



COLBY FREE PRESS

8 pages

Beginner archers take aim



ROGER HERREN/Bufalo Bill Scout District

St. Francis Cub Scouts practiced archery at the Cub Scout Day Camp on Saturday at Ferguson Park in Colby. More than 40 Scouts, leaders and volunteers from around the region attended the camp. Activities included BB gun shooting and crafts in addition to archery.

Morrison announces last campaign

**ELECTION
2010**

State Rep. Jim Morrison announced this week that he will seek re-election in what he calls his "final campaign."

Morrison has been in the Kansas House of Representatives for 18 years. He took over the last several months of a term before being elected to the seat and taking office in 1993.

"It has been my honor to represent the people of the 121st District — all of Graham, Sheridan, Sherman and Thomas Counties — since January, 1993," Morrison said in a Tuesday release. "This will be my final campaign. If the voters of this area elect to send me back to Topeka, twenty years will have been long enough to have made the 315-mile drive."

Morrison said that, if elected, he has several goals for the next two years. The first, he said, is to make sure the Kan-Ed program, which helps schools collaborate via technology, is on a sound footing. The second is to ensure that northwest Kansas retains its political clout when the legislature redraws the voting district boundaries. The third is to help rural Kansas have a better-developed technology infrastructure and better access to the Internet.

Morrison said he has been on many committees in his years as a legislator. In the 2010 session, he was the chairman of the Governmental Efficiency and Fiscal Oversight Committee and a member of the House Health Committee and Joint Committee on Information Technology.

Morrison is a Colby native and has lived here for all but 10 years of his life. He is a licensed optometrist and broadcast engineer and has practiced optometry in Colby for many years. He is also the founding president of the Kansas Association for Children with Learning Disabilities.

He is a member and has served in the leadership of the Colby Kiwanis and Lions clubs, and is a Paul Harris Fellow with the Rotary Club.

Morrison will face Goodland resident Brenda McCants in the Republican primary election on Aug. 3.

Colby music program commissions brand new song

By Kevin Bottrell

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The Colby Public School music program will soon have their very own fanfare ending for the district concert.

Middle school band teacher Stacy Williams said the music department is commissioning a song for combined band and choir. The composition by Brian Balmages will take about two years, she said; the department is expecting the finished song in March of 2012.

Williams said she had the music department brainstorm their favorite living composers, but when she sent letters out she got no response.

"Finally I thought, 'I'll e-mail my fa-

vorite composer,'" she said. "And I got a response."

Balmages is a trumpet player and composer from Florida. Williams said he writes for concert bands, orchestras small ensembles and combined bands and choirs, which is what the department is looking for. High school band and choir teacher Joey Nichols said the department gave Balmages some guidelines for the piece.

"We'd like to be western Kansas-based with an essence of Home on the Range," he said. "That way it's not just another song."

Nichols said all of the choir students from second to 12th grades and all of the band students from 6th to 12 grades will perform the song at the finale of the end-

of-year district concert. The wide variety of grade levels playing the song would show how skill levels improve over time.

As a commissioned piece, Colby would have the right to play it in concert first.

"That's something the kids are really excited about," Nichols said.

Grade school music teacher Jennifer Koel said the music department is going to pay the entire cost of the commission without help from the district. The department oversees and gets the revenue from the printer cartridge recycling program — which takes printer ink cartridges from the community and recycles them — but that wouldn't cover the whole commission. The department held two middle school dances, and got donations from Lon Frahm and Pat Ziegelmeier.

Koel said the department had to have half the money up front, but decided to have all the money raised in advance. The exact amount will depend on the final contract, which Williams said has not been completed yet.

With any commissioned piece, Nichols said, there's a possibility it could be published for other bands to play. In that case, any time the sheet music is printed it would have Colby's name on it.

In other business:

- Superintendent Terrel Harrison discussed the five-year capital outlay plan that the administration has been working on. The plan includes all of the district's maintenance needs for the next five years. She invited the board members to go through it and give suggestions.

The plan includes items such as replacing the district's aging suburbans. Harrison said she wanted to replace one every year. The plan would also include replacing two activity buses, one in 2012 and one in 2014. Even though the Legislature now allows districts to keep buses for 25 years, Harrison said, the district still has to replace buses that no longer work.

Board member Kevan Taylor suggested replacing one of the activity buses in 2011 rather than 2012. The board agreed by consensus.

Board Vice President Tracy Rogers suggested that moving the vocational agriculture building — which is currently one half of the bus garage — to the high

See "SONG," Page 3

Eagle earns diploma, two college degrees

By Andy Heintz

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Rachel Lamm has been a busy person over the last four years.

The Colby High graduate received three degrees on May 15 and 16. She got a high school diploma from Colby High School as well as Associate of Science and Associate of Arts degrees from Colby Community College.

Despite the surplus of schoolwork, Lamm also participated in several extracurricular activities such as high school fo-



Rachel Lamm

rensis, scholar's bowl, track and field and debate. She said she learned how to phrase questions to get the answers she wanted in debate. When she is not studying or competing, she works as a waitress at Montana Mikes.

Lamm will be attending Kansas University this fall where she will major in political science and public relations and minor in statistics. She said she wants to practice criminal law after she graduates. Lamm said one aspect of criminal law she likes is how simple questions can lead to complex

answers. She said people interpret questions differently. For example, Lamm said you could ask someone if they were at Walmart last night and a person may say no because they were there at 2 a.m., which they consider the morning, while another person who was there at the same time might say yes because they consider 2 a.m. to be nighttime.

"You have to phrase things perfectly to get the answer you want," Lamm said.

Lamm has been interested in criminal law since the second grade. She said she wants to be a prosecutor instead of a defense lawyer. She said both jobs play an equal part in bringing justice, but

she thought prosecutors served a greater portion of the population.

Lamm said she enjoyed the more relaxed atmosphere at the college. Her favorite teacher was chemistry professor Max Pickerell.

"He could relate the hardest concepts in the simplest terms," Lamm said.

Lamm's freshman scholar bowl coach Bernadine Sampson also helped her a lot in her first year of high school and continued to give her assistance, even though she retired before Lamm's sophomore year. Lamm said the hardest part of her day is trying to get to sleep with 800 things running through her head.

Church RC club to race on Sunday

The First Baptist Church RC Club is revving up for summer races starting at 2 p.m. Sunday.

The club is featuring new cars this year, replicas of late model dirt cars. Director Kent Higerd said the club has 12 of the new cars for anyone who comes to the races. The new cars have their drive trains enclosed, he said, making them much more durable.

The club previously used 18th scale cars. Racers are also wel-

come to bring their own cars.

Higerd said the club has also reconfigured the track to an oval shape rather than the twists and turns of the old track.

The club used to change the track before every race.

Higerd said the club may set up a dirt track and hold races at this year's Thomas County Free Fair at the end of July.

Races are from 2 to 5 p.m. every second and fourth Sunday at the church.

Briefly

Crews fogging for mosquitoes

Colby city crews will be fogging for mosquitoes beginning this week. They start south of Webster on Mondays or Tuesdays and north of Webster on Thursdays. Check your yards and empty anything holding stagnant water, such as cans, swimming pools or tires, officials said. For information, call the Public Works office at 460-4420.

Remove decorations by Monday

All non-permanent grave decorations placed at Beulah Cemetery for Memorial Day should be removed by 5 p.m. Monday so the regular mowing schedule can resume. For information, call 462-3188.

Eagles' book a bargain right now

The price of "Flight of the Eagles," a book by Gary Adrian about the history of Colby High sports,

will increase from \$25 to \$30 on Wednesday, June 21, to cover printing costs. Books can be ordered at the old price at www.colbyeagles.org or send a check to the Colby Booster Club at Box 136, Colby, Kan., 67701. Books will also be available at the All School Reunion next week. For information, call Adrian at 460-2931.

Signup open for food program

Signup for the Prairie Land Food is open through Friday at State Farm Insurance, 905 E. Fourth Street in Colby. Delivery will be at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 26, at the Sacred Heart School gym, 1150 W. Sixth St. For information, call Gene Griffin at (785) 460-3579.

Flyers plan fun fly, lunch at field

The Colby RC Flyers will hold their annual fly from dawn to dusk Saturday and Sunday at the

club's field seven miles north of Colby on K-25. Flying events and prize drawings will be held each day. Lunch will be served. For information, call Dave Backus at 460-6941 or Nick Nichols at 460-6357.

Commodities here on Monday

U.S. Department of Agriculture commodity distribution will be from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at the Senior Progress Center in Fike Park. Any eligible person can get these foods, which include instant milk, canned beef, canned chicken, corn, peaches and tomato soup, distributed first-come, first-served according to income guidelines. Bring a sack or box. For information, call the Retired Senior Volunteer Program office at 462-6744.

Picnic, music Wednesday

Colby's Picnic in the Park lunch-and-concert series continues at noon Wednesday at Fike Park with

entertainment by Shannon, Rachel and Amy Myers. Heartland Christian School will serve cold watermelon. For information, call the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce at 460-3401 or the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau at 460-7643.

Church plans racing Father's Day

All NASCAR and racing fans are invited to the Colby Church of Christ at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, June 20, for a special Father's Day event. The church plans a "manly" day with a racing theme and a message titled "It's About Winning." Dress is comfortable and casual. For question, call Jarrod Spencer at (785) 443-2403.

