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At Colby College

Wellness Center/Fitness Lab proposals unveiled

By **DARREL PATTILLO**

Colby Free Press

Seven proposals for a new Wellness Center/Fitness Lab for Colby Community College were unveiled Tuesday night by Dr. Mikel Ary, college president, at the college's board of trustees meeting. The seven proposals, out of 16 requests which were sent out by Dr. Ary, came from architecture firms from a wide area, including Colby, Hill City, Hays, Denver and Wichita.

"It's been five or six years since we've addressed the infrastructure of the campus," Ary told the board. "With this new facility, we have a chance to have a better linkage with

the community. This will be not only be for the students, but for the public at large."

One of the considerations for a new wellness center, Ary said, was the status of the college's wrestling team.

"It's a testament to coach (Steve) Lampe's skill to be able to accomplish what he has with the wrestling program, considering the facilities he has to work with," Ary said.

The Trojan wrestling team currently shares locker room space with the general public when it uses the college swimming pool, and practices in a small wrestling area above the pool.

"Coach Lampe's input was

sought from several of the designers that you see here. We have a nationally recognized program, and this new facility needs to take that into consideration."

A building that makes maximum use of natural light is also a consideration in the new center's design.

Funding for the new building will come from outside sources.

The board will hold two special meetings in February to allow the design firms to give presentations.

The meetings are scheduled for Feb. 24 and 25 at 5 p.m.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a contract for Tricia Reichert, anatomy and physiology, through EduKan, and hired Nick

Wells to run the Endowment Association. Wells' contract will be paid on a 75/25 percent split, with Endowment paying 75 percent of his salary, and the college paying the other 25 percent.

Ary said that Wells would be able to help the college out in either a teaching, advisor or admissions support capacity.

- The board approved agreements for Physical Therapy Assistant affiliations, and also agreed to a 48-month contract for the maintenance of the college's phone system, at \$1,073 dollars per month.

This represents a savings of nearly \$500 per month under the old contract for phone maintenance.

- Dorm rates are being raised 3.2 percent, to reflect the rise in the Consumer Price Index. Room rates will stay the same this year, \$1,802 dollars for 9 months, but meal plans are going up to \$45 dollars, for the 14-meal plan, and to \$48 for the 19-meal plan.

Ary told the board that prices are being raised now, rather than later in the year, because so many of today's students are comparison shopping when choosing schools.

- Changes in auditing procedures mean that public entities will have to begin accounting for fixed inventories, in other words, buildings, land, and equipment, when doing appraisals.

Dean of Fiscal Affairs Ken Johnson asked the board to approve American Appraisal Associates to do the college's Fixed Asset Inventory, at a cost of \$6,400. The board approved.

- As a result of the Fixed Asset Inventory, Johnson recommended to the board that the college's accounting firm, Kennedy and Coe, be hired for one more year, since they have been doing the audits for the college, and are familiar with the college's needs.

The next regular meeting of the board of trustees is scheduled for Feb. 3, at 5 p.m., in the board room of the Thomas Hall administration building.

'Riders' get the support of council

By **PATTY DECKER**

Free Press Editor

The Colby City Council agreed to give the Thomas County Amusement Association a commitment of support in its ongoing efforts to bring a home-owned carnival to the area.

By a unanimous vote during their meeting Tuesday night, the council said it would provide equipment and materials at an estimated cost of \$6,200 along with labor from city employees, which if it were billed out would cost approximately \$6,000.

Prior to voting, Dick Parnell and Kerry Wark, both on the association's board of directors, spoke to the council and provided blueprints and location where the rides are planning to be located.

Parnell said that the association will be placing the rides south to north on the west side of the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

He said that the goal is to have at least four adult and four children's rides set up by July 4, 2003, and in addition, the group is wanting to secure two "air rides" as well.

While the council agreed to provide materials, equipment and labor, it did not agree to waive electric power costs for operating the rides.

However, Corky Delzeit, public power director, and Carolyn Armstrong, city manager, said they would work with the association in determining how much it could cost to power the equipment.

Parnell said today that the association began work on this project in May of 2002 and since then 11 organizations or businesses have adopted a ride or game.

He also encourages individuals to consider donating to this tax exempt endeavor which will be something that generations to come will enjoy.

For questions or information about the amusement association's work, call Parnell at 462-6125 or any other board member to include Kerry Wark, Chad Zimmerman, Darrell Dible, Wanda Brown, Tina Harris or Ron Donley.

Rolling in the dough



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Brenda Mazanec, who coordinated the fund-raising soup supper for the Dennen Field Stadium/Track Project, was busy serving cinnamon rolls Friday night at the Colby Community Building. Mazanec also prepared the chili and chicken noodle soup for the event. Tanya Staats, treasurer of the project, said more than \$1,300 was raised (before expenses), and that Colby Booster Club members were pleased with the turnout and success of the donations.

Fr. Galen Long back in hospital

Fr. Galen Long, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Colby, was airlifted to Denver on Tuesday for medical attention, according to parish officials.

He is in the cardiac intensive care unit at St. Joseph Hospital.

Flowers are not allowed in ICU,

but prayers and wishes for recovery would be appreciated, said Joan Albers, a parish member.

Albers also said that weekend Masses would continue and be celebrated by Fr. George.

Updates on Fr. Long will be passed along as received.

By **PATTY DECKER**

Free Press Editor

Now it's on to April 1.

The deadline passed at noon on Tuesday and Tracey Perkins, Thomas County Clerk, released the final list of candidates for the April 1 election.

In the Colby School District, there were four board members up for re-election with only one filing. Stan Molstad, board president, filed prior to the deadline.

The other board members whose terms expire in July, but did not file, were Kathy Gordon, Wilburn Holloway and Willard (Bill) Miller. However, three others will seek those positions — Kevan T. Taylor, Joel Powell and Dewey Augustine.

The Golden Plains School District has one contested race involving position one with incumbent Mark Miller being challenged by David Gould and Jay Todd seeking position 2 with incumbent Kathy Albers not seeking another term. In position 3, LeRoy Spreser, incumbent, and Position 7, Paul Bruggeman, are both looking for another term and as of the filing deadline have no one running against them.

In the Brewster School District, there are four school board seats with terms expiring. Greg Mills, Joan Jamison, Stephen Bear and LeRoy Moore currently hold those positions, but only Bear filed for another term in position 3.

As of the filing deadline, it was noted that Bear has no opposition. In position 1 there were no filings and in position 2, Don Allen is running unopposed, as is Bonnie Holm for the at-large position 6 seat.

The Colby Community College board of trustees has six people seeking three positions. Incumbents include Don Kready and Ken Poland with Lon Frahm, Mark Schwarz, Larry Arehart and Larry McDonald challenging. The third incumbent, Matt Hamill, chose not to seek another term.

Terms are also up on four of the seven Colby City Council seats. Ken Bieber, Francis Britton, Darrel Follis and Todd Barrows currently hold those positions. Following the

deadline for filing, Bieber and Barrows are both running for another term unopposed. Britton and Follis did not re-file for their positions leaving contested races for those two wards. In Ward II, Beverly Eicher and Tom Rundell are challenging one another and in Ward III, Jim Brown and Monti Montgomery are vying for the position.

In Colby, Brewster, Rexford, and Menlo, Warren Hixson, Mike Baughn, William J. Dible and Brent Ginther, respectively, are running unopposed for mayor in their communities. There were no filings for the position of mayor in Gem, nor did anyone file for open council positions in Menlo.

Gem's current mayor is Phyllis Ziegelmeier, who did not file for re-election and there are five council positions open with none of the incumbents filing by the deadline date. However, Carl Miller and Danny Carmen did file for two of the five positions, leaving three slots still without a candidate. The current council members in Gem include Margie Flanagan, Larry Higerd, Monica Miller, Warren Ziegelmeier and Anita Spreser.

With only two of the five council positions up for re-election, both Ronald J. Ribordy and Gene Schoenberger, incumbents, have filed. As of the deadline, no other candidates stepped forward to challenge them.

Other filings for council positions in Rexford included Michael L. Johnson, Gidget Mosier, Mark Basgall and David Williams, incumbents, along with Vernon Vance filling out the five positions open. Travis Vaughn, who held a council position in Rexford, is not seeking another term.

For voters in Menlo, there are five council seats up for grabs and as of the filing deadline, no incumbents or candidates are seeking the positions. The current council members are Troy Staats, Terry Moss, LeRoy Neuhaarth, Tony Bieker and Pauletta Bieker. In the Menlo mayor's race, Brent Ginther has filed, filling the unexpired term of Delores Seeberger, who resigned before the term ended.

WeatherWatch Colby-Oakley area

The numbers

Tuesday's high, 27
Low this morning, 15
Soil temperature, 33
Year ago today, 70 and 11
Precipitation: 0.00
Records for this date: 77 in 1943, -17 in 1966

The forecast

Cloudy, low around +4, southeast winds up to 10 mph. Thursday, cloudy, highs upper 20s, south winds up to 15 mph. Thursday night, clearing skies, lows upper teens.

Friday, sunny, highs could touch 50. Friday night, clear, lows upper teens.

Briefly

Rexford plans soup meal

The Rexford Lions Club is sponsoring a soup meal from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, at the Rexford Community Hall on Main Street. The menu will include chicken and homemade noodle soup, chili soup, desserts and drinks. The cost will be a free-will donations and all profits will go toward a portable public address system to be used at Golden Plains schools. For questions or other information, call Deann Dible, at (785) 687-4861.

No steak fry tonight

The Colby VFW is not having a steak fry tonight as advertised in the *Free Press* in Tuesday's publication. The steak fry is held every first and third Wednesday of each month. For questions or information, call Dale Hawk at 462-2496.

SHARE distribution nearing

This month's SHARE distribution is scheduled for 9 a.m.,

Saturday at the Sacred Heart School gymnasium, 1150 W. 6th, Colby. The menu for this month includes sirloin tips, summer sausage, shrimp, ham, chicken breasts, celery, lettuce, onions, potatoes, veggie medley, apples, oranges, grapefruits, pears and pudding. For questions or information, call Anna Fyfe, coordinator, at 462-3733.

Want to be an actor?

Auditions for the Colby Community College spring production "Angel Street" and the college's touring children's show will be held Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 7 p.m. in the Cultural Arts Center on the campus. Actors interested in "Angel Street" are asked to prepare a one- to two-minute monologue. Those interested in the children's tour will read from the script. For questions, call Walter Yuhre at 462-3984, ext. 783.

Cemetery board meetings change

The Colby Cemetery District board meetings will be held on Thursdays instead of Mondays for the next couple of

months, said Relda Galli, board member. The meetings; however, will still be held at the Thomas County Courthouse beginning at 2 p.m. Board members should note that Thursday meetings include Jan. 23, Feb. 20, March 20 and April 24. For questions, call Galli at 462-3670.

Blood drive is week away

The Thomas County American Red Cross blood drive coordinators report that there will be a blood drive in Colby on Wednesday, Jan. 29, from 7:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the Comfort Inn and organizers are encouraging your participation. More information will appear later in the *Free Press*. Questions can be directed to either Jackie Stephens at 462-8122 or Jo Frahm at 462-2082.

Kids to shadow employers

Second through fifth grade students at Colby Grade School will be job shadowing in area businesses on Friday, Jan. 31, from the opening of that business until 10:45 a.m., said Terrell Harrison, principal.

