



# COLBY FREE PRESS

## Group nets \$15,000 despite rain

By TISHA COX

Colby Free Press

It wasn't raining cats and dogs in Colby on Saturday, it was raining money — like \$15,000 — the amount raised by the annual "Cystic Fibrosis Walk." Which didn't happen.

Doris Reed, one of the event organizers, said the fund-raiser was supposed to take place at 9 a.m. at Fike Park but rain caused its cancellation. Instead, several of the teams simply showed up to turn in their money.

"It's just a little bit less than last year," she said, adding the event brought in about \$18,000 in 2003.

The total of \$15,000 could go up a little because Reed is still waiting for some teams to turn in their money. "We've still got some outstanding," she said. "We're not complaining."

She said it won't be rescheduled and she'll be contacting the sponsors who donated prizes and other items. Instead, she's hoping possibly to have a booth at Pickin' on the Plains and do something with the items then.



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

This is how a Colby apartment looked today after a young Colby man stole a pickup and decided to apparently park the pickup inside.

the incident is still being investigated. Shull still doesn't know the

value of the damaged done to the truck and the apartment. The apart-

ment complex is owned by Bob and Shirley Coleman of Colby. Cole-

man said today he was unable to give damage estimates.

## Stranger than fiction?

By TISHA COX

Colby Free Press

It's one of those strange things.

A Colby man had a rude surprise waiting when he got home early this morning.

Rowan Lee of Colby found his work truck sticking out of his south apartment wall at 460 N. Martin.

Gary Shull, an investigator with the Colby Police Department, said the department received a call at about 12:43 a.m.

He said 21-year-old Andrew Michael Andrijeski of Colby had stolen the pickup, which belongs to JM Tree because the keys were in it. Andrijeski then backed the vehicle up the street and drove into the apartment on purpose.

He then left, leaving the truck lodged in the building, still running with the lights on.

Shull said Andrijeski was arrested at about 3:05 a.m. but hasn't been charged yet because

## Chipping away

# Dennen Field Project gets another \$3,200 toward stadium

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

The Colby High School All Sports Booster Club's special project committee has reported \$3,200 more will be going toward the Dennen Field Project after the success of it's Lube-A-Thon fund raising event.

To date, the total amount of money donated for the project is about \$26,500 with \$5,000 encumbered for the school's Dennen Field track surface, said Tanya Staats, special committee treasurer.

The original projected time frame for the stadium was June of 2005 at a total estimated cost of \$250,000, she said.

Since the project began nearly one year ago, the committee realizes they have some work to do, but Staats said they are "whittling away" toward the goal.

One of the problems the group has run

into, she said, is that many of the grants they have applied for are denying them since they are so far away from the goal.

Within the grant process, many of those giving money are looking at helping groups that are close to completion. For example, if monetarily the project were reversed with all but \$26,000 needed, the chances of receiving the additional money would be easier.

Still, Staats said the group is moving forward and continuing fund raising efforts with a possible project nearing that would include high school alumni.

"We haven't finalized this fund raising event, she said, but the idea would be for all Colby High School classes to compete against each other in donating the most money to the stadium project.

Staats and other committee member on the project also wanted to thank those busi-

nesses and individuals who helped make the recent fund raising effort a success.

That recent event involved Patrick Toth and the Kansas Quick Lube by organizing a "Lube-a-Thon."

According to information provided at the club meeting, 67 cars were serviced.

The club wanted to thank Rich Epp for his radio coverage of the event, which brought in cars from around the area and even Ohio and Utah.

Others deserving a thank you included the following main sponsors: Patrick Toth — Kansas Quick Lube, Farmers and Merchants Bank, Commercial Sign, and Beringer Hardware.

Other monetary donations were received from Colby Fertilizer, Colby Implement, Colby Lumber, Jim's Electric, Martin Tractor, Sports Shoppe, S & T Telephone, Western Sprinklers, Inc., and Dr.

Shane Franz and Dr. Luke Tubbs.

Media sponsors were KXXX/KQLS during the day of the event with Rich Epp, voice of the Eagles, broadcasting and the Colby Free Press for publicizing information prior to the event and keeping the public informed of the group's progress.

Other businesses helping to make the fund raiser a success included Sears, which donated a Sony DVD/VCR player, two glove box kits and two water bottles to be given away to those who brought their vehicles in.

The winner of the Sony DVD/VCR was Cheryl Timm; Joel Powell and Brenda Swafford won the glove box kits and the Sears water bottles went to Gary Hibbs and Dennis Diederich.

Pepsi also donated free pop during the Lube-A-Thon. CHS athletes provided help during the Lube-A-Thon.

Another part of the fund raising efforts came from Wal-Mart.

According to Staats, the group submitted an application to Wal-Mart for matching fund grant which was approved.

The matching grant was \$1,000. Overall, Wal-Mart has donated \$2,000 total for the project thus far.

The most recent fund raiser was Saturday with a 3-on-3 basketball tournament held in Colby. Staats said she hasn't had time to figure the proceeds, but would get the information out in the near future.

The Colby Booster Club committee members said that anyone interested in making a donation to the Dennen Field Track and Stadium Project is welcome to do so. Checks can be sent to: Dennen Field Track and Stadium Project, c/o Colby All-Sports Booster Club, P.O. Box 136, Colby, Kan. 67701. or call any member.

# Colby forensics team qualifes eight for state contest

By TISHA COX

Colby Free Press

The Colby High School forensics team's regular season is winding down but state is just around the corner — on Saturday, May 1.

Coach Nancy Rundel said the team's regular season ended April 17 and eight students have qualified for state.

Regina Heier, Taylor Miller, Alisha Talsma and Josh Cox qualified for the state championship at

Washburn Rural High School in Topeka May 1, while Robyn Schmid, Hannah Zimmerman, David Kinderknecht and Valarie Higerd are headed for the State Speech and Drama Festival on May 1 at Overland Park Community College.

Rundel said she's proud of the team's accomplishments.

"I consider this program to be highly successful," she said. "We are very competitive on a regular

basis and are taking more entries to the state championship tournament than we have in several years."

Rundel said the students compete in up to two events at each tournament including reading, poetry and prose, duet and solo acting, extemporaneous and informative speaking, improvised duet acting, humorous solo acting and original oration.

She said 27 students were on the team this year and the team racked up six fourth and fifth place finishes

at tournaments where they took a full squad and also a third place finish at the Ellis meet.

"We have very talented students who work hard to perfect their performances," Rundel said. "I'm especially impressed with the group of freshmen that we have on the team this year.

"They all seem to be dedicated workers and are willing to come in and practice."

She said the team's seniors have

also worked hard and provided encouragement and leadership for the team's younger members.

Rundel has taught and coached forensics for eight of the nine years she's been at the high school. She has also coached debate this past fall and said they had "moderate success" after being without a team for nearly seven years.

Rundel also has some help coaching. Linda Jones has been the assistant forensics coach for three years.

# Alzheimer's conference planned for professionals and caregivers

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

A conference to help professionals and family caregivers better understand the affects of Alzheimer's disease will be held Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Colby.

"Alzheimer's disease affects not only the individual who has the illness," said Rhonda Riedel, western

Kansas outreach coordinator, "but every family member and every individual who provides support to that person whether in long term care setting or in the home."

Riedel said she hopes that the conference will provide participants the needed information they need to care for a loved one with Alzheimer's.

For many, the idea of leaving

someone for even a day is difficult; however, because this conference is so important, Riedel said, respite services will be available.

There is no charge for the conference. To register, call Riedel at (785) 673-3149. Professional participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

In addition to the conference Tuesday, the Alzheimer's Associa-

tion of the Great Plains has opened an Arts and Inspiration Center in Colby also located at First Presbyterian. The center will be open one day a month during the first year and an open house reception was held last week to introduce families to the concept and benefits, Riedel said. The center is not a daycare facility, but rather a place for Alzheimer's patients to stimulate

memory loss by sharing their thoughts, philosophy and creativity through the avenue of the arts, she said. Families wanting to make application for a loved one can do so by picking up forms at the Pioneer Memorial Library, 375 W. 4th St. or First Presbyterian Church, 515 W. 4th St. Riedel said she will also be looking for volunteers to help at the center.

## Briefly

### National Day of Prayer

The 53rd annual National Day of Prayer will start at 12:10 p.m. Thursday, May 6. The event will be held at the Thomas County Courthouse.

### Speaker to talk about Wal-Mart

The next Colby Promotion Committee meeting will meet Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. at the Comfort Inn Convention Center and everyone, whether in business or as a consumer, may want to plan on attending, said committee officials. Catherine Shull, the executive director of the Fort Morgan, Colo. Chamber of Commerce will be speaking about super Wal-Marts and how small town businesses can deal with these types of large corporations. According to officials, Shull will explain how small business can market their products in a way that

they won't need to worry about larger corporations moving into their towns.

### Tree plantings this week

The Colby Tree Board will have a tree planting ceremony at 10 a.m. Friday at Fike Park in observance of National Arbor Day. Mr. Baker's fifth grade class from Colby Grade School received a grant from the Thomas County Community Foundation to plant park trees. Immediately following the park ceremony, a tree honoring the 150th anniversary of Kansas as a territory will be planted at the Thomas County Office Complex.

### Middle school orientation Monday

The 5th grade orientation at Colby Middle School scheduled for Tuesday has been moved to Monday at 7 p.m. in the

middle school cafeteria. The reason for the change is due to athletic events and activities being rescheduled.

### Fund raising dance planned

A fund raising dance will be held from 8 to 11:30 p.m., Friday, April 30, at Comfort Inn Convention Center to help defray travel expenses for Lisa Jones, Miss Rodeo Kansas Princess, Colby. Featured at the dance will be disc jockey Bobby Wild and admission is \$7.

### Honor choir to perform

The Colby Grade School Honor Choir's "Soaring Singers" will present a year-end concert at 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 4 in the grade school auditorium. Everyone is invited to attend and there is no charge for admission. For questions, call 460-5100.



## Much warmer

**Colby, Oakley, Hoxie area Tonight...**Partly cloudy. Lows around 40. East winds around 10 mph shifting to the southwest 5 to 10 mph after midnight. **Tuesday...**Mostly sunny. Warmer. Highs in the upper 70s to around 80.s. West winds 5 to 10 mph. **Tuesday night...**Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 40s. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph. **Wednesday...**Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 80s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

**The numbers**  
Sunday's high, 61  
Low this morning, 33  
Records for April 26, 91 in 1927 and 23 in 1907  
Year ago today, 68 and 37  
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00  
Friday (after 8 a.m.) to Sunday (8 a.m.) precipitation, 0.70  
April total, 2.60  
April snowfall, 3 inches  
Soil temperature, NA

**The sources:**  
The forecast is from the National Weather Service, and other numbers are from the Northwest Research-Extension Center, Colby. A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

