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Comedian gets serious about addiction

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Dr. Suess said "people who mind don't matter and people who matter don't mind."

Comedian Mark Lundholm says it's his favorite quote.

Lundholm spoke to a small audience in the Community Building gymnasium on Saturday. His comedy act was sponsored by the Thomas County Alcohol Drug Abuse Council.

Lundholm is a successful comedian, actor, businessman, motivational speaker and husband, but at one time his life was not so rosy. The comedian said he has been a criminal, drug and alcohol addict and homeless wino and lived to joke about it.

He said he was homeless for several years before he wound up in a halfway house in 1988. He learned to cope with his problems by using humor, he said, and that led him to where he is today.

His talk Saturday featured a mixture of social commentary, hilarious one-liners, humorous storytelling and inspiring rhetoric. Lundholm touched on issues ranging from his abusive childhood, his alcoholic father, his wife, being homeless and living under a bridge, his young child, shooting heroin and suicide.

No matter how dark or depressing the topic Lundholm was able to discuss it in a way that left the

audience howling. He entertained the crowd by using his quick wit to take some good-natured shots at audience members about several subjects, including marriage and relationships.

But Lundholm's jokes were almost always mixed with a message.

"Nothing is funny in life until it hurts first," said Lundholm. "Life is hilarious in the truth lane."

He talked about how he believes in a gray area without judgment as opposed to a black-and-white way of looking at the world. Lundholm called gray the color of wisdom.

Lundholm said he was here to facilitate "everyone's strength in their humor muscle." He said everyone has one, but what makes someone laugh varies from person to person.

He said there are two types of people in the world, the normal people and everyone else. And he said there would be some jokes normal people wouldn't get, but they should wait their turn, because eventually he will tell a joke that facilitates their funny bone, too.

Lundholm talked about how his first thought is always wrong. He said some time he doesn't come up with an appropriate response to a situation until his fifth thought. During his act, he kept telling audience what his first thought was about a variety of subjects. These

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Hostage taker caught after falling asleep

DOVER (AP) — A man wanted for murder who eluded police for two days was captured in Kansas after he took two newlyweds hostage in their home, only to fall asleep when they gave him pillows and blankets.

The suspect, Jesse Dennis Dimmick, is expected to be taken back to the Denver area to face charges in a motel slaying, authorities said late Saturday.

The 23-year-old was arrested after the couple slipped out unharmed when he dozed off and police stormed the home in Dover, a tiny town about 15 miles west of Topeka.

Dimmick was shot when officers rushed in and later underwent surgery, though his injuries weren't considered critical. Topeka Police Capt. Jerry Stanley said Dimmick had a weapon, but wouldn't elaborate.

Dimmick — also suspected in burglaries in Colorado, North Carolina and Louisiana — was shot once in the upper left part of his chest, said Ashley Anstaett, spokeswoman for the Kansas at-

torney general.

The couple, Jared and Lindsay Rowley, were held captive for about 2 1/2 hours. Family members said the couple told them Dimmick had a pocket knife and pushed his way in the home after crashing a stolen car.

Police said it was one of two vehicles Dimmick stole and wrecked as he fled Colorado following a killing at a motel Thursday night in Aurora, a Denver suburb.

"The suspect ended up having a couple of accidents along the way," Stanley said. "It was a pursuit that ended up in the front yard" of the couple's home.

Family members said they received text messages from the couple, married just last week, while they were inside the house and passed the messages on to authorities. They said Lindsey Rowley is studying criminal justice at Kansas State University.

"They didn't know where he came from. They hadn't heard anything," said Brenda Sage,

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Briefly

Logo needed for 125th bash

The Prairie Museum of Art and History and the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce are sponsoring a logo contest for Thomas County's 125th Anniversary. Entries should include the theme for the celebration: "The Spirit of the Prairie Lives On." They may be submitted on an 8 1/2-by-11 inch sheet of paper to the museum or the Chamber office by mail or in person by Tuesday. For information, call the museum at 460-4590 or the Chamber at 460-3401.

Pets available for adoption

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a 2-year-old red male dachshund and two 8-week-old white female kittens available for adoption. Lost or strayed animals are often brought to the clinic. Call or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have cur-

rent shots, and costs are minimal. For questions, call 460-8621.

Orchestra to begin rehearsals

Rehearsals for the Pride of the Prairie Orchestra will be from 7:30 to 9 p.m. every Monday beginning tonight in the Colby Community College band room in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center, Room 309. Musicians from northwest Kansas and northeast Colorado are free to join; no auditions are necessary. For information, call Mary Shoaff at 462-2159.

Church to hold kids' Bible club

The Awana program, an interdenominational children's Bible club, will be meeting at 7 p.m. each Wednesday starting this week at the Colby Berean Church. Colby-area children age 3 through fifth grade are invited to attend. For information, call

James Claassen at (785) 694-1677 or the church at 460-2763.

Help needed to plan benefit

An organizational meeting to plan a benefit for the Ben Hopper family will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at TNT Auction, 200 N. Franklin Ave. Volunteers are needed to help with the soup dinner and auction. For information, call Sharon Woolfer at (785) 269-7180.

Museum to hold art workshops

The Prairie Museum of Art and History will hold the third annual Sunflower Art Affair, a collection of art workshops for high-school age students and adults, from 1-5 p.m. Saturday at the museum. Workshops will include watercolor, chalk pastel drawings, quilt block-paper piecing, decoupage and hand-sewn wool pincushions. Registration deadline

is next Wednesday, and space is limited to 10 people per workshop. There will be a small materials fee for each session. For information, call the museum at 460-4590.

College to dedicate building

Colby Community College plans a dedication ceremony for the Pierre C. Henry Allied Health Building at 5 p.m. next Monday on the south side of the building. The naming honors Henry's generosity and support of education. For information, call Debbie Schwanke at 460-5411.



MARIAN BALLARD/Colby Free Press

Colby Police officers and Thomas County sheriff's deputies ran traffic control for the World's Largest Truck Convoy on Saturday morning as the big rigs passed through town. The trucks

made a circle through Colby, leaving I-70 and heading north on Range Avenue, turning east on Fourth Street and heading back to the south on Franklin Avenue.

World's Largest Convoy rolls into town

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Special Olympians cheered and truckers horns filled the air during as the Colby segment of the World's Largest Truck Convoy rumbled past Truck Town on Interstate 70 late Saturday morning.

The athletes had been waiting outside in the Truck Town parking lot for several minutes before the parade of trucks rumbled past them and took the exit for Range Avenue. The moment the big rigs appeared, the Olympians pumped their arms up and down to signal for the truckers to toot the horn. Each time the sound of a horn cut through the afternoon air, the Special Olympians cheered.

The convoy paraded through town, up Range to Fourth, downtown to Franklin and south to Willow, where the truckers turned east to Country Club. About 20 minutes after the first pass, the trucks roared over the Interstate and into Truck Town. At the business on Horton Avenue, south of the freeway, they were greeted by the Special Olympians. Many

other Olympians rode the trucks on their route up I-70 from Oakley.

The convoy raises money for Special Olympics. The parade of truckers started at the Mittens TA Travel Plaza east of Oakley at 10:30 a.m. and drove up the four-lane to Colby. The American Legion Riders cruised in on their motorcycles to take part in the event.

The convoy movement started in Orlando, Fla., in 2001. This Saturday, convoys rolled in 34 states and seven Canadian provinces. The Colby convoy, the third, was the only one in Kansas. It drew 32 rigs, including company trucks, fertilizer rigs and cattle trucks. The total length of this year's convoy was slightly over half a mile.

Once the trucks arrived at Truck Town, the Special Olympians, volunteers and drivers posed for pictures and engaged in conversations. Some of the Olympians who hadn't ridden in the trucks got to climb inside them to see what the experience was like. After a several minutes spent meeting and greeting, the Olympians, bikers, volunteers



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Special Olympian Jason Oelke of Hoxie (right) spent some time behind the wheel while fellow Olympian Ryan Olson of Atwood sat in the passenger seat after the truckers had parked their vehicles on Horton Avenue.

and truckers all got together for a group picture.

Eventually, the group headed to the rear of Truck Town to have lunch. A disc jockey from Goodland played a mixture of country music and southern rock while everyone ate.

After lunch the Olympians headed outside to vote on the years best trucks. The categories included Best in Show, Best Chrome and Best Paint. Other awards given out included oldest

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MARIAN BALLARD/Colby Free Press

At the end of its drive through Colby, the truck convoy stopped at Truck Town where the Special Olympic athletes, drivers and

other volunteers got to take a look at all the trucks, had lunch and then voted on awards for the year's best truck contest.



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