



College grads, audience to hear senator's message

Colby Community College will celebrate its 39th annual commencement on Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Colby Community Building.

Degrees and certificates will be conferred by Dr. Mikel Ary, president. Also on the commencement program will be the conferring of honorary associate degrees to Sheila and Kenton Krehbiel, presentations of the Mosier Award to the year's outstanding graduate, and the Tangeman Award to the institution's distinguished teacher for 2004.

Delivering the commencement address will be Sen. Stephen Morris of Hugoton who is in his third legislative term, having been elected to the office of Senator from the 39th District in 1992.

Morris currently serves as chair-



Sen. Morris

man of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, is a member of the Agriculture Committee, chairs the Joint Committee on State Building Construction and Legislative Budget Committee. His legislative commitments have included energy and natural resources, utilities committee, many subcommittees, oversight and special committees.

Representing the Kansas Senate, Morris is serving and has served on various national councils and task forces, most recently chairing the Council of State Government's Agricultural Task Force.

He is a member of the National Conference of State Legislatures Agriculture and Rural Development Committee and Rural Policy Task Force Steering Committee.

Active in Stevens County and Kansas Republican activities, Morris was Republican County Chairman from 1982-1992, served as county chairman for Nancy Landon Kassebaum-Baker, Bush-Quayle and Bush-Cheney, and was a delegate or alternate to state and district conventions.

A graduate of Hugoton High School and Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in agriculture economics, Morris also is a graduate of the Air Force undergraduate pilot training. He served as an active duty pilot in the Air Force, earning U.S. Air Force air medals for combat missions flown in Vietnam. An Air Force Reservist (retired), Morris also was liaison officer for the Air Force Academy.

He holds numerous civic and professional awards and memberships, among them the Kansas Farm Bureau, Gamma Sigma Delta Agriculture Honorary Fraternity, the National Grain Sorghum Growers Association, Kansas Association of Wheat Growers, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. He was named Outstanding Public Official for 2002 by the Community Mental Health Association of Kansas.

Morris and his wife Barbara have three adult daughters and seven grandchildren. He has a farming operation at Hugoton consisting of wheat and grain sorghum.



Jolene Miller tutors Yurie Fujisawa (Japan) in the Comprehensive Learning Center at Colby Community College.

Accident changes student's life

A car accident four years ago changed Jolene Mitchell's life in many ways. Her stepfather was killed in the accident and Jolene's injuries were so severe that she was in the hospital for several months. As a result, she was not able to return to her job as a Certified Nurses' Aide and housekeeper.

"My insurance company provided funds for me to return to school for one year," said Mitchell. "I basically freaked-out at the thought of returning to school. I didn't think that I could do it, but went ahead and enrolled at Colby Community College."

Mitchell enrolled in January

2001 in the one-year office technology program taught by business instructor Sue Ann Miller. "Sue Ann and Diane Frazier kept me going," said Mitchell. "I found out I enjoyed learning and decided to continue on after the one-year period."

Mitchell hopes to receive her associate's degree from Colby College in December 2004.

plans to transfer to Fort Hays State University to pursue a degree in accounting.

"I like my classes," said Mitchell. "In fact, I wish I had the time to enroll in more courses that aren't in my major. I just think they sound interesting."

Mitchell hopes to remain in Colby after graduation and take courses from the university at Hays via ITV, on the Internet and videotape.

"I'm comfortable here in Colby," said Mitchell. "There are some really good people and I'm working now as the ITV monitor for courses that are delivered to Colby College."

In addition to her ITV job, Mitchell is a tutor in the college's Comprehensive Learning Center and Student Support Services.

The Hill City native has three adult children and seven grandchildren.

Phi Theta Kappa taps 54 students for induction into its Colby chapter

Fifty-four Colby Community College students were recently selected for induction into Phi Theta Kappa honorary scholastic fraternity.

Phi Theta Kappa is the official honorary scholastic organization for America's two-year colleges. Membership is extended by invitation.

To be considered, the candidate must be a full-time student, have a 3.5 or higher grade point average, have established academic excellence as judged by the faculty, be of good moral character and possess recognized qualities of leadership.

Students selected for the Colby chapter include:

Laurel Balluch (Quinter), Amber Baxter (Goodland), Chauncey Baxter (Stockton), Kelli Berg (Lo-

gan), Andrew Bird (Selden), Lacey Clinesmith (Rolla), Stacey DeGeorge (Goodland), Tasha Diederich (Colby), Jessica Finch (Colby), Amy Fink (Bladen, Neb.), Alan Foster (Hill City), Angela Gaede (Colby), Treasure Glad (Colby), Shondra Graham (Almena), Stephanie Grover (Morrowville), Jessica Halbleib (Oakley).

Christopher Halbleib (Oakley), Lacy Hargitt (Oberlin), Zella Harrington (Colby), Karen Higerd (Colby), Akira Itoh (Tokyo, Japan), Rachel Jones (Frankfort), Amy Knipp (Damar), Stephanie Koel (Colby), Bobbi Koerperich (Selden), Kerry Lewis (LaJunta, Colo.), Zach Luedke (Colby), Crystal Lutz (Phillipsburg), Dawn McAmoil (Penokee).

Kobey McCall (Aurora, Colo.), Tanner McClure (Colby), Sara McDonald (WaKeeney), Katherine Mills (Brewster), Elizabeth Moss (Glasco), Jared Myers (Arapahoe, Colo.), Michael Neuberg (Littleton, Colo.), Darrel Pattillo (Colby), April Riedel (Gem), Deanna Schmidtberger (Colby), Jason Schwindt (Colby).

Tucker Sexson (Weskan), Sondra Smith (Goodland), Christi Somers (Brewster), Jessica Spoo (Frankfort), Bradley Stewart (Hoxie), Tucker Stover (Colby), Dallas Walz (St. Francis), John Weeks (Colby), Jennifer Wilson (Colby), Kayla Wilson (Colby), Brian Wochner (Lake Iatawina, Mo.), Matt Zerr (Grainfield), Lori Ziegelmeier (Gem) and Joy Zumbahlen (Bird City).

Random Reviews

Treat yourself to a Yancey book

Christian author Philip Yancey is one I turn to for reflection on my faith. Reading Yancey's books is no simple escape and not exactly what I call pleasure reading — reading in which I can get lost, like being immersed in a great movie.

Instead, he inspires my intellect, soul, and spirit. I've not yet read everything he's written, but what I've read has made a profound impact on me.

Twice in the past three years I have read *Disappointment With God*, a book that probes difficult and often unanswerable questions concerning suffering, injustice, and doubt. Yancey's theme that life is unfair but God is fair and inimitably good has reminded me to cling to faith in difficult times. I have heard Christians say that God will not give you more than you can handle as a sort of spiritual mantra



Janis Schulte

guaranteed to protect them personally from suffering while explaining away your trials. Yancey refuses such platitudes and acknowledges that Christians and non-Christians alike will inevitably find themselves in situations that will not yield happy endings — on this earth at least. Yet he offers the hope and comfort of a God who loves us even when we do not understand him or when we face his silence.

Another book of Yancey's, *Soul Survivor: How Thirteen Unlikely Mentors Helped My Faith Survive the Church*, candidly shares his experiences in a rigidly legalistic Christian upbringing which propelled him into atheism. As a college student, he regained his faith, and in this book he makes a convincing case for faith in Christ by sharing brief biographical sketches of the thirteen men and women who have changed his life — and who, by the way, were not a part of his upbringing. Both remarkable and most helpful to me is that he does not commit the common error of making these mentors into sinless saints. Instead, he eloquently explains their impact on him while

also freely admitting their foibles and major character flaws. The message that God uses flawed human beings to accomplish great things is humbling and provocative.

Finally, the book I most recently read, *Rumors of Another World: What On Earth Are We Missing?*, is directed to readers who find themselves "on the borderlands of belief." It is Yancey's apologetic for embracing the Christian faith's tenet of a spiritual life beyond the earthly one.

There have been times in my life when the borderland has been more like an invisible cliff line that I must walk like a tightrope. Again, a Yancey book has helped me regain my balance.

If you wish to explore difficult issues of the Christian faith while maintaining intellectual and spiritual integrity in the process, pick up a Philip Yancey book. It won't be an easy read, and it won't offer any simplistic (and unrealistic) solutions, but it will be worth the time you spend.

Janis Schulte is an English instructor at Colby College.



Business department chair Bob Selby assists Kari Taul (Trenton, Neb.) on her bookmark for the Self-Study Report.

Students get involved in the project

The reaccreditation process at Colby Community College started over two years ago with representatives from the community, Board of Trustees, administrators, and college faculty and staff contributing to an institutional Self-Study Report. Students also served on study committees and are now contributing in a very tangible manner.

Students enrolled in the Desktop Publishing class were divided into groups and directed to create a table

tent to be placed in the Student Union, a bookmark to be given to all students during final enrollment in August and an informational poster.

The table tents and bookmarks will include college factoids derived from the Self-Study Report. The posters will be displayed as a reminder of the visit which is scheduled for Sept. 20-22.

"This assignment by Sue Ann Miller for her Desktop Publishing class is a good example of the wide-

spread campus involvement in the self-study process," said department chair Bob Selby. "The students gain practical hands-on experience plus it's a very creative method for us to promote the visit by the Higher Learning Commission."

In addition to the 250-page Self-Study Report, a team of educators will be visiting the campus to conduct personal interviews and review additional documents.

Trip to Colorado pays off well for Colby College's horse show team

The Colby Community College horse show team captured third place honors at the Zone 7, Region I Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Western Regionals recently at Colorado State University, Fort Collins.

The team, under the direction of first-year coach Dr. Kelly Riccitelli, finished behind New Mexico State University and Colorado State. In addition, Colby was the Reserve

High Point Team at two shows during the 2003-04 season.

"This is a great accomplishment for a two-year school since most of the point riders for the four-year schools are juniors and seniors who have been in the IHSA program for three or four years," said Riccitelli. "The majority of the Colby College team members are freshmen this year, so I am very excited about next year's team prospects."

Colby sophomore Shanda Draper finished 4th in the Western Advanced Division. Crystal Stilwell, White City, competed in the Intermediate II Division of the competition. Andi Dosek, Oceanside, Calif., qualified to compete in the Hunt Seat Division. The three riders accumulated more than 35 points in order to qualify for the regional competition.

Several Colby riders were recog-

nized for academic achievement at the award ceremony. Gold Award recipients were Draper, Cassie Peters (Peck) and Brandi Salestrom (Tekamah, Neb.).

Silver Awards were presented to Nick Allen (Afton, Iowa), Wendy Brown (Medicine Lodge), Jami Shaw (Selden) and Beth Zillinger (Logan).

Bronze award winners were Laura Benner (Manhattan), Amy

Rice (St. Francis), Kealan Schroeder (Tipton) and Stilwell.

Other team members include Dana Baker (Lancaster), Crystal Buck (Brooksville, Fla.), Jayde Compton (Columbus, Neb.), Cassie Curl (Colby), Brady Goodwin (Merino, Colo.), Scott Harman (Norcatour), Rebecca Phipps (Merriam), Olivia Pittier (Lawrence), Jodi Waller (Broken Bow, Neb.), Meleah Westbrook

(Belle Plain) and Kayla Williams (Goodland).

Good luck, Colby College graduates!