

Summer soccer fun



JAN KATZ ACKERMAN/Colby Free Press

It may not be the World Cup of soccer, but grade school children in Hoxie are getting the chance to participate in the city's summer recreation program and learn how to play the sport known as the world's game. For the second summer, Bruce and Shannon Ewers are coaching the intramural program and hopes to later scrimmage with teams from surrounding towns. The program is for students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades.

Electronic maestro lives in state

HUTCHINSON (AP) — Slade Templeton cites a number of factors that influence his music — Gary Numan, European sounds, percussion, jazz.

But the 19-year-old Hutchinson resident places the absence of sound at the top of his list.

"My biggest influence is silence," Templeton said. "It always needs replacement."

Templeton, under the name Ultrapose, released his first album of electronic music, "Kill Today Shoot Tomorrow," in late April.

The album, released independently, is available at about 2,400 locations nationwide. Templeton is working with producer Ade Fenton and Templeton's musical idol, Numan, on the next album.

Everything he needs to create tracks — a computer, laptop, two Alesis keyboards, electronic drum kit, 16-channel mixing board — fills his studio in a home on West 20th Avenue.

After graduating from Hutchinson High School in 2005, Templeton studied audio production at the Art Institute of Seattle, where he made a number of professional connections. But his sights were set on a music career much earlier.

"It's just a passion," he said. "I realized early in high school you can make a passion a career."

Templeton said his parents laid the groundwork for his music, with

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his father playing him Skinny Puppy and KMFDM songs early on. In sixth grade, he started playing guitar and was trained classically.

But he became obsessed with textures and "weird noises." With the aid of a \$50 Yamaha keyboard, Templeton began down the electronic path.

Before Ultrapose, Templeton spent time in the musical spotlight with Stellar Frequency, a rock band that played the Vans Warped Tour show in Wichita in 2003.

Now, he's been a featured artist on InfusedRadio, an Internet-based station in Texas, and he says his music is big on European stations. Infused featured the song "Southern Lyte (East Clubbers Remix)," but Templeton wasn't fond of the choice. "The radio stations always choose my least favorite," he said. "I really don't like this song."

But East Clubbers, a Polish DJ team that gave Templeton all rights for him to use the vocals in the track, use the song in some of its live shows now.

And though he hasn't yet met his idol Numan — "I'd be scared to," he said. "I'd be like a little girl!" — he has worked the '80s New Wave sensation's creations into his own work.

Parts of Numan's best-known song, "Cars," can be heard in Templeton's songs.

For an American artist to make a splash in the electronic music scene is an accomplishment enough — the United States is about 20 years behind Europe in the dance scene, Templeton said. Even so, he said, most big names are based on either the east or west coasts, not central Kansas.

"I'm relying purely on networking because of that," Templeton said. While living at home to save money, he's using online sites like Myspace.com to get the word out about Ultrapose. But on his Myspace profile, he doesn't say he's from Hutchinson. That's temporary.

"A lot of people do focus on where you're from," he said. "I never will forget my roots at all. I will say I'm from Hutchinson."

Dairy farm doubles as tourist attraction for Wichita couple

WICHITA (AP) — David and Debbie Klausmeyer want people to know that milk doesn't come from the grocery store fridge. So they have opened their dairy farm for public tours, a move they hope will provide city kids — and adults — a valuable look at the workings of farm life.

"We'd been toying with the idea for quite some time," Debbie Klausmeyer said. "Finally, we just decided to go for it."

Last spring, the Klausmeyer dairy farm

near Clearwater, just south and west of Wichita, began hosting school field trips, scout groups, child care centers and birthday parties.

The farm consists of about 90 Holsteins, which are milked twice a day. The Klausmeyers and their six children — as well as Debbie's sister, Patty, and her two daughters — run the farm.

Not many family farms venture into agritourism. Liability insurance rates are

high, tours take time and most farms are busy enough. "But we decided we needed to make the time," said Debbie Klausmeyer, who drove a school bus for eight years.

After shuttling students on field trips to pumpkin patches and the zoo, she'd often come home and tell her husband they needed to open their farm to visitors.

"We had people ask all the time if they could bring kids to see the farm," she said.

"There is a need, and we need to be showing them our way of life."

During a recent field trip, first-graders from Clearwater got up-close looks at the Klausmeyer cows and all the tubes, tanks and machinery required to collect and store their milk. Among the dozens of facts they learned:

— Holsteins' black-and-white markings are like snowflakes — no two are exactly alike.

— Milk is measured by the pound, not the gallon (8.6 pounds makes a gallon).

— Calves are born with teeth.

— One cow eats 90 pounds of food a day.

— It takes up to 20 minutes to milk a cow by hand, but only five minutes by machine.

— And to some people, cows don't smell very good.

"As soon as they get out of the cars, those noses get pinched," Debbie Klausmeyer joked.

Outgoing lawmaker no longer with Jessica's Law group

TOPEKA (AP) — A \$4,000 fine for violating campaign finance laws added Thursday to the troubles of a legislator whose woes already included legal problems, a soured personal relationship and leaving a new job after only a few weeks.

The state Governmental Ethics Commission concluded that Rep. Patricia Kilpatrick, R-Overland Park, violated the law three times in filing an inaccurate finance report in January 2005 and a fourth time for not keeping adequate records for her 2004 campaign.

Kilpatrick acknowledged making mistakes but said they came in the wake of her escape as a single mother of two from an abusive relationship at the end of 2004.

"This was a very trying time," Kilpatrick said. "I operated in a fog for a long time."

The commission's hearing in Kilpatrick's case came the same day The Kansas City Star reported that Kilpatrick had left a job at a Florida foundation that seeks tougher laws against sex offenders after only three weeks.

Kilpatrick sponsored successful legislation this year to impose a minimum 25-year prison sentence on offenders who prey on children, and she cited her new job as a reason for not seeking re-election.

The ethics complaint against Kilpatrick said she reported no cash contributions to her campaign from late October 2004 through the end of that year, when she collected almost \$5,100. It also said she failed to report \$3,300 in spending and list more than \$8,800 in debts her campaign owed.

Kilpatrick had a treasurer until late October 2004, when she took over that job herself. She said many of her records weren't in her possession — but in her ex-boyfriend's — when she drafted the erroneous campaign finance report.

"There was a domestic violence situation," she said. "I felt, in preservation of safety and the safety of my children, I needed to make sure that everything was taken care of for us."

Commission Chairwoman Sabrina Standifer, a Wichita attorney, said its members sympathized with Kilpatrick — and noted that its fine under Kansas law could have been \$45,000.

"We still have laws in place that have to be obeyed and have to be followed, and unfortunately, you can't just disobey your obligations because you're having personal problems," Standifer said.

The vote to impose the fine was 7-1. The dissenter was former Rep. John Solbach, a Lawrence attorney, who suggested a fine of \$2,000, to be cut in half if paid within 30 days.

While Kilpatrick declined to criticize the commission, she did say after her hearing that she thought the fine was disproportionately large compared with other cases. She did not know whether she would appeal the decision.

The fine was the latest in a series of legal problems for Kilpatrick.

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School board penalizes district for improper count

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — In a rare move, the state Board of Education voted Thursday to financially penalize a school district that illegally counted some students as residents and allowed it to draw more state funding.

The Bell City School District in southeast Missouri wrongly

counted 10 students who actually were residents of a neighboring district, a state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education investigation found.

The investigation found the Bell City district listed several students as living at an address that turned out to be a vacant, dilapidated house in rural Stoddard County, the

Southeast Missourian newspaper reported earlier.






The probe was launched after a complaint by the school board of the neighboring Scott County Central School District, where the students were found to reside.

The Bell City district appealed the state's findings and challenged residency determination on two of

the students, so state officials recalculated the number and the amount of money affected.

The state Board of Education voted Thursday to decrease the district's state funding payment for June by more than \$13,000 to account for the nonresidents. No one from the district addressed the state board.


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