

Kansas history featured later this month on PBS

BUNKER HILL—"Touched by Fire, Bleeding Kansas," a story about territorial Kansas and its two belief systems — freedom and slavery, will be broadcast on Smoky Hills Public Television at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 21.

In a special joint effort, the program also will air the same date and time on Kansas' two other public television stations, KTWU, Topeka, and KPTS, Wichita, and the Kansas City, Mo., PBS station, KCPT, said Miranda Walker, marketing and communications.

The film features more than 100 historical photographs, reenactments, interviews with noted historians and period music to tell the tumultuous story of Kansas' birth, she said.

Filmed on location at sites throughout the state, the project is

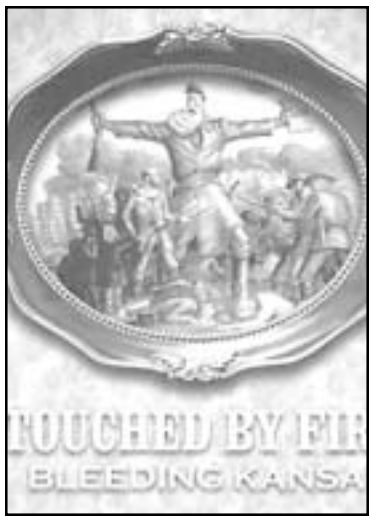
a collaboration between Lone Chimney Productions and Soul Searcher Films, said Jane Habiger, Smoky Hills Public Television.

The film premiered on Sunday, April 9 at the historic Brown Grand Theatre in Concordia and was shown at the historic Fox Theatre in Hutchinson in April and Wichita's historic Orpheum Theatre in June.

The U.S. Congress established Kansas Territory in 1854.

When the territory was opened to settlement in the spring of that year, the country stood back and watched as brave men, women and children immigrated to its vast plains to make a new life for themselves — and in the process make history.

Many people who settled in Kansas had strong opinions about slavery. Some supported the use of slaves in the new territory, Walker



said, and others opposed the idea.

"Some were abolitionists who wanted to end slavery wherever it existed," Walker said.

These differences of opinion led to heated debates and violent battles in the Kansas Territory.

In fact, the conflicts in Kansas and how they were reported in eastern newspapers contributed to the outbreak of the Civil War, Walker said.

College student takes ninth in nationals

Colby Community College student Rachel Jones, Frankfort, joined the ranks of an elite group with a ninth place finish in the accounting competition at the National Phi Beta Lambda Conference held recently in Orlando, Fla.

Jones was one of five Colby College students who attended the conference after qualifying at the state competition held during the spring semester.

Phi Beta Lambda is the largest professional business leadership organization for college students in the United States with over 12,000 members, said Bob Selby, co-sponsor. The competition included two- and four-year public and private colleges and universities representing 34 states.

Also competing for the Colby chapter were Jared Ehrke, Orleans, Neb., John Weeks, Junction City, Derick Lorentz, McCook, Neb., and Lauren Jameson, Longmont,

Colo. In addition to the competitive events, members attended national workshops on a variety of topics.

The group was accompanied by Selby, who in addition to being a co-sponsor is also a long-time accounting instructor and is chair of the Arts and Industry Division at Colby College. Sue Ann Miller, Office Technology Program director is the other co-sponsor.

Dean talks about new challenges

Following a decision by the Colby Community College Board of Trustees at a recent meeting, Kristen Bishop was selected as the dean of instruction at the college.

Bishop replaced Gracemary Melvin who recently retired from the college after serving as dean of instruction since 1991.

In order to introduce Bishop to the community, college officials offered some biographical information about the new dean.

Bishop has been teaching mathematics at the college since August 2002. She has also served as the chair of the Assessment Committee and as a member of the Developmental Education Committee.

Bishop was an instructor at Phillipsburg High School from 1992-1994 and at Norton High School from 1994-2002. She was also an outreach instructor for the college for many years.

"I've been an educator for over 13 years in a variety of settings with a strong background in educational and instructional technology, curriculum and instruction," said Bishop.

"Having taught at the college for many years as an outreach instructor and for three years as a full-time faculty member, I am familiar with the operations of the school. I believe I can bring a fresh perspective to many of the current and future challenges facing Colby Community College."

Bishop received her undergraduate



ate and graduate degrees from Fort Hays State University.

Prior to attending Fort Hays State University, she received her associate's degree from Colby College.

She is completing work on her doctoral degree in organizational leadership. She will earn her Doctor of Education degree this summer from Nova Southeastern University, North Miami Beach, Fla.

"My educational foundation was built at Colby College," said Bishop.

"I have strong ties to the college and believe I can best serve the school from a leadership position. I will work diligently to continue the tradition of excellence that Gracemary Melvin established."

Bishop was selected for the job following the completion of a comprehensive nationwide search. Many applicants were interviewed by a broad-based campus committee with representatives from many departments.

"In addition to her academic credentials what impressed the committee the most about Kristen was her energy and positive attitude," said committee member Rod Thomason. "We had a strong field of

impressive candidates and Kristen stood out as the best choice."

As dean of instruction, Bishop will chair the school's Academic Council, a coordinated body composed of Division Chairpersons.

"I have a great deal of respect for Kristen," said long-time Academic Council member and Director of Developmental Education Joyce Washburn.

"She will do very well in this position of leadership."

As one of the four deans at Colby College, Bishop will be responsible to President Dr. Mikel Ary.

"Several qualities recommend Kristen Bishop as the next dean of instruction at Colby Community College," said Dr. Ary.

"She will complete her doctorate this summer. Her dissertation topic dealt with assessment of students. In the current educational setting, assessment has become a critical topic."


"In addition, as an accomplished mathematician she is very adept in the field of statistics."

As in all industry and businesses, education continually evolves from one commitment to another. Kristin brings expertise to the Administrative Council that, I believe, will benefit the institution as a whole. All of us at the college look forward to working with her."

Kristen and her husband Derry live on a farm near Dresden.

She began her duties as dean of Instruction on July 1, 2005.

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Wheat test plot looks beyond too

By Tisha Cook

This year's harvest hasn't yet begun in this area, but farmers are already thinking ahead. Wheat producers found out what varieties they might want to plant next year during the annual wheat plot tour on Tuesday.

The tour took place at Mike Brown's farm south of Leavitt, sponsored by the Thomas County Extension Council.

Kansas State University extension wheat specialist Jim Shroyer and Northwest Kansas Chilled Extension Center multi-county agronomist Brian O'Brien were the guest speakers.

Thomas County's extension agent Doug Musick said the tour was better than last year but a little lower (attendance) than year's past.

He also explained why the tour is important.

"It can help producers stay on top of the new varieties," Musick said, "and to help them make better planting choices in September."

He said the newest varieties are available, but if producers wait it they'll need to make an early decision as early as July or August.

Harvest time is expected to start within the next few weeks and Musick said some farmers will probably

generally keep back seed from year to year to plant. This year is doing "OK," and he said some might want to keep back if it's shown a resistance to disease.

"Strip test has become a big thing," Musick said.

Both types affect the head of the plant, and can cause damage, he said. Damage, however, can affect photosynthesis, which in turn can reduce seed production. In some cases, severe damage can actually kill a plant.

Before going down to the test plots, Shroyer said he'll be able to run his become speaking.

He pointed out that some plots also known as yellowed to the rest of the world, is identified by yellow pustules that can be found on the underside of wheat leaves.

The disease "Stink," cool weather seed and was a problem until 2001. Occurrences were low and far between then and during a 50-year span, he said.

That, along with leaf rust, have become problems the past few years.

Shroyer said companies and universities talk about resistant varieties, but completely avoiding the diseases isn't possible.

"Resistance isn't foolproof," he said. "Resistance means it's tolerant to it."

What is these resistant Shroyer said more than a few years ago.

Out of it several varieties of wheat had been developed.

He said last year's wheat from Kansas probably had the wheat called "Puma," a "good" wheat he said during the tour was in the mountains.

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businesses recognized at program in C

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Commerce Secretary Howard Fricke

Fort Hays State University, were made.

In choosing Horlacher Jewelers, it was noted that the store has been in Colby since 1927 and the owners travel to Belgium yearly to select diamonds for their customers. In addition, the store was congratulated for its sponsorship of Gold and Silver Achievement Awards for the local 4-H group during the last 50 years. The store was also honored for its community efforts in supporting local women's bowling teams, after-prom parties and graduation projects. The other Colby business recognized, J & B Market, established in 2004 and nominated by the Thomas County Economic Development Alliance, received praise for its donation of hams to all the Christmas concerts held in the area and contributions it made to local schools, organizations and other events. The market has fresh-cut meats, cut to order and a small line of groceries. The store also provides a few tables for customers to enjoy a noon meal of soup and sandwiches from its daily menu, according to information provided on the nomination.

Other merit awards in this region included: Hoxie Office Supply, Plum Creek Limited, both of Hoxie; Hometown Market, Bird City; True Value Hardware, St. Francis; Graphic Central, Smith Center; B&B Jewelry and Gifts, Osborne; American and the Dole, Specter Conference Center, Russell; Carmichael True Value, Plainville; Harzles Hardware Store, Alton; Insurance Planning, Inc., Hays; Plains Mountain Truck and Equipment, Sharon Springs; Sawyer's Ace Hardware, Phillipsburg; Stockton Pharmacy, Stockton; Timeless Treasures, Downs.

Merit awards for service-type businesses included Howard Johnson Hotel-Lincoln L. in Goodland; Crossroads Express, Oberlin; Mapes and Miller Certified Public Accountant, Phillipsburg; Cheyenne County Hospital, Polling Chiropractic and Family Health Center and Zeno's, all in St. Francis; Shell other Hays; Regional as Coomes, Inc.; Ellis State Rural Tech/Rural Tech; Manufacture merit awards: Russell Agri; in Norton; Natoma Corp.; City, Osborne Construction, Inc., Phillipsburg.

Before the ceremony departed, Kristy Dugan, Kansas Commerce Secretary, said:

charges not new, Hildyard's attorney says

allegations of over-utilization based on averages of doctors who prescribe," he said.

"Dr. Hildyard is high, due primarily to his ability and ability to

O'Neil also addressed the rescheduling of his client's hearing, which was moved from February to June, now from June to October.

"Postponing the hearing was beyond our control," said Stacy Cook, attorney with the Kansas Board of Healing Arts in Topeka. "It was not

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