

Amateur radio operators plan emergency drill in Colby on Saturday

Members of the area's Trojan Amateur Radio Club will be participating in the annual Field Day Emergency Preparedness exercise starting at 1 p.m., Saturday, June 22.

The event runs 24 hours and local hams will set up Friday at the Colby municipal airport, said Bruce Frahm, president and board member of the National Association for Amateur Radio today.

"This year special attention is naturally drawn to preparing for disasters other than the natural events such as tornadoes that we normally think of around here," Frahm said.

"Our association," he said, "headquartered in Connecticut, just received a pilot grant from United Technologies Corporation to significantly enhance emergency service capabilities in the State of Connecticut."

The two organizations, he said, hope that the work done with the corporation's donation can serve as a model for other states.

Mike Albers, who is Thomas County's Amateur Radio Emergency Coordinator, also said that at the same time the grant is assisting in bettering emergency capabilities, the local organization needs to remain ready for dis-

sasters such as what happened in Hoisington a year ago.

Some of the ways amateur hams stay ready is in weather spotting, conducted regularly by area hams for the National Weather Service in Goodland, and drills and training beyond the annual Field Day. These events are coordinated by Albers.

"We'd like to visit with anyone wanting to get into amateur radio and especially those interested in emergency communications," he said. "The entry level amateur radio license no longer requires Morse Code," he said. Jeff Scholtz, Colby ham operator is

the local program director and said he enjoys international radio contacts.

"Field Day has always recognized any long-distance contacts, but the results have been compiled only for U.S. and Canadian radio clubs and individuals," Scholtz said. "This year for the first time all participants in the Americas will have their results compiled. It should bring out some extra activity by our South and Central American friends and make things even more interesting."

The public is invited to drop by the airport to witness the action with part of the bonus point program in the Field

Day rules involving publicity and giving public access to the event.

"We'd like to have people come out and learn more about this interesting hobby and service," said Gregg Lindberg, vice-president of the Trojan Amateur Radio Club.

Another club member, Allen Neal, Hoxie, said there will be printed information available at the event and members are looking forward to showing people around.

"It's good training and learning, but a big part of the weekend is spending time with friends in a campout environment," Neal said.

Now more than ever and following the events on and subsequent to Sept. 11, of licensed amateur radio operators in providing logistics communications in the field were used extensively, Frahm said. Services were provided to Red Cross, Salvation Army and local law enforcement authorities, among others. "Hams" were deployed for days at the Pentagon and for weeks at the World Trade Center area. For those wanting more information about ham radio, contact the National Association for Amateur Radio at <http://www.arl.org> or call Frahm at 462-7388.

Colby student gets Fulbright grant to Belgium

MANHATTAN — Brian Barnett, a May 2002 summa cum laude graduate of Kansas State University, has received a Fulbright grant to teach in Belgium during the 2002-03 school year.

Barnett earned bachelor's degrees in French and Spanish from K-State.

Barnett, Colby, will teach English to French-speaking students at a university in Belgium.

"I thought it would be a good opportunity to teach my native language, English, to people who speak French, a language I want to teach," Barnett said.

"I'll be teaching a variety of classes, including composition, conversation and language labs."

Barnett will head to Indiana University for a teaching assistantship when he returns to the United States from Belgium.

The son of Charles and Rylinda

Barnett, Colby, Brian is a 1998 graduate of Colby High School.

He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the national honors organization; Sigma Delta Pi, the Spanish honorary; and Pi Delta Phi, the French honorary. Barnett also was an honor's list student while at K-State.

Student News

Dustin Tasha

Farm Credit of Western Kansas has awarded its \$500 annual scholarship to Dustin Tasha, Oakley, which is renewable for four years.



D. Tasha

Carl Ziegelmeier, chairman of the board, said the Oakley High School senior plans to attend Fort Hays State University and obtain a masters degree in biology.

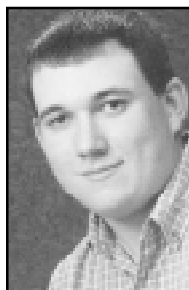
"Dustin has been active in school activities as well as working summers for a farm service business as well as helping with the family farm in Decatur County.

"He is a National Honor Society president, and received the Citizenship Award and has participated in sports, singers and Christian Youth Group during high school," he said.

The scholarship is given to support the agricultural community of north-west Kansas and awarded to a high school senior whose parents are members of Farm Credit of Western Kansas. Dustin is the son of Roger and Peggy Tasha, Oakley.

Steven Bremenkamp

Steven Bremenkamp, of Colby and a member of the Colby FFA Chapter, was recently presented the chapter's highest honor, the DeKalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award.



Bremenkamp

The recognition is sponsored annually by Monsanto Company.

Bremenkamp, the son of Mike and Elaine Bremenkamp, received the award for his excellence in academics, leadership and supervised agricultural experience program.

The program, said officials, is a work-based learning program where a student applies the concepts learned in the agricultural classroom.

Bremenkamp's program consisted of diversified crop production and ag mechanics repair and maintenance, officials said.

Over the past 55 years, more than 150,000 high school seniors from across the country have received this honor and Bremenkamp's achievement will be recorded on a permanent plaque at Colby High School.

Duffey assigned to Kansas Highway Patrol, officials say

Jason L. Duffey has been assigned as a trooper for the Kansas Highway Patrol in Thomas County, said Don Brownlee, superintendent of the patrol.



J. Duffey

Duffey received the assignment following his recent completion of an extensive 20-week basic law enforcement course at the Patrol's Training Academy in Salina, Brownlee said earlier this week.

Duffey is a graduate of Colby High

School and prior to joining the Patrol, he worked as a salesman for Colby Automotive.

Duffey has begun his field duties under the supervision of John McMahon, another trooper with the patrol. Upon completion of field training, he will assume patrol duties in Thomas County.

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