



# COLBY FREE PRESS

Happy  
Birthday  
Kansas!

## Choice is: bond ...or jail

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

It's time to start 'jailing' people again — if they don't post bond.

That's the word from a 'heartless' judge

What gives?

In conjunction with the American Heart Association's designation as American Heart Month in February, the annual fund-raising event, known as "Cardiac Arrest" will also take place in Colby on Feb. 13 from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Each year people in Colby volunteer to be parole board officers for the annual event and call on others to raise money for the association goals, said Randall Braden, regional director of Cardiac Arrest.

"This is a fun event, but also will make a difference in the fight against heart disease and stroke," he said.

The way the event works is that board members contact volunteers who in turn ask others to contribute toward their bail.

"Arrestees" are asked to collect \$100 and then on the day of the event will bring their bail money to a mock courtroom setting in front of "Judge Heartless," who is a well-known person in town.

Contributions from the volunteers will go to support the critical research and education programs, Braden said. Parole board members met earlier in January and will be meeting again on Thursday to finalize the lists of people interested in raising money for the association.

This year's board coordinator is Shawn Reinert and members of the committee are Wade Baker, Donna Finley, Gerry Fulwider, Tina Harris, Sara Juenemann, Danielle Kaiser, Tracey King, Elaine Koerperich, Larry Maxwell, Jim McLaughlin, Dick Parnell, Debbie Schwanke, Jeanne Solko and Tammi Strutt.

The American Heart Association's goal is to reduce coronary heart disease, stroke and risk factors by 25 percent before the year 2010 and organizers here hope that others will help make that a reality by giving to those raising money.

## City to arm residents with radar guns

### WeatherWatch Colby-Oakley area

**The numbers**

Tuesday's high, 48  
Low this morning, 21  
Soil temperature, 34  
Year ago today, 21 and 8  
Precipitation for month: 0.00  
Records for this date: 72 in 1920, -13 in 1951

**The forecast**

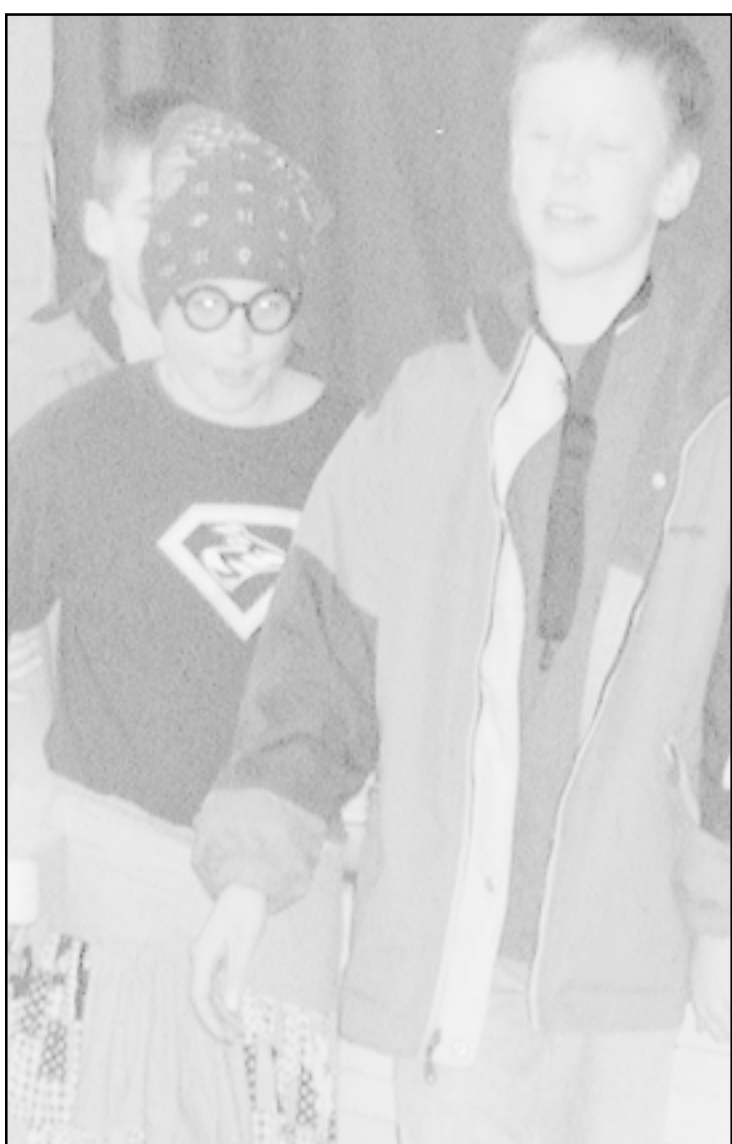
Tonight, cloudy, lows mid 20s, south wind becoming west late up to 10 mph. Thursday, sunny, warm, highs mid 60s, southwest winds 5-10 mph. Thursday night, clear, lows upper 20s. Friday, sunny, warm, highs mid 60s. Friday night, clear, lows near 30.

## What in the world is this all about?



Fifth grade students at Sacred Heart Catholic School in Colby entertained other students on Tuesday as part of Catholic Schools Week celebration. **RIGHT:** Jacob Hutfles foreground, Adam Weber, middle, and Bob Schroeder took part in a skit entitled, "Little No Account." The week-long celebration began Sunday and will continue through Friday with the focus of the activities geared to building on the

strong academic and spiritual foundation of Sacred Heart School, said Dave Evert, principal. Evert said activities throughout the week have ranged from showing children the need for hospitality and prayer to learning more about various organizations, people in the community, the nation and the world. Catholic Schools Week is observed each January.



CRYSTAL RUCKER/Colby Free Press

## Eagle musicians eye Wichita

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

Colby High School band students are packing up their instruments and preparing to compete against other school across the state on Friday and Saturday in Wichita.

Eighteen Colby band members are planning to attend the Wichita State University *Band Clinic* to compete with other students for a spot in one of the six concert bands during the two-day event, said Julie Groom, band instructor.

"This is an educational opportunity for our students to be exposed to higher-level bands and to

be able to perform with students of our own caliber," she said.

Once the students arrive at the university, Groom said, they will go through the audition process early on Friday and will then rehearse that afternoon and evening, along with all day on Saturday before appearing in a public Grand Finale Concert at 3 p.m. in the university's Duerksen Fine Arts Center.

In addition to the rehearsals, the students will also get group lessons from members of the Wichita State University wind ensemble and symphonic bands. The clinic is open to all high school students in the state, Groom said, and is filled

on a first-come, first-served basis.

Those attending include: freshmen — Rikki Lane, flute; Rachel Funk, flute; Amanda McNay, Bb clarinet; Tess Baumfalk, bassoon; Matt Hutfles, bass clarinet; Trey Hamilton, trombone; and Alex Kleinsorge, tuba. Sophomores — Valarie Higerd, Bb clarinet; Luke Rogers, trumpet; Rusty Helin, trombone; Alex Marshall, alto sax; and Joey Melnyk, percussion. Juniors — Darla Nichols, euphonium; Tony Brown, tenor sax; and Shane Carter, trombone. Seniors — Leanna Juenemann, Bb clarinet; Hope Daniels, alto sax; and Brandon Williams, trumpet.

## Budget woes won't halt project

TOPEKA (AP) — The state is moving ahead with the \$10.8 million renovation of a 14-story office building it bought three years ago, despite budget problems and legislative criticism of the project.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has re-

jected a suggestion from her own government review team that the project be put on hold.

The state bought the former headquarters of the Security Benefit Group of Companies, two blocks north of the Statehouse, in 1999 for

\$18.5 million. It issued bonds to cover the purchase and additional bonds in September 2002 to cover renovations. The Department of Transportation plans to move employees into the building late this year.

warning letters to speeders. The aim is to curb speeding and identify where it occurs.

Participants will work in two-member teams, one to operate the radar gun, the other to record the speed, description and license plate number of the vehicles.

After two weeks, a log of viola-

tors will be turned over to the police, who will run the plate numbers and issue warning letters urging vehicle owners to slow down. No tickets will be issued.

The program will be re-evaluated in June, and all letters to car owners will be purged from police records.

## Kansas delegation favors Bush proposals

WASHINGTON (AP) — Kansans in Congress vowed to push forward with initiatives to revive the economy and fight terrorism outlined in President Bush's State of the Union address.

Bush's efforts to boost the sagging economy are anchored by a \$674 billion plan, nearly all of it devoted to tax cuts. GOP Rep. Todd Tiahrt said Tuesday night the plan is good for his Wichita-based district, whose aviation industry has endured more than 11,000 layoffs.

"It is important to remember these laid-off workers need a paycheck, not just an unemployment check," Tiahrt said. "The economic growth package the President unveiled tonight will help create jobs."

That's good for cities and towns in Kansas, said Rep. Jerry Moran, the Republican who represents western Kansas in Congress.

"If we're going to have an improved economy in our state, it's going to be because good things happen on Main Street and in small manufacturing," Moran said.

Bush focused more on his plan on growth in new jobs, but he is offering help for unemployed Americans. Tiahrt and GOP colleagues planned to get started Wednesday on one component of Bush's plan: \$3,000 personal "re-employment" accounts to pay for training, child care, transportation and other costs of finding a new job.

"Hopefully, the plan to stimulate the economy and breaks for small businesses and other initiatives in the president's economic plan will help get their jobs back, but until then, let's let them have some flexibility with the money they get," Tiahrt said.

Nationwide, the unemployment rate has hovered around 6 percent since last April. In Kansas, the jobless rate last month was 4.2 percent.

Republican Sen. Sam Brownback said Bush's plan to make already-scheduled tax cuts happen faster "will make positive strides to ease the tax-burden on hardworking families."

"The federal government has overtaxed the people of Kansas for too long," Brownback said, adding that he wants to go beyond Bush's economic plan to reform the complex U.S. tax code.

The only Kansas Democrat in Congress, Rep. Dennis Moore, said he agrees with some tax cuts in Bush's plan but is worried about a controversial proposal to eliminate taxes on stock dividends.

Kansas' tax collection system is built on the federal tax code, and state officials say the stock dividend idea would cost Kansas revenues of \$51 million.

"Kansas is in a billion-dollar hole, and they just simply can't afford to take a hit like that," said Moore.

## Briefly

### Conservation dinner deadline nears

The Thomas County Conservation District's 59th annual meeting and awards banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 10, in the Thomas County 4-H Building at the fairgrounds. For those planning to attend, said Lynette Koon, conservation district manager, reservations must be made no later than this coming Friday. RSVP to the office by calling 462-7482, ext. 3. There is no charge for the event and is open to everyone in Thomas County.

### Dog training starts Thursday

Dog training classes will be offered beginning at 8 p.m., Thursday, at the 4-H Building at the Thomas County Fairgrounds, said Carrie Bredemeier, coordinator. Those interested will need proof of current vaccinations from a licensed veterinarian. The class fee is \$50, which will be required on the first night of training. This class, she said, will teach discipline and other basic techniques. For questions or other information, call Bredemeier at 462-3816.

### Friday is 'shadow day' for kids

Second through fifth grade students at Colby Grade School will be job shadowing in area businesses on Friday, from the opening of that business until 10:45 a.m., said Terrel Harrison, principal. Parents will ask the business to give approval on a permission slip, which will need to be returned to the grade school office. For those with questions about the project, can call Harrison at 465-5100.

### Rotary Club plans soup supper

The Colby Rotary Club is sponsoring its annual soup supper from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 18, during the Colby-Goodland basketball game at the Colby Community Building. The cost is \$4 for adults, \$2 for children 12 and under. Tickets will be available at the door or from any Rotary Club member.

All proceeds go toward Rotary projects that benefit the community.

### Booster Club on the hunt

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

### Cemetery board meetings change

The Colby Cemetery District board meetings will be held on Thursdays instead of Mondays for the next couple of months, said Relda Galli, board member. The meetings, however, will still be held at the Thomas County Courthouse beginning at 2 p.m. Board members should note that Thursday meetings include Jan. 23, Feb. 20, March 20 and April 24.

For questions, call Galli at 462-3670.

