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College ups tuition to cover state loss

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The Colby Community College trustees, meeting Monday evening at Thomas Hall, unanimously approved raising tuition fees in the fall to partly offset state budget cuts.

In-state students will see their tuition raised \$4 a credit hour and international, out-of-state and “border” students will

see an increase of \$10 a credit hour.

Tuition fees will increase from \$48 to \$52 per credit hour for Kansas students, or about 8.3 percent, and from \$58 to \$68 for border-state students, about 17 percent. Out-of-state tuition fees will increase from \$87 to \$97, 10.3 percent, and international tuition will go from \$112 to \$122, nearly 9 percent.

“Establishing a tuition raise is not an established science,” said Alan Waits, college chief financial officer. “We hope

the tuition raise will offset half the money lost in state budget cuts.”

Waits said it’s hard to determine how much money the school can recover, because they don’t know how deep the state’s cuts will be yet. The Legislature has not finished the 2010 budget for the new fiscal year, which begins July 1. Waits said the legislature will decide the extent of the cuts in the next couple months.

In other action:

- President Lynn Kreider said the col-

lege will soon be conducting a poll of its staff, faculty and student groups to find out if they are in favor of a tobacco-free campus. Kreider said he hopes to see that happen.

“It’s a habit we don’t need to have on campus,” he said.

- Heard that payments for the new dorm have exceeded revenue by \$80,000 this year. Waits said the new dorm would generate about \$420,000 a year on room rentals at full capacity.

The old dorms can house 200 people and the new dorm can hold 150 people, he said, but there were only 250 people in the dorms this fall, 100 below capacity. Kreider said the dorm has helped increase enrollment at the college, however.

“We had more residential students than we had capacity with the two old dorms,” Waits noted.

- Kreider said the school had a large

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ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press



Play at the park

Kaitlyn Faber, (above) 5-year-old daughter of Robin and Jerry Faber of Colby, climbed the playground equipment at Villa High Park on Sunday. Lincoln Myers (left), 4-year-old son of Shelly and Jim Myers, swung on the swing at the park while Kaitlyn’s brother Tyler Faber, 1, (right) set out in search of some adventure.



Briefly

Films focus on Bible lands

A film series on archaeological digs in Israel which retraces some of the early sites where Bible characters such as Abraham lived and walked will begin at 7 p.m. tonight at the College Drive Assembly of God church and continue at the same time for eight weeks. The public is invited.

Campus class to involve police

An “investigative scenario” for students in Linda Davis-Stephens’ Homeland Security class at Colby Community College from noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday may involve units from the Colby Police Department. Anyone on campus should that day not be alarmed, said Susan McMahan, Thomas County emergency management director. The activity is a closely monitored training scenario. For questions, call Davis-Stephens at 462-3984.

City 5K race set for Thursday

The Colby Recreation Department’ Second Annual Spring Fling 5K will kick off at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Community Building. Registration will begin at 5:30 on race day. This is a predicted time run, so you don’t need to be in great shape, just finish closest to your predicted time. Contact the department for information at 460-4440.

Brother, sister to give history

Ray Imhoff and Doris Johnson will offer a pictorial history of early Thomas County sites and events, based on their mother’s memories, from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday at the Prairie Museum of Art and History. This is a last of the Food for Thought series, which featured a soup lunch and history program on the third Thursday of the month. Call the museum at (785) 460-4590 for details or to make a reservation

College president to report

The public is invited to the Colby Community College “State of the College Address” at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center. President Lynn Kreider will discuss new programs, existing programs to be expanded, current events and future plans and projects. If time allows, he will answer questions. Everyone is invited. For information, call Debbie Schwanke at 460-5411.

Group offers family portrait

The Thomas County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council is offering a 10-inch-by-13-inch portrait of your children for a \$10 sitting fee. Sepia tone portraits, said to be a \$90 value, will be taken with vintage attire and props. Raffle tickets are available for a drawing for two portrait packages. Portraits will be taken by appointment on Saturday at the Colby

Community Building. For information or to reserve a sitting, call 462-6111.

FFA offers work, food

The Colby High FFA chapter will have a labor auction and mountain-oyster meal at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 27, in the school commons area. Students’ labor, projects and various items will be auctioned off. Ag instructor Shawna Howell-Hoffman said they will have door prizes and giveaways. Everyone who attends will get a free bird feeder as a thank-you from Howell-Hoffman. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Call Howell-Hoffman at 460-5320 for questions.

