



School board considers swim team

By Kevin Bottrell
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Colby High School could get an officially sanctioned swim team this spring, but the proposal is far from a lock.

School Board Vice President Tracy Rogers brought the proposal to the board at Monday's meeting, saying the idea of a swim team has been around for years.

"There hasn't been a good time to add anything," he said.

Rogers said the school could conceivably add a team at no

cost to the district if parents and students raised enough money themselves to pay for things like a coach's salary, equipment and meet entry fees. They would have to establish a "cutoff" date, he said, so that if the students didn't raise enough money by that date, the school would not sanction the team.

Rogers said there are eight or nine girls interested in a team this spring, and five or six eighth graders who would want to be on the team next year.

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Rider killed in Norton race

By Carleen Bell
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A New Mexico man died Saturday evening after crashing his motorcycle during the flat track races at the Elmwood Park Speedway in Norton.

Few details of the incident have been released, but a race organizer reported that the man, whose name and age were unavailable, crashed his motorcycle on turn three at the track.

The rider was transported to the Norton County Hospital for evaluation of what appeared to be non-life threatening injuries. The man died at the hospital, however, from what may have been internal chest injuries from the impact of the motorcycle landing on his body during the crash.

The Norton races were a continuation of the series held in Colby on Friday, which had no such incidents. Races were also held in Stockton on Monday and Tuesday.

Trooper honored for role in shootout

Kansas Highway Patrol Trooper Perry Frey of Goodland was honored earlier this month for his actions in a rolling shootout in January that ended north of Brewster.

Frey was given the Superintendent's Award at a ceremony in Hays on Aug. 3 in recognition of his efforts on Jan. 16 when he was involved in a high-speed chase with a vehicle occupant firing at him.

Frey had checked on a vehicle in the Sherman County eastbound rest area on I-70 and found the registration did not match the vehicle. While he was talking with the occupants, the driver sped away.

Early in the pursuit, the driver stopped the vehicle in an attempt to get Frey to approach, with the intent of shooting the trooper.

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TOMI MILLER/Colby Free Press

College welcomes new students with block party

A new college student signed up at the Baskin Robbins booth (above) at the Colby Community College Campus Block Party on Tuesday outside the student union. Booths from local businesses, churches, student activities, military recruiters and civic organizations were set up on the lawn, many giving away free items. There was also a meal for the students (left). The Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce helps organize the party each year.



Rollin' on the river



Girl Scouts from the Kansas Heartland Council took a white water rafting trip July 2 through 5 to Cotopaxi, Colo. After camping and activities the first day, the group set off down the Arkansas River on a six-hour, 25 mile trip. This shot from early in their trip, before they had a chance to get really wet, included (clock-

wise from front left) Cayla Carter, Darby Sager, Tonya Sager, guide Zac, Diane Carter, Crystal Seibert, Debbie Zerr and Elissa Zerr. The following day the group took a trail ride in the Royal Gorge.

State wants grant money to promote marriage

TOPEKA (AP) - At the same time as Gov. Sam Brownback's administration announced it would return a \$31.5 million federal grant that would help implement the new health care law, it was applying for a \$6.6 million federal grant to promote marriage.

When Brownback announced last week that the state would reject the health care grant, he cited a concern that the federal government would not be able to meet its financial commitments. He also said states should be preparing for fewer federal dollars, not more.

But those concerns did not prevent the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services from seeking \$2.2 million a year for three years to pay for counseling that encourages unwed parents to marry. The *Kansas City Star* reports (<http://bit.ly/oXgJTI>). State

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