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# COLBY FREE PRESS

8 pages

## Tigers doing well in Carolina habitat

By Andy Heintz  
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Two tigers that used to live in a small cage in a junkyard north of Oakley have moved on to bigger and better things.

The tigers were taken from the facility after a lion, sharing a separate small cage in the junkyard with two other lions, mauled a man who put his hands through the bars. Jeffrey Harsh, keeper of

the animals, said he heard a scream and rushed to the cages where he found the lion with the man's arm in its teeth. He freed the man from the lion's grasp by beating the lion with a lead pipe.

The victim, Bradley Buchanan, worked for the Free Breakfast Inn, a motel close to the cages which Harsh is associated with. Both the motel and cages are north and east of the U.S. 83 exit off Interstate 70 north of Oakley. The area is in southern Thomas County.

After the lion relinquished its grip, the man was driven to the Citizens' Medical Center. Thomas Sheriff Rod Taylor said Buchanan was intoxicated when he stuck his hands in the lion cage.

Harsh was ordered by the Thomas County District Court Judge to surrender the animals after the incident.

The lions were transferred to the Detroit Zoo on March 31, and the

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## Sealing underway on I-70 east of Edson

A contractor for the Kansas Department of Transportation is sealing both lanes of I-70 from the Edson exit east to the Sherman-Thomas county line. The project began Tuesday and is expected to take four to five days.

APAC Kansas Inc. of Emporia is handling the project, said Eric Oelschlager, area engineer in Atwood.

While crews perform the seal on about eight miles of the freeway, traffic will be reduced to one lane around the work. The estimated cost of the project is \$421,718.

"The seal operation should only take four to five days to complete, weather permitting," Oelschlager said.

"As always, we ask the public to exercise caution while driving through this and any other work zone on our Kansas highways," said Kristen Brands, public affairs manager for the department in Norton. "Please slow down, pay attention to the workers and signs within a construction zone."

For questions, contact Oelschlager at (785) 626-3258 or erico@ksdot.org in Atwood, or Brands, at (785) 877-3315 or kristenb@ksdot.org in Norton.

## Congressman leads pack in senate race fund raising

By John Hanna  
Associated Press

TOPEKA (AP) — Republican Rep. Jerry Moran has stockpiled \$3.1 million for his Senate campaign and kept up a big lead in cash over his GOP rival, Rep. Todd Tiahrt, reports from their campaigns showed Wednesday.

Tiahrt's campaign reported \$1.4 million in cash on hand at the end of June. That meant Moran fin-

ished the year's second quarter with a cash advantage of more than 2-to-1, roughly where the gap stood when the first quarter ended.

Tiahrt remained undaunted, suggesting during an interview that his campaign organization is already in better shape because he has had more competitive House races in the past than Moran. Tiahrt said he's pleased with his fund raising.

The primary election will be in August 2010. Moran and Tiahrt are seeking to replace Sen. Sam Brownback, a Republican who's running for governor. No Democratic candidate has started campaigning.

Tiahrt has represented the 4th Congressional District of south-central Kansas since 1995, while Moran has held the seat for the

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## Free ice cream at the park

Temperatures in the 80s greeted Colby residents at this week's Picnic in Park Wednesday. The entertainment was Mille (above, left) and Wayne Lauritsen, also known as the Sappa Strings, who will also be performing at the Pickin' on the Plains festival this weekend. KXXX/KRDQ was also celebrating their 62nd anniversary, with radio station employees, such as Account Executive Bill Hankins (right), handing out ice cream sandwiches. There are only two picnics left this year. Next week's entertainment will be Dan Keller, and the entertainment on July 29 will be Larry and Taylor McLemore.



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press



Twenty-one kids and eight sponsors from area 4-H clubs hiked through the Winter Park, Colo. area of the Rocky Mountains in June. The campers also went white water rafting on Clear Creek River.

## 4-H'ers hit Colorado trails

By Vera Sloan  
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The Northwest High Adventure trip, sponsored by extension agents from 10 northwest Kansas counties, took 21 area 4-H'ers and eight sponsors to the Winter Park region in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado.

Clint Milliman, Thomas County Extension agent, said agents put a trip together each summer for 4-H and non-4-H kids.

"Sometimes, youngsters think they can't belong to 4-H if they don't have an animal or can't sew," he said, "but there are many things to learn besides what they perceive 4-H to be. Leadership and just being comfortable with other kids who are perfecting all kinds of skills, like camping, are

for everyone, not just 4-H members."

Milliman said on the day the group hiked the farthest, the venture began 9 a.m. at 10,000 feet. Marking their trail as they went, they hiked up to Caribou Pass near the Continental Divide, with an elevation of 12,000 feet. He said the climb was tough, but they all made it. They came back down the trail to Columbine Lake for a total of eight and three quarters of a mile that day, he said.

The kids worked in teams and did the cooking with the help and supervision of the adults, Milliman said. Fires were built to cook the food with iron "dutch ovens" hanging over the coals, he said, adding that the food was "really good."

They used a water purifier in the camp that hung from a tree and

was gravity fed, he agent said. On the trail, they used portable water purifiers. They also had a hand-held global positioning system device in case they needed it to get them through their backpacking and hiking adventures.

"We all went white water rafting on Clear Creek, near Idaho Springs," Milliman said. "Some of the kids were more seasoned in whitewater rafting, but for some, it was a first adventure at the sport."

"We all had to have lessons before getting into the boat on how and when to row, and how to lean to get through the rapids."

Milliman said the week was not too structured, but rather the adults and kids just learned to work together, developed skills and spent their evenings eating, playing ball and frisbee and developing friendships.

## Briefly

### Step right up; help needed

The Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce and the Thomas County Amusement Association are looking for about 60 volunteers to man game booths at the carnival Tuesday to Saturday, July 28 to Aug. 1. Shifts will be from 6:45 to 9 p.m. and 9 to 11 p.m. Volunteers will be taking tickets and running the games. For information or to volunteer, call Holly Stephens at 460-3401.

### Pick some food for Genesis

Remember to bring your nonperishable food donations for the Genesis-Thomas County Food Bank to the Pickin' on the Plains Bluegrass Festival this weekend. Boxes will be placed near the entrance. The schedule kicks off with a potluck supper at 6:30 p.m. tonight in the 4-H Building at the Thomas County Fairgrounds, and continues Friday to Sunday. For information, call the Colby Convention and

Visitors Bureau at 460-7643 or (800) 611-8835.

### Salvation Army has loaner fans

The Thomas County Salvation Army representative has box fans available for anyone who needs them. Call Sue at 460-4842 if you need a fan.

### Alumni planning 2020 reunion

The Colby High School Alumni Reunion planning committee will meet to discuss the 2010 reunion at 5 p.m. Sunday at the Prairie Museum of Art and History. All alumni are invited. For information, call Amanda Wahlmeier at 460-9145.

### Groups offer free shoot

The Colby Trap Hunting Heritage Group and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks will hold another free shooting program for youths and inexperienced shooters at 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Shooters

will learn weapons handling and range safety. Shotguns and shells will be provided at the Colby Trap Club at County Road R (West College Drive) and County Road 14, one mile south of U.S. 24 west of Colby. For information, call Wildlife Conservation Officer Benny Young at 462-7602.

### College bus will haul vets

Colby Community College is making its bus available to veterans who're not able to walk in the Fair Parade later this month. The bus will leave from the American Legion Hall at 1850 W. Fourth St. at 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 28, and return to the Legion when the parade is over. For information, call the college information office at 460-7836.

### Camp set for Tuesdays

The Colby Wesleyan Church is offering "Tuesdays @ 10," a free summer day camp for children 4 to 12.

Kids are invited to participate in the food, fun, games and God's love from 10 a.m. to noon every Tuesday through July 28. This year's "Son Rock Camp" will include nature hikes and outdoor activities with lunch. To register, or for questions, call the church office at 462-8391.

### Coach offers tennis camp

The Colby Eagle Net Slammers Tennis Camp will be from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Monday to Wednesday, Aug. 3-5, at Fike Park. Children 6 to 12 can sign up no later than Monday, July 27. The cost will be \$25, which includes a T-shirt. No late registrations. For information, call tennis coach Jennifer Rall at 462-0320.



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