



# COLBY FREE PRESS

10 pages

## Colby, Brewster present diplomas Sunday afternoon

By JAY KELLEY

Colby Free Press

Spring is a time for graduations and Thomas County schools are no different.

On Sunday, Colby and Brewster high schools will hold commencement exercises, following Colby Community College and Golden Plains High School, who graduated their classes last weekend.

The Colby ceremony will start at 3 p.m. at the Community Building. Class president Jeannie Jackson will introduce the guest speaker Bill Cor-

des, a motivational speaker from Great Bend.

Class valedictorian Chelsey Roesch and salutatorian Matt Murray will address the class and high school principal Bryan Bullington will recognize National Honor Society members and the top ten percent of the class.

Brewster will not have a speaker, according to administrative assistant Sandy Bear. Instead, a slide show of the senior class will be shown. Commencement begins at 4 p.m., and Bobby Tubbs is class valedictorian and Justin Jamison is salutatorian.

## Colby youngsters face busy summer

By JAY KELLEY

Colby Free Press

The Colby Recreation Department summer programs are gearing up, according to director C.W. Cheney.

"We are still signing up baseball players," Cheney said, "but we would like to get the teams set up soon."

This year, Colby recreation is offering baseball, softball, soccer, tennis, swimming and basketball, as well as Spanish and arts and crafts.

The biggest traditional draw of summer, the Colby swimming pool, is set to open on May 26.

Cheney said summer baseball and softball leagues for kids and adults will start on June 4.

In addition, there will be a coed softball tournament on June 23 and a baseball fundamentals camp with Colby Community College coach Ryan Carter. British soccer camps, hosted by the Colby American Youth Soccer Organization, will be offered starting

June 4. Mike Sprenkel, Colby High School head tennis coach, will host tennis camps in July.

Swimming lessons for all ages will be offered throughout the summer.

In addition to a summer basketball league starting at the end of May, Colby Community College basketball coaches Brian Ostermann and Tom Stephens will be offering camps for boys and girls.

Also the Bob Chipman camp, featuring basketball players from the University of Kansas and Kansas State University will be offered, although a date has not yet been set.

Colby High School volleyball coach Lesley Wagoner will offer a fundamentals camp in August.

An introductory Spanish class will be offered in July, and crafts projects will be offered in June.

Cheney said flyers had been mailed and anyone with questions should contact his office at 462-4440.

## Record-breaking auction for college endowment

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

The final totals are in and this year's Colby Community College Endowment auction earlier this spring raised a record-breaking \$44,000, according to Stan Edmundson, president.

"The auction was deemed a complete and huge success," Edmundson said this week, "thanks to everyone involved."

Since its beginning in 1964, the endowment association has provided scholarships to help students with their college needs, and the need for scholarships is even greater day, Edmundson said.

The first endowment auction was held in 1972, according to historic records, raising nearly \$1,500.

In addition to announcing results of the auction, Edmundson is also wanting to let people in the community know that there are three positions open on the endowment board.

"We (the board) are looking for active, knowledgeable and motivated people to promote the college," he said.

Current board members include Larry Arehart, Todd Barrows, Velma Goodheart, Sandy Harper, Phil Shuman, Cal Williams, Mark Winger, Janet Meyers, Nancy Saddler and Edmundson.

If interested in serving on the endowment board, which is responsible for raising and managing \$150,000+ in scholarship funds, call Becky Donegan, executive administrative assistant at 462-4684 or any board member.



JAY KELLEY/Colby Free Press

## Building blocks

Signs of new construction are popping up all over Colby.

According to city building official Greg Swob, permits have been issued for new buildings south of Wal-Mart on Davis, at 100 S. Range, and 175 S. Range. Permits have also been issued for some home remodels and new fences, Swob said.

The new building south of Wal-Mart will be the new CellularOne office facility (workers pictured below). Also planned nearby is a Sears outlet.

The project at 100 S. Range (pictured to the right) is the Peoples State Bank, where installation of a safe was underway. The bank is already operating from a temporary facility on the site. Bank president Jon Pope said he hopes to move in to the permanent building by the end of July.

Colby Medical and Surgical Center, 175 S Range (top picture) is also undergoing a major expansion. According to officials there, the project is needed to accommodate new doctors and patient traffic.



## Retired Senior Volunteer Program celebrating 28 years in community

By MAXINE NELSON

Colby Free Press

Nationwide, Retired Senior Volunteer Program, (RSVP) is commemorating 30 years, and locally, the Northwest Kansas RSVP is celebrating its 28th year. The program in Colby started in 1973, serving Thomas, Logan, Phillips and Sheridan counties,

offering persons 55 and older an opportunity to remain active in their communities through volunteer service.

Laura Withington has been the local director for 19 years, taking over the position in 1982.

"It's a pleasure to work with the senior volunteers; they have such a dedication to any job they take on, includ-

ing volunteering," she said.

"I invite anyone over 55 to learn more about RSVP and to enjoy the benefits of volunteering in your community."

Senior volunteers do almost everything, and can count it as long as it is unpaid, except for volunteer work for religion, political organizations and

family members.

One of the programs Withington has recently developed is a tutoring program in the Colby schools, funded by a grant. She looks forward to expanding it.

Withington sees a big change since RSVP was begun. "The biggest is that not so many people are available as

volunteers. There are too many other things to do, and people are living longer and being more active," she said.

One of the highlights of the local program is the annual awards banquet in April at which volunteers are honored for their service.

The awards are based on hours of

service.

Withington also hosts special activities at the senior centers in the area several times throughout the year. She presents awards based on years of service at those.

Anyone interested in learning more about the program may contact the Colby office at 785-462-6744.

## Briefly

### Weather: Thunderstorms

Thunderstorms will provide most of the weather makeup for the Colby region now through Monday, according to the National Weather Service. Tonight, a 40 percent chance for thunderstorms, mostly cloudy, low 50-55 and southeast winds 10-20 mph. Saturday, a 50 percent chance for thunderstorms, cloudy, high in the lower 70s and southeast winds 10-20 mph, turning to the southwest. Saturday night, a 60 percent chance for thunderstorms, cloudy, but clearing late, low in the lower 50s. Sunday and Monday, thunderstorms, low in the upper 40s to around 50 and high 70-75. Colby's high Thursday was 73 and the overnight low this morning was 53. There was no additional precipitation, leaving the month's total at 2.32 inches. The soil tem-

perature at the 4-inch depth is averaging 75. The records for May 18: 96 in 1893 and 30 in 1942. (The daily temperatures, precipitation and records are provided by the Northwest Kansas Research-Extension Center, Colby.)

### Landfill schedule noted

The Thomas County Landfill will be open from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, May 26, and will be closed Sunday and Monday, May 27-28, for the Memorial Day weekend. For information please call Larry Jumper at 462-8139.

### College board sets meeting

The Colby Community College Board of Trustees will meet at 5 p.m. Tuesday in the board room of the Thomas

Hall Administration Building. The agenda includes a program review, consider bus bids, medical insurance, review the comments received at the student-trustee dinner, pay bills, and resignations.

### EMS open house Saturday

Thomas County Emergency Medical Services is holding an open house at the National Guard Armory, 470 S. Range in Colby on Saturday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. to kick off National Emergency Medical Services Week, May 20-26. According to director Josh Buffington, the event is to raise community awareness of the services available to Thomas County. In addition to the ambulance service personnel, who will be providing free blood pressure checks and dem-

onstrations of medical equipment, the Colby Fire and Police Departments, American Red Cross, High Plains Mental Health and the Colby Trojan Radio Club will also be on hand. "Different events will be going on throughout the day," said Buffington. "Bring the kids out for a fun and educational event."

### Luncheon to salute veterans

The annual veteran's Run for the Wall, a motorcycle rally from California to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. will be at the Oakley airport at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday for a luncheon, according to Dick Weston, one of the local organizers. All veterans are invited. The motorcycle cavalcade will pass through Colby at about 11:30 a.m.

