



# COLBY FREE PRESS

6 pages

## Rooftop party, manhunt keep lawmen on the go

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

The Colby Police Department and Thomas County Sheriff's office stayed busy during the Labor Day weekend when law enforcement officials were involved in a rooftop party complaint on Saturday that resulted in a man being arrested for battery, and a roll-over accident and a manhunt on Sunday.

In the rooftop incident that occurred just after midnight on Saturday, said Gary Shull, Colby Police Department investigator, officers received a call complaining about the party at 145 E. 5th St.

When police arrived, Shull said, they saw a man, Isaiah Ray Sattler, 20, of Goodland, going down the fire escape ladder from the roof on the outside of the building.

According to the report, Sattler failed to stop when the police officer ordered him to do so, and instead the man went into the second story hallway and ran through the building.

"As he was fleeing down the interior stairs, a second officer that was at the bottom of the stairs ordered him to stop," Shull said. "In response, Sattler paused, then ran at the officer, jumped the last few steps and into the officer," he said.

Although the officer was knocked backwards to the floor, a struggle ensued, but Sattler got away when his shirt ripped from the officers grasp, Shull said.

A third officer saw Sattler running near 5th and Lincoln Streets a few min-

utes later and with the help of the K-9 unit found the man at about 1:53 a.m. in the 300 block of N. Lincoln.

Sattler was arrested and booked into jail for battery on a law enforcement officer, use of force in resisting arrest and obstructing the official duty of a police officer.

In addition, if there was any damage to the roof, Shull said, the man could face charges of criminal trespass and criminal damage to property.

He could also face charges of criminal damage to property with respect to tearing the clothing of a uniformed officer.

In the second incident involving a rollover accident five miles north of Colby at 5:53 a.m., Sunday, a Colby police officer and officials with the Thomas County Sheriff's Department responded to the scene to discover five people, with one of those who apparently wandered away from the mishap.

"Many on-duty and off-duty officers assisted in the search for the man," Shull said.

Later in the evening, Thomas County law enforcement officers again were called to the area south and east of the Interstate 70 rest area between Colby and Levant in response to a manhunt.

The deputies involved in the rollover accident and manhunt were not available for details today, said officials at the law enforcement center.

However, more information will appear in Wednesday's edition on those two incidents.

## Pet shop shut down

By DARREL PATTILLO

Colby Free Press

The Kansas Animal Health Department was in Colby recently to shut down Exotic Petland, a new downtown business, because of sanitation problems and failure on the part of owner Dustin Baker to obtain a license from the state to keep and sell animals.

"We gave Mr. Baker several opportunities to obtain a license," said Debbie Duncan, spokesperson for the department. "We also had concerns about the health, safety, and welfare of the animals."

Two vans from the department were used to haul away dozens of animals, including puppies, snakes, birds, small mammals, reptiles and fish. Baker was allowed to keep his personal pets.

Several sick puppies were taken to the veterinarian by Baker.

Baker, in a consent agreement with the state, will not be allowed to sell or breed any animals for the next two years, and will also not acquire any new animals for the same period of time, and must submit to periodic inspections by the KHAD.

He could have been fined up to \$1,000 for not having a license for the fiscal year that ended June 30, and another \$1,000 for not having a license for the fiscal year that began July 1, said Duncan. If Baker violates any of the terms of the consent agreement, he will be fined up to \$1,000 per violation, she said.

Baker may re-apply for a license after the two-year period has passed.



MICHELLE L. HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

ABOVE: Kathi Hapke and John Scott's dog, Tico, walked along the parade route on Saturday morning handing out candy to the many people who came to watch. BELOW: The family of Enda Colson participated in the alumni parade in their own unique way. Four genera-

tions were represented throughout the parade driving John Deere tractors along the route. Shown above is Grace Colson Kauk driving and waving to the crowd with her granddaughter Linnsey Elling. Linnsey is the daughter of James and Shauna Elling.

## Rexford alumni have fun event

By MICHELLE L. HAWKINS

Colby Free Press

Rexford was the place to be this past weekend as they hosted the "blast from the past" millennium alumni celebration.

Kathi Hapke, president of the alumni committee, said they had a good turnout. "We would have liked to have seen more people come out, but all that we wanted to do, we did," said Hapke.

The weekend started on Friday night with the soap scrimmage and tailgate party at the football field.

Saturday morning a parade was held on Main Street. Hapke estimated more than 30 parade entries participated.

"We appreciate all of the out-of-town people who shared in our day," she said. She said many of the parade participants and observers came from Colby and other locations in

the area.

After the parade, many people spent the afternoon at the City Park to enjoy entertainment. Singing was provided by the McLemores, Root 36, Shawna Eberle and Leonard Hopper.

Along with the singing, the sophomore class from Golden Plains High School sponsored a dunking booth, while the freshman class took care of the blow-up rides from Mile High Jumpers.

Hapke said the blow-up rides were completely paid for from drug seizure money from the Thomas County Sheriff's Department.

The Alumni Barbecue was followed by a business meeting in which plans were started on the 2004 Alumni Celebration.

The Golden Plains reunions are usually held every three years, but it was decided during the meeting to now hold them every two years. The same

committee was elected to put together the 2004 events.

Hapke will remain president, while the other officers are Terry Preston, vice-president; Carol Jones, secretary; and Dan Spresser, treasurer.

A beer garden and street dance ended the Saturday festivities.

On Sunday, the Rexford Community Church held its services in the City Park.

"We had a really good turnout for that," said Hapke.

The junior class sponsored a volleyball tournament in the afternoon in which they had four teams participate. The Wizards, a team comprised of Leroy Spresser, Austin Spresser, Tyler Richardson, Michelle Juenemann, Shawna Peterson and Lisa Bice, took home the first place prize.

Hapke said they were really pleased with the weekend and are anxious to do it again in 2004.



## WeatherWatch Colby-Oakley area

**The numbers**  
Monday's high, 88  
Low this morning, 58  
Year ago today, 90 and 57  
Temperature at 10:45 a.m. today, 74  
Colby's August rainfall total, 4.17  
Soil temp at the 4-inch depth, 75  
Records for Sept. 3, 105 in 1947 and 32 in 1974

**The forecast**  
Today's high was expected to reach the lower 90s. Tonight, partly cloudy, lows middle 60s, slight chance for thunderstorms, south winds 15-25, gusting to near 35 mph. Wednesday, sunny and breezy, highs in the lower 90s, south winds 15-25, gusting to 35. Wednesday night, clear, lows in the lower 60s. Thursday, sunny, highs in the lower 90s. (Temperatures and precipitation are from the Northwest Research-Extension Center, unless otherwise noted. Forecast is from the National Weather Service.)

**Colby Water Usage**  
• (not available)  
**Levels of Concern**  
**Watch** Level 3.5 million gallons  
**Warning** Level 4.0 million gallons  
**Emergency** Level 4.5 million gallons  
(Three consecutive days)

## St. Francis candidate's proposal sparks hot debate across state

TOPEKA (AP) — Superintendent Milt Pippenger knows some of the children in his Garden City school district are the children of illegal or undocumented immigrants.

If one State Board of Education candidate got her wish that wouldn't be the case, even though a 20-year-old U.S. Supreme Court ruling prohibits public schools from denying immigrant students access to a public education.

Connie Morris of St. Francis pro-

poses barring the children of illegal immigrants from attending public schools, saying the cost of educating them was draining away state tax dollars. The Republican candidate has no Democratic challenger in the general election.

Morris, a teacher, has said she's aware of the court ruling on the subject. "We'll cross that bridge when we get to it," she said.

Differing responses to the proposal

came from candidates in the governor's race.

Republican Tim Shallenburger said, "Ask me in a week. I have to think about it."

Democrat Kathleen Sebelius believes Kansas should provide an education to undocumented immigrant children.

"We have an obligation to educate every child living in Kansas, period," said Sebelius spokeswoman Nicole

Corcoran-Basso.

School officials like Pippenger are caught in the middle of the debate. More than half of his 7,900 students are Hispanic, with other students from southeast Asia, Africa and Europe.

Many of the families were attracted to high-paying jobs at the ConAgra meat packing plant in Garden City. They stayed in the southwest Kansas town even after the plant was destroyed in a December 2000 fire.

Pippenger said he would continue teaching the children of illegal immigrants, even if federal law didn't require it.

"From a moral standpoint, I owe it to educate every youngster living in my district," he said. "They have no control over what their circumstances are."

He's backed by people like Joseph Berra, an attorney with the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund in San Antonio.

## Briefly

### Youth activity in September

The Community Awareness Team is sponsoring a "Coffee House Night" in the City Limits conference room, Saturday, Sept. 14, from 8 to 11 p.m. The activity will feature an open microphone for youth to share poetry, music or other talents, and refreshments will be served. The event is free and open to all students. For questions or information, call Janet Worthy, coordinator, 462-8152.

### No school board meeting tonight

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the regular meeting of the Colby School Board, scheduled for tonight, has been canceled and will not be rescheduled. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Sept. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Administration building, 210 S. Range Avenue.

### Flea market sponsors needed

The Rexford Pride Organization is sponsoring its last Farmers/Flea Market of the years on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Booth costs are \$10 per space and anyone interested in participating as a vendor or needing information, call call Evelyn Johnson, (785) 687-3925.

### Actors sought for fall production

The Colby Community College drama department will be conducting auditions for the fall production of *Scapino!* by Frank Dunlop and Jim Dale on Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 4-5. Auditions will begin at 7 p.m. in the Cultural Arts Center on the Colby College campus. The auditions are open to students and the community, said Walter Yuhre, drama instructor, and will consist of reading from the script. "Actors who have prepared monologues are invited to perform their audition pieces," he said. The play will feature roles for both men and women between the ages of 18 to 65 with performance dates of Nov. 7, 8 and 9. For questions or information, call Yuhre at 462-4783.

### Fall festival planned Saturday

Everyone is invited to take part in the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce event, "Celebration on the High Plains Fall Festival," scheduled to begin at 10 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 7, at Southwind Plaza in Colby. Tickets for evening concerts are available at Farmers and Merchants Bank, KQLS/KXXX, Donelan's Jewelry, First National Bank, Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce, Farmers State Bank of Oakley, Southwind Plaza and Dave's His Shop.

### Crafters needed for fall event

Plans for the annual Colby Girl Scout Craft Sale are now underway, said Jan Barnum, coordinator. As in year's past, Barnum said crafters are needed for the event, which will be held on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Colby Community Colby. For questions or information on how to arrange for a booth at the "Craft-a-Ganza," call her at 462-6503.

### Mosquito spraying continues

City of Colby crews are continuing to spray for mosquitoes for the remainder of the summer. Anyone who would like to be notified when crews will be in their area can call Jo Strange, executive secretary to the city manager, at 462-4410. In addition, the city is urging residents to check their yards and empty anything that is holding stagnant water, such as cans, swimming pools, tires, etc., to keep the mosquito population to a minimum.

### Landfill hours revisited

The Thomas County Landfill is open for their summer hours Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. For information about the landfill or charges contact Larry Jumper at 462-8139.

