

CCC Student Featured on Nationwide Radio Program

Written by Debbie Schwanke

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Colby Community College sophomore Nick Rice will be featured on a nationwide radio program *Joni and Friends*, on September 8. The program will be aired locally on KGCR-FM (107.7) at 11:35 a.m. and again at 11:35 p.m.

The host for the program, Joni Eareckson Tada, is an evangelical Christian, author, radio host, and founder of *Joni and Friends*, an organization “accelerating Christian ministry in the disability community.”

Rice, a graduate of Garden City High School, is majoring in broadcasting. His mother Betty and father Earle moved with Nick to Colby when he decided to attend CCC.

“I’m glad I chose Colby,” said Rice. “I was on the radio station in high school. I decided on Colby because instructor Joe Vyzourek understands disabilities. He was willing to give me a chance. He does some amazing things.”

Rice played in the CCC Concert and Pep Band last year. He will continue this year playing percussion in the Trojan Pep Band.

“My high school counselor recommended Colby Community College,” said Rice. “She said they have a good broadcasting program.”

Nick is accompanied by his mother or father to his classes. He is enrolled in 13 hours this semester and plans to graduate from CCC in May.

Tada interviewed Rice via telephone in August for the *Joni and Friends* broadcast. She offered him an internship next summer at the organization’s headquarters located in California.

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"I'm not sure what I'll be doing for the group," said Rice. "Perhaps editing or something like that for the radio program."

The interview was not Nick's first contact with Tada. He has attended several family retreats sponsored by the organization.

"I've been to retreats in Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Mission Springs, California," said Rice. "My parents also attend the retreats. There are activities for the campers and for the caregivers."

In his spare time, Rice enjoys horseback riding. He has one older sister who attends Kansas State University. His twin brother is enrolled at Metro State College in Denver.