

Third graders bark, meow way to friendship

It 'snowed cats and dogs' at school music program

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Painted up with blacked noses and cat whiskers, third graders from Central Elementary sang their way through a cats-and-dogs music program Thursday night.

Cats and dogs try to keep a kitten and a puppy apart, but eventually learn that friendship is better than prejudice. In the first song, "Identity," students sang about how everyone is different, made from their own recipe. The song had a rap beat and third-graders Zachary Miller, Hope Cochran, Gage Ihrig, Brook Bahe, Taryn Bedore and John Hendrich performed a break-dance number toward the end.

Next, students sang about "A Friend." The tune featured a group of singers, Shyanne Austin, Miranda Hernandez, Jordan Knitig, Halie Price, Milan Brannick, Amber Perdew, Bracelyn Redlin, Guadalupe Sanchez and Kaily Schorzman, backed up by the rest of the third grade.

The song "Tin Man" came next, and the students all did "the Robot," a dance, at the end. The song was followed up by "Rockin' Robin," where the kids swayed and snapped to the beat. Next, the kids sang "It's a Beautiful Day."

The cats went straight into a skit called "Unity Tree," where a kitten, played by Mara Kling, and a puppy, played by Johnathan Peden, want to play together.

The music starts with "It's Snowing Cats and Dogs," to set up the story of how the puppy and the kitten meet. The next song is "Lets Play," where Kling and Peden play with a ball together.

Other students playing a group of cats and a group of dogs try to keep the puppy and kitten apart.

The cats were played by Megan Siruta, Berkley White, Elizabeth House, Alicia Benavides, Machel Zupko, Gabriella Rangel, Lauren Espinoza, Fionna Cruz, Brianna White and Sara Schoenthaler, the dogs by Ian Bosall, Garrett Taylor, Jarod Lake, Holton Witman, Colton Cooper, Connor Simpson, Jesse Cooper, Jose Nunez, Pablo Barron, Nicholas Koel and Todd Snethen.

They explain to the newcomers that cats and dogs don't get along with "Just the Way That It Is," a song about how dogs and cats can't trust each other. When the rest of the animals find the kitten and puppy missing, they break into "You'll Be Sorry," a song about how each group stole the cats or dogs.

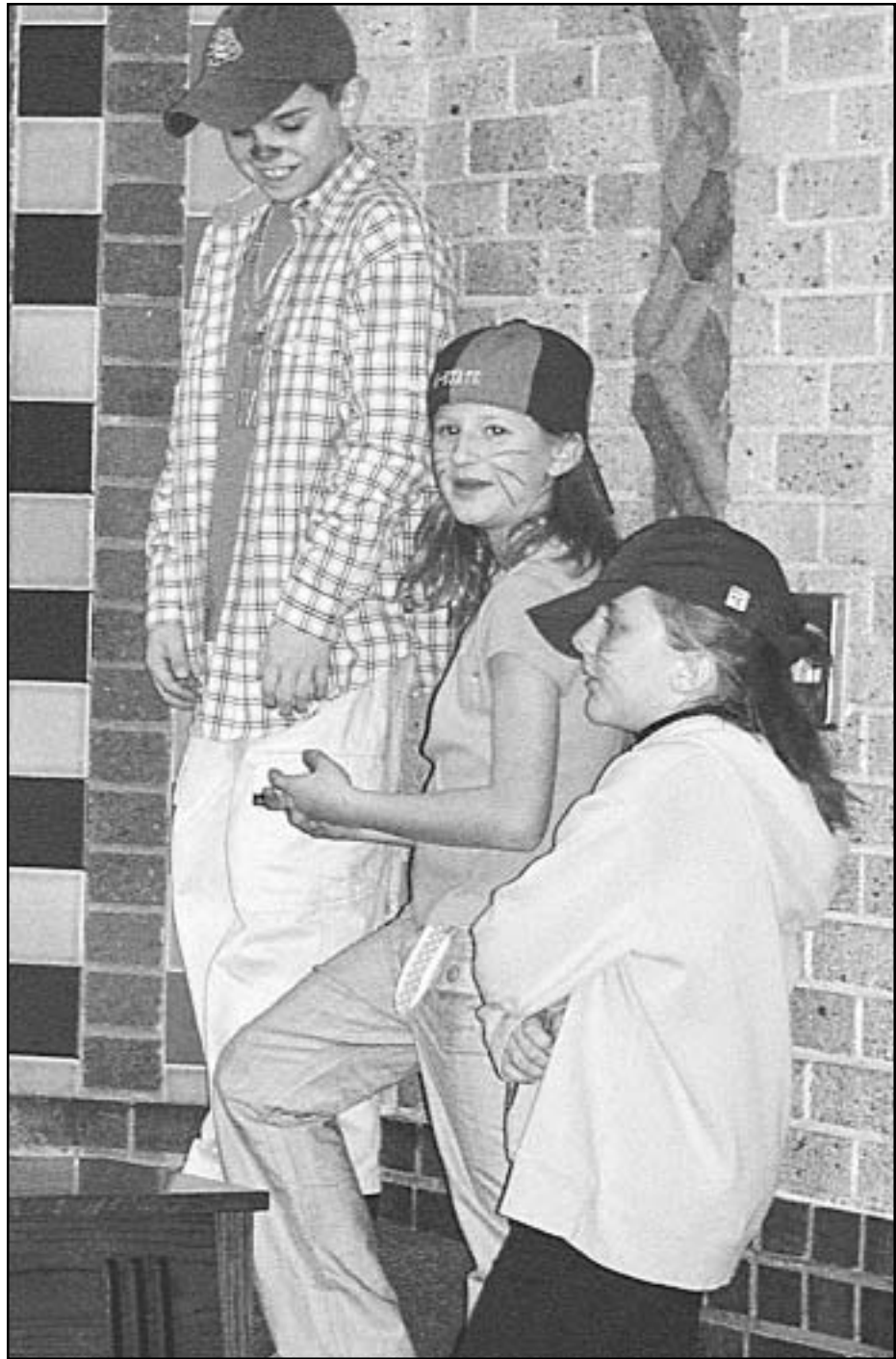
Eventually, the puppy and kitten teach the rest of the animals they can be friends regardless of species and sing "I'd Rather Be Your Friend." The musical ends with dogs and cats standing side by side to sing "United We Stand."

The singers were Cody Hooker, Gannon Ihrig, Pilar Olave and Abraham Sarmiento from Deb Bantam's class; John Aguirre,



Third grade girls from Central Elementary impersonated meowing cats at the "Sing for Unity" music program at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, at the high school auditorium. Gage Ihrig (right photo, from left), Taryn Bedore and Hope Cochran waited off stage for their cue to breakdance during the first song. Fionna Cruz (above) played one of the cats trying to convince the kitten to stay away from the puppy. Photos by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

Shelby Arnold, Breanna Garrett, Jovita Garza, Karlee Raile, Dax Ruhs, Taylen Smith and Garrett Williams from Susan Jensen's class; and Austin Burkett, Katrina Delgado, Tyler Gastineau, Kendra Grammon, Steven Johnson, Miranda Loya, Shay Miller, Elisa Soto and Tyler Steggall from Donna Whitmore's class.



Sherman deputies help spike tires in 110-mph Thomas chase

By Jan Katz Ackerman

Colby Free Press

Sherman County officers helped spike the tires of a car fleeing after a gas skip in Colby early Monday, ending 110-mph chase which began shortly after midnight.

Two men in the car were arrested near the Edson exit.

The chase began when a gas theft was reported by the clerk at the BP 24/7 Convenience store on South Range in Colby. Officers chased the car onto I-70, then west toward Brewster.

Officers from the Colby Police and the Thomas and Sherman County sheriff's departments converged on the car, an Alamo rental from Alabama. Gary C. Rutland, 53, Hiawatha, and Brian K. Pate, 40, Mount Olive, Ala., were ar-

rested

Colby Police Investigator Gary Shull said several officers were in the area when the call came in.

"They were westbound on the Interstate," Shull said, "and officers said they reached speeds of 110 miles per hour before tires of the rental car they were driving were spiked near the Edson exit at 12:25 a.m."

Deputies from the Sherman County Sheriff's Office in Goodland headed east to meet Thomas County and Colby officers, he said. Road spikes were set up at the Edson exit.

"We don't know yet whether the car is considered stolen," Shull said. "That depends on what Alabama laws are."

Rutland and Pate initially denied

knowing each other, he added, saying one of them was a hitchhiker the other had picked up. They later admitted they did know each other and were on their way to California, Shull said. Both men were booked into the Thomas County Jail on charges of fleeing and attempting to elude an officer and theft of fuel.

corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

Pantry plans to fight hunger

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Genesis food pantry board members plan to stamp out hunger in Sherman County with help from the Feinstein Foundation's March on Hunger in March and April.

In the next two months, said board member Joy Hayden, the food bank will encourage donations to get a matching grant from the foundation.

The grant will be based on the amount collected here, she said. Although they don't match the money directly, Hayden added, the foundation hands out \$1 million total to the applying agencies.

"The more donations we receive," said Hayden, "the more

our share of the grant money will increase."

The foundation is an 8-year old program created by Alan Shawn Feinstein. He has been dividing \$1 million among hunger-fighting agencies nationwide to help them raise money.

The Genesis program, Hayden said, wants to get in on this to help fight hunger here.

Genesis has been handing out food to less fortunate families for 20 years. A year-round pantry serves those the needy, and volunteers put together Christmas baskets every year.

The program provides temporary help, and families qualify after living in town for six months. They must wait six months before

they ask again.

Board member Kathryn Wedemeyer said since Christmas, food donations have dropped off and it seems like the food is handed out faster than it is replenished.

Hayden said the food bank needs nonperishable food items, including: canned fruits and vegetables, canned soups, macaroni and other dry pasta, Jell-O and pudding mixes, dry cereal and peanut butter.

She said they take cash donations for purchase of milk, bread and meat.

For information on the Feinstein challenge, go to www.feinsteinfoundation.org. To donate to the food bank, call Hayden at 890-2554 to arrange a pickup.

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 EQUAL HOUSING

student of the week



Name: Emily Burkett
Parents: Jerry and De Burkett
Grade: Senior
Age: 18
We've nominated this student because: Emily consistently completes work well and on time, even when she must miss class for other events. She is pleasant to everyone and interacts positively. These traits identify Emily as an outstanding student.

Student Comment: My favorite aspect of school is getting to participate in all of the sports and club activities. My favorite subject is Science. I will always all the fun times with my friends at Goodland High School after I graduate.

Activities involved in at school: DECA, American Field Service, Girl's Athletic Association, National Honor Society, Red Cross youth group and a student athlete trainer.

My choice of movies, books, and games: My favorite movie is The Notebook and I love reading history books.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: attend the University of Nebraska at Kearney and major in athletic training and optometry.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: either an athletic trainer at a college or an optometrist in Nebraska or Wyoming.


Favorite Quote: "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow." Anon.

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