

Claremore Progress

## Sundaes for seats

Employees of Claremore's Wal-Mart had the rare opportunity to turn their managers into human ice cream sundaes.

Smearred with ice cream, syrup, whipped cream, and even a cherry on top, the crew raised \$3000 to purchase seats for the new Claremore Performing Arts Center.

A minimum of \$200 guaranteed that a favorite manager would go under the scoop. Extra donations would add various toppings, turning them into cold, colorful works of art.

Lindel Stephens, store manager, suggested the idea and put the plan into motion, even though he eventually ended up resembling a hot fudge sundae himself.

Previously, the store had raised \$2000 for the Claremore Performing Arts Center — making their total contribution \$5000 toward the purchase of seats for the theater.

"Everywhere I turn," said Ruby Quinn, CPAC executive director, "I am moved by the tremendous sense of community that the citizens of Claremore embody and the employees of Wal-Mart are a prime example."

Frank and Ludmila Robson, the benefactors behind the building of the center, knew that the community of Claremore could be called upon to make the dream of a Performing Arts Center a reality, Quinn said.

Wal-Mart's sundae fundraiser has helped bring the total of the center's Select-A-Seat campaign to \$176,865 with the goal of \$214,000.

Completion date for the center is set for May 1, at which time it will be turned over to Claremore Public Schools.

"As we get closer to the completion of the Claremore Performing Arts Center, the citizens of Claremore continue to step up with new and interesting ways to raise funds for our students and for our community," Quinn said.

Although it's probably much more enjoyable to eat it than to wear it, Wal-Mart's "Sundaes for Seats" fundraiser was a huge success.

For information on contributing to the Select-A-Seat campaign, call 341-3025.



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