

# Golden Plains graduate named Garden City college ambassador

Rilee Spreser of Gem has been chosen as one of three incoming students to receive Garden City Community College's most prestigious scholarship, the Ambassador Award, for the upcoming school year.

He is a Golden Plains High School graduate with a grade average of 3.786 on a 4.0 scale. He was president of his senior class and has credits from Colby Community College in psychology, composition, college algebra and speech.

"People at GCCC always talk about the fact that once you become a 'Buster you are a 'Buster for life,'" Spreser said. "Personally, I agree with that 100 percent, because I've had numerous friends and relatives go to college at GCCC and they all tell me how much I'll love it there."

Involved in Student Leadership Thomas County, he is in National Honor Society and participated in the gifted-talented program.

He was a student council representative, was elected homecoming king and was a member of the school choir.

Spreser played varsity basketball and foot-

ball all four years of high school and participated in weightlifting, competing in state power lifting as a senior.

He was selected for the eight-man all star football game in his league; earned all state honorable mention as a quarterback his senior year; became Western Kansas Liberty League first team punter/kicker as a senior, as well as second team quarterback and defensive back the same year. He earned various other recognition in football as an underclassman.

In league basketball, he earned first team all league honors as a sophomore. In track, he received all league honors as a sophomore; became all-league triple and long jump champion in 2009, in addition to setting the Golden Plains long jump record the same year, and becoming the Class 1A triple jump state champion as a sophomore. He was seventh overall in high and long jumps in state Class 1A track meet competition, as well as 2010 league shot put champion.

Spreser has been actively involved in a number of church and community activities,

including food drives, road and park cleanup, fair concessions and volunteering with elementary and middle school activities.

He has held jobs with Starlight Painting, Farm Implement and Supply and Hi-Plains Co-op.

Selection as an Ambassador Scholar is based on academic achievement, school and community service and other criteria. Each applicant must be recommended by school officials, go through a personal interview and write an application essay.

Ambassadors serve as a sounding board for the college administration, as hosts for campus visitors, as speakers at special events, assist with Endowment Association activities, and represent the college in a number of other ways.

Each year by tradition, two to three incoming freshman Ambassadors join one to two returning sophomore Ambassador Scholars.

"We have the difficult task of choosing from an elite group of students," said Lynn Dunford, member of the Endowment Association board of directors.



Rilee Spreser

# Report says raising child more costly

The Department of Agriculture has released its annual report, "Expenditures on Children by Families," finding that a middle-income family with a child born in 2010 can expect to spend about \$226,920 (\$286,860 with inflation factored in) for food, shelter, and other necessities to raise that child over the next 17 years. This represents a two percent increase from 2009.

Expenses for transportation, child care, education, and health care saw the largest percentage increases related to child rearing from 2009. There were very small changes in housing, food, clothing, and miscellaneous expenses on a child since 2009.

The report, issued annually

since 1960, is a resource to courts and state governments in determining child support guidelines and foster care payments. It is based on data from the federal government's Consumer Expenditure Survey. For the year 2010, per child annual child-rearing expenses for a middle-income, two-parent family range from \$11,880 to \$13,830, depending on the age of the child.

The report notes that family income affects child rearing costs. A family earning less than \$57,600 per year can expect to spend \$163,440 on a child from birth through high school. Parents with an income between \$57,600 and \$99,730 can expect to spend \$226,920; and a family earning

more than \$99,730 can expect to spend \$377,040.

For middle-income families, housing costs are the single largest expenditure, averaging 31 percent. Child care and education and food were the next two largest expenses, accounting for 17 and 16 percent of their total expenditure. These estimates do not include costs associated with pregnancy or the cost of education beyond high school.

Expenses are highest for families living in the urban Northeast, followed by the urban West and urban Midwest. Families living in the urban South and rural areas have the lowest child-rearing expenses.

In 1960, the first year the report

was issued, a middle-income family could have expected to spend \$25,230 (\$185,856 in 2010 dollars) to raise a child through age seventeen. Housing was the largest expense both then and now. Health care expenses on a child doubled as a percentage of total child-rearing costs. In addition, some current-day costs, such as child care, were negligible in 1960.

Expenses per child decrease as a family has more children. Families with three or more children spend 22 percent less per child than families with two children.

The full report, Expenditures on Children by Families (2010), is available on the web at [www.cnpp.usda.gov](http://www.cnpp.usda.gov).

# Father spends school year waving at son's bus

AMERICAN FORK, Utah (AP) – The world's most embarrassing father is no more.

Over the course of the 180-day school year, Dale Price waved at the school bus carrying his 16-year-old son, Rain, while wearing something different every morning outside their American Fork home.

He started out by donning a San Diego Chargers helmet and jersey, an Anakin Skywalker helmet, and swim trunks and a snorkel mask, the *Daily Herald* of Provo and *Deseret News* of Salt Lake City reported.

Among others, he later dressed up as Elvis, Batgirl, the Little Mermaid, the scarecrow from the Wizard of Oz, Princess Leia, Nacho Libre and Santa Claus. He wore spandex, pleather, feathers, wigs, flips flops, suits, boots, fur, Army fatigues and several dresses, including a wedding dress.

Dale Price said it took a lot of effort to keep up, but he did it to have fun and show his son he really

cared about him.

"I hope this lives with him for the rest of his life," the father told the *Deseret News*. "He can use it against his kids and tell them, 'If you think you are embarrassed by me, you should have seen your grandfather.'"

Rain Price, who just completed his sophomore year, said he eventually became used to the idea.

"The first day of high school I have my dad waving at the bus. It was really embarrassing," he told the *Daily Herald*. "But the last couple of months it has turned into more entertainment."

"Everybody else on the bus learned to like it a lot sooner than I did. It wasn't their dad dressing up like a fool," the son added.

His mother, Rochelle Price, started a blog with photos of her husband's costumes at [waveatthebus.blogspot.com](http://waveatthebus.blogspot.com).

# On the Beat

## COLBY POLICE

- Wednesday**
- 12:35 a.m. – Walk-through at Walmart.
  - 2:55 a.m. – Caller reported incident.
  - 7:05 a.m. – Assisted ambulance crew.
  - 2:25 p.m. – Animal complaint: report filed on incident.
  - 3:10 p.m. – Dog at large at 150 E. Ash turned over to owner.
  - 4:28 p.m. – Provided directions.
  - 7:38 p.m. – Keys locked inside vehicle. Contacted locksmith; provided assistance.
  - 10:02 p.m. – Loud music complaint at 770 Dylan Drive. Spoke to subject; music turned down.

10:24 p.m. – Loud music complaint again at 770 Dylan Drive. Last warning given.

## THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF

- Wednesday**
- 6:30 a.m. – Late entry: booked Mark Dulany at 8:51 p.m. Tuesday.
  - 9:24 a.m. – National Crime Information Center hit/warrant arrest: Shiloh Rae Crandall arrested in Ray County, Mo.
  - 9:24 a.m. – National Crime Information Center hit/warrant arrest: John Harold Crandall arrested in Ray County, Mo.

- 9:30 a.m. – Welfare check on employee.
- 12:28 p.m. – Caller reported wheel smoking on train eastbound just west of Brewster. Police contacted Kyle Railroad.
- 4:58 p.m. – Large piece of rubber/metal in roadway in 3000 block of U.S. 83. Contacted McCarty Dairy to see if it was theirs. Employee of dairy called at 5:19 and advised they had removed it from roadway.
- 6:30 p.m. – Traveler's aid.
- 11:24 p.m. – Security check at Colby Fertilizer.

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