



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press



Sacred Heart kids enjoy wet field day

Sacred Heart School fifth grader Tate Carey (above) took the baton from fellow fifth grader Lauren Dempewolf for the final leg in a relay at the school's field day Thursday. Third grader Dylan Seiwert (left) tried his best to outrun Kellyn Wahlmeier. Due to the rain, some of the classes had events in the school's gym while others braved the mud at Dennen Field.

Democrat shakes hands here

By Kevin Bottrell

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The 1st Congressional District's sole Democratic candidate made a campaign stop in Colby on Friday, talking about Republican issues such as immigration, abortion, taxes and spending.

Alan Jilka, a furniture-store owner and former Salina mayor, said he had been driving around town talking to people in offices and on the street. He said

he has been to about 55 of 69 counties so far and plans to see the rest by mid-June. He said he also plans to attend as many county fairs as he can.

"I've put a lot of miles on the vehicle," he joked. "My respect for (current Congressman) Jerry Moran has grown."

Being the only Democrat in the race, Jilka said, he has had to deal with some stereotypes.

"I'm not a San Francisco liberal," he said. "I'm

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Briefly

Garden needs gardeners

The community garden is looking for volunteers. The farm, located at the K-State Experiment Station on the west side of Colby, needs volunteers to help grow fruit and vegetables. The food produced by the farm will go to the Genesis Thomas County food bank and the Extension's Kids A Cookin' program as well as to the volunteers who put in their time and energy. For information, call Orvella Romine at 460-8177 or Clint Milliman at 460-4582.

Register for youth program now

Registration is open for students in fourth through eighth grades for a free Chautauqua Youth Camp next week at the Prairie Museum. The camp, led by Dr. Joyce Thierer and Dr. Ann Birney of "Ride into History," will offer kids a chance to research and portray Thomas County personalities from the 1930s under the Chautauqua tent. Call the museum at 460-

4590 for information.

Vacation Bible School next week

Trinity Lutheran Church's Vacation Bible School will be from 9:15 a.m. to noon Tuesday to next Friday at the church. The school is open to kids age 3 (potty trained) through fifth grade. Parents can register now or at the church the first day of the classes. For information, call Trinity Lutheran at 462-3497.

Remember book sale at Library

It's time again for Pioneer Memorial Library's Memorable Book Sale, which begins Thursday. The sale starts at 9 a.m. and closes at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 4:45 p.m. Friday and 3:45 p.m. Saturday. For information, call the library at 460-4470.

Brewster alumni to gather

The Brewster Alumni Reunion will open Saturday with a parade at 10 a.m. downtown, followed by an

Big storm misses Thomas County

By Kevin Bottrell

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It was another dark and stormy night, but not for Colby.

A large storm system moved through northwest Kansas Tuesday night, bringing tornadoes, heavy rain, flash floods and hail. The storm came up from the south and mostly missed Thomas County to the east. Rain gauges in Colby registered less than .1 inches. The Kansas State University Research and Extension Center recorded .02 inches.

A large rain-wrapped tornado hit the ground in Gove County at 7 p.m. about four miles northeast of the Monument Rocks natu-

ral landmark. Law enforcement, weather spotters and storm chasers all reported the tornado, which stayed on the ground for at least 45 minutes, but remained in the rural area southwest of Gove. Logan/Gove Emergency Manager George "Pappy" Lies said there are a number of power poles knocked down or twisted — most likely from the tornado — in the area as well as many torn-off tree limbs.

Brief tornadoes were spotted between Sharons Springs and Tribune at 5:30 p.m.

Stormchasers and spotters reported up to tennis ball-sized hail across Logan, Wichita, Greeley and Gove Counties. The Vortex 2 tornado chasers were in the area

again. Several reported hail to the National Weather Service from Greeley County. Lies said one stormchaser had his windshield shattered by golf ball-sized hail about 17 miles south of Oakley on U.S. 83.

The storm brought with it several flash-flood warnings. Law enforcement in Greeley County reported water running over county roads about 15 miles northwest of Tribune. Vortex 2 stormchasers reported floods south of Russell Springs. Lies said the southern half of Gove County also saw some flooding.

Lies said there have been no reports of injuries or damaged buildings, but he had heard there may be some crop damage from hail.

College to install turbine for power, energy classes

By Andy Heintz

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Barry Kaaz, dean of external affairs at Colby Community College, reported to the college board at their meeting last week about placing a 2.5 kilowatt wind turbine on campus.

The turbine would be at the southwest corner of the campus, west of the Bedker Memorial Complex and near Range Ave., Kaaz said at the meeting May 17 in Thomas Hall.

The college received a grant from the Wind for Schools Association at Kansas State University to

pay for the turbine, said Debbie Schwanke, public information director at the college. She said the turbine will produce power for an office, but also serve as a laboratory for students.

Kaaz said the turbine will be an "off-grid" system that will be used to help power an office cabin on campus. He said the cabin will also be powered by photovoltaic cells.

"We can market alternative energy at the college," he said.

The dean said the cabin office has to be within 1,000 feet of the turbine. He said he has met with the

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A brand new flag



VERA SLOAN/Colby Free Press

When the Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary discussed places they felt could use a flag, they instantly thought of Puddle Duck Preschool, because there would be no better place to instill in children the importance of the American flag and what it means. Florene Messamore, Mary Weed, Lily Thieler, Louise Dougherty and Rosalee Seemann presented the preschool with a flag May 18. Amy Jennings, director of the school and students Jake Olson, Kaeden McCarty, Gracee Pfeifer, Jessi Platt and J.D. Foster were on hand to accept.

Church camp will be Tuesdays

Colby Wesleyan Church plans a free summer day camp for kids 4 to 12 called "Tuesdays @ 10." From 10 a.m. to noon every Tuesday from next week to July 2, children are invited to share in fun, games, crafts, projects and God's love at the church, 320 W. Pine. Lunch will be served. Call the church office at 462-8391 for information or to register.

Rural school to hold reunion

The Monument School Reunion will be at 1 p.m. Sunday at the school. All graduates, families, teachers and anyone who attended the school are welcome to attend.

