Miller, Jessica Morton, Amanda Seemann, Ethan Walker, and Jami Williams.

Writing standard of excellence tests were given to students in the fifth, eighth and eleventh grades last year. Those students achieving the goal for testing included **fifth graders** Barbara Bickner, Jennifer Colton, Gunner Gawith, Rachel Lamm and Keesa Wright. In **eighth grade**, Lindsey Bugbee was the sole recipient and in **eleventh grade** were Ericka Erickson, Taylor Miller and Tyson Reed.

Rexford family has Wichita guests last week

Jack and Mary Minnick from Wichita visited his sister Clea Moeder several days last week.

The Social Hour Club met Wednesday at the Red Barn. Grace Cheney was hostess. After our business meeting we had a nice lunch prepared by Grace.

The afternoon was spent playing robber bingo. The bingo winners were Sondra Barnett, Eileen Dible, Vesta Roth and Jean Hawkins. The hostess prize was won by Zula Horinek.

There were 10 members present with Eileen Dible and Lula Thielor of Colby attending.

The pride meeting was held last



Zula Horinek

• Rexford Correspondent

Monday with a potluck dinner. The business meeting was held electing new officers for 2004. President Mike Johnson resigned and Darrell Dible was elected, vice president Jessica Vaughn, treasurer Evelyn Johnson, secretary Deloras Dible and public relations DeeAnn Dible.

Bill Dible presented a proposal for a new community building. This depends on whether they can get a

grant or not.

The Royal Neighbors met at the community building Thursday with seven members present. Grace Cheney was hostess. After the meeting several of us went to the barn and played pinocle.

The pinocle tournament was held last Saturday. There were four tables.

The winners were first, Deb Stepper and Grace Cheney. Second was Bob Leach and Dwight Williams and third was Dave Williams and Junior Albers.

Beth Thayer has moved back to Rexford from the Prairie Living Center.

She will reside with granddaughter Tracy King.

Attendance at Coffee Friday were Eunice Sanford, Liz Rall, Margaret Arasmith, Vesta Roth, Freda Ketchum, Deb Stepper, Hulda Wark, Berneda Zoberst, Grace Cheney, Sondra Barnett, Deloras Dible, Darla Dible and Francis Bange.

Sondra Barnett hosted a leadership training on Jan. 16 and 17 at her home for west half of Kansas of Aglow Executive officers.

There were 12 women in attendance. Friday night there was a slumber party (with not much slumber!)

Child passenger safety week is in February

Buckle up your babies, your toddlers, your adolescents and yourselves!

Feb. 8-14 is child passenger safety week and a good time to remind all of us to use our seatbelts and car seats.

When you go to an amusement park and ride the roller coaster, do you even question placing a belt on to keep you safely in the ride?

Why then do we question if we should place a seatbelt on or ever let our children be without their restraints?

If an accident occurs, no matter how minor, your chances are 50/50 with a restraint on. Without it, your chances are slim to nothing.

Hearing the comment that you only need to wear the belts when

Healthy Happenings

traveling out of town is a false statement.

Most accidents happen within a short range of your home.

Would you intentionally let your child stand out in the street and hope that a vehicle doesn't hit him or her? It doesn't make good sense to not restrain them and hope that an accident won't occur. If adults won't be an example with the seatbelts, it is hard for children to understand the purpose of their use. Therefore the children won't comply with restraints and disaster is ready to strike.

Before the car is started, everyone should have their seatbelts on

and children should be restrained in their car seats. Another reminder is to check that the car seats are properly installed.

The health department has two certified car seat installers and will be happy to check this for you at no charge.

We only ask that you call for an appointment at 462-4596. We will be able to spend the time it takes to

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State urged to drop casino suit

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP)—A federal prosecutor said Kansas Attorney General Phill Kline has no jurisdiction to file lawsuits against two federal agencies and has asked that the suits be dropped.

Kline sued the National Indian Gaming Commission and the U.S. Department of the Interior last fall after the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma opened a casino in downtown Kansas City, Kan., next to the tribe's historic Huron Cemetery.

Kline accused the federal agencies of allowing the casino to open without adhering to federal environmental and historic preservation review guidelines.

He also complained that state officials had not been consulted beforehand.

But Eric Melgren, U.S. Attorney for the District of Kansas, said Monday that environmental and

historic preservation laws did not apply in the case and that Kline should have sued the tribe instead.

Thomas County Conservation District
60th Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet
Monday, February 9 ~ 6:30 p.m.
Thomas County 4-H Building

Evening activities include a meal sponsored by the county banks, business meeting, election of one district supervisor, presentation of conservation, poster, and environmental teaching awards.

The public is invited to attend this event at no charge. Please RSVP by January 30, 2004 by calling 462-7482, Ext. 3.

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Bargain Table (assorted items)	\$11.99 ea.

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No Refunds or exchanges on Sale Merchandise

Thank You

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who called, visited, brought food, sent flowers, contributed in any way to the ease of our grief in the passing of our son and grandson. May God Bless you all.
The families of
Gordon Blane Sekavec

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6:00 p.m. Dinner
Auction, Drawings & Raffles Follow Dinner

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* Remington 11-87, 12 ga.
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For Banquet Tickets, Contact Tom Redmond at 462-7343 or Gabe Stanley at 462-2063, days or 460-9193, evenings or write P.O. Box 205 - Colby, Kansas 67701