



# COLBY FREE PRESS

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## Wheat prices fluctuate as crops dry

By Kevin Bottrell

Colby Free Press  
kbottrell@nwkansas.com

With shifting supply and demand around the world, wheat prices that hit a peak in late May have been dropping steadily, even as Thomas County farmers gear up for harvest.

Wheat prices took a hit Thursday to the tune of about 21 cents a bushel. The Kansas Department of Agriculture statistics report for June 1 said wheat prices in Kansas averaged \$8.09 a bushel in April, but fell to \$8 in mid-May. Since then, Hi-Plains Co-op in Colby has recorded prices topping out at \$8.55 per bushel on May 26, but they have fallen steadily since then to \$7.18 at the close of

market Thursday.

"That's a lot," said Steve Ziegelmeier of ZEZ Commodities, "but with the extreme volatility of the market, that's become normal."

Still, the price is several dollars higher than last year. Average prices were \$4.24 last May.

"The problem is, input costs went up as well," said John Jenkinson, creator of *The Ag Network*, which produces national agriculture- and market-related radio shows.

The cost of fuel and fertilizer has increased this summer, he said, reducing the benefit of high commodity prices.

The futures market, which pre-

See "WHEAT," Page 3

## Ag radio owner plans live show

By Tomi Miller and Kevin Bottrell

Colby Free Press  
colby.editor@nwkansas.com

*The Ag Network* with John Jenkinson will broadcast live from the lobby of People's State Bank from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday.

The show will be broadcast on KBUF radio (1030 AM). During the show, Jenkinson will hold a drawing to give away a restored 1964 3020 John Deere tractor. Jenkinson said the tractor is a diesel powershift with less than 5,000 hours. It has been repainted and fixed up to like new condition.

Jenkinson said last year the

show gave away a 4020 model John Deere. The 20-series is popular with collectors he said, but it is fully usable and suited to small acreage farms.

Listeners can visit the bank from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday to register to be a finalist for the drawing and to talk with Jenkinson. The tractor will be on site for listeners to see and touch.

Jenkinson said he is doing several live broadcasts around Kansas in places like Osborne, Sublette, Syracuse and Dodge City and taking entries at each one.

"It's a blast," he said.

See "SHOW," Page 3



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

## Music, hot dogs draw big crowd to Picnic in the Park

Dozens of Colby residents (above) came to Picnic in the Park on Wednesday for a hot dog feed put on by Hi-Plains Co-op. Donations were taken to help the Colby Kiwanis Club with their annual Fourth of July fireworks display. Bobbi Barton (right) sang at the picnic. Next week's picnic will feature the Bugbee Sisters.



KAREN KRIEN/St. Francis Herald

David Pabst (left) and Ken Kleinsorge set up camp about 10 miles north of St. Francis on Monday while following the path of the great western cattle drive. They had a supper of Texas stew and apple cobbler cooking.

## Colby men drive down old cattle trail

By Karen Krien

The St. Francis Herald  
karen.k@nwkansas.com

It was an unexpected sight to come down the country road north of St. Francis and see a chuck wagon, two men dressed in western gear, two Halfinger horses and a big, black mule.

On Monday, David Pabst of Colby and Ken Kleinsorge, a former Colby resident now living in Greeley, Colo., had made camp in the tall grass in northern Cheyenne County. The horses and mule were grazing while the men were finishing up their Texas stew and apple cobbler. The food bubbled in cast iron pots placed over the charcoal briquets which had been placed on a steel structure.

The men said they were living a dream. They had gone to school together and had studied the great

western cattle drive, which had crossed western Kansas. The path the men had chosen would also take them through The Arikaree Breaks, an area of deep ravines in northern Cheyenne and Rawlins Counties.

"We stopped a little short of The Breaks," Pabst said, "so we could see them in the light of day."

Pabst owned the wagon, which had come from Nebraska about 30 years ago. His wife had spent a day making the canvas cover and the lean-to piece which protected the cook against the elements.

They had spent some time building the chuck wagon storage, using wood Pabst had around the farm. The four drawers at the top had handles made from Pabst's grandfather's harness which was 80 years old.

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## Briefly

### Cancer benefit to begin tonight

Come cheer on the teams at Relay for Life from 7 p.m. today to 7 a.m. Saturday at Dennen Field. The survivors lap will begin after a short introduction ceremony at 7 p.m. Friday, after which the main relay will begin. Cancer survivors and caregivers can sign up for the lap by calling Margaret Kummer at 460-4877 or 460-8095. For other information, call Irene Hartwell at 443-0974.

### Arts campers to hold show

Shepherd's Staff is holding a Creative Arts Camp this week, which will culminate in a program for the public at 7 p.m. today at the conference center, 240 Main St. in Rexford. The program will showcase skills the campers have learned in areas such as art, drama, music, puppetry and stagecraft. For information, call the center at (888) 687-2565.

### Museum puts up student art

The Prairie Museum of Art and History is exhibiting artwork created by Thomas County students throughout June. The exhibit includes work by students from Colby High, Middle and Grade Schools, Brewster High School, Heartland Christian School and Sacred Heart School. There is no admission fee to view this exhibit. For information, call Programming and Education Director Ann Miner at 460-4590.

### College pool open for summer

The Colby Community College swimming pool has reopened for the summer. Pool hours are 5 to 7 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday to Friday for lap swimming. Open swim hours are 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The pool is available for group parties. For information, call

Kipp Nelson at 460-5476.

### Mingo church plans Bible school

Mingo Bible Church will hold Vacation Bible School from 6 to 8:45 p.m. Friday, June 17, and from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday at the church. With this year's theme, "Rev It Up: Full Throttle for God," kids aged 4 to fifth grade will learn what the Bible says about being a member of God's team. Lunch will be provided Saturday. For information, call the church at 460-7530.

### RC club open for dads and kids

The First Baptist Church's RC Car Racing Club will have a "Dads and Kids" open racing time followed by pizza and drinks from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the church, on the corner of Grant and Webster. The club, which is active throughout the school year, is

open to all area children. For information, call Pastor Craig Crossman at 462-2336 or 443-5154.

### Swedish Singers to perform here

The Young Swedish Singers will hold a free concert at 7 p.m. Monday at the Frahm Theatre at Colby Community College. The 34-member gospel singing group from Sweden performs gospel, hymns and Swedish folk music, though most of their program is in English. For information, contact the Trinity Lutheran Church at 462-3497.



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