



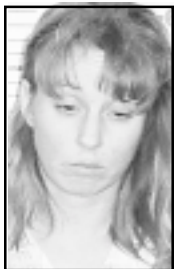
COLBY FREE PRESS

Woman, 95, foils robbery

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

Without the help of 95-year-old Sada Munkres, the co-owner of Donelan Jewelry, Bonnie Dinkel, said she wouldn't have been able to foil a robbery attempt at her store last Friday. In fact, had the woman escaped, police said she could have gotten away with jewelry valued at \$3,500. "It was a classic," Dinkel said today, as she and Munkres both struggled to stop a 30-year-old woman from leaving the store with merchandise the woman allegedly hadn't paid for.



T. Horacek

The theft occurred around 10 a.m., Friday, when a woman identified as Teresa Ann Horacek, of Colby, walked into the jewelry store on Franklin, looking at some diamond rings, said Gary Shull, police department investigator. Munkres, who was also in the store at that time, said she was in the back area looking at some ring jackets as Horacek looked at the rings. After a short time, Horacek appeared to have finished looking at the diamonds and headed for the door, but it was Dinkel who noticed two rings were missing and immediately yelled to Horacek to give the rings back.

"I asked Sada to call 911," Dinkel said as she tried to hold the woman back from leaving. "Then Sada came back with her walking cane, dropped the cane and starting holding on to the woman too."

In all the commotion, Munkres said that when she called 911, she didn't even think to grab her cane at that time, but instead just ran as fast as she could to telephone police.

"Bonnie and I held her back, but she still got outside," Munkres said. The two women continued to struggle with Horacek once she got outside, but within minutes police, other store owners and pedestrians were there to help out.

Although Munkres is okay today, she did say she injured her index finger on the left hand and her right hand hurt too.

"I don't know how I hurt the right hand, but I would guess it was from holding the lady," Munkres said.

"I guess I am okay as much as a 95-year-old lady can be," she said. "Of course, Friday night I didn't sleep a wink and Sunday I was too weak to go to church," which Munkres said is not something she misses very often.

Lightheartedly, Munkres also said she hadn't felt a burst of energy quite like that in a long time nor would she have ever suspected she could run without her cane. The Thomas County Emergency Medical Services responded; however, Shull said Munkres refused to be transported, but instead was taken by private vehicle to the medical clinic of her choice.

"I wanted to see Dr. (Victor) Hildyard and have him check my blood pressure and other injuries," she said, "but I can't see him at the hospital so I didn't take the ambulance."

Other than a few scratches, both Dinkel and Munkres were okay. As for her blood pressure, Munkres said it was fine after the struggle.

As for Horacek, Shull said she is being held in the Thomas County jail on suspicion of aggravated robbery (theft from a person by force and causing injury); two counts of battery and disorderly conduct.

The case is now with the Thomas County Attorney, who will consider filing formal charges against Horacek.

Voter registration open

By TISHA COX

Colby Free Press

Voters who haven't registered yet still have the chance to do so for the Aug. 3 primary election. County Clerk Tracey Perkins said the registration books won't close until 5 p.m. on July 19.

"They will open back up the day after the election," she said.

Perkins said there are 4,191 registered voters in Thomas County,

affiliated with four different political parties, including the Republican, Democrat, Reform and Libertarian parties. There are also 1,241 unaffiliated voters in the county.

The Republican party has the most registered voters with 3,056 followed by 1,099 Democrats, 30 Libertarians, five Reform party members and one undeclared.

For registering to vote, call the County Clerk's office at 462-4500.

Colby Grinnell Monument



80s, 90s and breezy

Tonight...Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms after midnight. Lows in the upper 50s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. **Tuesday...**Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s. South winds 10 to 20 mph with gusts to around 35 mph. **Tuesday night...**Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s. South winds 10 to 20 mph. **Wednesday...**Partly cloudy. A 30 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 80s. South winds 10 to 20 mph. **Thursday...**Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 90s.

The numbers

Sunday's high, 74
Low this morning, 55
Records for June 28, 105 in 1933 and 41 in 1985
Year ago today, 92 and 52
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
June's total, 3.20
Soil temperature, 68

The sources:

The forecast is from the National Weather Service, and other numbers are from the Northwest Research-Extension Center, Colby. A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

Water use • (Not available).

Water advisories

- Water **Watch** is 3.5 million gallons for 3 consecutive days.
- Water **Warning** is 4.0 million gallons for 3 consecutive days.
- Water **Emergency** is 4.5 million gallons for 3 consecutive days.

A C o l b y w e e k e n d



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press



TOP: The area in front of the Colby Community Building and swimming pool became a tent city Saturday during the annual swim team meet. **LEFT:** Ashley Hudson, a member of the Colby Sweet Thunder softball team stepped up to the plate during the team's tournament on Sunday. **BOTTOM:** Matt Lindberg ran a radio station during the American Radio Relay League Field Day Saturday at Phillips Park. The group was set up at the park for 24 hours under emergency-like conditions and contacted as many stations in the United States as they could in the allotted time period.



Briefly

County commissioners to meet

The Thomas County Commissioners will meet at 9 a.m. Wednesday for their end of month meeting. Items on the agenda include Martin Rinehart with Thomas County Emergency Medical Services on cuff replacement; Rod Rodenbeck of Colby Glass; Nina Carpenter with a 2005 budget request for Alcohol Drug Abuse Council; Larry Jumper on the landfill; and Ben Hoeting on county roads.

Gaither video concert July 4th

Colby Wesleyan Church will feature a special Gaither video Fourth of July concert at 6 p.m. Featured will be "God Bless America" and "Let Freedom Ring." The concert will be on the big screen and is free and open to the public.

Program signup deadline looming

The cutoff date for applications to be considered for funding in this year's Grassland Reserve Program is July 16. Stop by the local United States Department of Agriculture Service Center and visit with the staff

at the center or local conservation district to determine if the Grassland Reserve Program will help in your farming operation. The Colby office is at 915 E. Walnut. For information, call (785) 462-7482 or visit on the Internet at www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov.

School board to meet

The Colby School Board will meet at 7 a.m. Wednesday in the board room of the Administration Building. Items on the agenda include a superintendent's report, approval of year-end transfers, out of district attendance and transportation, appoint 2004-2005 school district attorney and personnel issues if necessary.

College pool notes changes

Officials at the Colby Community College swimming pool are reminding everyone about summer hours and recent changes in the open swimming hours, said Debbie Schwanke. They are: lap swimming Monday through Friday from 5:30 to 7 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; open swimming: Monday through Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m.

