



COLBY FREE PRESS

10 pages

College comedy nearing

By Patty Decker

Free Press Editor

"Love Thy Neighbor" is Colby Community College's season opener for the drama department. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 3-5, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, in the Cultural Arts Center on campus.

A comedy, the play was written by a Colby College alumnus, Gary Ray Stapp, Class of 1981, who will also be available to meet with after Friday night's performance, said Deb Bickner, drama instructor.

Auditions were held in the latter part of August, she said, with rehearsals beginning in mid-September. "The comedy," Bickner said, "revolves around Leona Crump, who is concerned about who will buy the house across the street and is determined to keep out the riff-raff."

As the play unfolds, a family of hillbillies moves into Crump's neighborhood.

"Obnoxious Gafina and her Maw, as well as Gafina's trumpy sister Bambi and amorous boyfriend, Turner, make life unbearable for Leona," Bickner said about the play.

Crump vows to remove the family from her neighborhood with or without the help of her coach-potato husband and closest neighbors.

Bickner is the director and designer. The cast includes Kristi Khan, Colby, playing Leona Crump; Matt Coplin, Colby, as Albert Crump; Daniel Blake, Goodland, as Paul Harrison; Regina Heier, Colby, as Judy Harrison; Tina Schmid, Colby, as Rose Bush; Challis Horinek, Gem, as Ava/Maw; Megan Ford, St. Francis, plays Gafina; Josh Kenney, Seward, Neb., as Turner; James Mason from Winston-Salem, N.C., is Gorge and Wendy Bugbee of Ulysses plays Officer Doonan.

Advance tickets are available at the Campus Bookstore or prior to each performance at the door, Bickner said.

Love Thy Neighbor
Colby College
7:30 p.m.
Nov. 3-5



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Colby High School students Scott Blanton, Kyle Harold, Lissa Mazanec, Christy Gerstner, Zanae Baird, Angela Rasmussen, Bailey Brown and teacher T.J. Scholz (in wig) showed off their

school spirit Wednesday with Harold's pickup, which he painted orange for Homecoming last month. The students hope the community shows its spirit during the last football game of the season.

We got spirit! How 'bout you?

By Tisha Cox

Colby Free Press

School spirit has been visible at the Colby High School varsity football games this fall. Heading into the last game of the season tonight, the student body is hoping to get the community into the "spirit" of things also.

The student section at each home has been loud and rowdy, thanks in part to the efforts of student Scott Blanton and teacher T.J. Scholz.

Scholz said Blanton had the idea to get spirit going and Scholz helped organize student efforts. He said they needed an outlet and he helped them.

Scholz organized the tailgate parties to get people together and excited about the games. They started out with about 15 people and have consistently had a crowd of about 30 since the beginning of the season.

For the game Thursday, he said, they would like to have at least 50 people. They've been meeting at the Kennedy and Coe Building north of Dennen Field before home games.

Scholz said he wanted to challenge the community to stand up and cheer for the team, and let them know the community is behind them.

They want the entire crowd to be hyped up, not just the students.

And they would like to see people dress up for Halloween, and have a bigger tailgate party.

"The kids have the spirit," he said.

The students' enthusiasm even resulted in broken bleachers, but it wasn't done on purpose. The bleachers in their section have broken during two games. The first time was from their enthusiasm, the second time, someone was stepping down to leave.

Sam Munderloh, a running back on the football team, said spirit has been better this year than it has been before. He hasn't been able to see the student section in action because he's been busy on the field, but he knows they're there and appreciates the support.

Christy Gerstner said she can always tell when it's a game day because students are talking about it in the halls.

Senior Kyle Harold even painted his truck orange for fall Homecoming, complete with the school's "Power Eagle" on both doors.

He will probably keep his truck that color for a while, he said.

Their spirit is something they would like to see carried over to other sports the rest of the year, including the Orange and Black Classic basketball tournament in January.

Spirit has spilled over into other

areas at the school. The cheerleaders are hosting a spirit dance on Friday, Nov. 11. They will have to wear orange and black to get in.

Lynn Carpenter, school secretary and cheerleading sponsor, said the dance is being held during buffer week to kick off winter activities.

She said it will have more than a regular dance and will include contests and prizes.

Carpenter has even helped a little with school spirit, implementing a word of the day during daily announcements.

Student Zanae Baird said it's something they all look forward to, and trying to guess what it will be each day.

Their spirit is something they would like to see carried over to other sports the rest of the year, including the Orange and Black Classic basketball tournament in January, and wrestling season.

Boards could merge

By Jan Katz Ackerman

Colby Free Press

Logan County commissioners are considering pending changes in how area extension boards work.

According to Logan County Clerk Pat Schippers, members of the Logan County Extension Executive board talked to commissioners on Oct. 17 about redistricting.

"The proposed district would consist of Logan, Gove, Thomas and Rawlins Counties," Schippers said. "Lori Sporer advised (the commissioners) that all four county executive boards have signed their respective resolutions in favor of the district."

Meeting with the commissioners were Logan County Family and Consumer Science Agent Lori Sporer, Logan County Extension executive board members Susan Bloom, Donita Sparks, Kay Hughes, Mike Rains and Julian Albers.

Schippers said this morning Commissioners Doug Mackley and Carl Uhrich attended a meeting about the issue in Colby earlier this month. She said initially all three Logan County commissioners, Mackley, Uhrich and Nick Scott, supported the idea of an Extension district, but now she's uncertain where they stand.

"After that meeting, Carl got a call from a Gove County commissioner that Rawlins and Thomas County commissioners might not be in favor of it," Schippers said.

After calling area county clerks, Schippers said it's unclear whether Rawlins, Thomas and Gove County commission boards will sign the resolution.

Rawlins County Clerk Meredith Hrnchir this morning said Commissioners Charles Unger, chairman, Don Marshall and Wilber Henry have not voted on the resolution.

"They talked about it at the meeting on Oct. 24, but they are holding off until the Nov. 8 meeting to make a decision," said Gove County Clerk Julie Hawkey. The Gove County commission board consists of Mahlon Tuttle, chairman, and Delmar Kaiser and Mark Coberly.

Thomas County Clerk Shelly Harms said Commissioners Ron Evans, chairman; Paul Steele and Ken Christiansen have not yet talked about the proposed Extension district.

"It's on the Oct. 31 agenda," Harms said.

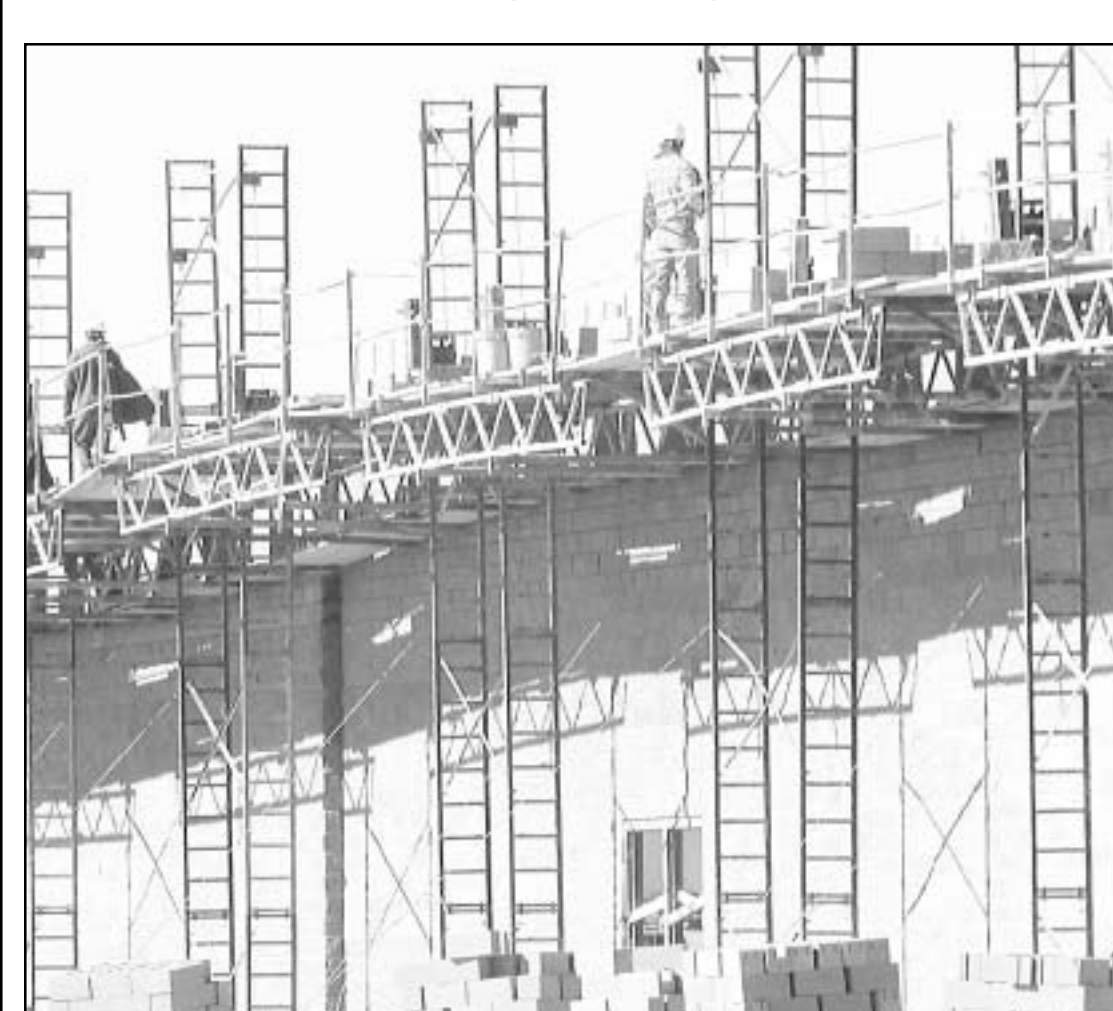
The proposed Extension district which would "have for its sole purpose the giving of instruction and practical demonstration in agriculture, marketing, home economics, 4-H club and youth work, community and resource development and economic development initiatives to all persons in the Extension district," the petition says.

In addition, the pending Extension district would provide information on subjects through practical demonstrations, meetings, publication, or otherwise in accordance with the program and service prescribed by the governing body of the district.

However, if within 60 days following the last publication of the county's resolution, a petition in opposition to the agreement to include Logan County in the district signed by 5 percent of the qualified electors of Logan County and is filed with Schippers, the county election officer, Logan County commissioners will not approve the agreement. And Logan County will not be included in the Extension district unless the agreement is approved by the majority of the qualified electors of Logan County voting at a primary or a general election, or a special election called and held for such purpose.

"It's not about agents, it's about what's best for the counties," Sporer said this morning.

Making progress



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

The walls for the new Wal-Mart Supercenter are going up on South Range. Doug Lewis, building inspector for the city of Colby, said the building should be finished by the beginning of February and the store will open in the spring of 2006.

Weather Service Office to share winter hazards

By Patty Decker

Free Press Editor

The weather pattern is making the transition into fall and, for meteorologists, this is a good time to talk about winter weather.

Starting on Monday, public information statements will be released each day about winter hazards or what to do when advisories or warnings are issued, said David Floyd, National Weather Service meteorologist in Goodland.

The idea is to combine all the activities into a single plan rather than each of the three states (Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska) served by the weather service office setting aside different weeks to heighten awareness, Floyd said.

The plan is identified as "Tri-State Winter Weather Preparedness Week" and will offer information to benefit residents and visitors about safety procedures and gearing up for winter.

Scheduled topics next week include winter travel safety, Monday; the meaning of winter watches, warnings and advisories, Tuesday; high winds and blizzards, Wednesday; windchill, frostbite and hypothermia, Thursday; and a wrap-up on Friday.

Information will be transmitted on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

with towers located in Gem (162.400 MHz); Lenora (162.425 MHz); Trenton, Neb. (162.500 MHz); Wray, Colo. (162.475 MHz) and Bethune, Colo. (162.525 MHz).

"A small change this year," Floyd said, "will be in reporting more specific advisories and warnings, such as blowing snow advisory and freezing rain advisories, which is different than the more generic winter weather advisory and winter storm warnings used in the past."

Floyd and emergency managers in all areas are urging travelers and residents to stay on top of local forecasts and warnings during the winter months.

Assisting motorists and others on the exact criteria for advisories, Floyd suggested they check the weather service website: weather.gov/goodland

"Now is the time to begin raising public awareness about winter weather, frostbite, hypothermia, travel safety and what is meant by advisories and warnings," Floyd said.

For questions or general information, he encourages others to visit the weather service's website: weather.gov/goodland or in Thomas County, call Jim Engel, director of emergency management and 911, at (785)460-4516 or stop by his office, 300 N. Court, Colby.

