



8 pages

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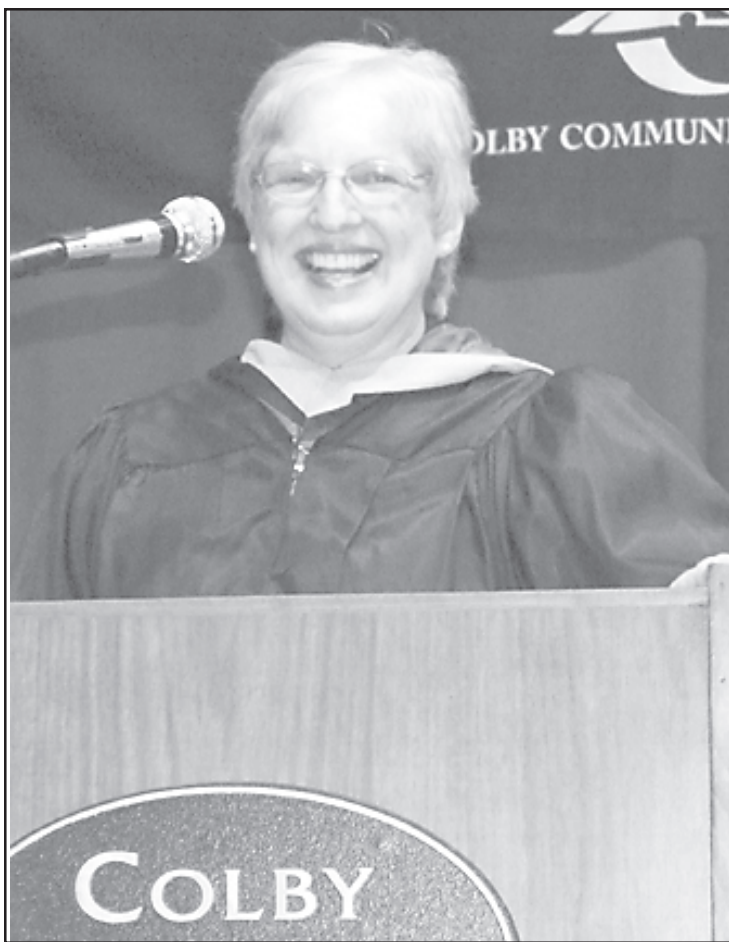
Monday

May 14, 2007

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Volume 118, Number 77
Serving Thomas County since 1888

Pomp and circumstances



LEFT: Avery Schultz, left, helped fellow senior Sarah Flanders with her mortar board before graduation ceremonies Saturday at Brewster High School. Nine seniors received their diplomas. **ABOVE:** College faculty member Carolyn May was the recipient of this year's Dr. James H. Tangeman Award.



Photos by Tisha Cox and Patty Decker



LEFT: Golden Plains High School senior Paul Luna, left, gave his mother Rhonda Luna a flower during commencement Sunday in Rexford. **ABOVE:** Colby Community College graduates waited to receive their degrees during ceremonies Saturday.

Brewster, Golden Plains high schools, college graduate students

Nine diplomas given

By Tisha Cox

Colby Free Press

Being responsible adults and remembering their uniqueness were two pieces of advice given to Brewster High School students Saturday at their graduation.

Nine Brewster High School graduates received their diplomas during commencement ceremonies Saturday; Megan Elizabeth Allen, Danielle Jo Bedore, Ryan Creighton Edmundson, Sarah Jane Flanders, Audrey Leon Hoyt, Timothy Verle Knox, Jennifer Sue McMahon, Avery Dawn Schultz, and Andrew Millard Starns.

Pat Lehman, Brewster alumni and former resident, was the commencement speaker. Lehman lives in Lawrence and is the director of the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts.

Lehman said the students should reflect on how lucky they were to attend Brewster High School, and

to have the support of their families and the community.

"Brewster graduates are spread out all over the globe," he said. "Your educational experience has prepared you to be responsible adults. And being a responsible adult means following through on your commitments."

It also doesn't just mean supporting oneself, but contributing to society and the human family, and those contributions will be one of a kind.

"There is no one else like you," Lehman said. "You are unique." He told the graduates they should pay attention to what goes on around them, and the issues that affect not just them, but their community. "Get involved, and care enough to give back," he said.

He said being asked to speak at graduation was an "incredible honor."

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Twenty-one conferred

By Tisha Cox

Colby Free Press

Rexford graduates shared their memories of time with classmates Sunday during commencement for Golden Plains High School seniors.

Golden Plains High School held its graduation ceremony on Sunday. Twenty-one students earned their diplomas; David Lee Becker, Cody Nelson Bieker, Ryan David Brantley, Alan Joseph Bruggeman, Brandy Lynn Bussen, Daniel Lee Eatherly, Megan Marie Juenemann, Stephanie Mae Juenemann, Paul Lee Luna, Lorraine Mae Morton, Maranda Eileen Mosier, Clayton Alan Phillips, Amanda Irene Rall, James Anthony Schippers, Brett Daniel Spresser, Katelyn Jae Spresser, Kyle Derek Spresser, Elizabeth Ann Staats, Drew Alan Stevenson and Jami Kay Wark.

Salutatorian Megan Juenemann and Valedictorian Stephanie Juenemann were the featured speakers.

Megan said graduation, at first, seemed like a long time coming. "We all thought this day would never come," she said.

She said her classmates were all unique and different, yet provided plenty of memories. Their laughter, pranks and creativity made for many memorable moments, for which she thanked her classmates.

Stephanie touched on the hard work and dedication it took to reach graduation.

"We are now young, eager adults ready to take on the world," she said. Stephanie thanked parents, friends and teachers for all the support they provided.

She also gave her classmates a bit of advice.

"You are capable of great and indescribable things," Stephanie said. "Follow your dreams and become who you want to be."

The speeches were followed by a

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College graduates 340

By Patty Decker

Free Press Editor

Finding something to do that doesn't feel like work was this year's message to the more than 340 graduates at Colby Community College's commencement ceremony Saturday.

Fellow alumni and commencement speaker Gemelle Holopirek reminisced about her days at Colby and how it was the "best place ever to go to school."

"Colby (College) got me going on my journey," she said.

Holopirek is a newscaster on "Good Morning Kansas," which airs on KAKE television in Wichita. Even though she said she gets up

at 3:30 a.m. to arrive on set by 5 a.m., she loves her job.

She spoke about her previous jobs leading up to her current position, noting the changes from a "one-man band" at the Garden City television station where she wrote, edited, produced and anchored. She accepted a general assignment position with KAKE television and now the morning program.

In addition, Holopirek said if she had one piece of advice to offer the graduates it would be to follow their passion.

"God gives us all gifts and in picking what we do (for a career) you should look for happiness," she

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Holopirek



Wilson