

Weather
CornerWindy, hot
and sunny

The forecast
Tonight...Mostly clear with lows in the mid 60s. South wind between 10 and 15 mph. **Friday** — Mostly sunny. High in the low 90s. Breezy with a south wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to 25 to 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph. **Friday night** — Mostly clear with lows in the mid 50s. Breezy with a south wind between 20 and 30 mph. **Saturday...**Isolated showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy with highs in the low 90s. South wind 15 to 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent. **Saturday night** — Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy with lows in the low 60s. **Sunday** — Slight chance of showers and thunderstorms before 7 a.m. Partly cloudy and breezy with highs in the low 90s.

Temperatures
 Wednesday's high, 95
 Low this morning, 58
 Records for this date, 103 in 1971 and 34 in 1909
 Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
 September's precipitation, 0.00
 Soil temperature, 80
Water Use
 Sept. 7 = 2,196,800 gallons
The sources:
 A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

Briefly

Colby couple to leave for Louisiana

Kirk and Holly Young of Colby will be taking their truck-bus, which can house up to 10 people, and a car trailer to Louisiana so that it can be used as a shelter by whatever agency might need it. The couple are still needing five sets of bunk beds. In addition, anyone who might want to contribute items for victims of Hurricane Katrina can do so by calling Holly at 443-0814. They, in turn, will make sure all those items are transported to help victims in the critical areas. The Youngs said they will take whatever they can fit into either of those units.

Chamber luncheon Friday

The Thomas County/Colby Chamber of Commerce is having its monthly luncheon at noon on Friday at the Prairie Rose Restaurant at Quality Inn. The guest speaker will be Rocky Robbins, the new Colby High School principal. The chamber will also announce a proposed change to its by-laws. All chamber members and their guests are encouraged to attend. For questions, call Mary Ann Downing, 460-3401.

Library donating fines to victims

The Pioneer Memorial Library will be donating all fines this week to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts through the American Red Cross, said Jeff Friesen, librarian.

Hurricane training starts today

The Thomas County American Red Cross is sponsoring a training program open to anyone interested in helping relief efforts in Louisiana. This fast track program, said Molly Oliver, disaster chair, will train volunteers in two days with classes on Thursday and Friday, both starting at 6:30 p.m., in the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range Ave., Colby. Oliver will also hold a day-long class beginning at 8:30 a.m. for those unable to attend the Thursday-Friday training. Oliver encourages those planning to attend the fast track courses to call her either at 460-7653 (daytime) or 462-6133 (evenings). In the event someone wants the training, but cannot schedule it this week is also asked to call Oliver in making other arrangements. "My schedule is the volunteer's schedule," she said.

After school enrollment nears

The Thomas County Interagency Coalition in conjunction with area businesses and organizations is conducting an after school program for students in third, fourth and fifth grades, said Kim Chain, regional prevention center. The purpose of the after school program is to provide a safe place for children to go after school where trained adults provide healthy snacks and constructive activities. The program will run Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, starting Monday, Sept. 12 and continuing through Thursday, Nov. 17, at the

Colby Community Building. Transportation from Colby Grade School to the community building will be provided by the Colby School District; however, parents must pick their child up from the community building at 5:15 p.m. For questions or to enroll, call Chain at 460-8177.

Hospital auxiliary to hold recycle sale

The Citizens Medical Center Auxiliary is sponsoring a recycle sale, 7:30 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Sept. 17, at 545 Woofter Ave. All holiday decorations and miscellaneous items in good condition are being accepted for the sale, but no clothing is needed. Donations may be left at 545 Woofter on Thursday, Sept. 15, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday, Sept. 16, from 10 a.m. to noon and again from 5 to 8 p.m. All proceeds will go toward hospital improvements. For questions, call Carolyn Miller, 462-6896 or 462-7777 or (785) 443-1584.

'Kids For Safety' event planned

The Thomas County Health Department is again offering its "Kids for Safety," from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 28, at the Colby Community Building. Highlights of the event include water safety demonstrations, music and other learning experiences. Everyone, young and old, is encouraged to attend, said Juanita Dewey, administrator. More details will appear in a later edition of the *Free Press*.

Quilt-a-rama



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Mary Herbel of Colby, Marjorie Watkins of Oakley and Kay Weber of Hoxie hung quilts for an exhibit at the Prairie Museum of Art and History today. Twenty quilts by the Northwest Kansas Quilt Guild will be on display throughout the weekend at the museum.

Goodland youth
convicted, sentenced

By Jan Katz Ackerman

Colby Free Press

An 18-year-old Goodland man was sentenced in Thomas County District Court on Wednesday.

Matson Z. Hatfield pleaded guilty to possession of a narcotic drug at his last court appearance on Thursdays, Aug. 3. Hatfield was arrested in Thomas County on Tuesday, June 20, for possession of methamphetamine.

On Wednesday, Hatfield's attorney, Bruce Flipse, Colby, told the judge his client had been a "total gentleman" to work with.

"He has stayed in contact with me and I haven't had any problem with him," Flipse told District Judge Glenn Schiffner when asking for probation for his client.

Schiffner sentenced Hatfield to standard probation of 12 months with an underlying prison sentence of 12 months if he violates probation.

Hatfield will have to complete a drug treatment program, pay courts just under \$1,200, bear no firearms for at least five years and submit blood and saliva samples to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation within 10 days.



Colby man gets 'second chance'

By Jan Katz Ackerman

Colby Free Press

A Colby man was given a second chance.

District Judge Glenn Schiffner told Dale A. Quast he would grant him an 18-month probation and 24-month post-release probation rather than sending him to prison.

While under oath, Quast's attorney, Scott Showalter, Goodland, asked if he understood the seriousness of his situation.

"You understand you are on the last rung of the ladder being in this border box, correct?" he asked referring to the state's sentencing guidelines.

"Yes sir," Quast said.

Quast on Aug. 26 pleaded guilty to the felony charge of possession of marijuana with intent to sell and the misdemeanor charge of disorderly conduct. Originally charged with possession of methamphetamine with intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a school, sale of methamphetamine, conspiracy to commit sale of a stimulant, possession of a hallucinogenic drug, possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to sell or distribute, no drug tax stamp, possession of drug paraphernalia and fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer. The charges

stem from an incident where Quast and Jeremy Palmer tried to out run police on Franklin Avenue, Saturday, April 1.

Schiffner asked Thomas County Attorney Andrea Wyrick whether she, representing the state, had a suggestion about sentencing.

"The state stands moot," Wyrick said, adding that Quast had entered a plea agreement prior to appearing in court Wednesday.

"The court is going to grant you the second chance you are asking for," Schiffner told Quast.

Since arrested, Quast has been receiving treatment for his drug addiction. He told Schiffner he had admitted himself to a 28-day inpatient program at Valley Hope in Norton, and continues treatment on an out-patient basis. Quast also said

he has been attending Alcohol Anonymous meetings in either Colby or Oakley on an almost daily basis. "I've been clean since April 14th," Quast said.

Quast told Schiffner he believed he could gain employment by Monday, as part of a probation requirement. In addition to the probation, Schiffner sentenced Quast to an underlying prison sentence of 32 months should he violate the terms of probation.

He also has to pay court costs and attorney fees of \$1,402, refrain from owning a firearm for five years and submit blood and saliva samples to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation as part of his probation.

"I don't want to see you back here in the next 18 months," Schiffner told Quast.

Becoming an Outdoors-Woman is a program offering hands-on workshops to women learning outdoor skills. Designed primarily for women, this program is an opportunity for anyone 18 yrs or older and is for YOU if...

- ☐ You've never tried these activities, but wanted an opportunity to learn
- ☐ You are a beginner who wants to improve your skills
- ☐ You know how to do some of these, but want to try some new ones, or
- ☐ You enjoy the camaraderie of like-minded individuals.



Join us Sept 23-25, 2005 at Rock Springs 4-H Center for an exciting, enjoyable weekend!

For more information, call the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks at (620) 672-5911, visit www.kdwp.state.ks.us or email Jami Vonderschmidt at kansasbow@sbcglobal.net. Paid for by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Bridal Registry

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& Jeremy Donelan
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September Sweater Sale

Buy 1 Sweater get
2nd Sweater Half Price!

(Second sweater must be of equal or lesser value.)

Sale going on through
the month of September.

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Musicians welcome!

Pride of the Prairie Orchestra begins its 25th Season with rehearsals starting September 12, 2005. Our all-volunteer orchestra members span a wide range of vocations and ages (middle school aged to retirees) and join us from communities throughout NW Kansas and NE Colorado. Our repertoire ranges from classical to POP!

Pride of the Prairie Orchestra

Musicians are invited to join us for the fun each Monday evening (beginning Sept. 12th) from 7:30—9:00 p.m. in the Colby High School Band Room. No auditions are required, only a love of music and commitment to this community service.

Questions? Email us at
Gail56@hotmail.com or call
Sharon Kriss (460-2800) or
Mary Shoaff (462-2391)



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