

* Kids' essays hang in capital

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Since Miki took first place, she won an expense-paid trip with a chaperone to Washington.
The family, including her mom and dad and sisters, went to Washington in July.

While there, Miki received a personal tour of the museum and the U.S. Capitol and was scheduled to get one of the White House, but it was closed that day while President George Bush held a special bill signing ceremony.
Here are the essays:

this century.
Now let's look at communication. We have cell phones, house phones, and e-mail.

People in the future might not have these things. If archaeologists in the

Twenty-second Century find these items, they may realize how important they were to us. Phones could show them how we used technology, and how our forms of technology worked.

Cell phones could show people in the future how satellites worked in our time. These modes of communication might show future archaeologists how much we valued items that are no longer important to them.

Televisions, computers, gaming units, personal data assistants; you name it, we've got it. If archeologists found items of our technology they might realize that our technology wasn't nearly as advanced as theirs.

Future people would find out that we couldn't do all of the things they can.

We think of the technology that we have as amazing, yet the things we use now might seem primitive to them. Although the technology of today might seem basic, they will still learn how important computers and other electronic devices were to us.

Our world of sports just keeps getting larger, and larger, but all of our sports had to be invented sometime.

If future archeologists found books or equipment dealing with the spots that we play now, they might find out about a lot of sports they didn't even know existed. They could find out the things that amused us and the things that we were interested in.

They would understand our ways of playing some of our favorite pastimes.

Take football for instance; it is one of the most popular sports today. If people from the future learned about it they could realize just how important it was to us.

Finding the protective gear the athletes use now, they would see how much we value our athletes' safety.

They might even begin to play it again in the future. Historians could also learn about how the landscaping changed due to construction of golf courses, football fields, and other athletic venues.

Say a group of future archeologists finds a stove or microwave. After finding out what the item was and how it was used, they might start to wonder about the food we ate and how we prepared it.

In the future, people might have devices to make whatever they want to eat appear.
Our ways of preparing food may be totally new to them.

People could find out how we cook food on a stove and warm things up using a microwave. This could also introduce some foods we have that people in the future have never heard of.

They might wonder why we need a refrigerator. If they can just make food appear, then why would they need one? They could realize that the foods that we have could rot or become moldy if they weren't kept cold.

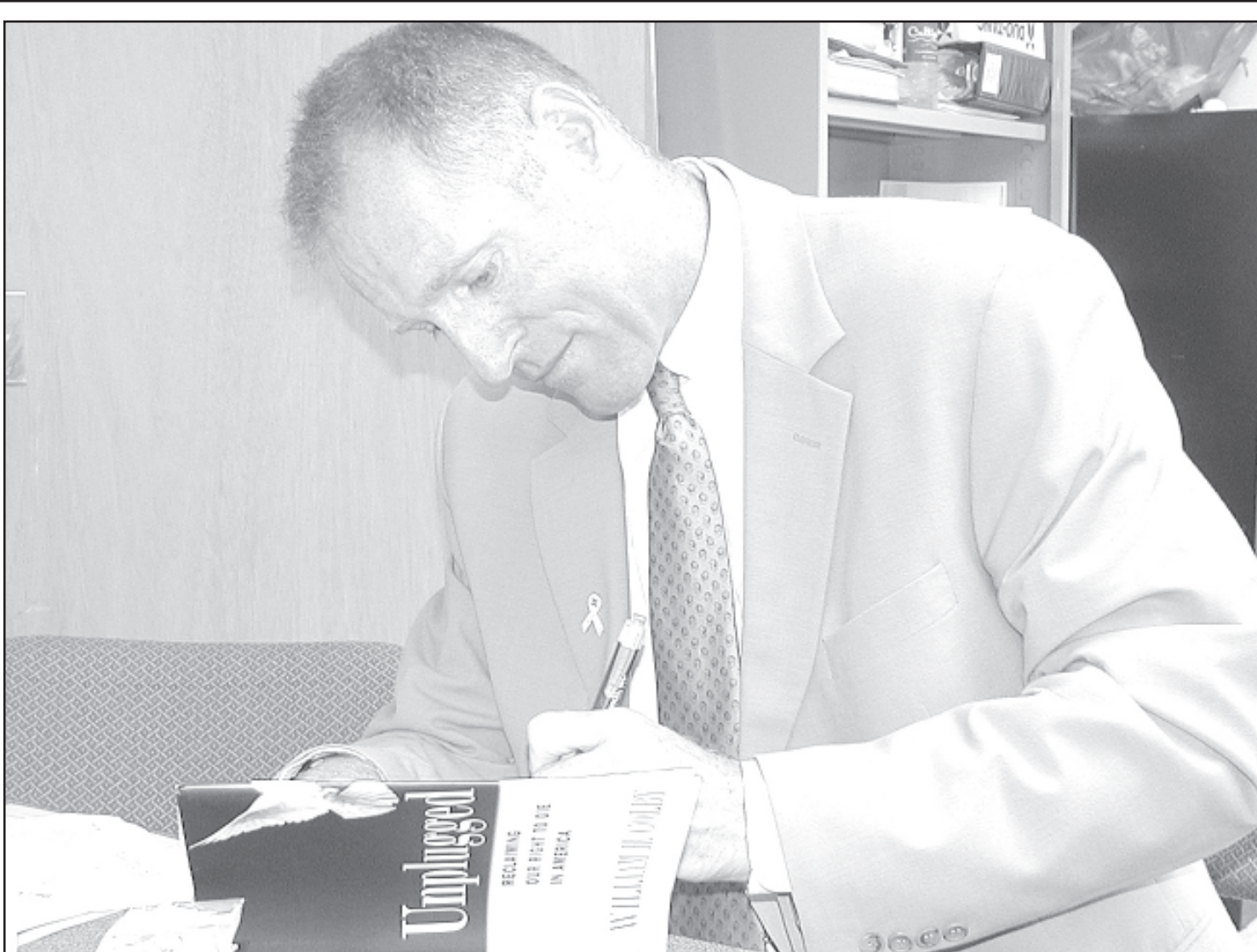
They could learn more about the food we ate. They could then compare the food that they eat with the way that food used to be.

Now for personal hygiene. If people found toothbrushes, soap, and sinks, they might start to wonder about us

They could learn more about the value of personal hygiene in our society, and about some diseases we have now that they might have cured in the future. They could learn more about how we stayed clean.

So you see, the things that archeologists could find could teach them about our type of life.

It could open their eyes to new ways of life that they don't know about. Our technology and other necessities could teach the archeologists in the future about many things.



AT DECATUR COUNTY HOSPITAL, Bill Colby, author and lawyer, signed his newest book after he spoke at a luncheon for the medical staff. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

* Author signs copies of his newest book

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There is both clear and unclear paperwork that still doesn't tell the doctor how to treat the patient. Even if the patient has clear documents saying what they want, he said, those papers might not be useful when working out family disputes that start over these is-

sues.
Everyone needs to talk with patients and family about life issues while they are still healthy, said Mr. Colby.

The recent case of Terry Schiavo would be a good entry into the issue, he said.

Some of the nurses and medical

personnel asked questions mostly about the right time to bring up the issue of the right-to-die and how the author did it in his family. He said he brought the forms home over Thanksgiving and his mother didn't want to talk about it. Gisela Fisher asked if Mr. Colby's mother was still alive. Mr. Colby said she

wasn't and in the end he did know her wishes.

Mr. Colby said this isn't really about having your wishes carried out, but that those people who are dying leave their family knowing that they made the right decisions and that family members left behind don't feel guilty.

Technology could improve road grading

The Decatur County road crew attended a meeting last Wednesday about a new global positioning system program that helps the operator of a maintainer know the degree of the slope needed to grade a given road.

The AcuGrade System, said road and bridge supervisor Tim Stallman, is a laser process where sensors are placed on the blade of a grader and then a CD from a computer tells the operator the variances of the slope. The technology is com-

ing where the crew would put the coordinates in a computer and then take the CD and put it in the computer in the machinery to help, he said.

Mr. Stallman said there is almost no training needed to use the program, but the equipment and software would cost the county around \$15,000.

He said he has received a call about the parking lot north of the Good Samaritan Center. Mr. Stallman said he thinks the county needs to do the dirt work so Nelson Construction can put in new driveways and do some sidewalk work, then the rock will be brought in and the road crew can spread it. There might be some charges for the ma-

chine and labor to the center, he said.
Mr. Stallman asked the commissioners to ratify two purchases over \$500. He said grader 124 had a master cylinder program which cost \$670 and the manuals for the 6615 John Deere mower tractors cost \$1,346.

The commissioners approved the purchases.

Bridge narrows with work

The bridge over Sappa Creek at the south edge of town on U.S. 83 will be reduced to one lane for about a month as a Kansas Department of Transportation crew repairs deteriorating deck surface.

Part of the deck is deteriorating, as are approach slabs and the adjacent sidewalks, said Kristen Brands, district public affairs manager with the department in Norton.

The work will start this week and be completed by the end of September, weather permitting. Last year, the department put in an asphalt patch, said Jeff Stewart, district construction and materials engineer, and this job will be a fix to that patch.

While the crew is curing concrete, people driving on the bridge might not see any activity, Mrs. Brands said. The open lane will be 14 feet wide at the most. Traffic will be controlled by a set of temporary stop lights, one at each end of the work zone.

Anyone driving on the bridge should expect delays of six minutes or less, Mrs. Brands said.

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Landfill to change Saturdays

The Decatur County commissioners agreed last Tuesday to change the Saturday that the county landfill is open in September because of the Labor Day holiday.

Normally, the landfill is open the first Saturday in the month, but that falls on a holiday weekend. The commissioners agreed to change the Saturday the landfill is open to Sept. 9.

The landfill will be open from 9 a.m. to noon.

R&M Service Center, Fidele Electric, Woodworking and Building Supply, Raye's Grocery, Fredrickson Insurance Agency, the LandMark Inn, Farm Credit of Western Kansas, Golt Home Planning Center, Prairie Petals, Wagner Chevrolet, Ward Drug Store and The Herald.

* Football games could lead to cash

once per week but entry blanks for every member of the family are available at the sponsors' businesses.

An entry blank also will be printed in the paper each week.

Employees of The Herald are not allowed to enter the game.
Participating businesses include