



COLBY
FREE PRESS

8 pages

Three dead in collision on Interstate

By GREG STOVER

The Goodland Star-News
GOODLAND — Three members of the same Goodland family were killed in a two-car accident Friday afternoon on I-70 about six miles east of the Edson exit.

The victims were Mary Wyant, 55; her mother Aline Becker, 85; and her daughter Christine Williams, 35, all of Goodland. Wyant was pronounced dead at the scene. Becker and Williams were taken to Goodland Regional Medical Center.

Funeral arrangements for all three are being made through Koons Funeral Home. A vigil and rosary will be held Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Injured in the accident were Williams' daughter Caylee, 5, and son Garrett, 8. Both were taken to the medical center, and Caylee was later flown to Denver Children's Hospital. She was in good condition as of this morning said Rachel Robinson, public relations spokesperson for the hospital.

All passengers in the van were wearing seatbelts, according to the report by the Kansas Highway Pa-

trol.

The accident occurred about 4:30 p.m. in the westbound lane of I-70 said State Trooper Troy Smith. A 1998 silver Honda Accord driven by Jennifer Adams, 28, Edgewater, Colo., passed a semi-trailer then cut back in front of it when her car struck the 1994 white Ford Explorer driven by Wyant. The impact sent the van into the north ditch, where it rolled several times, ejecting at least one person.

The van came to rest about 20 yards from the roadway on its driver's side, trapping Christine Williams in the back seat. The Honda came to rest in the median.

Adams was not seriously injured. Originally charged with driving under the influence, Sheriff Doug Whitson said Adams was charged Sunday with three counts of second-degree murder and is being held in the Bastille.

Wyant was a paraprofessional at West Elementary School. Becker was a retired upholsterer and home-maker.

Williams was a science teacher at Goodland High School from which she graduated in 1986.



PATTY DECKER AND TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Jerry Stegeman and his Labrador retriever, Bernie, of Ruston, La. looked at a 1946 Ferguson tractor owned by Rex Shaw of

Selden. Stegeman came to Colby for Prairie Heritage Daze and an auction. Shaw said he bought his tractor in Canada a year ago.

Extension submits budget request

By TISHA COX

Colby Free Press

The Thomas County Commissioners heard a budget request from Dan O'Brien of the Northwest Research-Extension Center at their meeting this morning.

O'Brien submitted a proposal requesting \$109,000 for the extension station.

"We are fulfilling our obligation

to you," he said, adding he was getting the request in early.

Last year, the extension farm received \$105,000 from the county.

O'Brien said this year Kansas State University is giving them three percent more money than last, an order that came down from Gov. Kathleen Sebelius.

"We're getting some help from K-State," he said.

O'Brien said the county's extension office is getting by with one agent right now but they might be able to hire extra help in a few months when he finds out what K-State's budget will be.

"I'm glad to see K-State is giving a little more money," said commissioner Ron Evans. "This is encouraging in that respect."

Commissioner Glen Kersenbrock said the budget request was "reasonable" and the county's extension resources are doing a good job.

O'Brien said some costs have gone up, like the contribution to employee insurance and they've had to deal with increasing gasoline prices but he said that was to be expected.

The commissioners also asked ag extension agent Joe Leibbrandt how fair preparations are coming along.

"Everything's in good shape," he said, adding he has some summer help and that is an asset.



Left to right: Mary Bear and Rose Bear of Benkelman, Neb. and Dorothy Bear of Brewster looked at a 1929 Ford bus at the annual Colby Rod Run Saturday. They've been coming to the event for three or four years.



Reenactors Richard Johnson and Fred Krebs recreated the Lincoln-Douglas debate during a performance under the tent at the Prairie Museum of Art and History Saturday during Kansas Chautauqua.

Weekend events draw hundreds

By TISHA COX

Colby Free Press

Events over the weekend offered Colby and area residents plenty of opportunity to get out and enjoy the community. The annual Rod Run, Prairie Heritage Daze and the Chautauqua were all held over the weekend.

Bev Biel with the Colby Chamber of Commerce said the events in Fike Park Saturday were a success, including the Rod Run, which brought in classic car aficionados from Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska.

"It went very well," she said. "We had 160 cars that registered."

While that number was down

from the year before, Biel said their was an upside.

"We had excellent quality of cars this year," she said. "It made a difference."

Awards were given in several categories, including the top winner in the special interest class which was a motorized bar stool and also in the under 21 class, a pickup belonging to Dusty Chisholm, who wasn't able to attend because he's serving with the military in Iraq.

Biel said his parents brought the truck for him.

She said everyone from locals to the rodders enjoyed the weekend, and the Heritage Daze activities in the park helped enhance the experience, including the use of air rides

by the Thomas County Amusement Association.

Biel thanked the Rod Run committee, sponsors and individuals who made the weekend a success.

The Chautauqua, "Bleeding Kansas: Where the Civil War Began," also drew large crowds. Leilani Thomas, director of the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau, said more than 250 people came to the tent show Saturday night which featured a recreation of the Lincoln-Douglas debate.

"It's going very, very well," she said. "We're pleased with how it's going." The workshops, breakfasts and Kid-Tauqua events are also pulling in people.

Thomas said the adult workshops

are averaging around 30 people at each event and 11 kids were registered for the day camp.

"Everything is being taken advantage of and that's what we want," she said.

Thomas said Tuesday, kids from the youth camp will give their own reenactments with characters such as J.R. Colby and William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody starting at 5:30 p.m. on the main stage under the tent at the Prairie Museum of Art and History. The week-long Chautauqua will end with a performance on John Brown at 7:30 p.m.

"If they haven't come to anything else, that's the one they want to see," she said.

Briefly

Chautauqua events continue

Chautauqua activities continue on Tuesday, the last day of the event. Breakfast with Atchison and Brown will take place at 7:30 a.m. at Starbucks in the Oasis Travel Center.

A Kids and Kaboodle program at 9 a.m. at the museum will be on "Following the Gourd" for kids in grades one through four. At 10 a.m. a program will be offered on "Sound on the Goose" with David Dickerson in the Fireside Lounge at Colby Community College. A children's workshop on Abraham Lincoln is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Pioneer Memorial Library.

Youth Chautauqua Camp, day 5, will feature Ride Into History from 2-5 p.m. Evening entertainment kicks off at 5 p.m. at the Kid-Tauqua Tent. At 5:30 p.m., students from the youth camp will do presentations on historical figures.

The Sweet Adelines chorus will perform at 7 p.m. and the tent program starting at 7:30 p.m. will feature John Brown. Chautauqua activities continue on Monday and Tuesday. On Monday, Breakfast with Lincoln and Douglas at 7:30 a.m. at

Starbucks in the Oasis Travel Center. A storyteller for kids in grades one through four will be at the Prairie Museum of Art and History at 9 a.m. Library lunch with John Brown and his judges will be at 11:30 a.m. at the Pioneer Memorial Library. A program on the underground railroad in Kansas is at 1 p.m. at the museum. "Abolitionist Rhetoric in Pre-Civil War Kansas" will be at 3 p.m. at the Fick Fossil Museum in Oakley. Evening entertainment starts at 5 p.m. at the Kid-Tauqua tent at the Prairie Museum of Art and history. The tent show starts at 7 p.m. with entertainment by the McLemore Family and at 7:30 p.m., David Atchison will take the stage. On Tuesday, June 15 Breakfast with Atchison and Brown will take place at 7:30 a.m. at Starbucks in the Oasis Travel Center. A Kids and Kaboodle program at 9 a.m. at the museum will be on "Following the Gourd" for kids in grades one through four. At 10 a.m. a program will be offered on "Sound on the Goose" with David Dickerson in the Fireside Lounge at Colby Community College. A children's workshop on Abraham Lincoln is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Pioneer Memorial Library. Youth Chautauqua Camp, day 5, will

feature Ride Into History from 2-5 p.m. Evening entertainment kicks off at 5 p.m. at the Kid-Tauqua Tent. At 5:30 p.m., students from the youth camp will do presentations on historical figures. The Sweet Adelines chorus will perform at 7 p.m. and the tent program starting at 7:30 p.m. will feature John Brown.

Wheat harvest office open

The Colby wheat harvest office is open for the 2004 season. Roger Hale, who runs the office, said they are at a new location and have a new phone number this year. The office is at the east end of the Oasis Travel Center this year. For information, call the new number at 460-0800.

City council meets Tuesday

The Colby City Council will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers of City Hall. Items on the agenda include awarding bids on a mower; authorizing bids for a sewer department pickup and other resolutions. For questions on an agenda, call 462-4410.



Little change

Colby-Oakley-Hoxie

Tonight...Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s. South winds 10 to 20 mph.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 90s. South winds 10 to 20 mph.

Tuesday night...Mostly cloudy with thunderstorms likely. Lows in the upper 50s. East winds 5 to 15 mph shifting to the northeast 10 to 15 mph after midnight.

Wednesday...Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Cooler with highs in the lower 70s. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the evening. Lows in the lower 50s.

The numbers

Sunday's high, 93

Low this morning, 61

Records for June 14 103 in 1952 and 40 in 1969

Year ago today, 79 and 52

Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00

June total, 0.68

Soil temperature, 80

Water use

•The water production for weekend not available.

Water advisories

•Water Watch is 3.5 million gallons for 3 consecutive days.

•Water Warning is 4.0 million gallons for 3 consecutive days.

•Water Emergency is 4.5 million gallons for 3 consecutive days.

