

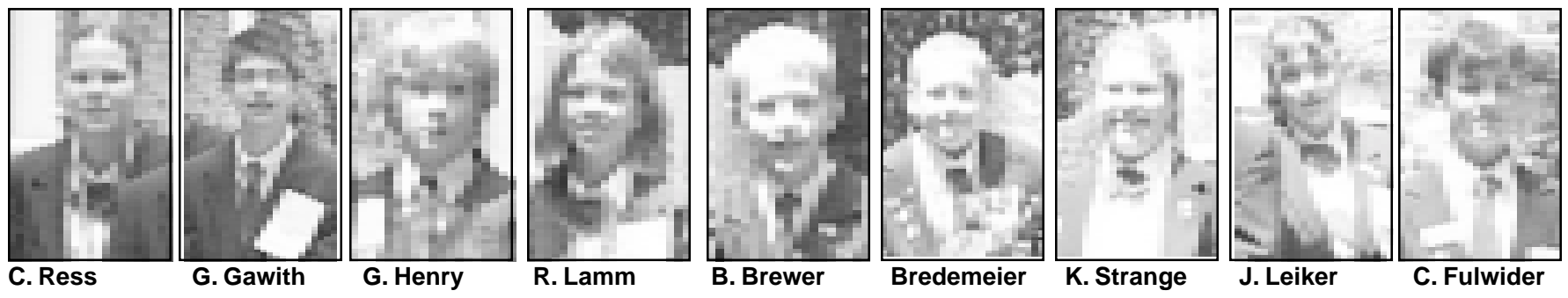
Colby technology students take 10th place in nation

Nine Colby Middle School Technology Student Association members and two advisors participated along with more than 4,000 other youth members in the 26th National Technology Student Association Conference, which took place recently in Nashville, Tenn.

The students attending were Gray Henry, Seth Bredemeier, Gunner Gawith, Bryan Brewer, Courtney Ress, Katie Strange, Rachel Lamm, Jessica Leiker and Curtis Fulwider, said Lamaoreaux Fulwider, former Colby Middle School advisor.

The purpose of the national competition is to bring middle and high school students from across the nation together in a competitive and professional spirit, Fulwider said. "Besides the actual competitions that the members have prepared for, they also attended four general assemblies where the business of the organization is conducted and the election of national officers for 2005 was completed," she said.

"With this year's theme, *TSA, Visualizing The Next 25 Years Of Excellence*, the national conference unveiled student winners of such competitions as Jaguar F1 Team in



C. Ress G. Gawith G. Henry R. Lamm B. Brewer Bredemeier K. Strange J. Leiker C. Fulwider

Schools, cyberspace pursuit, imaging technology, engineering design, video production, prepared speech and dozens of other tech events," she said

The Colby Middle School Chapter Officer Team consisted of: Bryan Brewer, president, Courtney Ress, vice President, Katie Strange, treasurer, Rachel Lamm, secretary, Jessica Leiker, reporter, and Curtis Fulwider, sergeant at arms placed tenth in the nation.

"This challenge consists of a parliamentary procedure written exam and the performance of the opening and closing of a TSA meeting," she said.

The Chapter Team Officers spent hours learning and applying parlia-

mentary procedure during chapter meetings, testing and retesting in preparation for this competition.

The video production team consisting of Leiker, Bredemeier and Curtis Fulwider placed ninth in the nation.

"This is one of the most popular challenges at the middle school level and there are literally 100's of entries," she said.

"This team spent many hours during this last year creating a storyboard, filming video footage, editing it, and preparing it for final production. I am very, very proud of all of our middle school TSA members."

She said those three finalists all received finalists pins that they can

wear on their TSA blazers.

TSA's annual event also featured the first-ever American Cancer Society Relay Rally conducted at a student conference.

"TSA members know they are creating hope for others and their involvement does make a difference," said Mary Jo Patterson, the association's rally coordinator and leadership.

In addition, The Colby TSA Chapters will be participating in the local Cancer Relay Rally this Friday.

Among the many speakers during the conference, the keynote speaker, Dr. H. Lee Martin, spoke about "technopreneurialship", when technology is combined with

economics, Fulwider said. He underscored the importance of pursuing a career in technology since that should be the logical field of choice in the future for TSA members.

Dr. Rosanne T. White, National TSAs executive director said, "Preparing today's students to be qualified for tomorrow's global, technologically advanced workforce is our 12-month commitment every year, and our efforts were clearly reflected in the success of our 2004 conference."

Fulwider explained that the Technology Student Association (TSA) is a 200,000-member organization. Nearly 2,500 TSA technology teachers conduct TSA chapter programs in 47 states.

logical literacy and leadership. Students learn problem-solving, decision-making, and critical thinking skills as

they relate to communications, power, energy, transportation, engineering, manufacturing, construction and biotechnology," she said.

TSA is a non-profit education association with its national office based at 1914 Association Drive, Reston, VA 20191. Call 703/860-9000.

Reach TSA on the web @http://www.tsaweb.org www.tsaweb.org

Parent advisor Martha Brewer and Middle School advisor Paige Gawith also attended the conference, accompanying the students.

The advisors and students expressed their appreciation to the administration, school board and parents for supporting their attendance at the conference, Fulwider said.

'Focus' is major factor in school improvement

TOPEKA (AP) — Good news: Most Kansas schools are making progress toward state and national goals for student achievement.

Even more good news: Despite several years of budget cuts, school districts are becoming leaner and more focused.

Kansas has a tradition of strong academic performance and high standards, while being fiscally frugal. But the fact that fewer school districts and schools appeared on a preliminary list of those failing to reach yearly targets suggests most schools are adept at doing more with less.

As the Aug. 30 hearing over a challenge to the state's school finance formula nears, that raises the question of which is more important: funds or focus.

A key Kansas education official believes the gains the state is seeing are the results of changes in 2000 designed to ensure that teachers cover material in the classroom that will appear on state tests.

Since then, districts have been forced to make significant cuts in spending following four years of tight state budgets and rising costs for items such as utilities and insurance.

"If you look at the areas that the districts are cutting to keep their teaching staff, they are cutting preschool, after-school programs — the additional time," said Alexa Pochowski, assistant education commissioner for learning services.

She said the gains will level off in coming years as the effects of program cuts emerge.

"There is a relentless focus," Pochowski said. "What they are doing now does not require a great deal of resources."

States have improved achievement by aligning curriculum with the standards by which students are

measured. While that takes time and money, it doesn't take a huge infusion of dollars.

"Just adding money will not solve that problem. We have to think about allocating resources better," Ron Wiener, policy director for the Education Trust in Washington, D.C.

Mississippi Superintendent of Education Henry Johnson believes there is a school funding level below which more harm than good occurs. But the bottom line people look at should be student data, he

See "FOCUS," page 5



American Profile

Celebrating Hometown Life
(available in trade area only)

See American Profile Magazine in today's issue of the




Brought to you by the Free Press and: **FIRST NATIONAL BANK**

1195 S. Range Colby, KS 462-6999 462-2000

"Neighbors helping neighbors"

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

To have your ad placed in the Business Directory, call Crystal or Jeremy at 462-3963.

Advanced Technology Auto Glass

"The Difference is Clear"

Rory Henry • 785-460-7773



1114 Main, Gem (785) 462-3501

Chuck Saddler Tracey Galli

• Tree Removal & Trimming • Full Insured • Careful & Prompt Service • Late Model Bucket Truck • Free Estimates!

Jeffrey M. Rayl, D.D.S.
1690 W. 4th • 460-3999 or toll free 1-866-305-3999

OFFERING THE FOLLOWING PATIENT DENTAL SERVICES:

- Complete endodontic services (root canal) molar and anterior teeth
- Laser peridental (gum disease) therapy
- I.V. Sedation for all dental procedures including surgical removal of wisdom teeth
- Esthetic crown and bridge restorations; all ceramic (no metal)
- TMJ/TMD diagnosis and rehabilitation
- General dental procedures: cleanings, tooth colored fillings, partial dentures, biologic dentures
- Comprehensive bite analysis
- Extensive cosmetic procedures and restoration
- Dental Implants: surgical placement and restoration



Hazel R. Estes
Agent

You're Never Alone

Long Term Care, Life, Auto, Homeowners, Farm Package

280 N. Franklin, Colby, Office: 785-462-6708, Cell: 785-821-2492

ROUND TRIP TRAVEL

BRANSON CHRISTMAS TOUR
Nov. 28 - Dec. 3 - Call for brochure

140 W. 4th Colby, KS 67701 1-888-690-7077 462-6999 FAX: 462-3824

•• VACATION SPECIALS ••

LAS VEGAS - Air & hotel	From (per adult) \$250	No. of nights 4	WORLDWIDE: Vacation Packages, Cruises, Tours, Groups, Flights, Hotels, Trains, Cars
DISNEY WORLD - Hotel, air, park passes	\$505	3	
MEXICO - Air & hotel	\$450	3	
CARIBBEAN CRUISE & AIR	\$1,050	5	
ALASKAN CRUISE & AIR	\$1,500	7	
HAWAII - Air & hotel	\$740	3	
LONDON, ENGLAND - Air & hotel	\$700	3	
AMTRAK EXPLORE AMERICA	\$359	Max. 45	
ALL SPECIALS MAY BE FOR SPECIFIC DATES AND ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. CALL IN OR FAX YOUR INTERNET QUOTES AND OTHER ADS! WE CAN BOOK THEM FOR YOU WITH LOCAL, CARING SERVICE!!!			
Ask about AAA, AARP Senior & Companion, Corporate and Government discounts!			

Kitchens & Baths

CUSTOM CABINETS, GRANITE, SOLID SURFACE & FORMICA COUNTERTOPS

Certified Fabrication & Installation

See Our Samples At Inlow Interiors!
"Serving Colby and the Area Since 1984"

THE TOOL BOX

785-462-7843

Bill & Deb Mariman



THE DOG HOUSE

BOARDING

Phone (785) 460-0460
Cellular (785) 462-0663

1065 S. Country Club

Vinyl Graphics & Signs

- Truck Lettering
- Vinyl Decals
- Window Graphics
- Banners
- Pinstriping
- Store Front Signs
- Sandblasted Signs
- Backlit Awnings
- Tent Rentals
- Boat Tarps & Graphics

Business & Residential

COLBY CANVAS CO.
785-462-3981 graphics@st-tel.net

Where You Can Still Get A Full - Spine Adjustment for 1980's Fees!



Warta Chiropractic & Fitness Club

415 N. Franklin • 785-460-3350

Monday & Wednesday: 2:00p.m. - 7:00p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 10:00a.m. - 3:00p.m.

"Science & Nature Working Together For You."

Dr. A.J. Warta
BC/BS CAP Provider
25 years of experience as a licensed chiropractor

STEPHEN R. ALLEN
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

is a CPA firm providing tax preparation services, bookkeeping, tax planning, financial statement preparation and consulting. Steve brings over twenty five years of public accounting experience to the community. For professional and confidential services, contact Steve at 785-460-0444.

390 N. Franklin Ave

ROOFMASTERS

Your Local Roofing Contractor
425 East Hill, Colby, KS
Licensed - Bonded - Insured

RESIDENTIAL	1-800-536-6642	COMMERCIAL
Tamko Shingles	1-785-462-6642	Rubber Single Ply
GAF Shingles		White TPO Single Ply
Wood Shingles		Built Up Systems
Metal Roofs		Modified Systems

FREE ESTIMATES

Elastomeric Rubber Coating For Metal Roofs

FINALLY!

Health Insurance for Individuals, Families and the Self-Employed at AFFORDABLE Rates.

Insurance is Underwritten by The MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company

800-783-9417


New System Professional Window Cleaning

650 N. Grant • Colby, KS 67701 Commercial • Residential
Call for your FREE estimate: 785-462-6995 - 800-611-6735

Serving hundreds of satisfied customers for over 10 years. Since 1994.

BIG THANK YOU TO OUR CUSTOMERS!!
SERVING NW KANSAS & EASTERN COLORADO!
Chris & Beth Lewon ~ "We do windows!"

Get On-Line for Value!



nwkansas.com

Call 462-3963 or stop by 155 W. 5th St.