

A learning experience...



Education was the main event for the Norton County Leadership class last Wednesday. Colby Community College's nursing program at the Norton County Hospital was on an agenda that also included the Norton and Northern Valley school districts, the Northwest Kansas Library System and Head Start. — Telegram photo by Veronica Monier

Tiebreaker gives the win

(Continued from Page 1)
 Lowry, Sandra Dole, both of Alma; Karen Shearer, Craig Hammond, both of Long Island; Ann Becker, Lenora; Barbara Brooks, Clayton; Randy Springer, Andy Moore, Nancy Moore, all of Hoisington; Amy Daniels, Sandy Husted, Kerri Ray, Marj Allen, Debora Heskett, Tammy Maddy, David Riemann, Craig Heskett, Tami Antrim, Tiffney Yeager, Deanna Gallentine, Luke Keilig, Kristy Keilig, Jane Mindrup, Nathan Morse, Douglas Daniels, Keegan Smith, Lynn Nelson, all of Norton.
 Miscuing on six games were: Tim Moore, Hoisington; Brian Schulze, Beloit; Matt Dole, Alma; Roger Shearer, Long Island; Wilma Wiseman, Kathy Erbert, Baylee Miller, Doug Ray, Anastasia Foley, Laura Washburn, Travis Ray, Brent Carter, Kelly Hill, Rosalie Schulze, Dusty Eagleburger, Lawrence Wiseman, all of Norton.
 The 12th and final week's entries must be postmarked by 5 p.m. on Friday and must be received in the mail no later than Saturday. Or, you may bring them to *The Telegram* office before 5 p.m. on Friday.
 See the full page advertisement in today's *Telegram* for this week's high school and college games.
 Only one entry per person on official entry blanks is allowed but extra entry blanks for other members of the family may be picked up from any sponsor.
 Prizes of \$30 in scrip money will be paid each week. At the end of the 12-week season, the fan picking the most correct games will receive \$50 in scrip money and an engraved trophy.
 Scores of last week's games were:
 Garden Plain 28, Scott City 14
 Smith Center 46, La Crosse 0
 St. Francis 32, Ellis 14
 Victoria 64, Sharon Springs 20
 Georgia 37, Auburn 15
 Kansas State 45, Texas 42
 Arkansas 31, Tennessee 14
 Southern Cal 35, Oregon 18
 Wisconsin 24, Iowa 21
 Colorado 33, Iowa State 16
 Minnesota 31, Michigan State 18
 Nebraska 28, Texas A&M 27

Program lacks benefit for small farms

By JOHN CRABTREE
 LYONS, Neb. — The Center for Rural Affairs released a report recently, entitled "The Impact and Benefits of USDA Research and Grant Programs to Enhance Mid-size Farm Profitability and Rural Community Success," that finds U.S. Department of Agriculture research and grant programs lacking in either benefit or relevance to small and mid sized farmers and ranchers as well as beginning farmers and ranchers.

The report analyzes the benefits to small and mid sized farms and ranches of four mainstay USDA research and rural development grant programs — the Value-Added Producer Grant program (VAPG); Rural Business and Enterprise Grant program (RBEG); National Research Initiative (NRI); and Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (IFAFS).

"Our analysis revealed that, in total, of nearly \$500 million dedicated to these four programs, only five percent went to projects determined to be beneficial to small and mid sized farmers and ranchers or beginning farmers and ranchers," reported Kim Leval of the Center for Rural Affairs.

The Center for Rural Affairs' report identified the Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG) and IFAFS as the two programs, among the four analyzed, that offered the most benefits to small and mid sized producers as well as beginning farmers and ranchers. "Which is understandable, because value added grants and IFAFS came into being shortly after the National Commission on Small Farms recommended the creation of such programs to assist small and mid sized farmers and ranchers in creating new markets and economic opportunities," added Leval.

Consequently, the Center for Rural Affairs recommends in the report that the Value-Added Producer Grant program be reauthorized in the 2007 farm bill and provided with \$50 million annually in mandatory funding.

The report goes on, however, to state that "despite recommendations and challenges of the National Commission on Small Farms and the rhetorical commitment of USDA to small agricultural operations, we found that the vast amount of funded projects and program funds do not benefit small and mid sized and beginning farmers and ranchers and are not relevant to their needs."

"The NRI, intended to foster research to address national food, fiber and natural resource challenges, has failed to invest in research that helps develop economic opportunities that will keep families on the land," said Leval.

The Center for Rural Affairs' report also points out that all four programs were generally lacking in projects benefiting beginning farmers and ranchers.

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 "It's a great life!"



-Phil Harris, Dodge City
 "I'd come right back here. I sure would."



-Roger Ewy, Hanston
 "If you think you have a problem, get it checked out."



-Ron Wente, Hays
 "I was at ease."



-Bob Pokorny, Hays
 "Without it, I wouldn't be here."

And Now We Have National Ranking, Too.

HealthGrades™, the nation's leading independent reviewer of healthcare quality, has announced results of its 2007 analysis of cardiac services from the country's leading hospitals. HealthGrades recognized The DeBakey Heart Institute at Hays Medical Center for outstanding cardiac outcomes, both in-hospital and after the patient was discharged:

- ★ Top 10% Nationwide for Coronary Interventional Services
- ★ Top 10 Hospitals in Kansas for Heart Surgery

- ★ Among Best in Kansas for Overall Cardiac Services, Cardiology Services and Coronary Interventional Procedures
- ★ 5-Star Rated for Treatment of Heart Attack
- ★ 5-Star Rated for Coronary Interventional Procedures
- ★ 5-Star Rated for Treatment of Heart Failure

The cardiac team at DeBakey Heart Institute continues the tradition of excellence for which the program was named. This cardiac team, coupled with DeBakey Heart Institute's state-of-the-art facility, means world-class cardiac care is available right here in Western Kansas.



L-R - Susie Pfannenstiel, ARNP • Nicole Spray, ARNP • Nancy George, PA-C • Dr. Jeffery Curtis, Interventional Cardiologist
 Dr. Gary Benton, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeon • Dr. Christine Fisher, Interventional Cardiologist
 Mary Jo Gubitoso, ARNP • Lesa Klozenbucher, ARNP



Bickle Pavilion
 2214 Canterbury Drive - Hays
 Toll Free - 888-625-4699
 www.haysmed.com

