



COLBY FREE PRESS

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Colby Middle School social studies teacher Todd Murdock readied lesson plans on his computer this morning. TOMI MILLER/Colby Free Press

Students, teachers get ready for school

By Kevin Bottrell

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While some local schools have already begun fall classes, others have been gearing up for the big day.

The Colby School District begins classes Thursday. Colby Middle School held several events for new sixth graders today to allow them to get to the know the building. Colby Grade School held a similar event for new kindergartners and their parents.

Heartland Christian School is kicking things off with a half-day of school Thursday. The students

will go the full day on Friday.

Sacred Heart Catholic School is going the full day for its first day of school Thursday.

Brewster Schools started last Wednesday. The schools went three days last week, and will have a full four-day week this week with Friday off. This year Brewster is combining more sports with Triplains School District in Winona, which has also begun classes.

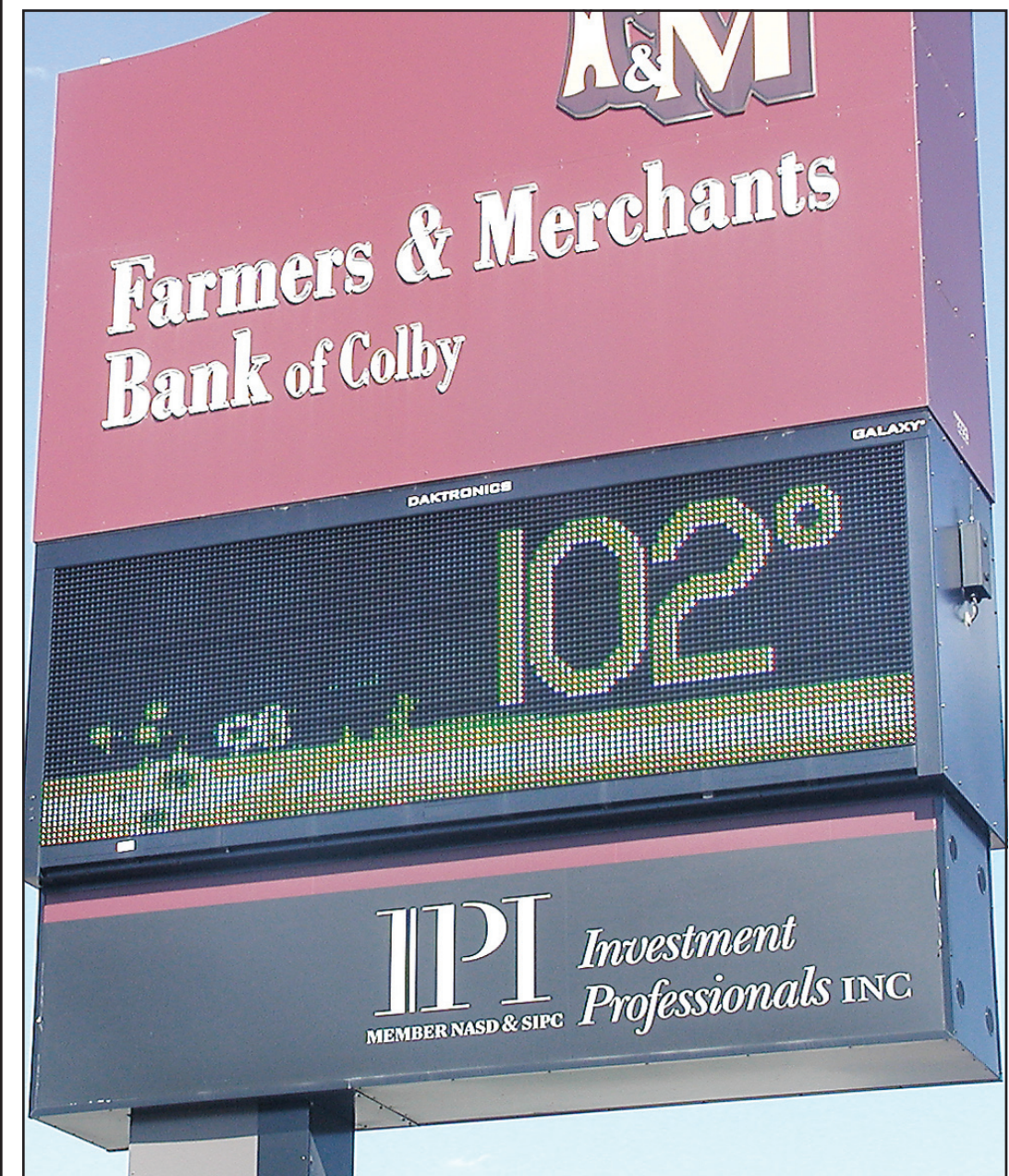
Golden Plains School District began classes Tuesday. It also held a back-to-school night Sunday.

Colby Community College began classes on Aug. 16.



Incoming sixth graders at Colby Middle School went on a "scavenger hunt" this morning. The hunt helped the new middle schoolers learn where their classrooms are located. TOMI MILLER/Colby Free Press

Back in triple digits



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

After cooler temperatures for the last several weeks, the weather turned hot again this week. The thermometer at Farmers & Merchants Bank read 102 degrees at 5 p.m. Tuesday. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment is reminding citizens, especially seniors and children, to keep drinking water and dress appropriately for the temperature.

Colby man dies in accident

A Colby man was killed Sunday night when his sport utility vehicle was hit by a semi-trailer rig near the Nebraska border.

According to the Kansas Highway Patrol report, Loren Turner, 85, was driving east on K-383 about 17 miles north of Phillipsburg in his 2011 Chevrolet Tahoe Sunday night. He was struck at the intersection with U.S. 183 by the other vehicle, a 2006 Volvo truck, as it attempted to turn onto K-383.

The truck driven by Andriy Yaremchuk, 30, of Van-

cover, Wash. He was uninjured, and had been wearing his seatbelt.

Turner was pronounced dead at 9:40 p.m. He was taken to Olliff-Boeve Memorial Chapel in Phillipsburg. He had not been wearing his seatbelt.

Turner, originally from Menlo, was a retired state employee from Colorado, where he worked at the Eisenhower Tunnel on I-70. He had moved to Colby in May to be closer to his family.

College student to appear on national radio program

Colby Community College sophomore Nick Rice will be featured on a nationwide radio program *Joni and Friends* on Thursday, Sept. 8. The program will be aired locally on KGCR-FM (107.7) at 11:35 a.m. and again at 11:35 p.m.

Rice, a graduate of Garden City High School, is majoring in broadcasting. His mother Betty and father Earle moved with Nick to Colby when he decided to attend classes here.

"I'm glad I chose Colby," said Rice. "I was on the radio station in high school. I decided on Colby because instructor Joe Vyzourek understands disabilities. He was willing to give me a chance. He does some amazing things."

Rice played in the concert and pep bands last year. He will continue this year playing percussion in the Trojan Pep Band.

"My high school counselor recommended Colby Community College," said Rice. "She said they have a good broadcasting program."

Nick is accompanied by his mother or father to his classes. He



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Community College
College sophomore Nick Rice took a quick break from his radio duties at the college station to pose for the camera.

is enrolled in 13 hours this semester and plans to graduate from college in May.

The host for the radio program, Joni Eareckson Tada, is an evangelical Christian, author, radio host, and founder of *Joni and Friends*, an

organization "accelerating Chris-

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