



School board hires director as principal

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To save money, the Colby School District has filled the vacancy left by the retirement of Colby High Principal Don Krebs by spreading its remaining administrators among the buildings.

After a 20-minute closed-door session at Monday's meeting, the school board voted to install Larry Gabel, now high school activities director and assistant principal, as high school principal next school year. Gabel will also stay on as athletic director.

Superintendent Terrell Harrison said other administrators would take on some of the principal's work so Gabel could stay involved with sports and the district wouldn't have to pay to hire a principal.

"We're trying to save two teaching positions," she said. "The amount of money that we spend on a principal equals two teachers."

Two others with administrative credentials, Rob Ross, Colby

Middle School principal, and Diana Wieland, curriculum director, will serve as assistant principals at the high school.

Harrison said Wieland will handle most of the academic duties, such as curriculum and the School Improvement Program. Ross will split his time between the middle and high schools, where he will help Gabel with duties such as discipline and employee issues. Ross will take over from Gabel as middle school activities director.

Because of their increased workload, Ross and Wieland will also get some help. Grade School Principal Lance Krannawitter will serve as assistant principal for the middle school and Harrison will serve as assistant curriculum director and help out at the grade school. The idea, Harrison said, is that there will always be at least one administrator who can step in to help in any of the buildings.

"We're trying to make it work with just the five principals," Harrison said. "It will be a challenge. I think we can make it work."

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College to hold benefit auction

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The Colby Community College Foundation will hold its annual scholarship benefit auction at 4:45 p.m. Saturday at the Comfort Inn Convention Center.

A dinner featuring smoked prime rib will start at 5:30 p.m. and the live auction will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$35.

Nick Wells, executive director for the foundation, said the foundation raised \$65,000 last year, and they hope to do a little better this year. He said the money raised last year provided about 125 students with scholarships.

Wells said there are always

new businesses and individuals donating materials to the auction, but there are also businesses that have been donating things since it started up in the early '70s.

"We have tremendous community support," he said.

The theme of this year's auction is "The Test Of Time" because the foundation is celebrating its 45th year, Wells said. Three of the colleges' four presidents - current president Dr. Lynn Kreider and past presidents Richard Mosier and Mikel Ary - will be at the auction. Mosier was the first president and Ary the third.

Auctioneer services are being donated by Farm and Ranch Realty, Wells said, and the decorations are being done by Inlow Interiors.

Colby students win state art awards

Several Colby High School art students won big at the Western Kansas Scholastic Art Show in Montezuma. Seventeen of the twenty works entered received awards.

Students from 31 counties were eligible to enter the regional competition, said art teacher Donna Roberts. Each school was allowed only 20 entries. The work was judged by art professionals while on display at the Stauth Memorial

Museum in Montezuma.

American Vision awards were given for the "best of show" in each category. Gold Keys, Silver Keys and Merit Awards were given to outstanding work.

American Vision award winners were Samantha Schmidt in drawing, Ashley Standage in the product category and Josh Ryan in ceramics. Schmidt also received

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College kids learn police procedures from the experts

A team of Colby Police officers and Thomas County sheriff's deputies (above) showed how they would handle a hostage situation on a bus during a demonstration with dummy weapons for students in the criminal justice program at Colby Community College on Wednesday.

Using one of the college's buses, the officers demonstrated how they would approach the bus, cover each other and finally enter the bus. Ron Alexander (left) from the Colby Police Department demonstrated a flash grenade, which emits a loud noise and bright flash to disorient criminals.

The demonstrations were part of a three-day hands-on training program for the students, led by Josh Hunter (below), a Colby College alumnus. Tuesday, the students learned how to handle drunk drivers, Wednesday was the hostage situation and today they will learn how to handle a domestic disturbance.



Briefly

Clouds delay tornado siren test

Due to the overcast skies and the chance of thunderstorms Monday, Thomas County Emergency Management postponed the monthly tornado drill. Tornado sirens will be tested again at noon Monday. Sirens are normally tested the first Monday of every month. For information, call Director Susan McManahan at 460-4516.

City to start grass clipping route

The Colby Public Works Department will begin picking up grass clippings on Monday, April 26, said Public Works Secretary Anita Powell. Clippings must be at curbside by 8 a.m. on your regular trash day, in a separate tipper can from your household trash. Clippings should be placed in the tipper can loose, without plastic bags. For information, call the department at 460-4420.

Arbor Day celebration April 28

The Colby Tree Board invites everyone to come help celebrate Arbor Day at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, in Fike Park, where the board will be planting trees, weather permitting. Jim Strine, area forester with Kansas State University, will speak. For information, call Marvin Bickner at (785) 462-6692.

Landfill goes to summer hours

The Thomas County Landfill has changed to summer hours. It will be open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. For information, call 462-8139.

Win a vacation from Heartland

Heartland Christian School will hold a rock-paper-scissors tournament at 10 a.m., Saturday at the school. Tickets are \$20 per ticket or six for \$100.

First prize is a five-day, four-night trip to Mexico. For information, call the school at 460-6419.

Church to hold conference

The Rexford Community Church will hold its annual mission conference at the church Saturday and Sunday at the church. The theme is "Let the 'Son' Shine in 2010." For information, call Rex Carswell at (785) 687-4361.

Swim Club plans session Sunday

The Colby Swim Club will hold a parent meeting and fun swim at 4 p.m. Sunday in room 809 of the Health Science Building at Colby Community College. The swim will follow at the college pool. For information, call Sondra Finley at 460-2955.

Commodity distribution Monday

U.S. Department of Agriculture surplus commodities

will be distributed from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at the Retired Senior Volunteer Program office in the Senior Progress Center. For information, call 462-6744.

Kindergarten screenings coming

The Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center and the Colby School District will hold kindergarten screenings from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the Colby United Methodist Church. Parents of next year's kindergartners are encouraged to take advantage of the screenings, which include speech, sight, hearing and learning tests. For information, call school nurse Amy Hutfles, 460-5111.

