

Families feed rugby team

By Sharon Corcoran
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How much food does it take to feed a rugby team? Two families and their friends were hoping they had the right answer as they set up dinner for their sons and 20 of their closest friends.

Hale Sloan, son of Craig and Inga Sloan, and Patrick Bussen, son of Tom and Deanna Bussen, both Wallace County High School graduates, are on the Kansas State/Fort Riley Rugby Club team.

The collegiate portion of the team, 22 players, was on their way from Manhattan to Denver Friday to play the University of Colorado team at noon Saturday in Boulder, the first game of the Western Rugby Union playoffs.

The Sloans, the Bussens, their friend Peggy Hennick, Hale's grandmother Cathy Walker and members of the Goodland Masonic Lodge put their efforts together to feed the team at the lodge Friday night.

Hennick brought 30 pounds of beef brisket, which was teamed up with parsley potatoes, homemade dinner rolls, salad, corn and a relish tray. Walker (the team grandmother) was held up by a fall (she was OK) but came later with salmon and homemade pies to go with the homemade ice cream from Wayne Aten.

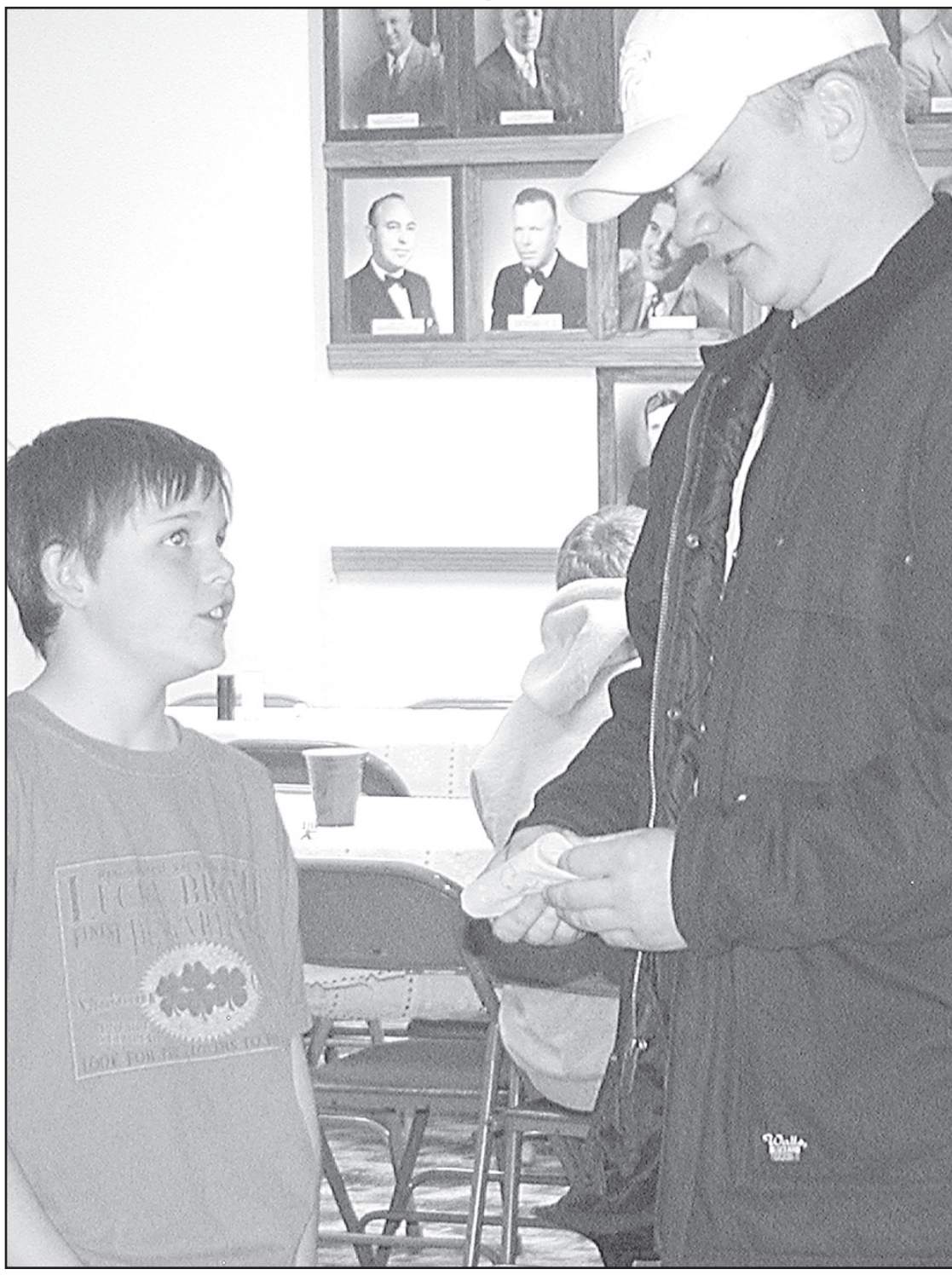
It seemed to be plenty, as many commented that they ate too much.

The team had won two games the previous weekend against the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University, putting K-State in the playoffs with a 3-1 record. Colorado went into Saturday's game with a 7-2 record.

The Buffaloes stomped out the Wildcats' playoff drive, winning 59-10. An article on the American Rugby News web site said K-State showed signs of tiredness from the double-header and quoted the Colorado head coach as saying K-State played well, but they play a structured game, and Colorado got the ball in their hands and broke it open.

Rugby is not a fully-sponsored Big-12 sport, Craig Sloan said; the team gets some support from the university but is not sponsored fully like basketball or football. It's a club sport, Hale Sloan said; each member has to pay dues.

But, he said, the team plays on the collegiate level and competes against most of the Big-12 teams. The sport is governed by USA Rugby, he added, rather than the National Collegiate Athletic Association.



Patrick Bussen, a senior at Kansas State University, talked with Zane Sloan, brother of Bussen's teammate Hale Sloan, last Friday at the Goodland Masonic Lodge. Bussen and Hale Sloan, along with the rest of the university's rugby team, stopped here to eat a dinner prepared by their parents and friends from Sharon Springs and from the lodge. Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Rugby is more popular in metropolitan areas than the midwest, Hale said, but teams are trying to get more international players to help the sport grow out here. If the team had won in Boulder, their next game would have been against Wyoming and winning that one would have put them in the national tournament in Dallas.

The national tournament has 16 teams and goes down to a final four like basketball, Hale said; the final four will be in Stanford, Calif., in the middle of May.

The team's recruiting strategies include word of mouth and messages written in chalk. They write messages on the sidewalk around

campus, Craig said, that say, "If you want to play rugby, call..."

They only have to get a prospective player to play in one match and he's hooked, he said Hale told him. A lot of kids from across Kansas sign up, he said, but don't know much about rugby — they have to learn the rules and strategies.

Sometimes the team attracts players who grew up with rugby, Craig said, like Moses Manu, who played on the university's football team. Manu, of Polynesian descent, has lived in Tonga, New Zealand, Australia and California, where he started playing football. Though he had grown up playing rugby, Craig said, he didn't join K-State's team

until recently. The sport began in England, he said, and has similarities to football and soccer, but one difference is that each team has 15 players on the field at a time in rugby rather than 11. Hale is a senior majoring in biological engineering. He plans to work in the biomedical field but may go on to graduate school first. He has played rugby all four years at K-State.

Patrick Bussen is a senior majoring in BioAgEngineering with a minor in environmental science. He joined Hale on the rugby team after one semester at the university.

Courthouse to add circuits

By Tom Betz
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Electric power needs have outstripped the available outlets on the third floor of the Sherman County Courthouse, and Tuesday commissioners approved a bid to add more power circuits for the district court.

William McKnight, building maintenance superintendent, presented two bids to the commissioners for adding four 20 amp circuits to handle new machines the district court are expected to have installed in the next month or two.

He said the third floor offices have had problems with overloading circuits and tripping breakers. He said it is especially true in the district court offices, and that at times when the emergency management people were using the law library their computer would trip the breakers in the district court offices.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked if other courthouse offices are having problems.

McKnight said he had not heard from the other offices.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked where the power would have to be run from.

McKnight said it will have to come up from the basement, and he expected the contractor to drill holes along the wall near where the circuits are needed.

Rasure asked if the conduits will be hidden.

McKnight said they will be mostly hidden, and be along the walls.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked about other offices that might be in need of more electrical outlets.

McKnight said he had not asked other offices about electrical needs.

Tiede said with the new equipment coming they needed to go ahead with this now. He said the two bids were from Shad's Electric for \$1,282 and B&B Electric for \$1,465. Tiede made a motion to go with the low bid from Shad's Electric and it passed unanimously.

Thomas asked when it could be done.

McKnight said he had talked to both bidders about getting it done as soon as they could get to it to be ready for the new equipment.

In other business the commissioners:

- Heard from Tiede that a crew from the Kansas Department of Transportation had been out on old U.S. 24 to measure the no passing zones. He said his wife saw a guy in a state pickup pulling a long rope with a small car behind and wondered what they were doing.

- He said once the state works out the total number of feet then Curt Way, public works manager, can get bids from the three firms he has contacted including one in Colorado and one from Nebraska. He said the Colorado company wants to know total feet to be able to bid, and the

Nebraska company wants the figures to be able to determine how many gallons of paint it will take to bid it that way.

Tiede said he understood the plan was to do the center stripe and no passing zones.

Rasure said he would like to have an option to add the outside stripes saying it appears there will be enough money in the special road project fund to pay for it.

Tiede said that was possible, and that he would ask Way to have the firms bid on the stripping paint to last about three years because that is when the road is expected to be chip sealed.

- Heard from McKnight that the Sherman County Racing Association is planning a work day at the race track on Saturday, March 29 to get ready for the season.

Thomas said he would check on the concrete barriers at Edson to see if the county will be able to move them. McKnight said he was hoping to be able to move them that day or before.

- Approved leases for the fairgrounds for a benefit roping event for George Phillips on April 5, and a birthday party for Linda Rodriguez on April 15.

- Heard about some payroll problems created by a new employee paid insurance program, and decided to halt any payments and notify the company of the problems and that the commissioners have ordered a halt until the problems are addressed.

Crystal Wright, payroll clerk, said she was having lots of problems with the paperwork for the employee deductions and Sheriff Kevin Butts said the employees were told the money would be taken out of every paycheck. Wright said the problem is that the county payroll system is set up for these to come out of the last paycheck of the month. She said no one from the insurance company ever asked her if it could be done this way.

Butts said the representative explained it would be done bi-weekly. We want it to be done the way it was set up, and we have been told by the company they gave us the wrong forms. Butts said the company has backed peddled on several things, and my people want to cancel out.

Rumpel said the company Kansas Public Employee Benefits would have a representative at the next commissioner meeting on Monday, March 31 to answer the questions.

corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

Dinner theater to bring 'awards show' here

"Lights, Camera, Kansas." That is the title of the Goodland Arts Council's annual dinner theater production for this spring.

Directed by Annette Fairbanks, owner of Teeters Abstract and Title and a Goodland city commissioner, the play will be presented Saturday through Monday, April 12 through 14, at the Goodland Elks Lodge.

Tickets are \$30 for Saturday's presentation and fried chicken dinner, \$25 for Sunday with desserts and \$25 for Monday with appetizers. Arts council members get \$5 off. Tickets are on sale at the Carnegie Arts Center, 120 W. 12th, 890-6442, or by contacting any arts council board member. All tickets

must be bought in advance.

The council will wrap up their annual membership drive with a drawing at each performance, said Kay Younger, arts center director; anyone who joins as a new member or pays to renew their membership will be eligible to win a prize.

A new feature of the theater this year, she said, will be artwork on display from the Smoky Hills Public Television's annual spring auction. The auction will be Saturday, April 19.

The display can be viewed at all three performances, Younger said, and Saturday's will include a reception at 5:30 p.m. with representatives from Smoky Hills. Artists are

encouraged to meet with them and learn how the auction can help promote their art, she said.

Also Saturday, Danny Mangus' country and western cowboy band will perform during dinner, Younger said.

The theater performance is a play by Dennis Snee, produced by special arrangement with Baker's Plays, Fairbanks said; it is a wonderful parody of every TV awards ceremony you've ever seen.

Every year, the Ego Awards take Hollywood by storm, she said; hosted by Roxy Rogers, America's No. 1 actress and comedienne, the Egos are an international event. This year, however, Roxy begged

off because her ex-husband is up for Best Actor, Fairbanks said, and she can't stomach seeing him win, or seeing him, period.

Finally, she said, Roxy agrees to be the host but only if the show is broadcast from her hometown of Ragweed, Kansas, where surely her ex will not dare show up.

"Wait a minute," Fairbanks said. "Was that Ragweed, Kansas, or Goodland, Kansas?"

<p>March 14-27 Horton Hears a Who (G) www.goodlandnet.com/movies</p>	<p>Bring this AD to the theatre for \$1 OFF on a large popcorn & 2 med. drinks EXP. 12/31/08</p>	<p>Nightly 7:00 Sunday Matinee 1:30 (No matinee Easter Sunday) Movie Bucks Make Great Gifts! Sherman 1203 Main - Phone 899-6103</p>
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AUCTION

FOR ART & CHERYL SCOTT AND VERA MORGAN

Date: Saturday, March 29, 2008

Time: 10:00 am CT (doors open at 8:00 am day of sale)

Auction Location: T-N-T & Jones Auction Facility • 200 N Franklin • Colby, KS

Preview sale items between 5 - 7 pm CT Friday, March 28, 2008

GUNS WILL SELL @ 1:30

50 cal. Michigan Arms Black Powder Rifle
Stevens crack shot 22 LR 1
Winchester 22 LSLR Model 06 Pump Rifle
Whitney Villa Walker .44 cal Black Powder Pistol
A.S. M. Black Powder .44 cal Pistol
Winchester Mod 1897 12 ga Shotgun
Ben Franklin Pump-up BB Pellet .22

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Baseball cards
Arrow Head Collection
Assorted Paper Money
Assorted Silver Coins
Assorted Silver Dollars
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Large wooden barrel
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Trunks
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Coca Cola Official Olympic International Flag
Pin Series Sets
Coca Cola Syrup jugs - pop cases - pop bottles
Cigar boxes
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Keen Kutter Knife and Fork set
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