

8 pages

# COLBY FREE PRESS

75¢

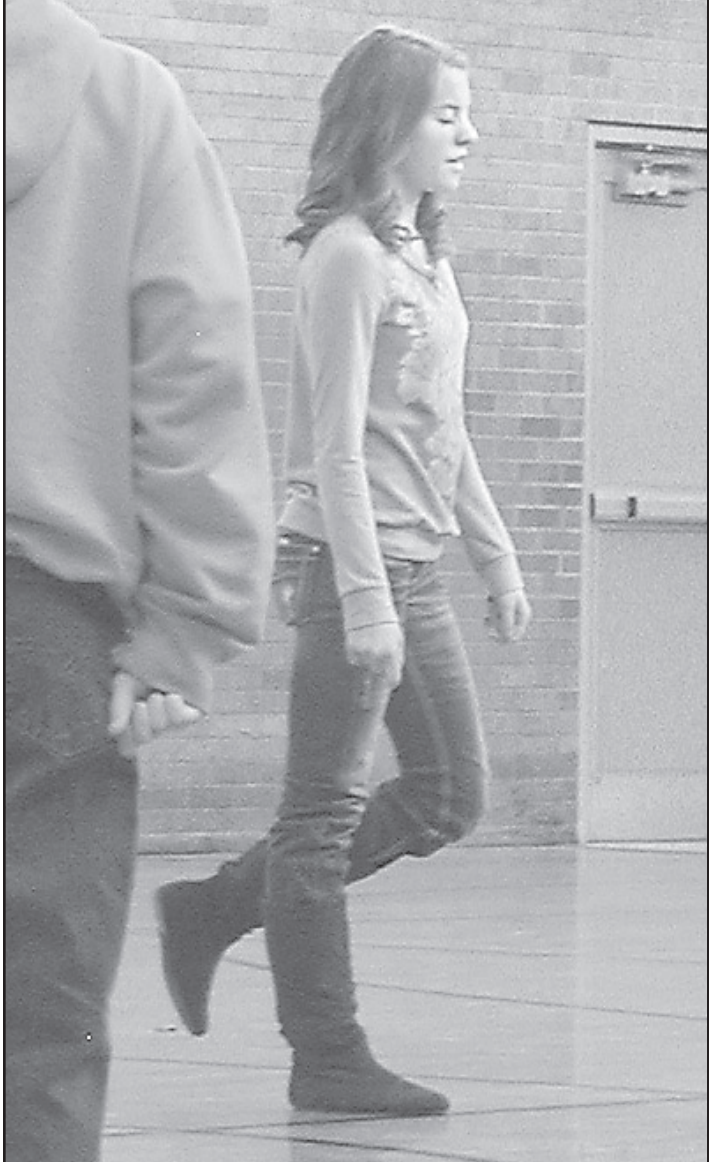
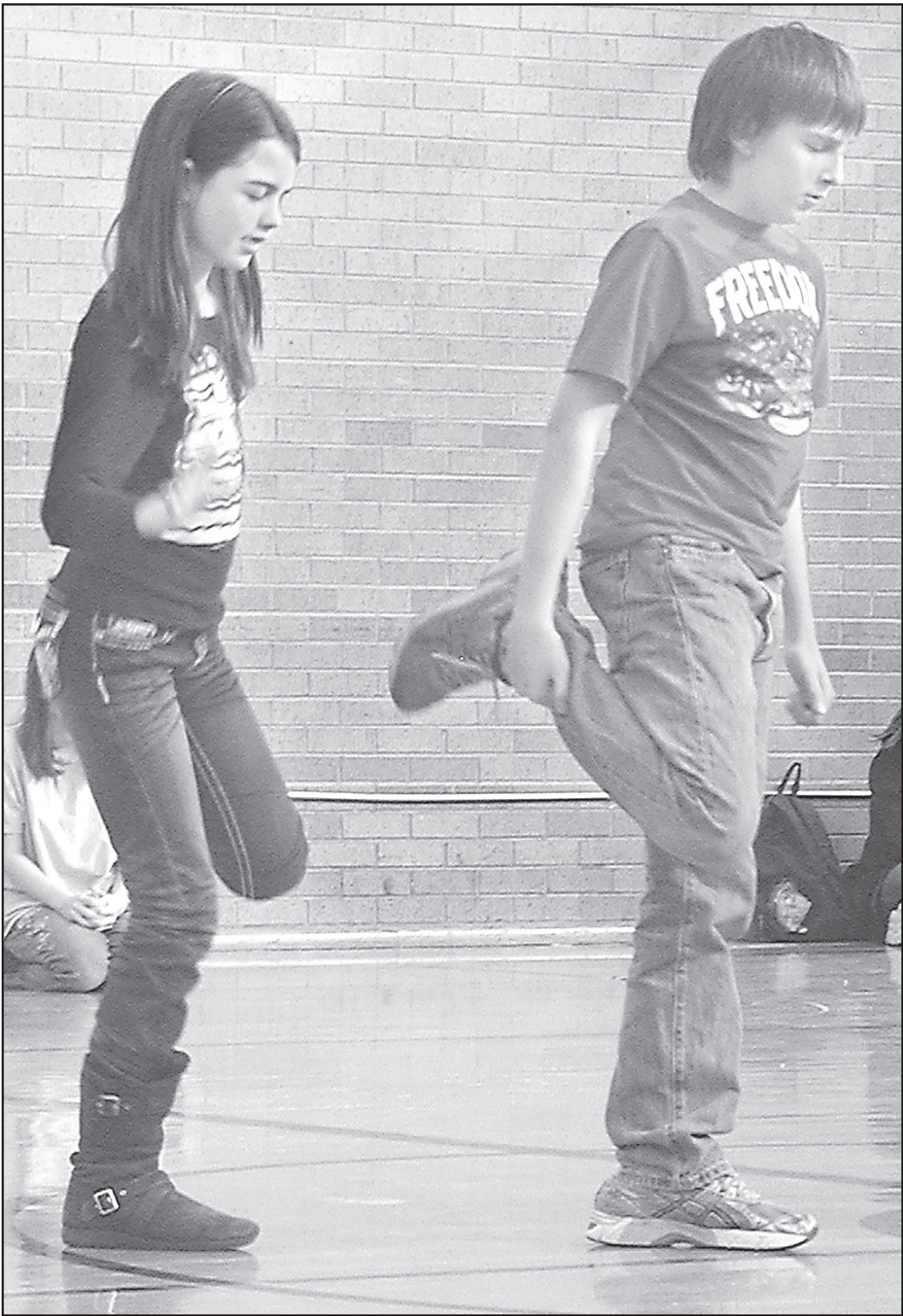
Thursday

December 27, 2012  
Volume 123, Number 202  
Serving Thomas County since 1888

## Students compete at school

Middle school students saw who could stand on one foot the longest (right) at an end-of-the semester assembly last Thursday afternoon in the gym. The assembly included a series of competitions between kids of different grades, including funniest laugh (below). Others volunteered their friends for contests, such as a running-on-all-fours race (below).

SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press



## Foundation invites all to benefit

By Christina Beringer  
Colby Free Press  
colby.society@nwkansan.com

The Northwest Kansas Foundation for HOPE is inviting everyone to a New Year's Eve cancer benefit including a dinner, dance and auction.

The women of this philanthropic organization are hoping for big turnout as they raise money to help pay cancer-related expenses for patients living in northwest Kansas.

The event, featuring the Jimmy Dee Band, will run from 5 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Monday at the City Limits Convention Center, 2227 S. Range Ave. Tickets must be purchased in advance and won't be sold at the door, said President Pat Sloan. Individual tickets are \$40 and a table for eight is \$280.

Auction items include Kansas State University and University of Kansas basketball tickets, a Traeger grill, a Benelli shotgun and a

diamond cross pendant necklace, just to name a few. There will be a raffle for Chamber Bucks, too.

Call Sloan for tickets and information during the day at 443-3261 or in the evening at 460-7495.

"This is our big annual fundraiser," she said, "and of course, the Jimmy Dee Band is a favorite and good drawing card. I still have tickets available and it is just a fun evening while raising money for a worthwhile cause.... The need is so great ... as the HOPE Foundation becomes more familiar to residents of the nine northwest Kansas counties....

"We need to increase revenues so that we can continue to meet the requests. Every dollar is appreciated."

Every year since the organization's inception in 2009, Sloan said, the foundation has continued to increase the number of patients it serves. The agency saw a 33 per-

See "BENEFIT," Page 2

## College board hears concerns

By Kayla Cornett  
Colby Free Press  
kcornett@nwkansan.com

A prominent former business owner and long-time supporter of Colby Community College gave the college trustees an earful about worries he said he and others in the business community have with the way the board is doing things.

Lou Hines, who owned Western Sprinklers for more than 20 years, noted at the meeting Dec. 17 that he has donated a lot of time and money to the college over the years and continues to support it. He said he had read an article in the paper about the college's money problems, so he volunteered to help with some fund raising.

Hines said it appears to him

that the board is running the college when it should just give the president direction and let him do his job.

"Everything has an order," Hines said, "and we need to maintain that order, and we have to look at our fiduciary duties."

He also said he thinks the trustees and the college Endowment Foundation board need to get along better. The college has accounts payable, bills owed to suppliers, that are more than 90 days old, he said, and it shouldn't be "holding someone hostage with money."

Hines said even though the college has sold out its state tax credits for this year, he is going to keep trying to raise money.

See "COLLEGE," Page 2

## New provider joins clinic here

Physician Assistant Jennifer Kreikemeier-Haag joined the Family Center for Health Care this month.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology/pre-med in 2007 from Kansas State University in Manhattan before completing a Master of Science degree in 2010 from Des Moines University in Iowa, where she received her certification as a physician assistant.

Haag comes to Colby from Clay Center, where she worked at the Family Practice Rural Health Clinic and at their 25-bed critical-access hospital.

"We feel very lucky to land such a qualified PA who we feel certain will work well with our team of providers and staff," said Scott Focke, clinic manager.

"I like the small town atmosphere and the interaction with all the providers," said Haag. "They are going to be growing in terms of number of providers and the services available will continue to expand."



Jennifer Kreikemeier-Haag

See "PROVIDER," Page 2

