

Colby radio stations sold

Colby radio stations KXXX and KQLS have been sold to Rocking M Radio of Manhattan effective April 1.

The Colby channels were part of a 14-station group owned by NRG Media of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Mike Fell, KXXX and KQLS general manager, said listeners of the stations will hear a difference under the new owners but nothing drastic. "I think they will hear a difference," he said. "We will have some more resources to work with down the road."

Fell was named vice president and director of operations during the transaction. He said he will work from the Colby stations.

KXXX-AM will still play classic country-western music and KQLS-FM will adult-contemporary, Sell said. Plans are to still have local sports, Kansas City Chiefs and Royals games on both stations.

"We may be able to provide more coverage of different local events and we may be more live throughout the day," Sell said.

Fell said there will be no staff changes among the 13 employees at the two stations because of the sale. Rocking M Radio is owned by

Doris and Monte Miller and their son, Christopher, Sell said. The couple has been involved in newspaper and broadcasting business in Kansas for more than 43 years.

"We are looking forward to starting a new chapter in our family history of ownership of media properties in Kansas," said Doris Miller. "This will be a great opportunity to bring our management expertise to these terrific radio stations."

With this purchase, the couple said, Rocking M becomes the largest single owner of radio stations in Kansas with 14 stations. Others in the purchase include KGNO-AM, KOLS-FM, and KSSH-FM in Dodge City; KZLS-FM, Great Bend; KNNS-AM and KGTR-FM in Larned; KYUU-AM and KSLS-FM in Liberal; KWLS-AM, Pratt; and KQNS-FM and KILS-FM in Salina.

Fell said it's possible those stations may exchange news and other information, but the coverage area will be priority in Colby.

"We will keep it local," he said. "Life in Colby is different than life in Salina which is different than life in Liberal."

The Millers said they returned to

Kansas from the West Coast in 1974, publishing newspapers near Lawrence for many years. They started in the commercial television in 1988 when they opened KMCI-TV, licensed to Lawrence and part of the Kansas City television market. They sold the station in 2000 to Scripps-Howard Broadcasting in Cincinnati, Ohio, now the owner of KSHB-TV, a NBC affiliate in Kansas City.

Monte's grandfather, A.Q. Miller, purchased the *Belleville Telescope*, a weekly newspaper, in 1900. His brother Mark is the third generation of the family to publish the paper. Kansas State University named its journalism and mass communication school after A.Q. Miller.

"We look forward to transferring the ownership of our Kansas radio stations to Rocking M Radio and the Miller family," said Mary Quass, president and chief executive officer of NRG Media. "NRG is based on our principles of running very good local stations and we are excited that these radio stations will continue to lead their communities under the Miller family's commitment to the local Kansas communities they serve."

Surveying County Road 16



Chat Olmstead of Penco Engineering from Plainville and his partner, Chris Byer, braved chilly winds last Tuesday to complete some survey work on the section of County Road 16 near Sugar Hills Golf Club. Paving the one-mile section is part of the joint city-county road program that includes 17th Street, Caldwell Avenue, Eight Street west of town and old U.S. 24 across the county. Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Public asked to help nominate the top '8 Wonders of Kansas'

What would be on your list of the Eight Wonders of Kansas?

The Arikaree Breaks in Cheyenne County, the Cathedral of the Plains in Victoria, John Steuart Curry's murals in the state Capitol? Maybe the Mine Creek Battlefield in Linn County, the Flint Hills, Santa Fe Trail ruts in Ford County, President Dwight D. Eisenhower's boyhood home, or the Kansas Cosmosphere in Hutchinson.

The Kansas Sampler Foundation wants the public to help decide the Eight Wonders of Kansas, the must-see places in the Sunflower State.

"Kansas is full of riches," said foundation Director Marci Penner, "and this campaign will give everyone a reason to discuss, argue, discuss some more and even go out to see some of these places."

"That's the whole idea behind it to inspire travel around the state and a renewed sense of pride in who we are and what we have."

Most contests are looking for the Seven Wonders of a particular area, she said. Kansas will take it a step further and use eight to recognize the eight Rural Culture Elements that the Kansas Sampler Foundation has long used to help communities assess what they have and to help explorers see Kansas with new eyes. The eight elements are architecture, art, commerce, cuisine, customs, geography, history and people.

"Eventually, we will choose the

top eight places for each element," Penner said. "For now, we're just looking for the top overall attractions in the state."

Von Rothenberger of Osborne County Tourism, a member of the Foundation's Kansas Explorers Club, brought the idea to the foundation and soon the plan was in motion, Penner said.

Criteria for nominations asks for attractions that are publicly accessible, open to the public, not a franchise, have a chance to be around for quite awhile, and a place, not an event. Attractions in large cities, small towns or in the countryside are all eligible.

Nominations can be sent to Eight Wonders of Kansas, 978 Arapaho Road, Inman, Kan. 67546 or e-mailed to 8wonders@kansassampler.org

Nominations will be received through May 6, then a selection committee will sort through all the nominations and come up with a Great 24.

Pictures and explanations of the top 24 nominated sites will appear at kansassampler.org and public voting for the Eight Wonders of Kansas will run from mid-May to the end of the year.

On Kansas Day, Jan. 29, Gov. Kathleen Sebelius will announce the Eight Wonders of Kansas.

Nominations should include name of attraction, location, and reason why it's worthy of nomination.

Submissions must include the person's name, address and/or e-mail address.

Spring storm slides south

STORM, from Page 1

age about 4 a.m. was caused by a squirrel, which got tangled in a line in the northeast part of town.

There were reports of flashes of light seen from the weather service office.

Power was affected on the north loop of the city system, Hill said. Service was restored by 6:30 a.m.

Light to moderate snow fell throughout the day, ending about 4 p.m., with 4.4 inches reported by a National Weather Service observer.

The snow did not stick to the roads and streets because the temperature stayed around the freezing mark. The weather service reported 33 degrees for the high and a low of 29 degrees overnight.

The snow and rain left .29 of an inch of moisture to bring the total for the month to date to .65 of an inch. The year to date total was 3.86, 1.27 inches above normal.

Snowfall for the month is 5.4 inches and for the season Goodland

has received 46.7 inches.

Winds were not as high as expected, with a maximum of 18 mph and gust to 23 mph.

In the Garden City area, winds were higher, with maximum speed of 30 mph and gusts to 36 mph. Garden City received .38 of an inch of moisture from the snow and Lamar got .59 of an inch.

The Goodland weather office reported light snow falling at 11:45 p.m. on Thursday. It turned to freezing rain until about 4 a.m., when it turned into light snow. It continued to snow until about 3 p.m., and the sky was clear by midnight.

Temperatures climbed into the 50s on Saturday and into the mid 60s on Sunday, melting the snow quickly.

The forecast for the week has a 20 percent chance for showers today with a high near 60. There is a 20 percent chance for showers on Thursday and Thursday night. Friday is expected to be sunny with a high in the mid 60s.

Crossword Puzzle

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CLUES ACROSS

- Sardine
- 95.1 in Flint
- Compared to
- City in N.E. PA
- Enemy of #2 down
- Slang for helicopter
- The lowest part in polyphonic music
- You've Got Mail author Ephram
- Ancient Olympic Site
- Drawn by horses
- ___ Shields, actress
- Knocks
- Notified of a risk
- Withdraw from active participation
- Peace
- Opposite of closes
- Sports event location
- Much ___ About Nothing
- Hollywood Foreign Press Awards
- Morally reprehensible
- Sole genus of the family Naiadaceae
- 2x World Champion Slutskaya
- Brazilian lagoon
- Two parallel members connected by rungs
- Pulls off
- Syrian writer al-Husri
- British bodyguards
- The absence of mental stress
- Stumble
- Any place of bliss or delight
- Surface enclosed within a boundary
- ___ rious: very funny
- Oceans
- Fill it up
- Repos ___: takes back
- ___ nity: tranquility
- Destinies

CLUES DOWN

- One point east of southeast
- Mid East nation
- Library and Information Statistics Unit
- Wanting strongly
- Paul's band
- Heavy bladed cleaving tool
- Commonly used with grill
- Making possible
- Cognitive content
- Spartan serf
- Similar to
- Searched around
- Clerical habitation
- Mimic
- Avenge for a wrong
- After prayers
- College army
- Ancient Hebrew dry unit
- ___ off: drove
- Regions
- Word of farewell
- What you make at an auction
- ___rvate: cut a nerve
- Bernie K ___: former NFL quarterback
- Disconso_: feeling hopeless
- The value of a coordinate on the y-axis
- Grassy plains of Argentina
- Household god (Roman)
- Stories
- Any habitation at a high altitude
- Wool fibers
- Mechanism of perception
- Char or burn the surface
- Same as 14 A
- Have a disposition to do something
- Talks persistently
- River in NE Scotland

The crossword puzzle brought to you by:

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