



COLBY FREE PRESS

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Hospital's doors to remain open for Dr. Hildyard

By MICHELLE L. HAWKINS
Colby Free Press

During a teleconference hearing this morning, District Judge Jack Burr at Goodland denied the injunction requested by the legal representation of Citizens Medical Center against Dr. Victor H. Hildyard II. The denial of the request allows Hildyard to continue seeing patients at the hospital.

He left the temporary restraining order in effect until a Nov. 6 hearing. "At that time, it (the temporary restraining order) will automatically be dissolved," said Judge Burr.

Carol Bonebrake, Topeka, the attorney for Citizens Medical Center, also asked that a security bond be established to "secure the hospital against damages."

Judge Burr denied the bond request. Bonebrake made her statements first by refuting the three arguments by Hildyard's attorney. Her first argument was that there is a danger to patient care. She said that Hildyard, after the allegations were first made, refused to attend to patients at the hospital who were employees of Citizens Medical Center. Bonebrake said that all three were women.

According to information provided by the office of Michael O'Neal, Hildyard's attorney, on Sept. 3, 2002, after the investigation had taken place, Hildyard was handed a letter advising him of the hospital's intent to summarily suspend his privileges, unless proposed action was taken by Sept. 5, 2002. On the advice of counsel, Dr. Hildyard rejected the proposed action, saying he would have to waive his due process rights.

Bonebrake said that in the presence of four members of the hospital board, Hildyard said he had no intention of participating (nor his associates, Dr. LaDonna Regier and Dr. Raymond Ketting) in the conditions that were being asked of him.

In addition, Bonebrake said that Hildyard had convinced obstetrical nurses they are taking a risk by working with doctors hired by the hospital by *Docs Who Care*, since they are not properly licensed to deliver. She refuted the allegations saying they have been granted obstetrical privileges and have been approved by the hospital board.

"The hospital is within its right to do what it has done," said Bonebrake. She said the hospital board "is made up of real people with real jobs who have real concerns about the healthcare in this community."

"The board does not want this to be a win/lose situation," she said.

She concluded by saying that not every member of the community can be involved in this decision. "No healthcare system can be managed by the whole of community." "It is time for this matter to proceed."

O'Neal said, "The hospital adds new elements every time we turn around." He said the original letter presented to Hildyard was based on a written complaint from a disgruntled employee from April. In documents from O'Neal's office, it was admitted that the alleged complaints were the subject of their Human Resources investigation, and it did not involve patient care.

"They are scrambling to find patient care issues," said O'Neal, "It is a situation where the hospital has tried to create excuses to get rid of Dr. Hildyard."

O'Neal said they want the hospital board to be equitable and fair, and said he had three documented complaints against other physicians that were very serious patient care concerns. He said those complaints were never investigated or disciplined.

"He wants to be treated no different than they treat any other physician," said O'Neal.

In her rebuttal after O'Neal's conclusion, Bonebrake refuted this point by saying, "If I get a speeding ticket and you don't, it is not fair, but I still must pay the piper."

O'Neal also addressed the fact that both Dr. Regier and Dr. Ketting have been left out of the investigation, presumably due to bias. He said the only person that could be left out of an investigation such as this, according to hospital bylaws, would be "a member of staff that would be in direct economic competition."

Burr said he had no authority to make an order for the two parties to find a compromise, but he encouraged both the hospital and Hildyard to "explore the middle ground."



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press

Jeff Wagoner (left), and Bruce Plumisto of Colby mount the new sign for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colby at the agency's location on

W. 4th Street. The sign was designed by J&L Graphics of Colby and was purchased through the Thomas County Community Foundation.

Big sign for big group

By DARREL PATTILLO
Colby Free Press

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Thomas County has a new sign, thanks to a \$1,500 grant from the city of Colby's Special Law Enforcement Fund administered by the Thomas County Community Foundation.

Some of the of the money was used for a sign at the agency's building, located at 1960 W. 4th Street in Colby. Additional funds will purchase equipment for use during educational sessions with children, as well as for displaying program information while at community events.

Also, a special fund has been estab-

lished to assist volunteers with expenses incurred while celebrating a special event with a Little Brother or Little Sister.

"We're grateful for the support of the Special Law Enforcement Fund and the Thomas County Community Foundation," Tami Grandison, executive director, said in an interview this week.

"These funds will help us in more ways as we provide services to the youth in our community," she said.

Anyone interested in volunteering at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Thomas County can contact Grandison at 465-9125.

Formal charges filed in Brewster incident

By DARREL PATTILLO

Colby Free Press

A Brewster man who was caught while allegedly videotaping female high school volleyball players while they showered made his first appearance in Thomas County District Court this morning.

Adam Juenemann, 23, was arrested in Brewster on Sept. 28 after girls from the St. Francis volleyball team noticed a red light in a vent while they were

showing. Juenemann was detained at the scene by school officials and arrested by Thomas County sheriff's deputies.

This morning Juenemann made his first appearance before the court to hear the charges being brought against him by the State of Kansas. Juenemann is being represented by Colby attorney Calvin Williams, who was present with his client in Judge Richard Ress' chambers, while the judge advised

Juenemann of the charges against him. Those charges are:

1. Sexual exploitation of a child, which is a level 5 person felony;
2. Aggravated burglary, also a level 5 person felony;
3. Criminal damage to property, a Class B misdemeanor.

Each of the felony convictions carries a maximum of 136 months in the state penitentiary; the misdemeanor charge carries a maximum of six

months in the county jail.

Judge Ress set a court date for a preliminary hearing on Oct. 18. At that time, Thomas County Attorney Allan Taylor will present the charges filed against Juenemann, and Judge Ress will determine if further court action is required.

Bond was set at \$50,000, which Juenemann said he was unable to pay. He was returned to the Thomas County jail to await the Oct. 18 hearing.

Tim's Express is coming to Colby

By TOM (TD) DREILING
Free Press Publisher

As election day approaches — Nov. 5 — campaign activity moves into an even higher gear.

Candidates will be roaming the hilly eastern portions of the state and the flatlands in the west. And everything in between.

Campaign advertising will pick up. Messages will be short and pointed.

Campaign buses will hit the road. One of those buses will be in Colby, carrying the only bespectacled, mustached candidate for governor. That won't be Democrat Kathleen Sebelius, or Reformist Ted Pettibone, or Libertarian Dennis Hawver.

Exiting the bus on Thursday, Oct. 24 will be the current state treasurer and conservative Republican Tim Shallenburger.

The bus will pull up at the Thomas County Courthouse at 10:30 a.m. for about half an hour to allow boosters, supporters and others still trying to decide who to vote for a chance to meet the candidate who, reports indicate, is closing the gap on front-runner Sebelius.

Weather permitting, a good size crowd is expected to greet the Republican nominee for the state's highest office.

The Free Press has not been made aware, as of this date, when any of the other candidates for governor, will be arriving for similar stops.

Fear settles in that the sniper has struck again

MANASSAS, Va. (AP) — A man was gunned down moments after filling his tank at a Virginia gas station, the latest deadly turn in the investigation of a sniper who is stalking the Washington area.

Police said they didn't know if the Virginia slaying was linked to the other attacks, but the shooting only heightened fear that the sniper had struck again.

The man was shot Wednesday night in Prince William County, near Manassas, approximately 30 miles west of the nation's capital and 43 miles from Bowie, Md., the site of Monday's shooting that wounded a boy outside a school.

Virginia State Police said two men were seen driving away in a white

minivan after the shooting. The victim, who was traveling alone and not from the area, had just finished paying for gas when he was shot, Prince William County police chief Charlie Deane said early today.

The shooting came one week after the first of six sniper slayings in Washington, Maryland and Virginia. Two other people have been wounded. The woman wounded in Virginia last week was released from the hospital Tuesday. The wounded schoolboy, whom police have not identified, remained in critical but stable condition today.

A tarot card with the words "Dear policeman, I am God" was found near a shell casing outside the school in Bowie, a source familiar with the investigation said on the condition of

anonymity.

Maryland investigators went to the scene of Wednesday's killing because of similarities with the previous shootings, and Virginia police were sharing information with them.

"We are certainly working the case with that (a possible link) in mind," Montgomery County Police Chief Charles Moose said this morning.

A Maryland witness told police he saw two men in a white truck or van leaving the scene of an earlier shooting outside a post office. Two of the Maryland shootings were at gas stations.

"Everything is very similar," Montgomery County Executive Douglas Duncan said. "Let's hope this is not it." The shell recovered in Monday's

school shooting was a .223-caliber, the same kind of bullet that authorities believe was used in the earlier shootings. It was the first casing found since the slayings began Oct. 2.

Michael Bouchard, an agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, would not say whether authorities had linked the casing to the attacks.

Moose wouldn't comment Wednesday when asked about the tarot card, and angrily suggested unapproved information had been leaked.

"I need to make sure I don't do anything to hinder our ability to bring this person or these people into custody," Moose said.

Investigators say the sniper, or snipers, fired from a distance.

WeatherWatch Colby-Oakley area

The numbers
Wednesday's high, 67
Low this morning, 50
Year ago today, 65 and 41
Temperature at 11 a.m. today, 62
Colby's 24-hr. rainfall, 0.00
Records for Oct. 10, 96 in 1920, 24 in 1970

The forecast
Tonight, clear, lows near 50. Friday, sunny, highs around 82. Friday night, cloudy, windy, lows upper 30s. Saturday, sunny, highs only 45-50. Saturday night, clear, very cool, lows 28-30.

Colby Water Usage
• Oct. 9 = 1.954 million gallons
• Oct. 8 = 1.771 million gallons

Briefly

Tootsie Roll Drive arrives

On October 11, 12 and 13, the Colby Council of the Knights of Columbus will be handing out specially marked Tootsie Tolls while seeking donations for the mentally challenged. The members of the Knights will be at several locations in Colby, so look for these friendly gentlemen in their bright yellow and red aprons and please — be generous. Donations may also be sent to the local Knights of Columbus Council in care of Dick Parnell, Tootsie Roll Chairman, at 2820 N. Range in Colby.

Make checks payable to "Tootsie Roll Program Fund" and remember that your donations are tax deductible.

Fair Board meets tonight

The Thomas County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. today at the Thomas County 4-H Building at the fairgrounds. Agenda items include straw removal from east of the race track, the carnival, next year's fair parade, a contract with E&G promotions, grounds keeper replacement, and Cheryl Baird's resignation.

Legion feed on tap Saturday

A pancake and sausage feed is scheduled Saturday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Colby American Legion. Cost is \$3. Proceeds will be used for community service projects. The public is encouraged to come out and support community needs.

Beims benefit at Atwood Oct. 20

A benefit for Braden Scott Beims, infant son of Mitch and Cortney Beims, Colby, will be held in Atwood at the Knights of Columbus Hall from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 20. Chicken noodle soup, chili, desserts and soft drinks will be available. This will be a free-will offering. Everyone in the area is invited to attend.

Auxiliary still needs items

Donations of good new or used holiday items are needed for the *Recycled Holidays Sale* sponsored by the Citizens Medical Center Auxiliary. Donations may be left at 545 Woofter Avenue

in the evenings after 5 p.m. or call 462-7777 or 462-6896. The sale will be Saturday, Oct. 19, from 8 to 11 a.m. at 545 Woofter Avenue.

Amusement goup to meet

The next meeting of the Thomas County Amusement Association will be Monday at 7 p.m. in the Thomas County Office Complex. One of the items on the agenda will be the rides local representatives saw during a visit to Sterling, Colo.

School to hold festival, fun night

The public is invited to the Fall Festival and Family Fun Night hosted by Heartland Christian School in Colby on Oct. 31 from 6:30-9 p.m. "Join us for an evening of games, prizes, and fun for the entire family at 1995 West Forth Street," said a school spokesman. For more information call the school at 462-6419.

Booster cards now available

The *Music Booster Cards* are now available. Call 465-5300 or 465-5200 for additional information. Sign up ends Friday

