



8 pages

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Recovery event set for Saturday

By **Aubrey Spencer**
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The Central Kansas Foundation and the Regional Prevention Center have teamed up again this year to host their second annual all-day event for National Recovery Month on Saturday with the theme, “Together We Learn; Together We Heal.”

Orvella Romine, a community prevention consultant at the center, said the event will kick off at 1 p.m. with a parade down Franklin Avenue through downtown. Floats will start out at Webster and end up at Fike Park, where the day’s festivities will take place.

Free activities at the park will include a barbecue, games for kids, announcement of contest winners, music by the band “Nobody Important,” a raffle and speakers from both the recovery community and area churches.

Thomas County students had a chance to enter various contests sponsored by the two agencies. Grade-school students were asked to make posters that represented the slogan, “It’s OK to Say No Way.” Middle school and high school students entered poetry and essay contests with the topic, “How a community can pull together concerning alcohol and drug addiction.”

Winners will be announced Saturday and prizes will be awarded. First place for high school will be an iPod music player. First place for grade school and middle school students will be Play Station 2 game gear. Second place for all grades will be MP3 music players, and third-place winners

will get cash.

Sponsors for the event are the Kansas Citizens Committee, Colby Walmart and area businesses. The Colby Community College will provide face painting and the college basketball team will shoot free throws with the kids. Hi-Plains Co-op is providing its grill and charcoal for the barbecue.

Anyone who wants to enter a float in the parade should contact either the Prevention Center at 460-8177 or the foundation office at 460-5885. Cash prizes will be awarded for best theme and best participation.

The agencies are encouraging everyone to enter a raffle for the big giveaway: a family karaoke machine. Just bring a nonperishable food item to the park on Saturday, and you’ll receive a raffle ticket. All food will go to Genesis-Thomas County Food Bank.

Recovery Month is an annual observance in September, and this year marks the 20th anniversary, said Sarah Harsh, a councilor with the foundation. It highlights the benefits to society of substance-abuse treatment and provides a way to celebrate people in recovery and those who help them. It also serves to teach the public about substance abuse as a national health crisis, that addiction is a treatable disease and that recovery is possible.

The prevention center is a consulting agency that helps communities with information, education and training to prevent alcohol and drug abuse. The foundation is a nonprofit organization with an office in Colby that provides alcohol and drug abuse treatment and prevention services.



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

Ride ‘em cowboys

Cody Teel (above) of Southwestern Oklahoma State University tried hard to stay on his horse during the bareback riding finals at the Colby Community College Rodeo on Sunday. Teel had the highest score out of nine finalists going into Sunday’s competition and finished in first place. Ben Madsen (right) of Western Oklahoma State University tied his calf during the calf-roping finals. Madsen had to lasso the calf, tie it and have the knots hold for at least six seconds. He finished fifth in the finals and fifth in the overall average score. More than 500 rodeo contestants from Kansas and Oklahoma competed this weekend, including several from the host team.



Denver man faces federal charge over al-Qaida plot

DENVER (AP) — An Afghanistan-born Colorado man who allegedly received al-Qaida training and had bomb-making instructions on his computer faced a court appearance Monday as the government warned law enforcement around the nation about the danger of an attack on mass transit.

Investigators say Najibullah Zazi, a 24-year-old airport shuttle driver, played a direct role in an alleged terror plot that unraveled during a trip to New York City around the anniversary of the Sept. 11 anniversary. But he has only been charged with lying to the government, and has a court appearance Monday afternoon in

Denver on the charge.

Investigators said they found notes on bomb-making instructions that appear to match Zazi’s handwriting, and discovered his fingerprints on materials — batteries and a scale — that could be used to make explosives.

Publicly, law enforcement officials

have repeatedly said they are unaware of a specific time or target for any possible attacks. Privately, officials speaking on condition of anonymity because they weren’t authorized to discuss the case said investigators have worried most about the possible use of backpack bombs on New York City mass transit trains,

similar to attacks carried out in London and Madrid.

Backpacks and cell phones were taken from apartments in the Queens raids last week.

A joint FBI-New York Police Department

See “PLOT,” Page 3

All mixed up



RAE STEWART/Brewster High School

Brewster High School music teacher Melanie Biel and senior Seth Ackerman held up a sign proclaiming this year’s homecoming theme. The school will have homecoming festivities all this week leading up to the football game against Golden Plains on Friday.

Colby Methodist lay leader publishes meditations book

By **Marj Brown**
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After pouring her heart out on paper for the past two years, Colby’s Millie Horlacher has finally achieved her dream of seeing her words in book form.

The Methodist lay leader’s book, “Seasons of Salt,” published by iUniverse, is a collection of her meditations to use in private devotional times or in leading a group.

“These meditations are taken from the salt-sprinkled seasons of my life, including personal experiences of deep grief and pain as well as times of joy and laughter,” Horlacher says. “From the challenges of eating noodles with weevils to facing the death of my

daughter, they relate to the chaos and uncertainty of life as well as humorous times.

“Just as a small amount of salt sprinkled into a pot of soup spreads throughout the whole pot; our grains of salt can spread the message of Christ to those around us.”

Millie and her husband Wayne are co-owners of Horlacher Jewelers. Wayne has always lived in Colby, but Millie was born and grew up on her family’s small dairy farm, known as Cedar Row, south of Horton. She says the farm, which she now owns, has been in her family since 1899.

Horlacher said her first eight years of education were in a one-room school, New Malden District 45 in Atchison County. She gradu-

ated from Atchison County Community High School and attended Kansas State College, where she majored in child guidance.

Horlacher has always been a go-getter and says she joined every organization in high school that she was eligible to join. Her writing career started when she became editor of the high school paper, but she says her teachers always encouraged her writing, even in grade school.

The couple met at K-State in the marching band’s baritone horn section. Their decision to settle in Colby after marriage was determined by Wayne going into business with his father in the downtown store.

See “AUTHOR,” Page 3

Briefly

Sale offers nearly new dresses

There will be a formal dress sale from 6 to 8 p.m. tonight through Thursday in the basement of the First Presbyterian Church. Shop for homecoming, Christmas and New Years dresses, as well as some accessories. Proceeds will go to Genesis and the Salvation Army. For information, or to donate dresses, call Sue Draper at 460-6332.

Church offers Bible study

The Colby Wesleyan Church will hold Beth Moore’s Bible study, “Stepping Up: A Journey through the Psalms of Ascent,” from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday beginning this week at the Pioneer Memorial Library. A second group will meet from 9 to 11 a.m. every Thursday at the church, 320 W Pine. For information or to register, call Joy Rothfuss at 443-5170.

Methodists plan dinner, auction

The Colby United Methodist Church will have its 2009 Mission Dinner and Auction at noon on Sunday in the fellowship hall. The event will feature dinner and a silent auction, with a live auction following the meal. For information, call the church office at 460-2761 or Ronda Bachman at 460-3859.

RC Club to hold Sunday races

The First Baptist Church RC Club will hold races at 2 p.m. Sunday. Kids 10 or older and adults are welcome; the church can provide cars. The club will be giving away a the remote-control truck prize that racers have been competing for all summer. For information, call 462-2867.

College pool open weekdays

The Colby Community College indoor swimming pool is open to the public for lap swimming from 5 to

7 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. Open swimming is 4 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Cost for general admission is \$3. Monthly and yearly passes are available. Call Kipp Nelson at 460-5476 for information.

City picking up grass clippings

City crews continue to pick up grass clippings. Clippings must be at curbside by 8 a.m. on your regular trash day in a separate tipper can from household trash. Put clippings in the tipper loose, not in plastic bags. For questions, call the Public Works office at 460-4420.

Crew needs Eagles’ T-shirts

Thomas County Emergency Medical Services is looking for new and old Colby Eagles T-shirts for a

fund raiser. Shirts can be dropped off at the ambulance building on South Franklin, near the hospital, or someone will come get them. For information or a pickup, call Dawnelle Umberger at 443-0176.

Sheriff can check vehicles

The Thomas County Sheriff’s Office is now checking vehicle identification numbers for cars, light trucks and motorcycles. The office is open 8 a.m., to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call Sheriff Rod Taylor for information or to set up an appointment at 460-4570. Taylor said trailer inspections still have to go through the Kansas Highway Patrol office in Hays. The fee is \$10.



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