



COLBY FREE PRESS

Wind wins

This house under construction in Colby was no match for Wednesday's winds that rattled and shook the immediate Colby area. The house pictured here is located at Ash and Kings Court. Other reports of less extensive damage, such as some fences and tree limbs, occurred as gusts up near 70 miles per hour were recorded. The National Weather Service at Goodland had a reported gust of 67 mph in Colby around 8 a.m. The strongest gust of 71 mph was recorded at Flagler, Colo. Gusts of from 5 to 65 mph were commonplace on Wednesday.



MICHELLE L. HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

Three area boards to meet next week

The Board of Trustees of Colby Community College, and the schools boards at Colby and Brewster will all meet next week.

The college board meeting starts at 5 p.m. on Monday in the board room of Thomas Hall. Items on the agenda include a program review, approval of contracts and agreements, a resignation, tuition, the wellness center, payment of claims and negotiations.

The meeting is open to the public.

The Colby School Board will also meet on Monday at 7 p.m. in the administration building, 210 S. Range.

The meeting is open to the public.

The Brewster School Board

meeting has been changed from Monday to Tuesday at 7 p.m. However, a special meeting has been scheduled for 5 p.m. to conduct a policy review.

Agenda items for the regular meeting include a public open forum, approval of the consent agenda, discussion on the presentation of diplomas, discussion of deadbolts and new doors, a contract with Sandhill Orthopedic, class schedules for 2003-2004, request for open lunch from student council, and changes in the 2003-2004 school calendar.

There are also executive sessions scheduled to discuss personnel, student concerns and negotiations.

The meeting is open to the public.

Board peppered with questions Action against doctor rallies group

By **PATTY DECKER**

Free Press Editor

It was a question/answer session when a group of concerned people huddled this week, sparked by the latest actions against a Colby physician. π

The Area Citizens for Health Care held a special meeting for the purpose of providing information in light of Dr. Victor Hildyard's privileges being revoked by Citizens Medical Center.

More than 70 people attended the meeting at the Colby Community Building on Tuesday night with questions ranging from how can they see their physician if admitted to the hospital to what can be done to reinstate Hildyard.

One question posed to the Area Citizens board was about the legalities associated with boycotting businesses.

Dennis Horney, one of the board members, reiterated that while the group does not advocate boycotts and cannot tell people what to think or how to act, he did say that after talking with an attorney, people can do things if done peacefully and the right way, but there are rules. Citing examples, Horney told the

group that it is a basic freedom to let someone know they don't support certain views or that certain actions are hurting the economy and the medical care in the community.

Another board member, Jennifer Horton-Woofter, said she has been asked about the structure and answerability of the Citizens Medical Center's board of trustees.

According to Carol Bonebrake in Topeka, attorney for the board of trustees, the board is answerable to many federal and state agencies.

Bonebrake said today that Citizens Medical Center, Inc. is a private corporation just like Southwest Bell or others.

"Rather than having shareholders," she said, "the hospital board has a membership and every year when the entire membership board meets they can appoint new trustees."

In addition, she said the board is governed by volumes of state and federal health care laws and answerable to those governmental agencies such as the Board of Healing Arts, the Board of Nursing, and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

"The board of trustees is also an-

swerable to every patient and every person who walks through the doors of Citizens Medical Center," she said.

Dave Jennings, who is on the membership board of the hospital, said he encourages everyone to "step up" and talk with the board, which includes Vern Schwanke, Curt Stephens, Terry Wendall, Sheila Frahm, Bob Standage, Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer and Craig Hills.

In previous conversations with Schwanke, Jennings said that he has been told by that particular board member that for every call he receives from someone against the board's decision to suspend Hildyard's privileges, he gets eight calls in favor.

Jay Black, who attended the meeting, said he hoped that others would write or call Judith Sears and Terry Cousins, former trustees who were either forced to resign or chose to resign before being voted out.

"I think people need to let these two board members know that their many years of service were appreciated."

With respect to the recent action against Hildyard, his attorney,

Michael O'Neal of Hutchinson said today that he really can't say much as yet.

"I can say we are now in the process of evaluating what causes of action Dr. Hildyard has against the hospital and contemplate a lawsuit will be filed against the hospital in due course," he said.

As to the time frame, O'Neal could not give a definite date. Regarding the lawsuit involving the hospital employee, Anne Staats against Hildyard, O'Neal said it was stayed until the hospital's administrative appeal process was completed.

"Now that the process is completed," he said, "we will be asking the court to open some or all of the evidence and testimony in the administrative case for use in the Staats vs. Hildyard matter."

In addition to that lawsuit, O'Neal spoke about Dr. Duncan Davis' suit against not only Hildyard, but Dr. Raymond Ketting and Judith Sears as well, but said there would be more on this later.

"It is my opinion," he said, "that some are trying to put Dr. Hildyard to as much time and expense as possible."

KU professor's classroom conduct faces investigation

TOPEKA (AP) — Acting on a formal complaint by a state senator, the University of Kansas plans to investigate a veteran professor's classroom conduct in an undergraduate course on human sexuality.

Sen. Susan Wagle, R-Wichita, said Chancellor Robert Hemenway told her a committee would probably be formed to investigate her allegations against Dennis Dailey.

Wagle's complaint is the first against Dailey in the 20 years he has taught the popular class, according

to university officials. An estimated 10,000 students have taken the course, which consistently draws the maximum enrollment of 500, the university has said.

In an April 6 letter containing her complaint, Wagle said students told her that "inappropriate 'street' language and obscene gestures are a regular part of the class."

She also said students told her that Dailey shows "clearly X-rated videos" and encourages students to explore their bodies and discuss their sexual habits.

Wagle declined to name the students who spoke to her because, she said, they had expressed fear that their academic careers might suffer.

Last month, Wagle successfully amended a state budget bill to deny funding to departments at public universities in which a professor buys "obscene" videos or shows them in undergraduate sexuality courses.

Her amendment cited a state law defining material as "obscene" if it portrays certain sexual acts, lacks "serious literary, artistic, educa-

tional, political or scientific value" and would be found obscene by an average person applying "community standards."

The amendment could imperil the \$3.1 million budget for the University of Kansas' School of Social Welfare.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has until April 21 to decide whether to strike the amendment, using her power to veto individual lines in budget bills. Wagle said Hemenway told her the university could not complete its investigation by that date.

A faculty member since 1969, Dailey has won numerous awards, including the Chancellor's Professorship for Excellence in Teaching in 1990. While the university will investigate Dailey, it supports him as it does all of its faculty, university spokeswoman Lynn Bretz said Wednesday.

"We've had no reason to question his conduct and have had every evidence to assume that he is an exceptional teacher, but we take all formal complaints very seriously," Bretz said.

Briefly

Benefit for infant scheduled

A benefit pasta lunch is scheduled for Sunday, April 27 from noon to 2 p.m. at the Colby United Methodist Church to benefit Braden Beims, infant son of Mitch and Cortney Beims of Colby, who has undergone a second open heart surgery. The fund raiser will be a free-will donation. For additional information call Amanda Wahlmeier at 465-9145.

Dance for teens on local agenda

The Colby American Legion is sponsoring a teenage dance from 8 to 11 p.m., Saturday, for all teens in the area. C.W. Cheney will be the DJ with door prize drawings at 10:30 p.m.. The cost for the dance is \$5.

Landfill to close Easter Sunday

The Thomas County Landfill will be closed Sunday in observance of Easter. It will reopen again on Monday for

regularly scheduled hours. For questions or information, contact Larry Jumper, landfill supervisor, at 462-8139.

Carnival rides to be discussed

The Thomas County Amusement Association will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday at 8 p.m. at the Thomas County Office Complex. Association officials said with the fair only three months away the meeting will continue to discuss rides for the home-owned carnival.

KU stars coming to town

Tickets are on sale for Kansas University Barnstorming Tour planned for Saturday, April 26, with tip off at 8 p.m. The tour is being sponsored by the Colby High School "All-Sports Booster Club" for the purpose of raising money for the Dennen Field Track-Stadium Project. The basketball game will feature Nick Collison, Jeff Boschee, Kirk Hinrich and others playing against Northwest Kansas All-Stars with 3 of the 10 from Colby. Tickets can be purchased at The Sports

Shoppe, Colby Recreation Department, Donelan Jewelry, Colby High School, Palace Drug Store or First National Bank until Thursday, April 24. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Event seeks local teams

Teams are now forming for the Western Kansas Great Strides 2003 event to raise money in the fight and cure of cystic fibrosis, said Doris Reed, co-chair in Monument. This is the first time the Great Strides walk will be held in Colby, she said, with the event planned for May 31, with check-in at 8 a.m. and the walk beginning at 9 a.m. at Fike Park. For questions, call 465-7907.

Church open for prayer

Rev. Carol Rahn, pastor for the First Presbyterian Church in Colby, has announced the church will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. while the country is at war. The church is located at 515 W. Fourth Street.



Showers likely

Tonight...mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Breezy. Lows in the mid 40s. Southeast wind around 25 mph...Gusting to 35 mph. Chance of rain 40 percent. Friday...mostly cloudy. A chance of showers in the morning. Highs in the upper 60s. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph becoming northwest late in the morning. Chance of rain 30 percent. Friday night...mostly cloudy. A slight chance of rain showers after midnight. Lows in the upper 30s. Chance of rain 20 percent. Saturday...mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Highs in the mid 50s. Chance of rain 20 percent.

The numbers

Wednesday's high, 58
Low this morning, 32
Year ago, 85 and 29
24-hour precipitation, 0.06
Month's precipitation, 0.93
Records, 88 in 1946 and 17 in 1907

