



# COLBY FREE PRESS

## Stolen vehicle recovered

By **PATTY DECKER**  
*Free Press Editor*

A Colby teenager was arrested Monday after authorities stopped him in a car reported stolen from the 600 block of West Fourth Street. The car was reported taken at 11:52 a.m.

Shaun Lynn Wilcox, 15, of Colby was arrested later in the day after Colby police located the alleged stolen 1989 Oldsmobile Cutlass in the Colby High School parking lot.

Gary Shull, police investigator, said officers stopped the Oldsmobile Cutlass at 3:29 p.m., shortly after it left the Colby High School parking lot.

"As the car tried to quickly cut through the Citizens Medical Center parking lot, Colby police officers surrounded the car," Shull said today.

"Both juvenile males (Wilcox and his passenger) were taken to the Thomas County jail, but it was Wilcox, the driver who was detained."

Shull said the 16-year-old passenger was not aware the vehicle was stolen and within a short time on Monday he was released to apartment.

The same car was reported stolen from the same residence around noon weeks earlier, Shull added.

"The keys to the car had been stolen before the Sept. 20 date when the actual theft occurred," he said.

In that incident; however, the car was returned around 4 p.m. the same day.

Shull added that when the car was returned, there was damage to the roof, two of the doors, a bumper and a fender of the car and additional minor damage was caused to the dash as well from the Monday, Sept. 20 incident.

Wilcox was arrested on suspicion of felony theft, Shull said, and could face other charges to include driving without a driver license, and driving through private property to avoid a stop sign.

Shull said that Wilcox could also be facing burglary, theft of car keys prior to the Sept. 20 incident, deprivation of property with respect to the vehicle, and criminal damage to property from the September crime.

Wilcox was placed in the WaKeeney Juvenile Detention Facility.

A detention hearing was held today in the Thomas County Courthouse to determine if Wilcox should remain in custody, Shull said.

## Looking over books



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Kay, Zach and Kim Wallin browsed through books during Colby Grade School's book fair Tuesday evening. The grade school and Sacred Heart School are both holding book fairs this week during parent-teacher conferences.

## Sales tax issue now heading to the voters

By **TISHA COX**  
*Colby Free Press*

Colby voters will have one more ballot issue to decide when they go to the polls Nov. 2. The Colby City Council approved Resolution 904 to levy a .25 percent sales tax in the city of Colby for economic development.

If the resolution passes, the money from the sales tax increase will be used to help economic development efforts in Thomas County.

City Manager Carolyn Armstrong said the city has no choice but to put the matter before voters because Thomas County Economic Development Alliance Director Gerry Fulwider had the required number of petition signatures and they were certified by Thomas County Clerk Tracey Perkins.

Fulwider needed 362 valid signatures to get the issue on the ballot. Of the 442 signatures on the petition, 385 were valid, Perkins said.

"This would not be unusual," Armstrong said.

Fulwider started circulating the petition in August.

Armstrong said the last time the council approved a sales tax increase was for Pioneer Memorial Library. A sales tax increase to raise money for the city's new sewer treatment plant was discussed earlier this year but it didn't get very far.

"There was never a concerted effort to do that," she said.

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The council also approved a bid for an archaeological study of the site where the new sewer plant will be built. The low bid of \$5,000 from the University of Nebraska was chosen. The high bid of \$14,020 was from Carl Hugh Jones. Other bids were received from Effigy Architectural Services for \$8,875 and the Kansas State University Historical Society submitted a bid for \$10,143.

Armstrong said the city will split the cost with Logan County and the cities of Norton and Oberlin because they also have upcoming projects that will require archaeological studies.

Funds from a state revolving loan program will be used to pay for the study, which is a federal requirement to make sure the city isn't building on a site that needs to be protected.

The council also got to meet the city's newest staff member. Armstrong introduced the council to the city's new finance director, Deborah Zerr, who started work on Monday.

In other business, the council approved the consent agenda, which included approval of minutes of the Sept. 21 meeting, approval of application for a liquor license for the China Buffet, approval of Resolutions 905 and 906, approval of pay-roll Ordinance 2646 and 2647 and general Ordinance 2648.

## Cheney, Edwards back campaigning after debate

By **TOM RAUM**  
*Associated Press Writer*

CLEVELAND (AP) — The hard-hitting debate between Vice President Dick Cheney and Democratic rival John Edwards set the stage for what is likely to be more of the same in Friday's second televised presidential showdown between their bosses.

Cheney and Edwards slugged it out over Iraq, jobs and each other's judgment in their one and only debate before heading for the battleground state of Florida and its 27 electoral votes. Cheney was appearing Wednesday in Tallahassee, Edwards in West Palm Beach.

The Bush camp claimed that a strong performance by Cheney in Tuesday's night's debate in Cleveland helped break momentum that appeared to be going Kerry's way after the first presidential debate, while Democrats said Edwards more than held his own.

Both candidates got some encouragement from post-debate polls. Cheney fared best in an ABC News poll of a Republican-leaning group of registered voters who watched the debate, with 43 percent giving Cheney the edge, while 35 percent said Edwards won.

The Democrat was viewed more positively in a poll of 178 undecided

voters by CBS News that found more of this crucial group thought he had won, 41 percent, than thought Cheney had won, 28 percent.

Edwards accused the administration of "not being straight with the American people" about conditions in Iraq and of presiding over the biggest job losses since the Depression.

"Your facts are just wrong," Cheney counterpunched. And at one point, he told Edwards, "Senator, frankly, you have a record in the Senate that's not very distinguished."

Edwards, referring to Cheney's long record of public service, asserted: "One thing that's very clear is that a long resume does not equal good judgment. I mean, we've seen over and over and over the misjudgments made by this administration."

The Democrat also said that as a member of Congress representing Wyoming more than a decade ago, Cheney voted against Head Start and banning plastic guns that can escape detection in metal detectors. Edwards quickly put Cheney on the defensive by suggesting the administration had botched Iraq and is still misleading the nation about the situation there.

"The American people don't need us to explain this to them," Edwards said.

The vice presidential debate helped set the stage for Friday's second debate between Bush and Kerry, a town-hall style meeting at Washington University in St. Louis.

As to what Bush has to do Friday night, Bush adviser Mary Matalin said the debates are "separate and equal events," but that Cheney had built on what Bush said on foreign policy in the first debate and that "the president in his Friday debate will build upon what the vice president said tonight on the economy."

She said Cheney's performance will make it easier for Bush. "We got the job done tonight," she said.

## Briefly

### Deadline for Diplomats luncheon nears

The Thomas County/Colby Chamber of Commerce Diplomats are sponsoring a luncheon on Thursday, Oct. 21, starting at noon. The topic will deal with breast cancer awareness, said Jada Tubbs, chamber director. Deadline for reservations is Tuesday, Oct. 12 and those interested can call either Bette Albers, Thomas County Insurance at 462-3939 or Tubbs at 460-3401. In addition to the Diplomats' luncheon, the chamber luncheon will be at noon, Friday at the Colby Country Club. All chamber members and guest are invited to attend.

### Colby couple to appear on television today

Colby resident Linda Nelson's guest appearance on Fox's "Quintuplets" will be at 7:30 tonight on channel 7. Nelson and her husband will be in a restaurant scene where two girls are arguing. She won the prize by rolling five consecutive strikes at Colby Bowl on June 24, which entered her in the grand prize sweepstakes to take a trip to Los Angeles and film a walk-on role on the new Fox comedy.

### Homecoming week winners announced

The Colby High School Student Council has announced the results from Homecoming week: window decorating winner, freshman class; parade class float winner, senior class; parade organization float winner, cheerleaders; the homecoming king was Matt Augustine and homecoming queen was Shandi Stupka; and the senior class was the winner of the class competitions for the week.

### College issues blanket invitation

The public is encouraged to attend the initial activities surrounding Colby Community College's 40th anniversary year on Saturday, Oct. 16 beginning at 2 p.m. in Bedker Memorial Complex. The agenda: includes the college's Sunflower Singers, Welcoming remarks, Special Recognition, comments by former college Presidents Dr. James Tangeman and Dr. Richard Mosier, and remarks by current President Dr. Mikel Ary. Refreshments will be provided. Weather permitting hot air balloon rides will be offered at 10 a.m. New donor boards will be presented by Tom Moorhous around 3:40 p.m. in the breezeway of Thomas Hall and a reception for Olympic wrestler Daniel Cormier will be held at 4 p.m. in the Robert Burnett Memorial Student Union. There is no admission charge. Roger Hale is anniversary committee chair.

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### Colby Grade School book fair continues

The Colby Grade School Parent-Teacher Organization is continuing its Scholastic Book Fair until Thursday, said Mary Bates, chairman. Times on Thursday will be from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The fair will be held at the grade school primary building, room 202. This year's theme, she said, is "Read, White and Blue — Reading is All American." For questions about the fair, Bates said to call 460-5100.

### Voter registration deadline is Oct. 18

The Thomas County Clerk's office is reminding everyone that registration books will close on Monday, Oct. 18, at 5 p.m. for the Tuesday, Nov. 2 election. For those needing to check on his or her voter status, call the clerk's office at 462-4500.

### Cancer screening program planned in Colby

The Kansas Masonic Foundation and the St. Thomas Masonic Lodge in Colby are co-sponsoring a free cancer education and screening program at the Masonic Lodge, 215 N. Franklin Ave., Colby, from 9:30 a.m. until noon, Saturday, Oct. 16. Physicians and nurses will conduct the program from the University of Kansas Medical Center and Kansas Masonic Cancer Research Institute. The program will include a variety of cancer education programs and screenings that will be open to the public. For questions, call 462-3981.

### Heartland Share sign-up

Heartland SHARE sign-up will continue throughout the week at State Farm Insurance office, with delivery on Saturday, Oct. 23 at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart School gym.

### Genesis food drive

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary members are sponsoring a food collection drive for Genesis in October, November and December. Drop-off box is at LeRoy's Printing, 560 N. Franklin.

Colby  
Oberlin  
Atwood



## Highs in the 70s, lows the 40s

**Tonight...**Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and isolated thunderstorms then partly cloudy after midnight. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds 5 to 10 mph. Chance of showers and thunderstorms 40 percent. **Thursday...**Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s. West winds 5 to 10 mph shifting to the north around 5 mph in the afternoon. **Thursday night...**Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s. North winds around 5 mph. **Friday...**Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Highs in the mid 70s. North winds around 5 mph shifting to the east in the afternoon. **Friday night...**Mostly clear in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. **Saturday...**Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. **Sunday...**Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s.

**The numbers**  
Tuesday's high, 73  
Low this morning, 45  
Monday's high, 69  
Records for Oct. 6, 92 in 1932 and 20 in 1952  
Year ago today, 81 and 38  
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.47  
October total, 0.58  
Soil temperature, 60

**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.

