

Awards dinner recognizes many scout leaders

By Maxine Nelson
The Colby Free Press
 Boy Scout and Cub Scout leaders were honored at the Buffalo Bill District Awards dinner Saturday night at the Colby Community College Student Union.

The purpose of the annual dinner is to recognize the achievements of both adult and youth Scouts, along with honoring one adult volunteer who was exceptional in their efforts to help scouting, said Ed Evans, district executive of Hays.

This year's winner was Virginia Popp of Sharon Springs, who received the Buffalo Bill District Award of Merit.

"Her name was chosen because of her meritorious service to scouting,"

Skip Sharp, district chairman, said. He spoke about the many things Popp has done to help make scouting successful.

"She is registered as cub master for Pack 145, having served in that capacity for the past three and-a-half years," he said.

"She served five years as den leader for the pack, and four years as committee chairman for Troop 145 in Sharon Springs."

Popp is a member of the Wallace County Foundation, and a member of the Site Council for the Wallace County School in Sharon Springs.

"She shares her expertise by helping with hair for high school plays (she owns a cosmetology business), and helping with costumes," Sharp said,

"and she is a member of the Catholic Church, where she has served as president of the Altar Society, and CYO leader and teacher."

Previous award of merit recipients since 1976 include: Don Harding, Goodland; Bill Horton III, Atwood; Elmer Kellner, St. Francis; Ralph Hansen, Colby; Buck Fischer, Colby; Don Beamgard, Atwood; Leon Merklin, St. Francis; Keith Nelson, Colby; Bill Hartzler, Goodland; Bill Weishaar, Colby; Robert Wallsmith, Brewster; Claude Herren, Colby; Steve Alwin, Colby; Glen "Skip" Sharp, Colby; Larry Dible, Colby; Mike Schmidt, Colby; Pat Rose, St. Francis; Lynn Higerd, Colby; Marc Smith, Colby; Dennis Riggs, Colby; Jett Fromholtz, St. Francis; Jim

Robison, Colby; Maxine Nelson, Colby; and Randy Smith, Colby.

The Buffalo Bill District is in the Coronado Area Council, headquartered in Salina.

The district is roughly bounded by St. Francis, Atwood, Sharon Springs, and Oakley. About 36 people attended the event.

In addition, Popp received training awards as den leader, cub master and cubscoouters.

Others receiving this award were Phil Erickson, cub master; Gary McClung, Webelos; Rick Stramel and Bill Fulcher, Tiger cub leader; and Ken Erickson, Boy Scout Training Award.

Boy Scout Week, which started Sunday and will conclude Saturday, is a nationally-recognized event.

As part of the celebration, the dinner also honored other people as well for their hard work.

Deanna Oesterreich, Colby, was recognized with a leadership award for her service in organizing and leading scouting events for both younger and older scouts.

Troy Bielser, Colby, was recognized on behalf of the 2001 Eagle Scout recipients in the district during 2001. Other Eagle Scouts honored for their advancement in 2001 were: Jeffrey Finley and Benjamin Vrbas of Atwood; Andrew Magley of Oakley; Max Saint and David Russell of Goodland; and Christopher Griggs, Troy Bielser, Jory Friesen and Christopher Barnum of Colby.

Sharp, district chairman, gave the

state of the district report. He said Buffalo Bill District is a Quality District for the second year in a row.

This is a national award which means each of the units in the district is a Quality Unit, based on membership, popcorn sales, fund-raising, registration and other criteria.

The new scout executive, Matt Devore of Salina, was a special guest. He said he was raised in Burlington, Iowa, but came to Salina by way of Texas where had worked for 15 years for the Boy Scouts.

He said his goals include raising enough money for an endowment fund to provide scholarships, such as for Eagle Scouts, or to send troops to camp at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.



Students in the Science Olympiad kept a photographic journal of their projects last year, including their electric car.
 Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Students respect teacher

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...serving of honors of the highest magnitude," wrote math teacher Jonathan Hooper. "I have enjoyed teaching with him as well as sharing an office and being his friend."

Assistant Principal Richard Liess wrote: "I have known Mr. Friedrichs for many years both personally and professionally, and can say without reservations he is of good moral character as well as being an excellent technology instructor."

"Mr. Friedrichs clearly displays his knowledge and enthusiasm for the classroom on a continual basis," Principal Harvey Swager wrote. "Dennis

is honest, sincere and trustworthy."

Even his students think highly of him. "He continually takes time out of his weekend to help us," wrote Jace Chipperfield and Brian Coon in a letter to the selection committee. "... the dedication he has to the students of Goodland High School is unparalleled."

To be considered, he had to be nominated by another teacher. Friedrichs wouldn't say who it was.

He has been a technology teacher for 27 years, having taught in Arriba, Colo., for two years before coming to Goodland. He grew up in Colorado Springs and graduated from the University of Northern Colorado in 1973.

Fees may keep children from services

BUDGET, from Page 1

\$1.7 million for fiscal 2003. The agency has not proposed a schedule of fees yet.

But critics say the fees would keep some parents from seeking services for their children, or make those services too expensive for families already facing extraordinary costs in caring for

disabled or mentally ill youngsters.

The committee postponed a scheduled vote because members had too many questions.

In other action Monday: — The Senate committee redrawing Kansas' four congressional districts found itself has six proposed maps to consider.

— By a 6-4 vote, the Senate Judi-

ciary Committee endorsed a bill that would permit no-fault divorce only for couples with no dependent children still living at home.

— The Senate passed a bill, 37-3, giving school boards more power, but the chairman of the House Education Committee called it "an abomination before the Lord."

— A resolution supporting oil drill-

ing in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge was endorsed by the House Utilities Committee.

Spending cuts bill is SB 385. SRS fees bill is SB 421.

On the Net: Kansas Legislature: <http://www.kslegislature.org>

Afghani warlords pledge to withdraw from city

INTERNATIONAL

MAZAR-E-SHARIF, Afghanistan — Warlord factions whose control of northern Afghanistan challenges central government authority have pledged to withdraw from the volatile region's main city and eventually demobilize their soldiers, a spokesman for one of the parties said.

A pullout by warlords from Mazar-e-Sharif would be an important step in Afghanistan's efforts to restore stability after 23 years of war. In the capital, Kabul, the commander of the international peacekeeping force said security there was already improving.

In Mazar-e-Sharif, envoys for Atta Mohammed and Gen. Rashid Dostum, a longtime rival, made plans Monday to withdraw from the city and forge a new security force, said Wasiqullah, one of Atta Mohammad's top aides.

They also pledged to eventually demobilize tens of thousands of fighters who have protected the warlords' interests for years, said Wasiqullah, who like many Afghans uses one name. The pact was mediated by a third faction led by Muhammad Mohaqqueq.

"If we all stick by the accord, what we are planning is very easy,"

Wasiqullah told The Associated Press. "If one group doesn't fulfill their end, then it will be very, very hard."

KARACHI, Pakistan — Pakistani authorities expressed hope that missing reporter Daniel Pearl would be found alive and the managing editor of The Wall Street Journal appealed to his kidnappers to make contact almost two weeks after his disappearance.

Pakistan's interior minister said Monday that efforts to find the journalist were now "massive in scale, spread to all parts of Pakistan."

"We are hopeful that Daniel Pearl is alive," Moinuddin Haider said. "I can't claim of making any breakthrough though we are getting close to the men involved."

After days of silence from the kidnappers, Pearl's employer, The Wall Street Journal, released an open letter late Monday.

"I have not heard from you for several days and want to begin a dialogue that will address your concerns and bring about Danny's safe release,"

managing editor Paul Steiger wrote in a letter addressed to the National Movement for the Restoration of Pakistani Sovereignty.

The previously unknown group signed a Jan. 27 e-mail which first claimed that Pearl was being held, and included apparently authentic photographs. The e-mail also included a demand that Washington return Pakistani prisoners held in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for trial in Pakistan. The Bush administration has ruled out any negotiations.

NATIONAL

PHOENIX — Sen. John McCain was upbeat after doctors removed a non-cancerous lesion on his nose, saying he's "had worse bouts with the dentist."

The Arizona Republican and former presidential candidate was scheduled for plastic surgery on Tuesday to cover a scar from the procedure. Doctors planned on removing some skin from an adjacent area to cover the scar.

With a bandage covering the tip of his nose, McCain told reporters outside

his Phoenix home that the Monday procedure was minor and that it lasted only 10 minutes.

His office said the lesion, a tiny freckle on the left side of the senator's nose, was not life-threatening.

The procedure was performed at Mayo Clinic Hospital. McCain was under local anesthesia during the surgery. He spent Monday night at home.

The senator, who expects to head back to Capitol Hill next week, was likely to spend Tuesday night in the hospital after the plastic surgery.

NEW YORK — As attendees at the World Economic Forum rolled out of New York in a stream of black limousines, they carried a warning from U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan: Ignore the world's poor at your own risk.

It was a message that reverberated constantly from conference rooms at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel to demonstrations on Manhattan's streets.

During a speech that ended the forum Monday, Annan likened the shrinking world to a crowded boat.

"None of us can afford to ignore the condition of our fellow passengers on this little boat," he said.

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