

Governor wants 'Classic' to grow

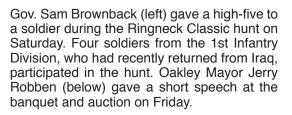
Using a shotgun passed down to him from his grandfather, Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback bagged four pheasants in three hours Saturday morning in rural Logan County.

fabulous time," he said.

"It was a beautiful, cold Kansas ing between groups of hunters tion and tourism dollars to north-Day and I hope I can speak for all during his Governor's Ringneck the hunters when I say that I had a Classic. He came up with the idea during his campaign for the Brownback spent the day float- office as a way to bring atten-

west Kansas. Kansas is normally ranked among the top three states for pheasant hunting, Brownback said, but it is an underutilized asset for rural communities. "Northwest Kansas has traditionally been one of the state's best

pheasant hunting regions and I am confident "The Classic" will grow to be a prominent part of our Kansas hunting tradition," he said ... "The hunt also will allow us to showcase the many tourism opportunities that exist in northwest Kansas."





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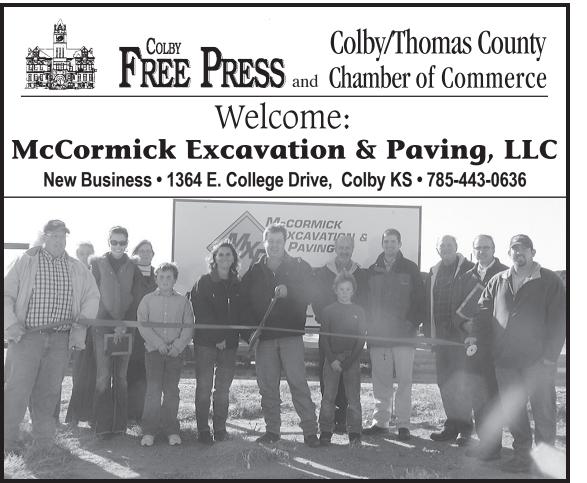




Brownback posed with hunter Troy Sporer (above) after bagging a pheasant. The governor floated between the groups of hunters. An auctioneer (right) got the bidding started on a pheasant blanket Friday night. Auction items included shot guns, art and two items brought by celebrity hunters Tom Watson and George Brett. Students from Oakley High School helped serve drinks and showcase the auction items.



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