



# COLBY FREE PRESS

## Criminal charges are filed

By MICHELLE L. HAWKINS  
*Colby Free Press*

After the early Monday morning arrests of Melissa Ricketts and Ryan Schenck following a high speed chase and shoot-out, Thomas County Attorney Allen Taylor filed formal criminal charges against them on Thursday, Gary Shull, Colby Police Department investigator, said today.

Ricketts and Schenck were taken into custody after a chase that ended just inside Logan County. A third suspect, and driver of the vehicle, Robert Poulsen, 30, died shortly after being taken to the Logan County Hospital, as the result of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Shull said both Ricketts, 20, and Schenck, 26 are being charged with aggravated assault on the following law enforcement officers: Ron Alexander, Bobby Herron, Allen Marcum and Tom Nickols. They are also being charged with criminal discharge of a firearm on an occupied vehicle. Shots were fired at each of the aforementioned officers' vehicles, while they were in pursuit. In addition, they are charged with one count of theft of stolen property in the case of the 1991 red Mercury Topaz in which they were riding.

Officers in Mesa County, Colorado listed the vehicle stolen after the body of it's owner, Chad Lee Anderson, was discovered in the Gunnison River near Grand Junction, Colo. on Saturday afternoon. Anderson, 25, is from Hayden, Colo. Reports from the Mesa County Sheriff's Department said they are unclear as to what Anderson was doing in Grand Junction at the time of his death, or his relationship with the three suspects.

Formal charges against the pair have not been filed in Logan County. During the incident, Logan County Under-sheriff Jason Moses was attending to the spike strips which were used to stop the speeding car. Shots were fired at Moses while he was out of his vehicle, which caused him to have to dive for cover, said Shull.

Colby Police Chief Randall Jones, and Thomas County Sheriff Tom Jones, both responded to the crime scene in the early hours of Monday morning.

"Both (Jones and Jones) were pleased with the professionalism in the way the police officers and the police dispatcher handled the incident," said Shull.

Both Ricketts and Schenck remain in custody in the Thomas County Jail. Bond was set at \$500,000 for each of them.

## WeatherWatch Colby-Oakley area

### The numbers

Thursday's high, 70  
Low this morning, (brrr) 40  
Year ago today, 80 and 54  
Temperature at 11:15 a.m. today, 69

Colby's 24-hour rainfall, 0.00  
Oakley's 24-hour rainfall, 0.00  
Soil temp at the 4-inch depth, 66  
Records for Sept. 20, 101 in 1980 and 32 in 1943

### The forecast

Tonight, expect partly cloudy conditions, lows in the upper 40s, northwest winds 10-15 mph, turning to the northeast late. Saturday, partly sunny, highs in the middle 70s, northeast winds 10-15 mph. Saturday night, mostly clear, lows in the lower 40s. Sunday, partly sunny early, then becoming cloudy, highs near 70. Sunday night, mostly cloudy early, then becoming clear, lows in the lower 40s. Monday, clear and windy, highs in the upper 60s. Definitely a fall forecast.

### Colby Water Usage

•Sept. 19=1.770 million gallons  
**Levels of Concern**  
**Watch** Level 3.5 million gallons  
**Warning** Level 4.0 million gallons

**Emergency** Level 4.5 million gallons  
(Three consecutive days)



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press

Five-year old Cassidy West, daughter of Tanya West of Colby, watched as Ron Kogler loaded old car seats into the county trash truck. Over fifty seats were disposed of Thursday afternoon, with replacements being given away free by the Thomas County Health Department.

## Fifty free car seats are distributed

By DARREL PATTILLO  
*Colby Free Press*

Fifty car seats were given away free on Thursday afternoon by the Thomas County Health Department in an effort to help replace aging car seats.

Connie Walden and Amy Meyer, of the health department, exchanged old seats for new with 29 residents, and a trash truck from the county was there to gobble up and crush the outdated seats.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Association considers a car

seat out of date after six years.

"We had 50 new car seats to give away," said Meyer, "and we were giving away one per family, and when we realized we were going to have a few left over, we gave another one to anyone who needed it."

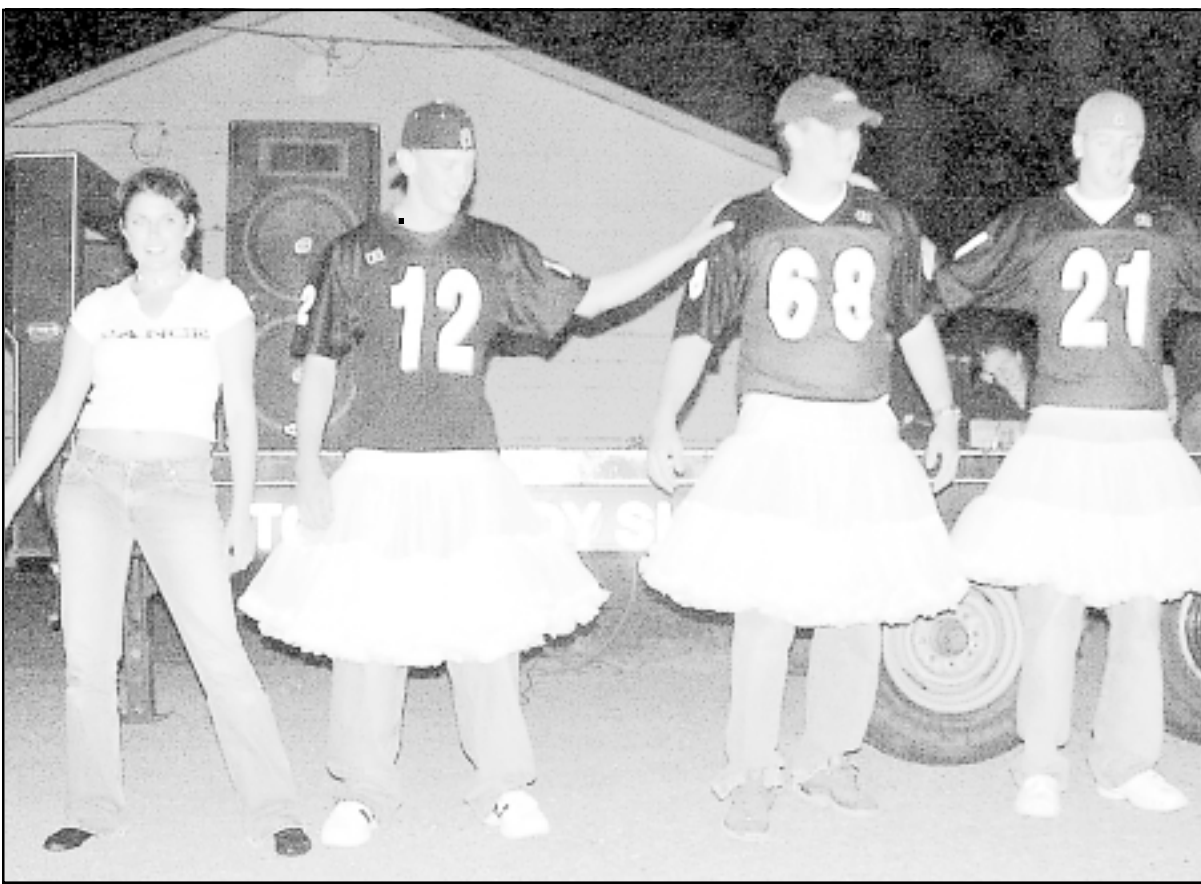
The idea to exchange old car seats for new ones came about after Walden and Meyer attended a car seat safety workshop in May, which was put on by the National Highway Traffic Safety Association. It was at that workshop that Walden and Meyer were certified to install car seats.

"Nine out of ten car seats are installed wrong," Meyer said. "So if anyone has any doubts about whether their car seats are put in correctly, they can come down to the health department (350 S. Range) and we will insure that they are in correctly."

All together, over fifty car seats were destroyed by Ron Kogler and Kevin Helus, who were manning the garbage truck.

Keyna Baalman, with the Colby Police Department, talked to the crowd while the truck was chewing up the old car seats.

## New to this game



MICHELLE L. HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

Colby High School held its annual Homecoming bonfire/pep rally Thursday night at the Thomas County Fairgrounds. ABOVE: Kelsey Strickler, left, supervised three 'new members' of the Colby Eagle dance team, #12 Jared Cranston, #68 Tanner Brown, and #21 Jordan Harris.

## Briefly

### Water restrictions lifted

The Colby City Council, at its Sept. 17 meeting, approved lifting water restrictions effective today (Friday). "The utility committee asks that we all continue to conserve water whenever possible and that we make every effort to not waste water," a city spokesperson said.

### Book fair dates announced

A *Scholastic Book Fair* will be held next Monday and Tuesday at the Colby Grade School, room 107. Monday's hours are from 5-9 p.m. and on Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. The Sorosis Club and Colby PTO are sponsoring the fair with proceeds to community projects and Colby Grade School.

### Sacred Heart book fair noted

Scared Heart School in Colby will hold a Scholastic Book Fair next week Monday and Tuesday, reports David Evert, principal. Monday's hours are from 5:30-9:15 p.m., Tuesday from 2—8 p.m.

### Donations needed by auxiliary

Donations of good new or used holiday items are needed for the Recycled Holidays Sale sponsored by the Citizens Medical Center Auxiliary. Donations may be left at 545 Woofter Avenue in the evenings after 5 p.m. or call 462-7777 or 462-6896. The sale will be Saturday, Oct. 19, from 8 to 11 a.m. at 545 Woofter Avenue.

### Post Polio meeting is Sunday

Anyone interested in post polio syndrome is invited to a meeting at 3 p.m. Sunday at Pioneer Memorial Library. A video, "Recent Advances in Treating Post Polio Syndrome," by Dr. Susan Perlman, will be shown. Everyone is invited who has had polio, or even what was diagnosed as a bad case of flu, and who is experiencing fatigue, unexplained weakness, or depression.

### After harvest festival to be held

The social problems class at Colby Community College will

## Board approves impact study

By MICHELLE L. HAWKINS  
*Colby Free Press*

The discussion of the economic impact study was brought up once again at this week's meeting of the Colby Community College Board of Trustees.

In a previous meeting of the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees, a proposition was made to the representatives from the 19 community colleges to participate in an economic impact study. The company proposing the study offered a cut rate to do the work if all 19 colleges agreed to do it together.

Don Kready, Colby's representative on the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees, said that at the July meeting the proposed cut was between \$3,600 and \$3,800. The normal cost of the project is \$6,200. Colby Community College decided not to participate, feeling the results were not going to be worth the money spent.

But in the August meeting of the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees, members from Johnson County Community College said they would conduct the study for all of the colleges at a cost of \$2,000. Of that cost, Kansas Association of Community College Trustees would pick up half the bill.

The Colby trustees agreed that the study would be cost effective if they were only paying \$1,000 for the information and agreed to participate.

The purposes of the report would show the economic return to the area, city, and county by college students.

In other business:

- The trustees agreed to accept the proposal of the committee established to review the master agreement and

liquidated damages in the early resignation of Tonya Milliken. The damages were waived due to the circumstances of her move.

- Dean of Student Services Skip Sharp's name was added to the existing depository signatures due to the fact it would be needed to be used this weekend for expenses from the college rodeo.

- A total of 115 contracts were approved. Of the contracts, five were new contracts, 64 were supplemental contracts and 46 were outreach supplemental contracts.

- Affiliation agreements were approved for the physical therapy program.

- An agreement was reached with the Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency to facilitate and use their test. There was a \$330 fee involved with the agreement.

- An agreement was approved through the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center in Oakley to provide sign language interpreters.

- The trustees approved Shelly Huelsman in the library to apply for regrant money from the government. This money is given by the federal government to the state and then is applied for and re-granted out to the school. The application required signatures by the board.

- Discussion was held about the possibilities of reviewing and amending the policies and procedures manual. Current pricings of the project would require \$1,200 for the review of the manual and \$7,500 for the actual rewrite.

No action was taken at this time.

- Payment of claims were approved in the amount of \$701,461.52.

## Charges pending against three

By MICHELLE L. HAWKINS  
*Colby Free Press*

As the result of an undercover operation that has been going on since the middle of June, two men and a woman from Colby were arrested last Thursday night, according to information obtained today.

Russell Wheeler, 22, Renea Peterson, 20 and Brooks Wederski, 19, were arrested and released the next day to their attorneys pending the filing of formal charges, said Gary Shull, Colby Police Department investigator.

Shull said that the undercover inves-

tigation by the Quad County Drug Task Force has been working with both the Goodland and Colby police departments.

As a part of the same investigation, Michell Higley, 19, of Goodland, was arrested in July for possession with the intent to sell drugs.

Currently he has entered a guilty plea in the Sherman County District Court.

According to Shull, law enforcement officials seized marijuana and \$1,500 in cash as a part of the undercover operation.

## Coach under attack during game

CHICAGO (AP)—With his eyes on home plate and his back to the seats, Tom Gamboa never saw them coming.

One second the Kansas City coach was standing near first base, and the next he was slammed to the ground.

A father and his juvenile son, both shirtless, were on top of him and pumeling him repeatedly.

"I felt like a football team had hit me from behind," the 54-year-old coach said Thursday night. "Next thing I knew, I'm on the ground trying to defend myself."

In a scene athletes have feared for years, Gamboa was attacked without warning by two fans who came out of the seats.

The Royals rushed to his aid and Gamboa escaped with only a few cuts and a bruised cheek. He walked off the

field to a standing ovation from the crowd at Comiskey Park, where the Royals beat the Chicago White Sox 2-1.

A folded-up pocket knife was found on the ground near the scene, and White Sox outfielder Aaron Rowand said he saw it slip out of one of the fan's pockets.

"I don't know what we can do to eliminate this," Gamboa said. "I'm grateful (the Royals) got there as quick as they could, especially when there was a knife involved. God forbid me or somebody else would get stabbed."

The father and son were led off the field in handcuffs. White Sox spokesman Scott Reifert said they can't be identified until they are charged.

The father will face a charge of aggravated felony assault.

sponsor the annual After Harvest Festival on Thursday, Sept. 26, beginning at 3 p.m. The festival will be held in the Community Building Activities Room and is for all those who are 55 years and older. Activities will include bingo at 3 p.m., a dinner at 5:30 p.m., and a dance from 6:45-8:45 p.m. No reservations are required. Participants are asked to bring a salad or dessert.

For information, contact Larry Koon at 462-3984, ext. 341.

### Irrigation field day is Monday

A subsurface drip irrigation installation demonstration field day will be held on Monday at the Jim Franz farm. The farm is located 7 miles south on K-25 to Mingo Road, then 3 miles east on Mingo Road and 1 mile north. The demonstration will start at 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### Conference cards mailed

Parent-Teacher Conference cards have been mailed for conferences scheduled for Monday and Tuesday. Please contact the school offices if you did not receive this information.

