



# COLBY FREE PRESS

6 pages

## He knows where the beef is

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

For the past 10 years, John Anderson of Colby has been orchestrating the free barbecue at the Thomas County Fair, which usually feeds more than 2,000 people during the family day activities.

This year, Anderson said, he started preparations for the main course at 7 a.m. on Wednesday.

He said he had more than 2,600 pounds of beef, ordered 2,400 hamburger buns, 25 cases of potato chips and volunteers made about 500 gallons of tea for Wednesday night's free supper.

Anderson also thanked the many people who helped make the event possible, including Farmers and Merchants Bank, the Thomas County fair board, the Gem Lions Club, Rexford Boy Scouts, KQLS-KXXX and others.

While thousands of people enjoy the free barbecue, Anderson said there's lots of prep work going on behind the scenes.

The Gem Lions Club volunteers start cutting up the meat around 3 p.m., he said, while others are taping down the tables, making the tea and generally getting everything in order.

Anderson said he and Brent Wiedeman, vice-president of Farmers and Merchants Bank, start lining things up for the one-night event in February.

"I have been helping for the past four years," Wiedeman said Wednesday, "and it's a lot of fun."

Along with Wiedeman, 22 bank employees take care of the serving lines and help with other odd jobs.

One of the volunteers said that Anderson will use six gallons of sauce and five or six different spices in the recipe, adding that the ingredients are a secret.

Following the barbecue Wednesday night, many fairgoers stayed for the tractor pull in the grandstands, while others took advantage of some new games and old familiar favorites.



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

**TOP:** Benny Young, center, with the state division of wildlife and parks, taught firearms safety to Zach Harlow, Colby and Jade Kruse, Oakley on Wednesday during activities at the Thomas County Fair. **BOTTOM**

**LEFT:** Deanna Carmen helped prepare the annual barbecue sponsored by local businesses. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** John Anderson prepared the meat for the Wednesday evening menu.



## Running event here Saturday

By JAY KELLEY

Colby Free Press

The Sixth Annual Nine-Run-Run is on Saturday's agenda and entry forms are still available for the annual fun run and walk, sponsored by Thomas County Emergency Medical Services, according to Kathi Wright, one of the coordinators.

Events include a 5K run, 2K runs and walks and a 10K race. Registration will be at 8 a.m., followed by the 10K and 5K runs at 8:30. The 2K run and walk is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. and the awards ceremony is at 10.

Wright explained that the events differed mainly in their level of competition. The 2K run and walks were designed for non-competitive runners and walkers who simply want to get some exercise. The events will be held around Fike Park.

The 5K run is for those who enjoy running, but aren't ready for the 10K. Runners in the 5K will line up with the 10K, but run a different course.

The 10K is for the serious competitors. "This fast-paced 6.2 mile race is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. and is designed for the competitive runner," she said. The race will be run on the streets of Colby and will offer a tour of the city's parks, residential and business areas. Aid stations will be available and split times will be given at each mile.

"Medals will be given to the top three male and female finishers in each age event for the 2K and 5K runs," said Wright. "In addition to medals for each age group, the top three overall male and female finishers in the 10K event will also receive cash prizes."

Wright added that all 2K participants will receive participation medals. Refreshments will be available for all participants.

The awards ceremony will also feature drawings for door prizes and special awards for the youngest and oldest entrant in the 5K or 10K event. Gas coupons will be awarded to the participant who came the farthest.

Cost is \$15 for runners and \$12 for walkers and includes a T-shirt. For information, or to register, call 462-4585.

## Judge opens previously sealed records in four Wichita murder cases

WICHITA (AP)—Chief Judge Paul Buchanan unsealed Wednesday the 911 transcript and autopsy results connected with the execution-style killing of four people whose bodies were found in a Wichita soccer field last year.

Those records would be made public Friday, unless further appeals are filed.

The judge also ruled investigative material and emergency medical ser-

vice reports cannot be released until they are introduced in court proceedings.

The seal was initially imposed in January by then-presiding Judge Clark Owens on city and county documents that otherwise fall under the Kansas Open Records Act.

Lawyers for The Wichita Eagle and television stations KWCH and KAKE argued that state-paid prosecutors and defense lawyers have spent months

trying to block public requests to inspect government business.

Media attorney Bernard Rhodes said he was pleased with the ruling.

The sealed records involve Sedgwick County rescue responses to four people who were fatally shot the morning of Dec. 15.

The seal also kept the county's medical officials from conducting an investigation.

Both lawyers prosecuting and de-

fending accused brothers Reginald and Jonathan Carr argued in favor of the seal. Buchanan refused to hear arguments by Sedgwick County District Attorney Nola Foulston to place the news media under a gag order.

Foulston suggested the media fall under an order previously imposed by Owens because media lawyers intervened in the case to argue for public access.

Rhodes said there is no evidence to

show public access to the information would threaten a fair trial for the Carrs, and argued that denying records to make case work easier for the lawyers isn't enough.

"The First Amendment is not a free ticket," Rhodes said.

"The freedom of the First Amendment comes at a cost."

Deputy District Attorney Kim Parker said: "It is not a recognized First Amendment right to access. It is a com-

mon law right."

John Val Wachtel, Reginald Carr's lawyer, said the court has the power to do what it deems fit to protect the defendants' rights.

"You may seal any document that you want," Wachtel told Buchanan.

"You may close any proceeding you want, if you are persuaded there is a clear and present danger to a fair trial, and that it can't be avoided by any alternative means."

## Subsurface drip irrigation focus of field day here

By JAY KELLEY

Colby Free Press

Kansas State University researchers are so excited about the possibilities of subsurface drip irrigation that they have planned a field day for Tuesday, Aug. 7 in Colby.

Although the systems are relatively new, the Colby unit has been in place for 12 years, according to Freddie Lamm, an agricultural engineer with K-State Research and Extension in Colby.

K-State economists think the systems need to be in place 12-15 years for

farmers to get their money back, but Lamm said some commercial systems have been in place in Texas for 20 years.

"(K-State's system) has been in place for 12 years with little or no degradation," said Lamm. "That indicates to me that these systems can last and still have good water application uniformity."

The system uses underground plastic lines, called drip taps, that run the length and breadth of a field. Two pronounced advantages are coverage of square areas versus pivot systems only

being able to cover circles and the ability to feed water directly to each plant's roots.

The University's research has expanded to nearly 40 acres in Colby, Garden City, Ingalls and Holcomb. "We estimate (subsurface irrigation) is growing by about 1,000-1,500 acres per year, but we expect it to grow more rapidly as crop prices improve, current irrigation systems are replaced and the Ogallala aquifer declines further," said Lamm.

Irrigation accounts for nearly 95 percent of the water use in western

Kansas. Lamm said 10,500 acres are currently under subsurface drip irrigation, but he thought about 750,000 acres using surface irrigation might be ideally suited for the more efficient method.

The main topics will be:

- A comparison between drip and sprinkler irrigation.

- Optimal corn plant population for drip irrigation.

- Using drip irrigation to distribute livestock wastewater.

Further information is available on the Internet at [www.oznet.ksu.edu](http://www.oznet.ksu.edu).

## Thomas County Fair 2001 Schedule of Events

Tonight

8:00 p.m. Demolition Derby

Friday, August 3

9:00 a.m. 4-H Round Robin

3:00 p.m. Buyers' Appreciation BBQ; 4-H Livestock Sale

7:00 p.m. RACES Cruiser Classic

Saturday - August 4

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Release of livestock and clean up of barns. Release of all 4-H &amp; Open Class Exhibits

11:30 a.m. Pioneer Day - VFW

7:00 p.m., RACES Thomas County Insurance Modified Shoot Out

Monday - August 7

7:00 p.m. Fair Clean-Up

## Briefly

### Weather: No change

The weather outlook for the Colby area now through Monday calls for no change at all. Lows will be in the 60s and highs in the low to mid-90s. Thunderstorm possibilities are rated at no better than 20 percent, and winds will generally be out of the south 10-20 mph. Wednesday's high in Colby was 95 and the overnight low this morning was 63. There was no precipitation during the past 24 hours. The soil temperature at the four-inch depth is averaging 88 degrees. The records for Aug. 2: 107 in 1938 and 50 in 1927. (The daily temperatures, precipitation and records are provided by the Northwest Kansas Research-Extension Center, Colby.)

### Singles dance Friday

The Colby Singles Group will hold its regular monthly dance on Friday from 8 to midnight, according to Don Birzer, organizer. The entertainment will be provided by Montana Express, Kearney, Neb., and the dance is open to any single people or alumni. For information, call Birzer at 462-2127.

### Watermelon feed set

The Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce is holding a free watermelon feed as part of the Krazy Daze promotion from 4-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 9 on Franklin Avenue. Local merchants will be conducting a sidewalk

sale, also. For more information, or to reserve booth space, call the chamber at 462-3401.

### Parade winners announced

Here are the champions by class for the Thomas County Fair parade on Tuesday. Best Farm Implement — Colby Implement; Best Adult-Drawn Vehicle — Floyd Cousins; Best Animal-Drawn Vehicle — Garrett Gang; Best Organized or Personal Float — Hi-Plains Shrine; Best Horse & Saddle Club — Thomas County Rodeo queen attendants; Best Business Floats — F&M Bank; Best 4-H Club — The Abilene Hustlers; Best Band, Drill Team or Cheerleaders — Colby High School Cheerleaders; Best Children's Per-

sonal Float — Nathan and Casey Quagliano; Best Decorated Wheeled Vehicle — Jordan Schutte; Best Dressed Pet — Zane Cersovsky; Unusual Costume — Taylor Todd.

### Mural celebration Sunday

Literally hundreds of hours of work by artist Ken Mitchell and area volunteers will be unveiled on Sunday with a new mural at the Bedker Memorial Complex at Colby Community College. The mural depicts education scenes from the past century, including the old Colby High School and other schools from Thomas County. The unveiling ceremony will be from 2-4 p.m. Mitchell and many of the people who helped will be on hand.

