

## Home on the Range...



Doing what ranch hands do best — sit around a campfire and spin yarns — third graders from Mrs. Haresnape's classroom entertained their parents Tuesday afternoon

with their portrayal of "Pecos Bill, A Tall Tale". They are from left to right: Owen Brown, Connor McVay, Josephine Otter, Mitchell Hickman and Levi Kendell.

— Telegram photo by Sherry Hickman

## Organization raises money with dinner, dance

How often can you combine fun, flavor, glamour and good works? Saturday night achieved exactly those things at the fourth annual Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Dinner Dance and Silent Auction. Colette Miller chaired this year's event which was attended by over one hundred people.

The night began with a welcome by BBBS Board President Debra Anderson. After greeting those in attendance and sharing information about the BBBS program, she interviewed a "little". Judge Anderson asked her to describe what it was like to have a big sister. The six-year-old told of the activities they do together and how fun it was to be with her "big". Author and inspirational speaker, Ward Foley, gave the invocation and the night began.

The American Legion setting provided a room for Silent Auction items and one for dancing and dining. Over sixty items were in the auction and people checked on the progress of those items throughout the evening. There was truly something for everyone at the auction, no matter your age or interest. Gift boxes and individual items of food, gift certificates, toys and jewelry were available.

The festive night included pork

provided by Husky Hogs and PHAT Boy Barbecue. Jamboree Foods, Norton Shop and Save, Valley Hope and Town and Country Kitchen provided other menu items. A high point of the evening was the four-foot high chocolate fountain, provided by PHAT Boy BBQ, with cheesecake pieces, pineapple, strawberries, and other "dipping delicacies". Music was provided by Jam Session and people of all ages danced to selections ranging from The Salsa to the fox trot.

This major fundraiser is possible because of the generosity of the community. All the food, its preparation, the building, the music and the silent auction items are donated making it possible to achieve the program goals.

Those who attend and bid on items and give of their time determine the success of the BBBS program. All money raised in Norton County remains in the county.

The funds donated from this activity are used to make matches, do the all-important case supervision and work to expand the one-on-one mentoring program.

For more information on how to become involved in BBBS, please call Affiliate Director, Mary Kay Woodyard at 874-4200.

## Colby college breaks ground on new dorms

By KEVIN JOHNSON

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A formal ground breaking on the new Colby Community College dorms was held Monday at the building site.

Colby Community College board members donned hard hats and wielded gold shovels and did a bit of ceremonial digging to officially kick off construction of the new 160-bed student dormitory.

The estimated cost of the dorm project is \$4.5 million and the location of the project would be east of the agriculture building and north of the maintenance building on College Drive. Student Suites, a private company out of Blue Springs, Mo., will undertake construction of the new dor-

mitories. Student Suites, which has built dorms for both Barton College and Cloud Community College, was chosen because they were the only company that would guarantee completion by fall 2008 and if not completed by that deadline would pay, "substantial penalties."

"Student Suites will facilitate the whole construction of the project," said College President Dr. Lynn Kreider. "They will do everything from Internet and cable connections, right down to the furnishing, so that when we open in July 2008 we will be ready to go."

The dormitory project was a long time in coming. After initially voted down by taxpayers in the April 2007 election as part

of a similar project involving a \$20 million Wellness Center, the capital for the new dorm project will be funded in total by revenue bonds through Pipper and Jaffy, a private corporation that will begin selling said bonds in November 2007, without any cost to taxpayers. "Pipper and Jaffy will solicit and sell the bonds themselves," said Dr. Kreider. The payout of the bonds will begin in May of 2009 and will be funded through student revenue over thirty years.

"And there is no penalty for paying off early," added Dr. Kreider, "which is what we hope to do."

"This has not been a tax burden, since it will be funded with revenues from the students living there," Trustee Kenton Krehbiel said. "It (the new dorm) will be an enhancement in making the college grow."

Finding students to fill the new dorms is an issue of slight concern, but when asked what would happen if the new dorms

wouldn't fill, Dr. Kreider said he just doesn't believe that will be a problem due to the board's previous approval of the administration to work with the Archimedes International Group to bring in foreign students.

"I think we can successfully recruit international students for the next several years," he said. "Community colleges have not actively recruited these students like the four-year institutions have done, but many groups are beginning to realize what a bargain community college offers when compared to the four-year schools."

Colby Community College board members ultimately see the new dormitory as a catalyst towards more growth.

"We can't wait any longer (for this dormitory)," said Skip Sharp, vice-president of student affairs.

"This project is a risk we have to take in bringing more students to Colby," said Trustee Krehbiel.

## Essay writing contest can win student cash

By DICK BOYD

Kansas students, grades 8 to 12, can vie for a cash prize of \$200 in the annual essay contest, "Kansas! Say It Above a Whisper". Essays must be limited to 250 words (about one double-spaced typewritten page) and postmarked no later than Dec. 7, 2007.

Send entries to Native Sons and Daughters, P.O. Box 546, Topeka, KS 66601. If possible, entries should be submitted via e-mail to: jpinegar@sbcglobal.net.

The contest title, which deals with pride in the state of Kansas was coined by early-day Kansas newspaperwoman, Mamie Boyd, whose family provides the cash awards. Past essays have described the interesting and strong-hearted people of Kansas, the state's vast grain fields, diversities in population, the state's unique beauty and the emotions and pride evoked by that beauty.

Sponsored by the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas, the essay contest is judged by a panel

of Kansas Professional Communicators (formerly Kansas Press Women). The judges look for originality, creativity and sincerity in expressing pride in the state of Kansas.

The winner will be announced and recognized by the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas at their annual banquet January 25, 2008 at Maner Conference Center, Topeka. The Kansas of the Year and Distinguished Kansas will be honored at the banquet.

Last year's prize winner was Kelsey D. Harris, a student at Jackson Heights High School.

This contest is only open to Kansas students grades 8 to 12. No entries will be returned. Entries will be turned over to the Kansas State Historical Society to be preserved in the manuscript department.

Entries and questions should be directed to John Pinegar, Native Sons & Daughters of Kansas, P.O. Box 546, Topeka, KS 66601, phone (785)235-6245.

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- 2004 DODGE RAM 3/4 TON QUAD CAB SHORT BOX 4 WHEEL DRIVE — Bright Silver metallic with Gray cloth 40/20/40 seating, 5.7 liter Hemi V-8, 5 speed automatic, air conditioning, tilt wheel, speed control, power seat, windows, locks and mirrors, stereo with CD player, keyless entry, aluminum wheels, trailer tow package, 40,000 miles
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