



COLBY FREE PRESS

Wellness Fair is ready to roll

By **PATTY DECKER**

Free Press Editor

This year's Wellness Fair is planned for Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Colby Community College Student Union and organizers have set up a variety of screening exams and informational booths to help everyone kick off the New Year in a healthy way.

As in previous years, lab work prior to the fair was held on Saturday, Jan. 4 and 11 to give fairgoers an opportunity to test lipid profile, serum glucose and get a complete blood count.

The lipid profile offers participants a chance to screen cardiovascular risk, the serum glucose is a check for diabetes and the blood count testing included an anemia screen, said Jeanene Brown, director of education at Citizens Medical Center and one of the Wellness Fair committee members.

"Results of the tests," she said, "will be available on Saturday, along with an explanation." Participants are asked to check the time schedules for those presentations that will be posted at the registration desk when entering the fair.

For \$5, fairgoers can also get screening exams for skin cancer by staff from Heartland Dermatology Center in Hays, oral cancer from Colby-area dentists, a colorectal screening kit from the

Thomas County Health Department to check for colon cancer, urinalysis testing that is used to screen for a variety of health problems, glaucoma screening exams by area optometrists, blood pressure checks and stroke risk analysis by Family Center for Health Care staff, and screening evaluations for hearing by the Northwest Kansas Hearing Services.

Fitness testing will also be among the highlights at this year's fair, Brown said. Those tests include cardiovascular endurance, body fat analysis, flexibility, strength and even a bone density analysis, which is a screening for osteoporosis, for a small additional fee.

"Women can also sign up for discounted rates on mammograms, breast, pelvic exams, and PAP smears that would be done at a later date," she said.

Nurse practitioners from Colby Medical and Surgical Center, along with those from the Family Center for Health Care will be participating in the women's health exam programs.

Mammogram coupons of \$50 can be picked up the day of the fair and participants should schedule their appointment sometime during the week following the event by calling the hospital's radiology department, Brown said. The special coupon is particularly intended for those with no insurance or for those whose insurance does not already cover the cost of the mammogram.



DARREL PATTILLO/Colby Free Press

Fran Smith of Colby (right) had blood drawn by nurse Renee Lighthall while Sherry Mead, Colby, had blood drawn by Collette Morris Saturday morning at Citizens Medical Center. Smith and

Mead were just a couple of the hundreds of people who had blood drawn for the Colby Wellness Fair. The fair will be held on Saturday, Jan. 18.

Men can also be screened for or learn more about prostate specific antigen by visiting with one of the Docs Who Care physicians who will be available to discuss lab work

previously done or questions on Saturday.

Representatives from many organizations and prevention agencies in Colby and the surrounding

area plan to provide educational information on health and wellness issues.

In addition, there will be areas at the fair specifically for children,

making it something the entire family can enjoy, she said.

For questions or other information, call Brown at (785) 462-4870.

Alcohol and excessive speed are listed as contributing factors in fatal accident

By **PATTY DECKER**

Free Press Editor

Alcohol and excessive speed were among the contributing factors in a one-vehicle accident that resulted in the death of an 18-year-old youth and injuries to the other five occupants in the car on Sunday, Jan. 5, according to Gove County law enforcement officials.

The accident report, which was released late last week, also noted that charges are pending in the crash awaiting the results of blood alcohol tests and completion of the investigation.

Of the six teenagers in the car, Cody M. Wilson, 18, one of the passengers, died from his injuries, but not before emergency medical personnel took him by ambulance to the Logan County Hospital where he was airlifted to St. Francis/Via

Christi Hospital in Wichita during the early morning hours on Sunday.

Wilson, who was in the back seat behind the driver, was one of the three youth ejected from the green 1997 Pontiac Grand Prix, the report noted.

The two other teenagers ejected were Blake N. Pilkington, 19, the driver, and Casey L. Andersen, 17.

The other passengers were Jeffrey C. Dennis, 15, Robert D. Dennis, 17, and Kyle A. Kersenbrock, 18.

The Gove County Sheriff's office said the one-vehicle fatality accident happened at 3:45 a.m. on a gravel road 2/10 of a mile east of the Logan/Gove County line.

According to the report, the Grand Prix was eastbound on Gove County Road S and was traveling at a speed of 86 mph prior to leaving

the roadway, based on scuffmarks at the scene. The maximum speed on county roads is 55 mph.

The accident occurred when the car left the roadway, entering the north ditch, rolled once and came to rest in the north ditch upright and facing south, officials said.

Law enforcement and emergency personnel were notified of the accident at 4 a.m., with two ambulances arriving at 4:09 a.m.

All occupants were taken to the Logan County Hospital, arriving there at 4:38 a.m.

The report said that one of the front seat passengers was later admitted to St. Catherine's Hospital in Garden City. That same passenger, which the report did not identify, was later airlifted to St. Francis/Via Christi Hospital too.

Pilkington and one other passen-

ger were admitted to Logan County Hospital and two passengers were treated and released the same day.

The report noted that there was full and open cereal malt beverages, along with intoxicating liquor containers found in and near the car.

Chet Morris, Gove County Sheriff's deputy, also wrote in his report that along with the alcohol at the scene, there was a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage present in the vehicle itself.

The car was totaled in the crash and none of the accident victims were wearing seatbelts or shoulder restraints.

As of today, no other details were available or made public regarding the other five teenagers who were injured, the status of the investigation, or possible charges that could be forthcoming.

Kathleen Sebelius takes oath as state's governor

TOPEKA (AP) — Gov.-elect Kathleen Sebelius is now Gov. Kathleen Sebelius.

Sebelius made her first speech as governor to a wide audience today but expected to pursue a narrow agenda in her first legislative session. Sebelius delivered her inaugural address after being sworn in as the state's 44th governor. She was the 10th Democrat elected and faced a Legislature with strong Republican majorities in both houses.

Events began this morning with an ecumenical prayer service at the Assumption Church, with Sebelius then walking to the nearby Statehouse's south steps for the inauguration ceremony.

Before inaugural events began, Sebelius said her address wasn't directed "to the legislative arena."

"There's always a challenge in communication," she said. "Do you address the inside-the-beltway group, or do you talk to border-to-border folks?"

Inaugural festivities continued after Sebelius made her address, with open houses at government offices, a 7 p.m. inaugural dinner, followed two hours later by a ball. "The inaugural speech really is the, hopefully, inspirational and thematic opening of the new administration and part of the celebration of the transfer

of power," Sebelius said.

Sebelius was to take office during what some officials have called the state's worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. An economic slump has diminished tax collections, creating an estimated \$1 billion gap between expected revenues and spending commitments for the next 18 months. "What's so critical, particularly in this time of extreme challenge, is that the citizens of this state understand as fully as possible where we are, what the game plan is, my optimism that we really can work through this together," she said.

While Sebelius said she hoped to convey a sense that state government will change, but said she won't have a long list of proposals for legislators. She said most of her early initiatives will play out within executive branch departments. "A lot of the issues that I'm interested in working on early on, frankly, can be done within the framework on the new Cabinet and don't take a lot of legislative effort," Sebelius said.

Sebelius is the second woman elected governor, after Joan Finney in 1990. Her father, John Gilligan, also a Democrat, served as Ohio governor in 1971-75, making the two the only father-daughter gubernatorial team in the nation.

*Says God should
not be stripped
from public life*

FREDERICKSBURG, Va. (AP) — Courts have gone too far to keep religion out of public schools and other forums, Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia says.

Although the Constitution says the government cannot "establish" or promote religion, the framers did not intend for God to be stripped from public life, Scalia said Sunday at a religious ceremony.

He contended that the Constitution has been misinterpreted both by the Supreme Court and lower courts. As an example, he pointed to a federal appeals court ruling in California barring students from reciting the Pledge of Allegiance with the phrase "one nation under God."

That decision is on hold pending further consideration by the same

court, but the Supreme Court could eventually be asked to review the case. Scalia, the main speaker at an event for Religious Freedom Day, said past rulings by the Supreme Court gave the judges in the pledge case "some plausible support" to reach that conclusion. However, he said, such decisions should be made legislatively, not by courts.

WeatherWatch Colby-Oakley area

The numbers
Sunday's high, 55
Low this morning, 19
Soil temperature, 32
Temperature at 11:45, 55
Records for today: 70 in 1928, -20 in 1905

The forecast
Tonight: partly cloudy to cloudy, lows in the mid 20s, north winds up to 10 mph. Tuesday, cloudy, highs in the mid 40s, north winds up to 10 mph, becoming southeast late. Tuesday night, cloudy, lows in the lower 20s. Wednesday, cloudy with a 30 percent chance for light snow, highs in the lower 30s.

Briefly

Booster Club seeks helpers

The Colby Booster Club is looking for any school group or team interested in earning extra money for their group's specific goals to work at its concession stand during home wrestling matches and basketball games, said Shawn Stephens with the Booster Club. In the event there are no school groups or teams requesting to work, the club will extend the offer to church youth groups and other organizations. If interested, call Stephens at 462-6929.

Landfill has new regulations

Because of new Kansas Department of Health and Environment regulations, only trees and shrubs will be allowed in the Thomas County Landfill burn pile. All other wood products, including unpainted wood and pallets, must be placed in the construction and demolition area of the landfill, said Larry Jumper, supervisor. All debris that enter the construction and demolition area is subject to the \$10 per ton tipping fee, with a \$2 minimum, he said. For questions or

other information, call Jumper at 462-8139.

Deadline extended for program

There's still time to register for the Master Gardener Program scheduled to begin in February. This program is sponsored by K-State Research and Extension and will certify participants in horticulture and related areas, said D'Ette Scholtz, extension agent. For information or to pick up a registration form, call the Thomas County Extension Office.

Soup supper to be held Sunday

The Colby United Methodist Senior Youth Group is sponsoring a soup supper on Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church, said Barb Albers, one of the advisors. The menu will include chili, chicken noodle, taco and corn chowder, complete with drink, relishes and desserts. The cost is a free-will donation and proceeds will go to benefit youth group activities, she said.

Health Care meeting scheduled

The Area Citizens for Health Care will have their next meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 21, starting at 7:30 p.m. in the Colby Community Building's Little Theater.

The public is invited and urged to attend any and all of these meetings.

Genesis annual meeting Jan. 16

The Genesis-Thomas County, Inc. annual meeting will be held Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Thomas County Office Complex meeting room. The January meeting will follow immediately after the annual meeting.

CPR class planned this week

The American Red Cross will be sponsoring a CPR Class on Thursday at the Colby Community College Student Union. To register or for information, call Mary Smith, Red Cross Chapter manager at 462-7161.

