



# COLBY FREE PRESS

## Cheerleaders getting early start on fall season

By Tisha Cox  
Colby Free Press

It may be time for summer vacation, but some Colby High School students are spending part of theirs getting ready for the fall. The school's cheerleaders are practicing and doing other activities throughout the summer.

Head coach Lynn Carpenter said 17 cheerleaders are preparing for next year.

They are seniors Jada Koenig and Hannah Zimmerman; juniors Tisha Bieker, Kristin Cox, Kaylie Dugger, Angela Rasmussen, Brandi Stupka, Rashaun Wilson; sophomores Liz Barnes, Bailey Brown, Amy Davis, Rebecca Howard, Malory McKee; freshmen Heather Binder, Ariel Coon, Laura Schmid and Kayla Williams.

Coaches are Carpenter and assistants Julie Barnes and Amanda Kidder.

"They're practicing three days every week," Carpenter said. They are practicing on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of every week through June and hope to go to cheerleading camp June 27-30, and will continue to practice through July.

**"The girls are doing a super job this summer. I am really pleased with their dedication and hard work."**

— Lynn Carpenter,  
head cheerleading coach

Of the 17 cheerleaders on the squad, there have been an average of 10-14 girls at each practice.

"Practice in the summer is not mandatory," she said. "We encourage them to come. They're committed to do this."

Carpenter said 17 varsity cheerleaders is "awesome" because three years ago, the school didn't even have a squad.

In the three years since, they haven't gone to camp but she wants to change that this year. Thirteen members of the team will be going to camp, she said, the four-day United Cheerleading Association event at Bethany College in Lindsborg.

Carpenter said they will learn more about jumps, cheer movements, stunting, game planning and leadership development.

"The girls are doing a super job this summer," she said. "I am really pleased with their dedication and hard work."

The squad is getting ready for the first of its three fund raisers for camp, which will cost about \$3,000.

The first is a car wash at 9 a.m. on Saturday at McKee Inc. at 950 South Range Ave.

On Tuesday, June 21, squad members will be car-hopping for tips at Sonic, and the tips will be matched by Sonic.

They are also holding a garage sale at McKee's on June 24 and 25. Carpenter said members of the community can donate items for the sale.

Anyone wishing to give items for the garage sale can call Carpenter at 460-5300 or 460-6072 and arrangements will be made to pick up items.



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Brandi Stupka, top, was held up by fellow Colby High School cheerleaders (left to right) Malory McKee, Tisha Bieker, Angela Rasmussen, Bailey Brown, Kristin Cox, Heather Binder, Laura Schmid and Kaylee Dugger while practicing a stunt this morning at the high school. The cheerleaders are preparing for next fall as well as several activities this summer.

## Church makes final preparations to host bike riders

By Tisha Cox  
Colby Free Press

Once again this year, Colby will play host to some visitors from back east who are traveling cross-country for a good cause.

The Colby United Methodist Church is opening its doors on Saturday, July 2 to about 28 bicyclists on the Habitat for Humanity "Habi-

tat Bike Challenge."

Carolyn May, the church's missions chairperson, said the cyclists are traveling across the country on three different routes to raise money and awareness for Habitat for Humanity. As they head for the West Coast, they stay at local churches and other establishments.

This is the church's third year to

host the group, which is made up mainly of Connecticut college students.

"These people are on the southern route," she said, adding they are headed to San Francisco and will probably meet their goal next month. Each person on the ride has to raise at least \$4,000 before being able to begin.

The church will give them a place to sleep as well as provide transportation around town and information on the location of various places, including the library, movie theater, stores and restaurants, and anywhere else the group would like to go.

Members of the mission committee and other volunteers help out to

make their stay pleasant.

May said the cyclists online journals of their travels and several mention Colby, including a Fourth of July stay in the community two years ago.

"A lot of them have never been to Kansas," she said, so they write about it, as well as how their perceptions have changed since going

through the state for the first time.

May said it's at least the sixth year the church has been involved with the ride, but it's involved with Habitat for Humanity in other ways as well, besides their support of the group while it's in town.

"It's (Habitat for Humanity) is one of the ministries of the church," she said.

## Westward Ho!



JAN KATZ ACKERMAN/Colby Free Press

Hoxie resident Ralph Carder rode a one day stint with family members and friends of Robert "Mustang Bob" Green of San Antonio, Texas, as they made their way through Hoxie this morning as part of their ride to finish the Old West Cattle Trail. Green's 14-year-old granddaughter, Brittany Key, left, rides next to her grandpa to help direct traffic around the two covered wagons. In the front wagon was Kelly Boesen, and his young grandson, Gavin Manning, not pictured. Ray Kurtz drove the second wagon which carried Carder. Key said last fall the group traveled from Bandara, Texas to Dodge City, and this year's ride started in Dodge City on June 8 and will finish in Ogallala, Neb. on June 27.

## Farmer-elected committee needs candidate to fill seat

By Patty Decker  
Free Press Editor

The Thomas County Farm Service Agency committee is seeking nominations to fill one of the positions open on this farmer-elected group, officials with the agency said on Wednesday.

Nominations are sought to replace Matt Ziegelmeier, Gem, who has reached the end of his eligibility having served three consecutive terms in the local administrative area 1, which is located in the eastern one-third of Thomas County, said Ross Sloan, executive director.

To begin the election process, he said, local farmers must nominate candidates to run for a seat on the county committee.

"The county committee system has been around since the 1930s," he said, "and represents grassroots democracy at its best."

In addition to Ziegelmeier's seat in area 1, there are two other areas that complete the committee. In the local administrative area 2, Craig Reed, Colby, has two years left on his three-year term and in area 3, Robert Schroeder Jr., has one year

left to serve.

"These three members make up the farmer-elected county committee for the Thomas County Farm Service Agency," Sloan said.

As elected members of the committee, these men are the governing body of the local farmers and decide on how federal farm programs are implemented here.

"They use their judgment and knowledge to make decisions that shape national programs to fit local needs," he said.

In Thomas County, the local administrative areas are divided into three parts, each of which is represented by a seat on the committee.

The terms for these elected committee members is staggered so each year local producers vote to fill at least one vacancy, he said.

Sloan also explained that there is a minority representative on the committee.

"Since we do not have any women as elected committee members, Mary Bowman from Brewster is our advisor," Sloan said.

Those eligible to be nominated include farm owners, operators,

tenants and sharecroppers who are of legal voting age and eligible to participate in any Farm Service Agency program.

Nominations can come from any of those aforementioned or a candidate can nominate himself, Sloan said. The nomination forms are available at the Farm Service Agency office, 915 E. Walnut or online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections/>

"Nominees must sign the form, indicating that they are willing to serve the three-year term and completed forms must be postmarked or returned to the agency office by the close of business on Monday, Aug. 1, 2005.

The actual election is done by mail with ballots sent to all eligible voters in the local administrative area beginning on Friday, Nov. 4. The final date to complete ballots for this election will be Monday, Dec. 5, 2005.

For questions about the election process or other general information, call the Farm Service Agency at (785) 462-7671 or e-mail Sloan at: [Ross.sloan@ks.usda.gov](mailto:Ross.sloan@ks.usda.gov)

## Sponsors sought for county fair 4-H trophies

By Patty Decker  
Free Press Editor

With the Thomas County Fair right around the corner, the extension office is looking for trophy sponsors for the many 4-H exhibits — crops, livestock, arts, cooking, sewing and more, said Jan Poore, with the extension office in Colby.

As part of the drive to secure money for trophies, the extension office is appealing to businesses and organizations to consider assisting in this project.

"Trophies are only given to the grand champion and reserve champion in all the projects with the projected cost of each trophy at \$8," she said.

"All sponsors will be thanked through an advertisement published in the Colby Free Press following the fair,



4-H trophy

along with their names being printed in next year's fair book and also listed at the 4-H building and livestock arena."

In addition, this year's fair marks the 100th year of Kansas 4-H with events at the fair celebrating this milestone, she said.

As part of Centennial activities, the extension office is also wanting to buy every 4-H member a T-shirt commemorating the organization's 100th birthday and wear at the fair.

Once the trophy orders have been filled, then any money left over

would be used to buy the shirts.

For those wanting to donate to trophies and/or the T-shirts, the Thomas County Extension office can either e-mail a form or stop by their office, 350 S. Range, Suite 16, Colby, or call (785) 460-4582 to request information.

Payments must be received in their office no later than Friday, July 1.

"We would like to thank everyone for their time and past support of the 4-H program in Thomas County," Poore said.



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