

Opinion



Letters

Thank you so much

To the Colby Free Press:

We are writing to thank the Hi-Plains Shrine Club and everyone else who helped make our annual trip to the Shrine Circus possible. This year the trip involved 114 third and fourth grade students and 12 adults. The fourth grade was included after last year's trip was canceled due to bad weather.

Each year the trip is financed by the Shriners, with the help of community members who purchase the circus tickets. The Shriners also include, for each student, lunch at the Shrine Temple in Salina, \$5 spending money, and dinner at McDonald's. Individual Shrine members also volunteer their day to accompany us.

A special thanks goes to Steve Molstad for organizing this trip and accompanying our third grade students year after year.

It is a great time for the students, and for many of them their only chance to see a circus of this quality. It is fun to watch their excitement throughout the fun-filled day.

We want the community to be aware of their generosity and commitment to students in our area.

Again, we would like to thank the Hi-Plains Shrine Club.

**The Colby Grade School
Third Grade Teachers
Tawnia Bange
Robin Schwanke
Shirley Arnberger
Colby
(Letter #26)**

Another outsider!

To the Colby Free Press:

This is my first ever letter to the newspaper. But I was upset enough that I had to write and express myself.

We, as parents, try to teach our children to learn by their mistakes. We, as adults, also need to learn by ours. A few years ago, we had a qualified, well-liked and respected teacher, Mr. Dack, up for the job of high school principal. In my opinion, he would have been as well remembered as Mr. Stark. Instead, we hired an outsider, which proved to be disastrous. Now we are at it **AGAIN!**

We have a qualified, well-liked and respected teacher, Mr. Vincent, who was the assistant last year, up for the football coaching position now. But "the powers that be" have hired **ANOTHER** outsider!

Everyone says to "Shop Colby," to keep our dollars in the community — why not extend that to include the hiring of teachers for our children?

I hope this incident doesn't prove to be history repeating itself — for **ALL** our sakes!

**Jan Helus
Stacy Helus
Star Bixenman
Colby
(Letter #27)**

Comments to any opinions expressed on this page are encouraged. Mail them to the Colby Free Press, 155 W. 5th St., Colby, Kan., 67701. Ore-mail td@nwkansas.com. You can also fax your comment to 462-7749, or drop it off at the office. Remember that your submission must include a signature, daytime phone number and address.

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freepress@nwkansas.com

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Tom (TD) Dreiling - Publisher

td@nwkansas.com

NEWS

Patty Decker - Editor

pdecker@nwkansas.com

Tisha Cox - General Assignment

tcx@nwkansas.com

ADVERTISING

Crystal Rucker - Advertising Representative

crystalr@nwkansas.com

Kathy Brooks - Advertising Representative

kbrook@nwkansas.com

BUSINESS OFFICE

Lea Bandy - Circulation Manager

Jeanette Applegate - Bookkeeping & Ad Building

japplegate@nwkansas.com

Evan Barnum - Systems Administrator

support@nwkansas.com

NOR'WEST PRESS

Jim Bowker - General Manager

Richard Westfahl, Lana Westfahl, Ron VanLoenen, Judy McKnight

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This is the way war works



Tom Dreiling

• My Turn

BOY, you can't knock the current weather pattern. 0.61 inches of rain in the past two days, giving us a total of 1.90 inches for the month to date. And the forecastman is calling for more shower activity and, in fact, he's calling for rain maybe mixed with snow overnight. That's fine, we'll take it no matter the form. Bring it on!

CIALIS, you know what it's all about. I have come to the conclusion by watching the television commercial promoting that male pill, that the couple pictured relaxing in separate bathtubs, wouldn't need to shell out money to buy the pill if they'd simply get rid of one of those bathtubs. Duh?!—it doesn't take a rocket scientist!

I HAVEN'T watched Hannity & Colmes since the beginning of Lent — in fact I gave up FOX News for lent and haven't returned since and I don't miss them — but before my boycott of the channel that I rate as a 0 on by viewing meter, I wanted to comment on Hannity. He seems to be so wrapped up in the American flag that I think he could be hauled in for improper treatment of our symbol of freedom and justice. I am not unpatriotic when I take issue with our leadership, much as Hannity would want us to believe. That youngster needs a lot of growing

up before he can elevate himself — as he thinks he is doing — to the level of Rush Limbaugh. Rush knows what it's all about and I like the way he handles it. No, I don't always agree with him, but I can understand why Rush presents and defends his stand on the issues in the fashion he does. Hannity is still playing in the sandbox of the industry.

FRED Miller writes: "Marvia and I went to the play Thursday evening ("Ring Round the Moon"). Deb (Bickner) and the cast have put a ton of work into making a very entertaining production. We really had a good time! Actors did a great job! A very enjoyable event! Treat yourselves to a little fun and go see it tonight at 7:30 or Saturday afternoon (at 3 p.m.)." The performances are staged in the Cultural Arts Center on campus. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students.

AND by all means don't forget that Colby Community College will host a public reception to honor Kenton and Sheila Krehbiel next Wednesday starting at 3 p.m. in room 108 of the Student Union. The Krehbiels have been selected as the 2004 honorary associate degree recipients and it will be conferred during commencement exercises on May 15. They are a really great couple. Come on out to the reception and offer your congratulations.

HAVE a good evening and a good weekend. Sing His praises at the church of your choice this weekend.

Tom Dreiling is publisher of the Free Press. His column appears Wednesdays and Fridays. td@nwkansas.com. He would appreciate your comments.

On life's lighter side

TD

• At Week's End

had its two sides gently compressed by a Thigh Master.

✓His thoughts tumbled in his head, making and breaking alliances like underpants in a dryer without Cling Free.

✓He spoke with the wisdom that can only come from experience, like a guy who went blind because he looked at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it, and now goes around the country speaking at high schools about the dangers of looking at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it.

✓Her vocabulary was as bad as, like, whatever.

✓He was as tall as a six-foot-three-inch tree.

✓The revelation that his marriage of 30 years had disintegrated because of his wife's infidelity came as a rude shock, like a surcharge at a formerly surcharge-free ATM.

✓The little boat gently drifted across the pond exactly the way a bowling ball wouldn't.

✓He fell for her like his heart was a mob informant and she was the East River.

✓Even in his last years, Grandpappy had a mind like a steel trap, only one that had been left out so long, it had rusted shut.

✓Shots rang out, as shots are known to do.

✓The young fighter had a hungry look, the kind you get from not eating for a while.

✓He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck, either, but a real duck that was

A good run of material found its way into my computer this week. A wide variety of topics. We'll get this regular Friday column rolling today with a poem. Enjoy.

I Love My Job

I love my job, I love the pay.
I love it more and more each day.
I love my boss; he is the best.
I love his boss and all the rest.

I love my office and its location.
I hate to have to go on vacation.
I love my furniture, drab and gray,
And the paper that piles up here each day.

I love my chair in my padded cell.
There's nothing else I love so well.
I love to work among my peers.
I love their leers and jeers and sneers.

I love my computer and its software;
I hug it often, though it don't care.
I love each program and every file,
I try to understand it, once in awhile.

I'm happy to be here. I am, I am!
I'm the happiest slave of my Uncle Sam.
I love this work; I love these chores.
I love the meetings with deadly bores.

I love my job — I'll say it again.
I even love these friendly men.
These men who've come to visit today.
In lovely white coats to take me away.

...Author unknown

Here are some more of those bits and pieces from high school essays, which, I might add, brought a nice response when they appeared in the "My Turn" column a few days ago:
✓Her face was a perfect oval, like a circle that

actually lame. Maybe from stepping on a land mine or something.

✓It hurt the way your tongue hurts after you accidentally staple it to the wall.

For our Republican readers:

A popular bar had a new robotic bartender installed. A fellow came in for a drink and the robot asked him, "What's your IQ?" The man replied, "130." So the robot proceeded to make conversation about physics, astronomy, investments, insurance, and so on. The man listened intently and thought, "This is really cool."

Another gent came in for a drink and the robot asked him, "What's your IQ?" The man responded, "100." So the robot started talking about football, baseball, and so on. The man thought to himself, "Wow, this is really cool."

A third guy came in to the bar. As with the others, the robot asked him, "What's your IQ?" The man replied, "70." The robot then asked, "So, are you Democrats really going to nominate John Kerry?"

For our Democrat readers:

The aging fellow was a died-in-the-wool Democrat all his life. And with death at hand, he summoned his eight children to his bedside. "I have an announcement to make," he said.

"What is it, father?" they asked.

"Well," he began, "on my death bed today I changed parties. I registered as a Republican."

"No, father, no, you didn't!" they cried.

"Yes, children, I did," he answered.

"Why?" they inquired.

"Because," he began, "it would be better that one of them dies than one of us."

Got something to share with our readers in "At Week's End?" E-mail td@nwkansas.com, fax him at 462-7749, call 462-3969 or mail it to 155 W. Fifth, Colby, Kan. 67701.