



# COLBY FREE PRESS

## A teacher's influence

By John Van Nostrand  
Colby Free Press

The war is not tens of thousands of miles away in Afghanistan, Iraq or elsewhere to eliminate terrorism. According to retired teacher Guy Doud, the war is much closer to home — in the souls of children.

Doud, who was named national teacher of the year in 1986, was the featured speaker Saturday at Heartland Christian School's annual endowment banquet.

"Something in my soul is stirred," Doud said. "We have kids, 14, 15, and the lights have gone out of their eyes. Hope is gone."

Doud, from Baxter, Minn. who retired in 2004 after 30 years teaching, explained some of the situations he has seen in Minnesota where kids' souls are stirred.

Seeing the Lake Maria State Park sign near Minneapolis, Minn., reminds him of kids souls. On Feb. 12, 1987, a 17-year-old girl was found burned to death at the lake.

According to the investigation the girl, Jill Sorensen, had a boyfriend who told her "your backend was too big," Doud said. Sorensen stopped eating and began taking a medication that induced vomiting. Sorensen eventually weighed 79 pounds.

Sorensen was taken to a treatment center where she struggled. She had a fear of gaining weight every time she ate. Center staff sent her home and asked her to come back when she wanted the help.

Sorensen borrowed her parent's car and drove on the frozen lake surface. She recorded a voice message, covered herself in gasoline and set fire to her body killing her. "So many young don't have an abundant life," Doud said.

According to Doud's research, 30 percent of young girls have an eating disorder, motivated by the girls and women they see on magazine covers.

Doud, 52, said girls' battle with their own body goes beyond how they fit in clothes.

Speaking at a Christian school in California, Doud met a student who showed him her cut marks along her arm. The student's mother was the school principal and she did not even know of her daughter's reaction to depression.

A Minnesota high school graduate went on to the legendary Massachusetts Institute of Technology, only to drink himself to death his freshman year.

"So many parents absolve themselves of their children," he said.

And if it is not the parents' neglect, Doud said the influence of gangsta rap music and violent and graphic video games that is destroy-



JOHN VAN NOSTRAND/Colby Free Press

1986 National Teacher of the Year award winner Guy Doud spoke Saturday at Heartland Christian School's annual endowment banquet. His speech highlighted the positive influence a teacher can have on students.

ing children.

Doud referred to the Bible, in 1 Peter 5:8 that states how the devil devours.

"He eats up our kids," he said. "How essential is it to raise up a child."

Doud said today's youth must realize the importance of their life beyond what they think they know and are known for.

"There is something more than reading, writing and arithmetic and computer literacy," he said.

Doud said today's youth are caught up in the recognition over IQ scores, their physical features and their athletic ability.

"Who you are is a son, daughter, child of God. You are wonderfully made."

Doud can relate to some of today's kids remembering his own childhood.

Doud had to learn how to live with his own family's reputation, which determined his self worth. His father was an alcoholic, unemployed and left town for weeks at a time.

Doud's mother charged for groceries because of the lack of income. Doud remembers seeing his mother troubled one day and asked why. She said the grocery store stopped letting her charge for groceries.

"I don't know where to get any money to buy food," he remembers her saying.

Doud's family had more troubles than just money. His father was also arrested for assaulting his mother and his sisters were born out of wedlock. He said his sisters' birth certificate state illegitimate. A sister was sexually abused.

Despite bringing six Crayolas to

school, rather than the 64 the mayor's daughter had, Doud realized the importance of a positive influence from a teacher.

While in sixth grade, Doud had a new teacher named Mr. Card. Doud said he was afraid of meeting the teacher. He feared Card already knew his family's troubled past. But Doud said Card didn't care. Doud said Card put his hand on his shoulder during their first introduction.

"I hated it and loved it," he said.

During a recess, Card divided the students into teams for a football game. Doud said he was known for being picked last while making kick ball teams.

Card played quarterback for both teams and told Doud he was going to pass the ball to him. Doud caught the pass. During the year, Doud realized Card didn't care about his homelife. Card cared for and respected Doud.

"I can't remember what he taught me," he said.

At the end of the school year, Doud said Card created a scrapbook of the class. Card said he loved the class and asked each student to write something in the scrapbook.

Doud would eventually see that book again.

After Doud won the teacher award and met with President Ronald Reagan, a reception was held in Doud's honor in Minnesota. Doud said many dignitaries were there from the governor to the state representative.

Card was also at the reception with the scrapbook from sixth grade.

Card showed Doud what he wrote in the book.

"Thank you for being so nice to me."

## Boot scootin' boogie



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press



**ABOVE:** Members of the Sweet Adelines chorus warmed up before their concert performance Sunday at Colby High School. The theme of the concert was "Shee-Haw," and it featured songs such as "Deep in the Heart of Texas" and "Achy Breaky Heart." The Colby Grade School honor choir, the Soaring Singers, also performed. **LEFT:** Chorus member Sheila Krehbiel and others were dressed up as hillbillies for their concert.

## Free Press owner named NNA vice president

Steve Haynes, president of Nor'West Newspapers and co-owner of the *Colby Free Press* was elected vice president of the National Newspaper Association at the group's annual meeting in Oklahoma City.

Haynes, who has served as treasurer for the past year and as a district director for five, will be president of the group in 2007-'08. Jerry Tidwell of Granbury, Texas, is president this year.

The association, with nearly 3,000 member papers, is the largest newspaper group in the nation. It serves community newspapers, mostly weeklies and smaller dailies in rural America, but members range in size from the *Bird City Times* in Kansas to *The Washington Post*.

"NNA represents community newspapers on the national stage," Haynes said. "We focus on federal legislation affecting newspaper, on postal issues and on First Amendment and open government freedoms, which are important to all Americans." The group has offices in Columbia, at the University of Missouri, and in suburban Washington.

"It's a great honor to be chosen to represent fellow publishers

across the country," said Haynes. "It's already been a great opportunity for Cynthia and I to meet people and see places we'd otherwise not have seen."

The job involves travel to Washington and other cities, including some foreign travel, he said. The association is involved in a battle over postal rates now, trying to limit increases for next year.

"Because so many papers are mailed, postal rates and service are important to publishers," Haynes said. "This summer, the association held a 'postal summit' in Washington, meeting with the postmaster general and his top aides to try and head off some problems."

Haynes is publisher of *The Oberlin Herald* with his wife Cynthia. They own Nor'West, which operates the and newspapers in Oberlin, Goodland, St. Francis, Bird City and Norton, plus *The Country Advocate* and the *Telegram Extra*, free regional publications.

In 37 years in the newspaper business, he has been an editor, reporter and owner of newspapers in three states. He graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in journalism, then worked for *The Kansas City Times* for 11 years.

The Hayneses bought *The Min-*

### Haynes wins editorial award

Steve Haynes, co-owner of the *Colby Free Press*, won the first-place award for editorial writing in the Better Newspapers Contest sponsored by the National Newspaper Association for the second straight year.

The award was announced at the group's annual convention in Oklahoma City Oct. 13. *The Herald* competes in the class for weekly newspapers under 3,000 circulation. The winning editorial decried a bill in the Kansas Legislature which would have levied a tax on pornography. Haynes questioned why people who supposedly oppose pornography would want Kansas schools to depend on it for money. In effect,

he said, schools would depend on the success of pornographers.

"Should the state have a vested interest in the porn business?" the editorial asked.

"No."

"It's not exactly clean money, is it?" Cynthia Haynes of Oberlin won an honorable mention award for *The Norton Telegram* for a photo feature on the Fourth of July celebration last year. She was publisher of the paper at the time.

The Hayneses own Nor'West Newspapers, which operates the *Free Press*, *Telegram* and newspapers in Goodland, Oberlin, St. Francis and Bird City.

*eral County Miner* in Creede, Colo., in 1980 and expanded their operation there to include seven newspapers. After selling, they bought the Oberlin, St. Francis and Bird City papers in 1993. Since then, the company has acquired *The Norton Telegram*, the *Free Press* and *The Goodland Star-News*.

Haynes served as president of the

Colorado Press Association in 1988 and of the Kansas Press Association in 1998.

The couple has three children, Felicia, 32, a manager with Morris Digital Works, and Lindsay, 29, a librarian at the Medical College of Georgia, both in Augusta, Ga., and Lacy, 26, who works in Lawrence.



JOHN VAN NOSTRAND/Colby Free Press

Colby native and Christian recording artist Mark Schultz sang one of the tracks off his new record "Broken and Beautiful" Sunday during a concert at the Dodge City Civic Center.