

Debate team ranks third at class 4A state tourney

The Colby High School debate team finished out its season at the state Class 4A Two-Man Debate Tournament Friday and Saturday in Silver Lake.

Colby was one of eight teams who fielded a full entry of four two-man teams; there were a total of 30 schools attending the tournament.

After preliminaries, Colby was ranked third overall behind Field-Kinley High School of Coffeyville and Tonganoxie. Both schools are debate powerhouses who routinely place kids in national tournaments. For Colby to rank third behind them is an accomplishment. However, at state debate there is no team sweepstakes award, only two-man awards.

The Eagle debaters faced a tough field of competitors with 72 two-man teams entered in the tournament. After six preliminary rounds of debate, the Eagles placed two of their teams into the octafinals.

Michael Tubbs and Christina Ostmeyer went in as the second seed and Tomi Miller and Cameron McLaughlin moved into octafinals as the 12th seed. Tubbs and Ostmeyer faced the 15th-seed team from

Trinity Academy and won the round on a 3-0 decision. This moved them on into the quarter-finals where they faced a seventh-seed team from Tonganoxie.

After a tough round of debate, Tonganoxie won and Ostmeyer and Tubbs finished with a fourth place medal. Miller and McLaughlin faced the fourth-seed team from Coffeyville Field-Kindley and lost, leaving them with an eighth-place medal.

Team coach Nancy Rundel said, "While we had hoped for a top-two finish for Tubbs and Ostmeyer, we are certainly thrilled that the kids all competed so well. And we are all proud of how the kids finished their year."

Other competitors were Hannah Matchell and Madison Gawith, who finished with a 3-3 record for the tournament and Sarah Lamm and Billy Selley, who finished 2-4. These same students will take a two-week break and then be back in action during forensics season, competing in a variety of events.

State insurance department offers scholarships for African Americans

Kansas Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger is seeking applicants for five \$1,000 scholarships to be awarded to African-American students enrolled in Kansas universities, colleges or community colleges during the 2012 fall semester.

The deadline for fall semester 2012 applications is Tuesday, May 1. A scholarship committee will review the applications and conduct interviews before awarding the scholarships, which are renewable.

The African-American Monumental Life Settlement Scholarships originated from a nationwide

dispersal of funds in a legal settlement regarding premiums charged by Monumental Life Insurance Company. Commissioner Praeger advocated establishing a scholarship program for Kansas African-American college students with the state's share of the settlement. The Kansas Legislature passed a law designating the funds for the scholarships.

An applicant must be an African-American student enrolled at a Kansas accredited institution of higher learning during the 2012-2013 school year.

The applicant must have a major in mathematics, computer science,

business, accounting, economics, finance or investments.

The applicant must have a college grade average of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale.

The applicant must supply an academic reference letter and a one-page essay describing career goals.

The applicant must be available to be interviewed.

Eligible students should contact the office of minority affairs or student financial aid at their college or university for information, or go to the Kansas Insurance Department's website, www.ksinsurance.org/gpa/scholarship.htm.

Cancer screening protects cervical health

For Cervical Health Awareness Month, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment encourages women to schedule their annual well-woman check-ups. According to a 2010 report, about 17 percent of Kansas women aged 18 and older did not have a Pap test within the past three years.

"Pap tests decrease the risk of developing cervical cancer by detecting precancerous cells which, when found early, are highly treatable," said Robert Moser, state health officer. "Women should have their first screening Pap test at age 21, or within three years of becoming sexually active if younger."

Although cervical cancer was once the leading cancer killer of women, the number of cases has declined 75 percent in the past 50 years, largely be-

cause of the Pap test. Even so, an estimated 12,000 women in the U.S. are diagnosed each year.

Most cervical cancer cases are caused by infection with human papillomavirus (HPV), a common sexually transmitted disease. A vaccine is available to prevent many of these.

Most health insurance policies cover the cost of vaccines. Ask your doctor or contact your local health department or visit www.cdc.gov/vaccines/.

The Department of Health's Early Detection Works program provides breast and cervical cancer screening for uninsured women age 40 to 64 who meet income guidelines.

For information, call (877) 277-1368 or go to www.kdheks.gov/edw.

... and keep off the grass, too!



Golf carts apparently can't read, as this photo snapped Tuesday afternoon just off the parking lot at the Meadow Lake Golf Course shows. It was a little chilly for golf, though, with remnants of a half-inch of dry snow visible here and there.

EVAN BARNUM/Colby Free Press

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE

Sunday

12:11 a.m. – Caller reported his vehicle was hit while parked in the 200 block of W. Fifth.

12:12 a.m. – Security check at Twister's.

4:07 a.m. – Caller reported a barking dog. Spoke with owner who will take care of it.

3:28 p.m. – Caller reported vehicle driving recklessly in parking lot at 115 W. Willow. Spoke to subjects.

3:32 p.m. – Helped stranded motorists in parking lot at 700 W. Horton.

7:05 p.m. – Welfare check. All OK.

11:15 p.m. – Spoke with subject about covering windows.

Monday

8:19 a.m. – Helped ambulance

crew on call.

11:51 a.m. – Caller caught stray dog at Pine and Franklin, brought to station. Turned over to Colby Animal Clinic.

1:03 p.m. – Caller received possible e-mail scam. Provided information.

6:13 p.m. – Caller advised of disagreement needing officer for mediation. Provided information.

7:37 p.m. – Unattended death report filed.

10:23 p.m. – Collision at Range and Summit.

11:43 p.m. – Violation of protection from abuse order: caller reported subject contacting him. Information provided.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF

Monday

1:24 a.m. – Caller reported cat-

tle out five to seven miles north of Colby on County Rd. 20. Owner contacted, turned over to Walmart.

8:46 a.m. – Civil forfeiture report filed.

9:15 a.m. – Transported inmate from Rawlins County Sheriff's Office to Norton County Sheriff's Office.

9:33 a.m. – Provided ride for subject from Law Enforcement Center to Walmart.

10:40 a.m. – Released Timothy John Towey.

10:50 a.m. – Provided ride for subject from Walmart to Law Enforcement Center.

5:50 p.m. – Booked Thomas Dodson.



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