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School board votes down swim team

By Kevin Bottrell

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the swim team members pay for all the costs of the sport through fund raisers,

not to add a girls swim team at the high

up with an estimate of how much a team based on existing salaries. She also eswould cost.

After a tense debate at Monday's meet- ed schools in Paola, Great Bend, Newton team. ing, the Colby School Board decided and Ossawatome to see what their swim teams cost. Counting coaches, administrative costs, pool usage, transportation The proposal on the table was to have and lodging, she came up with an estimated cost of \$10,000 to \$12,000.

DeYoung said that wouldn't be the fi-The proposal was tabled at the August coaches, which Colby might not need, and

meeting so that district staff could come she estimated a salary for those coaches Board members Angie Gaede and Susan ought to be self-funded," he said. timated the time that Activities Director ments against the proposal from school Business Manager Jo De Young contact- Larry Gabel would spend overseeing the

> had a problem with putting a sport at the mercy of donors.

"It's a great sport," he said, "but I think we should back away from this."

Weber said some of the decision comes so there would be no cost to the district. nal cost. Those schools employ assistant down to public perception, and he has gotten negative feedback on the proposal.

McLemore said they had also heard comstaff and the public.

Rogers, who first brought the proposal Board member Omar Weber said he to the board's attention, said he thought the problem lies in public perception. People might not understand why the board was adding an activity at the time when so much else is being cut. However, he said, there is support for the idea of a self-funded team.

"I've had people tell me more sports See "BOARD," Page 2

Board member Brice Barton said the district could probably overcome the perception issue, but he agreed with Weber. saying he was nervous that someone outside the district could make a large donation and want control in return.

Weber asked what would happen to the team if the district is forced to make budget cuts again, something he sees as likely in the near future. If more sports

Loading and unloading



vest gets under way. Several trucks were lined up at the Hi-Plains Co-Op eleva- on their way to and from the fields.

Grain elevators in Thomas County are starting to get busy as the fall corn har- tor in Colby on Wednesday, and many more can be seen rolling through town

College pushing regional recruitment

By Kayla Cornett

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During their monthly meeting Monday, the college board heard a program report from Nikol Nolan, director of admissions, about what her department is doing, what process. they have done in the past and what they're

Nolan, who used a PowerPoint presen-

cruitment and going through some of the into students." terminology related to recruitment, such as prospective student, inquiries, applicants There are three main ways. They attend convert the highest number of any college and confirmed students. These terms create an enrollment "funnel" of prospective students to enrolled students. The funnel starts out wide and narrows throughout the school visits in the fall and the spring, and

sible," Nolan said. "Because that means tation, started her report by defining re- more prospects that we're actually filtering were at 58 percent, but they had 32 more See "COLLEGE," Page 2

Next, Nolan described how they recruit. College Planning Conferences that are held throughout the fall in Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska and Oklahoma, they make high year-round, they have students that make "Here at Colby Community College, our campus visits. This year, they got 55.6 pergoal is to keep this as cylindrical as pos- cent of all students that visited campus last year to become students. Last year they

visits this year.

"In the end, what that says is that we that's willing to share its numbers with us," Nolan said. "The next highest number I've ever seen is 48 percent from a counter-

Nolan then went through the rules that the Kansas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers created that

Committee plans events to win challenge

As the Take Charge Challenge nears its Friday, Sept. 30, deadline, the Colby committee is planning several events in an attempt to secure a victory.

The first event is a free pancake breakfast from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Colby Fire Station, 1125 S. Country Club. Committee members will put on the Energy Bandit Program, which teaches about electronics that draw power even while turned off, and the Learning Tree, three exercises that cover conservation and recycling. The committee will have drawings for power strips and programmable thermostats.

The city gets to count every person who attends toward the overall score. Currently, Colby is in second place, just behind WaKeeney, with Oakley in a close third place. There is no clear winner, however, because no city is ahead in two out of the three categories. The three categories are: whole house energy retrofits, energy efficiency measures - which includes the lightbulb switches - and community participation.

The categories are weighted in the event of a tie, with house retrofits given the highest value.

The committee is also planning to have booths at events: at the Colby High School volleyball game, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday at the school; the Colby Community College volleyball game, 6 p.m. Wednesday at the community building; and at the Colby High homecoming football game, 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30, at Dennen

Execution renews death penalty debate

The Associated Press

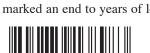
ATLANTA - Georgia's execution of Troy Davis for the murder of an off-duty police officer has done little to resolve the debate over his guilt that captured the attention of thousands worldwide, including a former president and

Davis remained defiant even after he was strapped to a gurney Wednesday night in the state's death chamber, declaring his innocence and urging the victim's family to continue searching for the truth.

"I ask my family and friends to continue to fight this fight," Davis said in his final statement.

Demonstrators wept during a candlelight vigil outside the prison. High-profile figures, including former President Jimmy Carter, said there was too much doubt surrounding Davis' conviction and that his execution called the entire death penalty system into

Relatives of the slain officer, Mark MacPhail, said the execution marked an end to years of le-



Relaxing study time



Colby Trojan basketball player Katarina Popovic made herself Wednesday. The Croatia native was working on an anthropolcomfortable for an evening of studying at the college library on ogy essay.

gal turmoil and rejected his claims of innocence.

"He's been telling himself that for 22 years. You know how it is, he can talk himself into anything," said the officer's mother, Anneliese MacPhail.

Davis had been convicted of MacPhail's 1989 killing. Prosecutors said Davis was pistol-whipping a homeless man after asking him for a beer when MacPhail, who was working as a security guard at the time, rushed over to help. Authorities said Davis had a smirk on his face when he shot the officer in a Burger King parking lot in Savannah.

Witnesses placed Davis at the crime scene and identified him as the shooter, but seven of nine key witnesses have recanted all or parts of their accounts. Some jurors have said they've changed their minds about his guilt. Others have claimed a man who was with Davis that night has told people he actually shot the officer, though state and federal judges have repeatedly ruled against him.

No gun was ever found, but prosecutors say shell casings were linked to an earlier shooting for which Davis was convicted.

See "DEBATE," Page 2