



Northern Valley graduates Jesse Hilburn and Kelsey Stupka (right) got flowers from junior attendants Joey Copper and Serena Woodside to give to their parents as a thank you. Kristen Hardy (above) gave school counselor Monica Wilson a hug after getting her diploma.

— Telegram photos by Veronica Monier



Northern Valley graduates 12 seniors

By VERONICA MONIER

Twelve Northern Valley seniors walked across the stage to receive their diplomas during graduation ceremonies Saturday afternoon.

After Pastor Terrill Worthington gave the opening prayer, Almena resident and assistant football coach Abner Williams gave his senior recognition.

Reading the name of each graduate, Mr. Williams told what made them special to their class and to himself. He also gave them advice on how to be the best people they could be. Mr. Williams also recognized the parents, guardians, grandparents, teachers, school staff, board of education, and clergy for their part in making each graduate what they were.

"On days like this it is easy to forget that these students would not be standing here before you without your help and guidance," he said.

Mr. Williams also sang a song to the seniors with Pat David, the vocal music instructor.

Student addresses were given by Lindsey Jessup, Jayme Horacek and Mercedes Hays. Miss Jessup talked about the class's grade school years.

"Thirteen years ago, 10 children, eight of which are here,

stepped into a strange place to begin kindergarten," she said. "It didn't take long for that strange place to become a second home."

Miss Horacek said, in middle school, they each tried to find their own individuality.

"During these four years, we learned a valuable experience," she said.

Miss Hays began by saying they all remembered their first day of high school.

"Who could forget it," she said. High school was filled with firsts, she said, their first homecoming, first prom, first time being yelled at by an upper classman, and first time yelling at underclassmen.

"Because our class is small, we have been able to enjoy all of this together," she said. "Behind you are the shadows of what we might have been, and ahead, the images of what we hope to be. We now look to the future."

"After knowing you," Miss Hays said to her fellow classmates, "I know I have known true friendship. These are the greatest years."

Lindsey Jessup and Janelle Fritz read the poem "Tiny Handprints".

After parent recognition, where each senior gave their parents a flower, and a senior slide show, Amy Griffin gave the senior wrap-

up. "To my fellow classmates," she said. "Can you believe this day in May is here?"

"I will always look back on my years at Northern Valley with fondness... because of my class. We've come this far together. Good luck and best wishes to all my best friends."

High school counselor Monica Wilson announced the scholarships and future plans of each graduate. She said more than \$59,500 in scholarships were earned by the class.

Thomas Ostmeyer was valedictorian with a 4.0 grade point average, while Kristen Hardy was salutatorian with a 3.92 grade point average.

Superintendent Bill Lowry recognized retiring teacher Sharen Hempler and bus driver Sylvia Kats before presenting the class of 2005.

Board members Gale Hays and Kim Jessup presented diplomas to Janelle Fritz, Miss Graham, Miss Griffin, Miss Hardy, Miss Hays, Joseph Hester, Jesse Hilburn, Miss Horacek, Miss Jessup, Christopher Lee, Thomas Ostmeyer, and Kelsey Stupka.

Pastor Worthington read a poem, and then gave the closing prayer.

Ambulance director wants to cool barn

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

Norton Ambulance Director Andy Nielsen is worried about the heat.

Mr. Nielsen talked to the Norton County Commissioners on Monday to see if it would be possible to get central air conditioning in the ambulance barn to protect items stored on the ambulances and in the building.

Mr. Nielsen said he was worried because several items on the ambulances, including activated charcoal, glucose solution, sterile water and normal saline, should not be warmer than 80 degrees but the building has gotten hotter already this summer.

While central heat was installed in the ambulance building several years ago, he said, there is only a small air conditioner to cool the office area.

Commissioner John Miller suggested putting thermometers in the ambulances to determine actual temperatures inside, because it could be different than in the building.

"I think you'll find out that it's a lot cooler in the ambulances than in the building itself," Mr. Miller said.

He also suggested that Mr. Nielsen call the product manufacturers and talk about range of temperatures allowed because those could be somewhat different than those printed on the packages.

Mr. Nielsen said that extra supplies are stored in metal cabinets in the building.

Mr. Miller suggested that extra stock could be refrigerated.

"Put some thermometers

around and check," Mr. Miller said.

Mr. Nielsen said that he also wanted to get a storage shelf built. The ambulance department has received the old countertop from the treasurer's office, he said. However, because the top was so big it had to be disassembled to be moved and only the top was worth keeping.

The commissioners suggested that he write bid specifications.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Decided to hold their meeting on Tuesday next week due to the Memorial Day holiday.
- Went into a 10-minute closed session to discuss land acquisition

with Ambulance Director Andy Nielsen.

- Heard that an engineer was in town to look at a road near Nelson Farms. The road was damaged by washouts earlier this year and the county and Terry Nelson have had a disagreement as to why.

- Asked County Councilor Doug Sebelius to look at all files on the question with Nelson Farms and the county road.

- Talked to Mr. Sebelius about burning trash on private property out of town. Mr. Sebelius said all burning should be done in a container except for limbs and yard wastes. However, this does not apply when there is a burning ban, he said.

- Heard from Sheriff Troy Thomson that he has been trying to get equipment ordered through his job as emergency preparedness officer but several items have not been available from the company the state has authorized to provide it.

A leading scrap metal recycling company based out of the Kansas City area is expanding regional operations in Missouri, Kansas, and Arkansas, all located within a 250 miles radius around KC including: Boonville, Columbia, Holt's Summit, Lake of the Ozarks, Topeka, Ft. Scott, Columbus and Sulphur Springs. More locations to come through our expansion into new markets.



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Chuck Russell

Saturday, May 28, 2005


9:00 a.m. — 4-H Building, Park Street, Norton, Kansas

- Coins — Will Sell at 9:00 a.m.
- Vehicle and Parts
- Lawn Mowers and Power Tools
- Collectible Cars
- Tonka Toys
- Sports Items
- Guns
- Furniture
- Appliances
- Household Accessories
- Kitchen Items
- Wrist Watches and Cigarette Lighter
- Dishes
- Paper Products, Wall Hangings and Pictures
- Music Instrument
- Collectibles

AUCTIONEER'S NOTES:

This Memorial Weekend Sale that I have scheduled will be a memorable one for you. There are some very unusual items in this sale especially the collectible toys, pictures, clocks and dishes. I put this sale together pretty fast as the owner has been called to active duty with the National Guard. He really needed to sell even sooner than this. The oak bedroom set is one of the finest around in new furniture. You won't be disappointed with this one. Many items were already boxed when I listed, so you just need to be on hand to see this one for yourself.

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