

Dalai Lama attracts diverse crowd

SUN VALLEY, Idaho (AP) — It was a Buddhist Woodstock.

More than 15,000 people, including business leaders, congressmen, former ambassadors and just plain folks gathered in this mountain resort to listen to the Dalai Lama this week during a series of speaking engagements commemorating the fourth anniversary of the Sept. 11 terror attacks. Celebrities came on million-dollar jets. School children came by the busload.

On a high school football field where public events were held, Tibetan and Nepalese immigrants prostrated themselves on the grass to the man they consider the 14th reincarnation of the Bodhisattva of Compassion, next to Idaho natives just curious to hear what the winner of the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize had to say.

From the time Buddhism was formally introduced to the United States at the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago in 1893, this 2,500-year-old religion from the Indian subcontinent has been on the march in America. The nation now has an estimated 2.9 million Buddhists.

No man has been more important to this than the Dalai Lama, who since his 1959 exile from Chinese-occupied Tibet has transformed Buddhism's perception from an austere eastern religion into what many see as an antidote to 21st-century angst.

"He's shifted the focus, from Tibet, in particular, to worldwide secular issues such as peace and harmony and reconciliation," said Hiroshi Obayashi, chair of the religious studies department at Rutgers University in New Jersey, where the Dalai Lama speaks Sept. 25. "He

made worldwide travels, bringing this message. That's attracted sympathy and interest, particularly from the United States. Out of sympathy, gradually, it developed into a cult-like curiosity."

Unlike western religions, Buddhism doesn't have a monotheistic deity. Its adherents believe there's no such thing as a permanent identity; instead, the human personality and all of reality are constantly changing.

"Your friend, your enemy, your neutral — all are equal," the Dalai Lama said Monday morning to a private audience including U.S. Rep. Jim McDermott, D-Wash., Alan Blinken, the former U.S. ambassador to Belgium, and motivational speaker Tony Robbins. "Genuine compassion is unbiased."

Sun Valley — birthplace to the western ski resort in 1936, land of author Ernest Hemingway and actor Gary Cooper, vacation getaway to Arnold Schwarzenegger — is a long way from the Nepalese mountains where the man known as the Buddha, Siddhartha Gautama, was born a prince around 500 B.C. He eventually gave up his wealth amid a search for a means to end life's universal suffering.

Still, Kiril Sokoloff, the financial adviser and Buddhist who spent \$1 million to lure the Dalai Lama here for five days, said the valley's elevation at 5,800 feet above sea-level was the perfect platform to disseminate positive spiritual energy.

"There are a million people you want to bring happiness to," Sokoloff said of the event.

"The Dalai Lama's way to find happiness is to control your mind and not allow negative thoughts to come in."

His appearance also created its own atmosphere. In addition to famous, devout and curious visitors, a specialized marketplace developed.

"Buddha's been booming today," said Drew McDaniel, a Boise importer who sold more than \$12,000 worth of Asian statuary off the back of a flatbed trailer. "I'm practicing my compassionate capitalism."

There were Roman Catholics, Protestants and atheists in the crowds this week, each of whom was given a "khata," or traditional Tibetan shawl, on their way into the Wood River High School football stadium.

Volunteers wore T-shirts bearing the image of the Dalai Lama. Mary Gin Barron, a teacher from Hailey, hoped to incorporate his message of compassion into a lesson for her fifth graders.

However, some in Idaho protested Republican Gov. Dirk Kem-

phorne's advocacy of the Sun Valley event, saying church and state should be separate.

Above it all, the spiritual leader to the world's 20 million Tibetan Buddhists remains a figure whose message of nonviolence, reconciliation and moderation appears to reach beyond traditional sectarian frontiers — much the same as the late Pope John Paul II, the Polish Catholic leader who died April 2.

"They straddle two worlds. Pope John Paul II often traveled around the world, urging ends to conflicts, or speaking on other topics that were ostensibly secular. So does the Dalai Lama," said Rob Boston, a spokesman for Americans United for Separation of Church and State, a Washington, D.C.-based group that opposes government promotion of events linked to religious leaders — but generally lays off criticizing Dalai Lama appearances.

Muslim clerics support Indian tennis stars outfit

LUCKNOW, India (AP) — Top Muslim clerics supported Sania Mirza, days after a Muslim group in her hometown issued a religious edict describing her short skirts and sleeveless shirts as un-Islamic.

"What Sania wears in (the) tennis court is the demand of the game," said Khalid Rashid of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board, which arbitrates religion-related issues for the nation's more than 160 million Muslims.

"Perhaps, the fatwa (edict) was issued to gain cheap publicity," Rashid told The Associated Press.

Last week the Sunni Ulema Board, a little-known group in Mirza's hometown of Hydera-

bad, issued the edict saying Islam did not permit women to wear skirts, shorts and sleeveless tops in public, so Mirza should cover up.

Newspaper reports quoted the Sunni Ulema Board's chief, Hasheeb-ul-Siddiqui, saying he was worried Mirza was becoming a role model for young Muslim girls.

The 18-year-old Muslim tennis player, the first Indian woman to break into the top 50 WTA rankings, dismissed the fatwa.

Mirza was ousted from the U.S. Open in the fourth round, becoming India's first woman player to make it that far in any Grand Slam event.

She has a growing following across India.

Controversial Catholic order opens third boarding school

ROLLING PRAIRIE, Ind. (AP) — A conservative Roman Catholic religious order has enrolled 18 seventh- and eighth-graders in a new U.S. boarding school for boys interested in the priesthood.

The Legionaries of Christ said the minor seminary, Sacred Heart Apostolic School, plans to add a grade level each year and eventually enroll 100 to 120 students, spokesman Jay Dunlap said.

The order also operates schools in Center Harbor, N.H., Colfax, Calif., and Cornwall, Ontario, the South Bend Tribune reported.

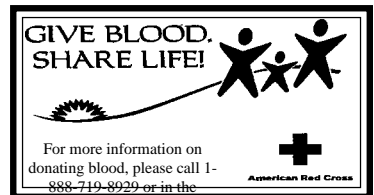
The Legionaries claim 65,000 members, including about 600 priests, in 18 countries.

The order's Mexican founder, the Rev. Marcial Maciel Degollado, stepped down earlier this year as general director of the order. Maciel has been accused of sexually abusing seminarians — allegations he and the order vigorously denied.

A spokesman for Gary's Bishop Dale Melczek said he gave permission to open the Indiana school but not to operate programs, raise money or recruit future seminarians in diocesan parishes.

The order has been criticized by some former seminarians and others as too rigid, secretive and competitive with other Catholic entities.

Minnesota Archbishop Harry Flynn last year barred the Legionaries and their associated lay group Regnum Christi from work in the archdiocese and the Columbus, Ohio, Diocese, enacted a similar ban in 2002. However, the Legionaries enjoyed strong support from Pope John Paul II.



SHARE the FAITH

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



COLBY EVANGELISM CENTER, Rev. Robert Cooper, 815 West 3rd - 462-2062, Sunday School 9:45; Sunday service 10:00 and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Friday Youth Power Hour at 7:00 p.m.

Schedule of church services

ASCENSION-ON-THE-PRAIRIE EPISCOPAL, Rev. Don Martin, College Drive & Wheatridge Rd., 462-3041, Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Evening Prayer, 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, September through May. Christian Education for Youth, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September through May

COLLEGE DRIVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD, Pastor, Jeremy Gundling, 245 W. College Dr. - 462-8234, Early Service - 8:00 a.m.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.

BEREAN CHURCH, Rev. Francis Harwerth, 1000 S. Franklin, 460-3076, www.colbyborean.com; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Awana Clubs, Wednesday, 7 p.m., Middle & High School, Wednesday, 7 p.m. @ the Colby Armory

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Pastor Bradley L. Herndon, Grant & Webster Street, 462-2867, Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Evening Worship 6:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible 7:30 p.m.

COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH, (SBC), Pastor Tom Huffman, 1185 Wheatridge Rd. at College Drive, 460-7144, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship services, 10:45 a.m.

MINGO BIBLE CHURCH, 420 Main Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Pastor Chris Shubert. Sunday School: 9:30AM - all ages. Sunday Services: 10:45AM. Sunday Nights: 1st Sunday of the month: potluck following morning service - no evening service; 2nd Sunday: services at 6:30 PM; 3rd Sunday: informal fellowship - bring a snack to share!; 4th and 5th Sunday: services at 6:30 p.m.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, 462-2179, Father Dana Clark, Pastor, Saturday Eve. Mass 5:30 p.m., Sunday Masses 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., Confessions will be heard Saturday 4:30-5:05 p.m. and from 7:30-7:45 p.m. and 9:25-9:40 p.m. on Sunday.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. Carol Rahn, 515 W. 4th, 462-6342, Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Worship, 11:00 a.m. September through May; Worship 9:30 a.m. June through Labor Day.

WESLEYAN CHURCH, 320 W. Pine - 462-8391, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:40 a.m., Sunday Evening Cell groups at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Youth Ministries, Kids Clubhouse 7 p.m.

TEENS FOR CHRIST CONNECTION, Everett Robert, 462-7404, Both middle school and high school program.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, 1145 S. Franklin - 460-6605, President Dave Geldmacher, 846-7740; Elmer Schielke, 1st counselor, 462-9022 and Calvin Haverfield, 2nd counselor, 672-4165. Sacrament meeting 10 a.m., Sunday School and Primary 11:20 a.m., Priesthood, Relief Society, YM/YW, 12:10 p.m.; Family History Center open to public, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, or by appointment. Call 462-3571.

COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 462-6521, Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m., Fellowship coffee 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., KXXX broadcasts 11:00 worship. http://www.gbmg-umc.org/colby-umc/

REDEEMING LOVE CHURCH, 345 N. Franklin, Apostle W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Service, Sunday, 10 a.m., Sunday worship, 11 a.m., Thursday, RLM Training Center (Bible School), 6 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 510 E. 4th, Jay Kelley, minister, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday Eve. Worship 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

COLBY EVANGELISM CENTER, Rev. Robert Cooper, 815 West 3rd - 462-2062, Sunday School 9:45; Sunday service 10:00 and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Friday Youth Power Hour at 7:00 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, (Disciples of Christ), Pastor Bradley L. Herndon, 385 W. 3rd - 460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship at 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. E-mail: fccolby@st-tel.net

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Alvin Bruenger, serving interim, East 5th & Country club, 462-3497, Worship, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:15 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Lutheran Hour on KXXX at 10 a.m.; KGCR at 2 p.m. website http://www.trinitycolbyks.org

OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH, Brewster, Sunday worship 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.m.

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH, Pastor, Charlie Busch, 694-2242, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Evening service, 6:00 p.m.

LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH, 112 Harrison, Pastor Jerry Vincent, 586-2376, Sunday School (classes for 3 years & up and 3 adult classes) 9:30 a.m., Morning worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

WINONA METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. Michael Eurit, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:30 a.m. (CDT)

BREWSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PO Box 250, Brewster. Pastor Dorine Chambers, 785-462-6044, Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF, REXFORD, Mr. Bob Leach, Director, 687-2565

REXFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH, Rexford, Pastor Lane Purcell, 687-3305, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH, Mike Pinkelman, Pastor, Brewster - 694-2720, Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Wed. mornings 6:30 a.m. - Men's Bible Study, Wed. 7:00 p.m. - Children's Ministries (Royal Rangers/Missionettes), Wed. 7:15 p.m. - Interspersory & Prayer, Thurs. 4:00 p.m. - Women's Bible Study

COLBY EVANGELISM CENTER

Formerly known as Landmark UPC
815 W. 3rd Street, Colby

Has newly appointed Home Missionary's by the Kansas District United Pentecostal Church International.



Pastor R. Cooper and his wife are from Texas. They have 2 boys, 1 daughter and 4 grand baby girls.

Pastor Cooper is a Daywind Southern Gospel Artist from Nashville, TN., where his latest CD was just released this year! He also holds a diploma in Family Counseling and Mental Retardation. Sis Cooper attended ABI in St. Paul, MN. majoring in Bible Theology!

The Coopers are well known for their preaching and singing around the states.

The Church will have it's first Service, Sunday, Sept. 25th at 10:00 a.m.; Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.; Sunday night at 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday night Bible Study at 6:30 p.m.; Youth Power Hour Friday night at 7:00 p.m.

Please drop by and get acquainted with Bro & Sis Cooper!



Church Phone: 462-2062

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