



# COLBY FREE PRESS

10 pages

## Road projects starting

By Patty Decker  
Free Press Editor

The Kansas Department of Transportation is alerting motorists of road projects in the Colby area.

Starting Friday, the Kansas Department of Transportation began roadwork on Kansas Highway 25 near the intersection with U.S. Highway 40 continuing north 33 miles to the Rawlins County line, said Kristin Brands in the Norton office.

"Another project includes U.S. Highway 24 on the west edge of Colby and continues west about 4.3 miles," she said.

Transportation officials said the project will receive a one-inch recycle of the roadway and subsequent overlay to begin June 12.

The state's transportation office awarded the construction contract of \$2,703,125 to APAC Kansas, Inc. Shears of Hutchinson.

For motorists traveling in that area, a pilot will guide traffic through the work zone.

"Motorists should expect delays of 15 minutes or less during the construction and with conditions permitting, the project should be completed by mid-July," Brands said.

Another project will impact Interstate 70, both east and west-bound, from Brewster to Levant.

"The transportation department hired Venture Corporation of Great Bend for milling and overlaying both directions," Brands said.

The cost of the I-70 project is \$4.8 million and is expected to be completed by mid-July.

## District benefits from grant

By Tisha Cox  
Colby Free Press

Technology proved to be a challenge in the classroom for both students and teachers in the Colby School District.

The Colby School Board Monday heard a presentation on the district's Enhancing Education Through Technology grant.

This was the second and final year for the grant, which provided laptops to students in fourth and fifth grade.

Colby partnered with Golden Plains School in Selden, which shared the grant for two years. District Curriculum Director Diana Wieland said the total grant applied for two years ago was \$150,000.

Colby fourth-grade teacher Jim Myers and fifth-grade teacher Gerri Balthazor gave the presentation.

Balthazor said the purpose of the grant was to prepare students to do well in the real world by using technology in the classroom.

One project completed by students involved the creation of group corporations and using "webquests" to complete their project.

Balthazor explained the corporations consisted of a group of five students.

Students had to come up with a name, company aspects and decide on a mission statement. Once company positions were appointed, the students talked with a loan officer, who was a student teacher in Balthazor's classroom, and received a loan to run their corporation.

Having access to technology helped motivate students to learn.

Wieland said technology use makes an impact in other areas, letting students learn life skills such as communication, and how to use and apply what they know.

"We've been thrilled to be a part of the project," she said.

## Born to ride



JAN KATZ ACKERMAN/Colby Free Press

Some 400 Run For The Wall motorcycle riders and support vehicles crested the hill about 1-mile west of Oakley on Interstate 70 Sunday. Now in its 19th year, Run For The Wall is an awareness raising project which honors military personnel who are missing in action or prisoners of war. The riders crossed Kansas and will join about 500,000 riders in Washington, D. C. where they will ride as part of Rolling Thunder Ride For Freedom during Memorial Day weekend.

## Colby College team has all the right answers

By Patty Decker  
Free Press Editor

The Colby Community College board of trustees were treated to a surprise visit by the colleges' quiz bowl team and its coach, Tom Moorhous last week.

The Quiz Bowl earned championship honors at state competition last month beating Garden City Community College on the last question in double overtime, Moorhous said.

"We have proved we are best in the state," he told the board.

"We had to beat Garden City Community College two times to win first place.

The team won the first match 65-50 and then we battled in the second game finally coming away with the 80-75 win in the second overtime."

Team members include Henry Lamm and Jessica Morton of Colby, Kyle Carlin of WaKeeney and J.D. Frazier and Heather Moreland, both of Seattle, Wash.

"Henry is a junior at Colby High School," Moorhous told the board. "He is also enrolled in six hours at CCC which qualifies him to be a team member.

"Henry did an incredible job, finishing ninth among the 83 competing players.

"I'm looking forward to his participation on the team again next year."



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Left to right: Colby College Quiz Bowl members Jesse Colson and Jason Rall, along with Jessica Morton, J.D. Frazier and baby, and Heather Morland met college board members and Interim President Skip Sharp, seated right. Quiz Bowl Coach Tom Moorhous, not pictured, informed board member Larry McDonald, seated, and others about the team's successes.

The college team posted its best season ever with a 10-2 record in competition. This was the school's fourth trip to the Final Four since 2000.

Moorhous is a history and political science instructor at Colby College. He is assisted by Krista Carter, social sciences instructor, and Mike Frank, business instructor.

## Incumbents ponder future terms

By Jan Katz Ackerman  
Colby Free Press

Three area county commission seats are up for grabs and two of the incumbents are undecided whether they will run again.

In Thomas County, commissioner Ron Evans is one of those incumbents.

"Right now I'm uncertain," Evans said. "I'm leaning toward not running again.

"I think 12 years is enough, but I'm not sure."

Evans' district includes the townships of Rovhl, Wendall, Lacey, Smith, North Randall, South Randall, Menlo, and East Morgan. That district also includes the towns of Gem, Rexford, Menlo and Colby.

Evans, like his counterparts in Logan and Sheridan Counties has until June 12 to make a decision about running for office. The official filing deadline is June 10, but since that day falls on a Saturday it moves to the next business day.

Thomas County filing fees are set

at 1 percent of the base salary and a state filing fee of \$35. A candidate can also file by petition, which requires signatures of 3 percent of the registered voters of the candidate's party affiliation in that district.

Thomas County Clerk Shelly Harms said should Evans decide to seek re-election he would have to pay \$115 county filing fee, which is 1 percent of the \$11,500 base salary plus the \$35 state fee.

**Sheridan County**  
"I haven't made a decision yet," Sheridan County Commissioner Ron Schamberger said. He is in his first term.

Sheridan County Clerk Paula Bielser said Schamberger oversees the townships of Adell, Bowcreek, East Kenneth, Valley, East Saline and West Saline. Anyone wanting to challenge Schamberger can file by petition or pay \$104.70, which is 1 percent of the \$10,407 base salary, plus the \$35 state fee.

**Logan County**  
Logan County District One Commissioner Carl Uhrich already knows he is seeking a second term.

"I think it takes more than one term and it doesn't seem right to quit at one term," he said.

Logan County's District One covers the first precinct of Oakley and the first precinct of Oakley township. The filing fee in Logan County will be \$106.08, which is 1 percent of the \$10,608 base salary, plus the state fee of \$35.

## Pool opening delayed

By Tisha Cox  
Colby Free Press

A dip in the Colby swimming pool will have to wait.

The pool won't be opening Saturday, as it normally does on Memorial Day weekend.

City of Colby recreation director Ryan Sturdy said the pool's opening will be sometime next week. Preparations for opening have been pushed back because the area around the pool needs work.

"We're going to get it open as soon as we can," Sturdy said. "We had some problems with the deck

we had to get fixed."

Concrete had to be replaced.

The pool was also washed and painted. The painting was finished Wednesday, and will take seven days to cure.

"We couldn't paint until we got the concrete done," Sturdy said.

The pool will be filled Wednesday. He said the pool holds about 750,000 gallons of water. "We're doing what we can," Sturdy said.

The pool hours, once it opens, are from 2-8 p.m. on Sundays and from 1-6 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

For more information, call 460-4440.