



COLBY FREE PRESS

8 pages

Store's customer turns out to be a robber

By **PATTY DECKER**
Free Press Editor

Colby police are still looking for a man who stole an undetermined amount of money from the Dollar General Store at 1805 S. Range Ave on Tuesday afternoon.

Local authorities were alerted of the armed robbery by an employee of the store who called the law enforcement center at about 1:40 p.m. "Within a minute, officers were at the scene in an effort to catch the suspect before he had a

chance to get away," said Colby Police Chief Randy Jones.

As officers searched the area around the store, other law enforcement authorities hurried to get roadblocks up between Levant and Edson on Interstate 70, he said.

Following questioning with the two employees at Dollar General, police learned that the man was in the store for about 20 minutes and did take some items up to the check out as if to purchase them.

No sooner did he begin the transaction, Jones said, he told the clerk it was a robbery and that he had a gun.

Although the clerk told authorities she didn't see a gun, the robber had pointed to his waist and made the remark that a gun was under his shirt.

Another clerk at the store told police that the man left the store and walked south and then east toward the Sonic restaurant area.

"It is our contention that he had someone

waiting for him," Jones said.

The man is described as white, between the ages of 35 and 40.

He is approximately 5'5" tall, slim, weighing 135 to 160 lbs., and wearing cut-off blue jeans, dark denim shirt with a brighter colored shirt underneath, ball cap, glasses and facial stubble, Jones said.

In addition to the armed robbery in Colby, Jones said that the Hays Police Department believes the man who held up the Colby busi-

ness is also the same person who robbed a TCBY store in their town earlier that morning around 11 a.m.

"The investigation is continuing," Jones said, "and anyone who has any information about this case should call us at 462-4460."

Other agencies assisting the Colby Police Department in Tuesday's incident at the Colby location included the Thomas, Sheridan, Logan and Rawlins County Sheriff's offices and the Kansas Highway Patrol.

Landfill supervisor tackles questions

By **MICHELLE L. HAWKINS**
Colby Free Press

During recent weeks, the landfill supervisor has been asked many questions about the costs of dumping at the landfill. He offers the following information.

The Thomas County Landfill accepts many different types of solid waste. With some waste, there is a tipping fee, or a small charge, to dump.

"There is still confusion as to what solid waste has a tipping fee at the landfill and what doesn't. The majority of waste tickets are 'no charge' at the landfill," said Larry Jumper, supervisor.

Jumper said from Jan. 1 of this year until June 30, nearly 80 percent of the loads processed at the Thomas County Landfill were of no charge to the residents bringing the waste. Only 20 percent were charged tipping fees.

The following types of solid waste would have tipping fees:

- Construction and demolition waste would have a tipping fee of \$10 per ton with a minimum fee of \$2.
- Items that would fall under this category would include, but not be limited to, carpet, carpet padding, linoleum, floor tile, ceramic tile, sheet rock, plaster, shingles, Non-Friable Asbestos, wood (stained, varnished, painted, pre-treated, Formica covered and pre-finished. Plastics (aeration tubing, plastic pipe, plastic tanks etc.), glass, all insulation, porcelain (plumbing fixtures), vinyl siding, fixtures, lights, gypsum, doors, windows, slate, roofing felt, asphalt, rock, earth, bricks and decorative rock.

Loads that contain waste other than construction and demolition waste will be sorted. In some instances if a dirty construction and demolition load is allowed to be dumped at the landfill, the tipping fee goes to \$35 per ton.

- Tires are recycled and are charged by size. A standard car tire is \$2.
- Loads that require special handling such as Kansas Department of Health and Environment permitted special waste or the immediate burying of important documents is \$35 per ton.
- Grain dust is \$30 per ton to dump, while grain and spoiled grain is only \$5 per ton.
- Appliances that contain Freon, have a \$25 charge. If a refrigerated appliance is brought to the landfill that has been illegally drained the fee would still be \$25.
- Concrete is \$7.50 per ton, with a minimum charge of \$2.

The landfill is open for their summer hours Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. For information about the landfill contact Jumper at 462-8139.

Recycling old materials for new purposes



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press

Heavy machinery moved into gear Tuesday afternoon just south of I-70 in Colby, on the site of the new truck stop being constructed by Woffter Construction of Colby. Nickman Brothers of Kearney, Neb.,

will be working for the next couple of weeks crushing asphalt and concrete to make material to use for the parking lot at the new facility. The future truck site could be open by the fall or early winter of this year.

WeatherWatch

Colby-Oakley areas

- The numbers**
 Tuesday's high, 88
 Low this morning, 64
 Year ago today, 90 and 62
 Temperature at 10:30 a.m. today, 81
 Colby rainfall past 24 hours, 0.00
 Month's rainfall, 1.30
 Oakley's rainfall past 24 hours, 0.00
 Month's rainfall: 2.83
 Soil temp, 79
 Records for July 24: 111 in 1936 and 50 in 1911
- The forecast**
 Highs today should flirt with the 100-degree mark. Tonight, clear, lows in the mid-60s, southwest winds 5-15 mph. Thursday, partly sunny, highs in the upper 90s, west winds 5-15 mph, becoming southeast. Thursday night, cloudy, 40 percent chance for thunderstorms, lows in the lower 60s. Friday, partly sunny, highs in the mid-90s. (Temperatures and precipitation are from the Northwest Research-Extension Center, unless otherwise noted. Forecast is from the National Weather Service.)
- Colby Water Usage**
 • July 23 = 1.895 million gallons
Levels of Concern
Watch Level 3.5 million gallons
Warning Level 4.0 million gallons
Emergency Level 4.5 million gallons
 (Three consecutive days)

Stovall enters controversy over Kline's FBI report

TOPEKA (AP)—Attorney General Carla Stovall said Tuesday that Phill Kline should release details of his FBI background report conducted while he was a nominee for U.S. attorney.

But Kline, campaigning to succeed Stovall, said he had no intention of asking the FBI for a copy of its report.

"The only people that have seen anything relating to my nomination are the White House," Kline said earlier in the day.

"They said they were pleased with my nomination and they respect my decision to withdraw. Everything else is rumor and speculation," he said

It was the latest confrontation among statewide politicians taking sides in the Aug. 6 Republican primary for state attorney general. Kline faces state Sen. David Adkins, and Topeka attorney Charles McAtee.

"My concerns over Kline and his lack of qualifications to be U.S. Attorney are identical to my concerns over his bid now to succeed me," Stovall told reporters.

Stovall repeated claims made last week by Sen. Pat Roberts' top aide that Kline's qualifications did not meet White House standards. She also is concerned about Kline's debt from his

2000 congressional campaign and his role in the failed BioCore venture capital effort.

Kline announced he would withdraw from consideration for U.S. attorney in September, citing a desire to run for statewide office. Sen. Sam Brownback had recommended Kline to the White House in a letter also signed by Roberts.

Adkins allies question Kline's qualifications for attorney general because Kline let his law license lapse three times, renewing it in January 2001.

Kline supporters have questioned Adkins' fitness, citing a 1994 ethics

sanction by the Kansas Supreme Court.

Roberts was in the news last week when his chief of staff, Leroy Towns, said the White House had raised concerns about Kline's fitness to serve as top federal prosecutor in Kansas and asked for two more candidates for the job.

The White House responded Friday with a statement saying the administration was "pleased" to have Kline's name submitted.

On Tuesday, Brownback, who has endorsed Kline, entered the fray.

During her news conference, Stovall

said Brownback's office had "threatened" her against commenting on Kline's nomination.

"This morning I became even more firmly resolved to speak out when a member of my staff received a threat from a chief aide to U.S. Sen. Brownback," she said. "My staff member was told to deliver a message to me warning me that I would be sorry if I spoke out about Phill Kline's failed nomination."

The aide in question, Brownback chief of staff David Kensingler, dismissed the allegations as "unspecified and unsupported."

Abducted Philadelphia girl manages to free self from captors

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Bound, blindfolded and left in a dirty basement for nearly 24 hours, a 7-year-old kidnapped girl gnawed through duct tape and made her way to freedom, ending the latest in a series of high-profile abductions around the nation.

While being held in a police officer's arms, Erica Pratt waved to TV cameras and beamed as she was returned to her grandmother's home late Tuesday.

Police said she suffered only minor injuries.

Authorities were searching for James Burns, 29, and Edward Johnson, 23, who are considered suspects in the abduction. Police said the men were known to the girl's family and that their names had been provided by two witnesses.

"Our biggest concern is that the baby come back to us in good health and this

is what she did," said the girl's great-grandmother, Geraldine Tate.

Erica was playing Monday with her 5-year-old sister in front of their grandmother's rowhouse in southwest Philadelphia when two men drove up, called her by name and dragged her into their car as she screamed and resisted, witnesses told police.

The girl had been left on a mattress in the basement of a building 10 miles

from her home. Duct tape was wrapped around her eyes, arms and legs and she only had a can of water for nearly 24 hours, police said.

She was eventually able to free herself from the tape, break through the basement door and go up to the first floor. Unable to escape, she smashed a window and called out for help to some children playing in front of the house.

The children pulled Erica out of the window, and one of them rode their bike from the abandoned building to where police officers were on patrol, Lt. Michael Chitwood said.

Erica was taken to a hospital, where doctors evaluated her and removed the duct tape stuck in her hair. Police said she had a corneal abrasion on one eye, possibly from the tape.

Briefly

Rexford plans flea market for Aug. 3

Rexford PRIDE will be holding its Farmers/Flea Market on Saturday, Aug. 3, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a city-wide garage sale running at the same time. These events are held the first Saturday of the month and booth space is \$10, said Peg Greenwood, one of the organizers. Among the vendors taking part at the next flea market are the Rexford Boy Scouts who will be setting up for lunch and having bake sale items available. Anyone interested in participating as a vendor can call Greenwood at (785) 687-4346 or Evelyn Johnson at (785) 687-3925.

City pool adjusts schedule

The municipal swimming pool in Colby will be closed

all day, Thursday, Aug. 8, said Stephanie Unruh, pool manager. In addition, she wanted to remind all those who took swim lessons this summer and last summer to stop by the facility and pick up their Red Cross certification card for completing the course. For questions or to receive cards, drop by the office at 200 E. 5th St. or call Unruh at 462-4429.

Vendors wanted for sidewalk sale

Vendors are wanted for this year's annual Sidewalk Sale beginning at 4 p.m. and concluding around 8 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 8. According to organizers from the Colby Downtown Merchants Committee, any groups or organizations that would like to sell items are encouraged to call Bonnie Dinkel at 462-2751. One example of a group planning to

do something at the sidewalk sale, she said, is the 9th-10th grade Mid-America Youth Basketball boys team, who will be selling cotton candy.

Extension office closes during fair

The Thomas County Extension Office will be closed during the week of the fair, July 29 through Aug. 2, and officials are reminding everyone that any business or services they may need during that week should be brought in prior to or after the county fair.

Nine-Run-Run apps available

The Thomas County Emergency Medical Services is hosting its seventh annual Nine-Run-Run, which will be held on Saturday, Aug. 3, beginning at 7 a.m. with registra-

tion. Call the office at (785) 462-4585 or stop by the facility at 1275 S. Franklin, Colby to pick up a registration form.

Golf tourney scheduled

The second annual Drive for Sobriety golf tournament will be held Saturday, Sept. 14 at the Sugar Hills Country Club in Goodland.

The event, sponsored by the Thomas County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council is seeking teams to participate in the four person scramble with all proceeds from the event going to support council activities and programs.

The \$60 per person entry fee will include a golf cart and lunch. Entry forms are available at the Thomas County ADAC office, P.O. Box 100, Colby, Kan. 67701 or by calling (785) 462-6111.

