

Norcatur man runs for representative

Bob Strevey, a Norcatur area farmer, has filed to run again for the Democratic nomination to the 120th District legislative seat.

Mr. Strevey and his wife Kay have three married daughters. He is a veteran of the Vietnam War, a retired teacher and a farmer-stockman south of Norcatur.

"I appreciate the difficulties facing our legislators during these times of economic hardship and drought," Mr. Strevey says. "When finances are tight, we must set careful priorities."

"I feel we should put programs that care for people such as schools, nursing homes and care of the disabled at the top of our list. Programs that are for capital improvements, such as new buildings, roads, research, should be delayed until more funds are available."

"Borrowing to pay current bills is poor policy. We should either raise the taxes or cut the programs, but it's not right to make our grandchildren pay for what we spend. It's also unwise to cut state income taxes when the state is already short of funds."

The result is to force local units of government to increase both sales and property taxes.

"Increases in sales taxes hurt our local merchants and encourages people to buy over the Internet or out of state. Increases in property taxes place a heavy burden on the elderly and on farmers. Some state programs may need to wait for better times."

"Our country is facing a crucial national election. I want to encourage everyone to register, to support their candidates and to become involved in the decision-making process."

Your vote does count and keep in mind our service people are making great sacrifices so you can have a chance to choose."

Mr. Strevey ran for the seat two years ago, losing in the general election to Rep. John Faber of Brewster.

Mr. Faber is running again this year. He faces opposition in the Republican primary from Doug Sebelius, the Norton County attorney. That race also is a rematch from 2002.

Accidents kill three over the weekend

A former Oberlin man and a McCook woman were killed in an accident over the weekend north of Herndon.

The Kansas Highway Patrol reported that Nicholas Hilton, 25, son of Connie Brown of Oberlin, and Lacey Brunswick, 18, and Tyson Chavis, 23, both of McCook, were in a 1991 Honda passenger car northbound on K-117 about five miles north of Herndon when the driver lost control.

The car went into the east ditch, rolled several times and came to a stop in a pasture.

Miss Brunswick was wearing a seat belt on but both Mr. Hilton and Mr. Chavis were thrown from the vehicle. The patrol wasn't sure who

was driving.

The accident was discovered at 7 a.m. Saturday morning.

Both Mr. Hilton and Miss Brunswick were killed. Mr. Chavis was taken to the Rawlins County Hospital, then flown to Denver.

The accident is still under investigation, a patrol spokesman said.

A separate accident near Cambridge, Neb., early Sunday killed Jessie J. Mowry, 20, son of Rick and Jan (Witt) Mowry of Wilsonville.

He was driving a pickup, when he missed the turn at the Cambridge Lake Road and U.S. 6. He went through the intersection and hit an embankment.

Mr. Mowry was taken to the Cambridge Memorial Hospital.



AFTER HE RECEIVED his diploma at the Jennings High graduation, Adam Miller (above) received a black-tipped yellow rose from Tiffany Wheeler. Andrew Coiner (below right) held his diploma for all to see. Eighth grader Ashley Brown (below left) stood to be recognized.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Brandt

Coyotes graduate class of 12 seniors

By KIMBERLY BRANDT

Dressed in black robes, 12 students listened to a guest speaker, waiting patiently to receive diplomas they have worked for the past 12 years of their lives.

Jennings High School seniors who graduated on Sunday included Grant Bailey, Nathan Becker, Andrew Coiner, Buddy Graf, Matthew Heinrich, Sara Kier, Brett McKenna, Adam Miller, Katie Randolph, Zane Smith, Adam Wahlmeier and Nicholas Wahlmeier.

Katie Randolph, class valedictorian, started the speeches. She said no one should judge a book by its cover. She talked about the fact that she lives in a town with around three streets yet still had fun growing up.

She said she has been with the class since the beginning. She shared some memories, from when they were in kindergarten to the beginning of their four-year high school quest.

Miss Randolph said they are no longer the big kids. Soon, they'll be little fish in a big pond. In school, she said, she learned how to be a team player and how to have real friendships.

After getting a lot of advice in the last week to make her speech short and not to cry, she said that is exactly what she wanted to do, and that's what she did.

Salutatorian Grant Bailey said he had lots of memories, from kindergarten visitation to graduation. About 14 years ago, he said, a small group of the graduates started preschool, then went on to kindergarten — several boys and one girl. He said in third grade, another girl joined the class. Over the years, other students have joined, but still there are only the two girls.

There were other students who



came into the class, he said, but they didn't last. Mr. Bailey said they must be a rough class, since the other students didn't last.

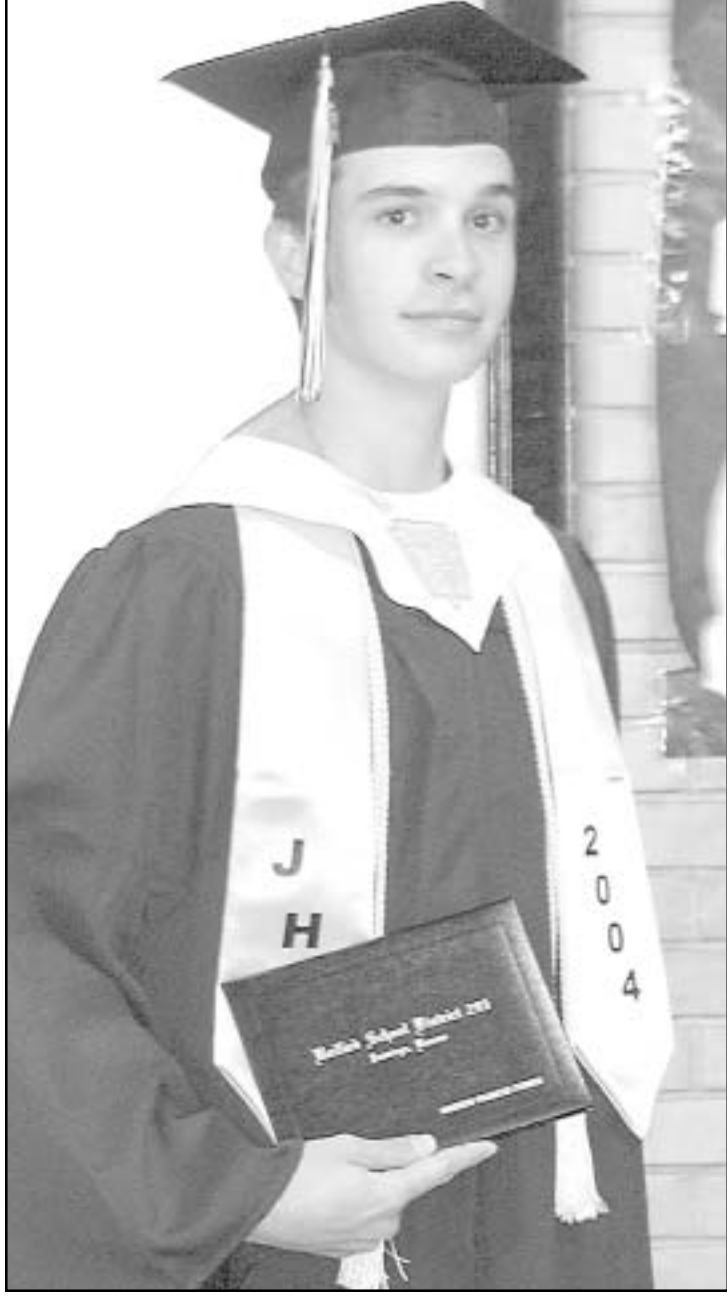
Before leaving the stage, he said a lot of thank yous.

The guest speaker, Abner Williams, said he was honored to be in Jennings on such a special day. He asked all the eighth grade graders and graduates to stand. He then asked all parents, guardians and relatives to stand, then the teachers and school board, and finally, the clergy.

To all of those standing with these young people, said Mr. Williams, no matter what their occupation, all are high-impact educators. Each one has made a difference in the lives of these young people. The graduates wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them.

For the graduates, he said, the diploma proves that they have high intelligence, ambition and can learn.

Mr. Williams said he served in the Green Berets, the Army Special Forces, and found that no country can rattle the United States. The U.S. doesn't put limitations on people, he



said, but allows anyone to do whatever they want and be what they want to be.

It is not a disgrace to die with dreams unfulfilled, he said, but it is a disgrace to die never having dreamed.

Mr. Williams told the students to remember a quote by Eleanor Roosevelt, "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."

Before leaving the stage, Mr. Williams had each student stand. In preparation for the speech, he had

asked each of the graduates to say something about their fellow classmates. While each student stood, those comments were read out loud, then each of the graduates received their diploma and a black-tipped yellow rose.

Eighth graders who have completed all the requirements and will move onto the ninth grade also were recognized. They included Ashley Brown, Erika Cano, Joseph Carter, Brittany Ritter and Josh Stone.

School in Oberlin will close for the summer next Wednesday

Next Wednesday will be the last day of school in Oberlin.

Although the original schedule said school would let out on Thursday, that was changed at the beginning

of the year as part of cutting five days out of the schedule.

Students will be released at 11:30 a.m. next Wednesday for summer break. Teachers will have a work

day on Thursday and grades for both elementary and junior and senior

high school will be mailed to students on Wednesday, June 2.

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