



## Fake cop has police on lookout

Colby Police are looking for a police impersonator who pulled a citizen over Sunday night. The suspect was described in a Police Department press release as a man in his late 30s or early 40s, with light blond hair and light facial hair. He was about six feet tall and weighed about 185 pounds, and was wearing a navy blue uniform similar to that worn by Colby police officers. The suspect pulled over a local citizen, described in the press release as "employed in the law enforcement community" at 7:10 p.m. Sunday near the 53 exit of Interstate 70. He was driving an unmarked off-white or light grey car with no lights on top, according to the press release. It had a one red and blue light on the dash, and inside the rear window of the car. The car

had a spot light mounted on the drivers side. The body was similar to an older LTD or Chrysler or late '80s model car, and the press release pointed out that no law enforcement agencies in the area still use patrol cars like that. Except for three Colby Police sport utility vehicles, all the patrol cars in the area are clearly marked. Most patrol units, the police said, are Dodge or Ford pickups or Dodge Chargers. Police said you should feel free to call 911 to make sure you are dealing with local authorities if you are being pulled over and are not sure if it is a real officer. But use common sense. The press release said you should not try to run from the car unless you cannot verify that it is a real officer.

## Hard 50 case in Kansas court

TOPEKA (AP) — Kansas Supreme Court justices are set to hear the first appeal of a Hard 50 prison sentence since lawmakers changed the way the sentence is imposed during a September special session. The case on Tuesday's docket involves Dustin B. Hilt who was convicted in 2010 on first-degree murder charges for the 2009 death of a Johnson County woman. Hilt was one of three defendants con-

victed in the killing. He was sentenced to serve life in prison without the possibility of parole for 50 years, a term that was set by a judge. Legislators changed that process in September during a two-day special session following June U.S. Supreme Court ruling in a Virginia case that held that such departures in prison sentences can only be imposed by juries.

## Two left dead at Nevada school

By Scott Sonner  
*Associated Press*

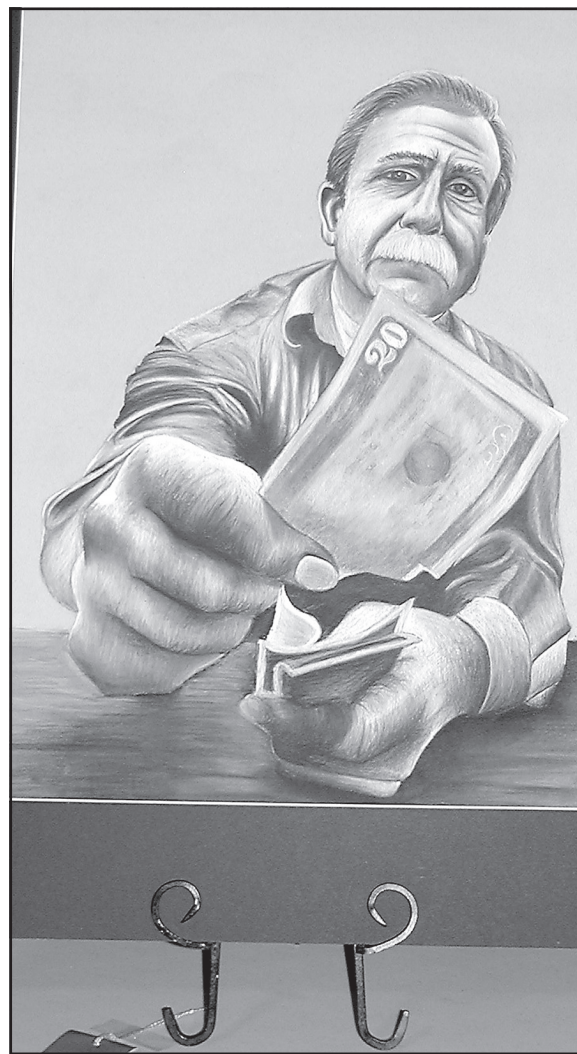
SPARKS, Nev. (AP) — A shooting at a middle school in northern Nevada has left two people dead and two boys in critical condition, rattling parents, teachers and students as they showed up for the start of the school week. The identities of the shooter and victims weren't immediately known. The suspect is "down," police said, and school officials say there is no further danger. The first reports of the shooting came in at about 7:15 a.m., about 15 minutes before the first classes were set to begin. Students from the middle school and next door elementary school were evacuated to the nearby high school, and classes were canceled.

The shooting happened on the school's campus, but outside the school building itself, according to police. Spokeswoman Angela Rambo of Renown Regional Medical Center says two boys are in critical condition. Gov. Brian Sandoval issued a statement after hearing about the shooting. "I was deeply saddened to learn of the horrific shooting at Sparks Middle School this morning. My administration is receiving regular updates and the Nevada Highway Patrol is assisting at the scene," he said. Sandoval extended his thoughts and prayers to those affected. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nevada, offered his condolences.

## Building inspector retires from city

Colby's building inspector is set to retire at the end of the month. Rick Dickman's last day at work will be Thursday, Oct. 31. There will be a retirement reception for him that day at 6:30 p.m. at the Law Enforcement Training Center, 360 N. Franklin Ave. Cake

ice cream will be served. At a City Council meeting Tuesday night, City Manager Tyson McGreer noted it would be Dickman's last council meeting. McGreer said that Dickman worked for the fire department for a long time before becoming the building inspector. Dickman said he has worked for the city for 27 years and 10 months. This is his seventh year as building inspector.



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press  
David Ketchum (center, top), discussed how the bleachers of the Heartland Christian School gym work as a background for artwork on Sunday with Tom Peyton (right) and Don Denning. Evie and Jim Franz (above) looked over the work on display at the High Plains Art Club show, which ran Saturday and Sunday. Colby High School student Madison Tubbs drew her father Mike Tubbs (left) in a picture showing a typical scene in the life of a teenager.

## Art show has good turnout

The High Plains Art Club drew a good crowd to the Heartland Christian School with a show over the weekend. Work by dozens of artists — both young and old — was up for display over the weekend in the Heartland gym. Pictures ranged

from portraits of the namesakes for Colby and Thomas County to landscapes, and a painting titled "This is (not) a skull." It appeared to show about half of a cow skull. About 64 people came to the reception Saturday night to eat dinner and see the awards ceremony. Tom Peyton, a club member and artist with six paintings on display at the show, gave the introduction. Then Trish Starbuck, who judged the art, said a

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## Kansas hospital offers testing

By Nicole Wentling  
*Lawrence Journal-World*

LAWRENCE (AP) — Steve Malone has sat in the bleachers or stood on the sidelines of his son Jack's soccer games since Jack was old enough to kick a ball around. In previous seasons, Malone wasn't too worried about what could happen to his son on the field. The kids were small, he said, and the game was nice. But now that Jack is 13, that has changed. "It's aggressive," Malone said. "It's a different kind of game." While it's exciting to see his son going for a header, Malone said he cringes when it happens, especially when there are multiple players going up for the ball at the same time, the Lawrence Journal-World (<http://is.gd/kghU86>) reports. To ease some of his worries, Malone took Jack, a member of the Sporting Kaw Valley Jaguars, to the Fourth Street Health Clinic

at Lawrence Memorial Hospital on Sunday. The hospital offered baseline concussion testing for a reduced fee to members of Sporting Kaw Valley, which consists of athletes ages 10 to 14. The computerized test took about 25 minutes, and it asked the players to decipher patterns and shapes to measure their reaction time, concentration and memory. If a player suffers a concussion, this test gives physicians an idea of how the brain is doing compared with its baseline. This helps when determining when to let an athlete return to the field. LMH began this sort of testing last fall, when it offered the test free of charge to student-athletes at Lawrence High School, Lawrence Free State and Eudora High School. Later, athletes at Bishop Seabury Academy and Veritas High School were included. The testing on Sunday was the hospital's first big outreach to younger athletes.

"The younger the skill level, the bigger the concern," said Luiz Salazar, a physician with Total Family Care. "Not only because they are under-reported, but under-recognized. There's not enough medical attention and support on the sidelines for this age group. Parents see kids fall down and say it's fine because they're acting OK." According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, children and teens are more likely to get a traumatic brain injury, including concussion, and take longer to recover than adults. Each year, emergency departments in the U.S. treat an estimated 173,285 sports-related brain injuries in people under 19 years old. Concussion, a type of traumatic brain injury caused by a bump, blow or jolt to the head, can cause brain cells to stretch and tear. When an athlete suffers a concussion, the brain needs time to heal. If a player returns to the field too

soon and has a repeat concussion, it can slow recovery or increase the chance for long-term problems. "These are young kids, and they're playing a lot," said Marcus Dudley, executive director of Sporting Kaw Valley. "We want to make sure parents and coaches are aware, so as not to rush anybody back or do something foolish that may hurt them." Mikey Lopez, a midfielder for Sporting KC, made an appearance at the group testing on Sunday. He signed autographs and talked with parents about the importance of baseline testing for soccer athletes. Though football is the most common sport for brain injuries, Salazar explained, soccer is a close second, and it can happen in any sport. Lopez underwent baseline concussion testing in high school, col-

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