



Rewards and demand top court reporter's list

By Sloane Enninga
Colby Free Press
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Talking about National Court Reporting and Captioning Week, Marilyn Bailey, official court reporter for the 15th Judicial District, says she has enjoyed her career and because of an incredible need for certified reporters, encourages anyone interested to look into the career.

"I started in August 1978 (at the 15th Judicial District)," Bailey said, "... so I graduated in October of '74, then I passed my test. And then I lived in Manhattan and worked, just doing freelance."

She said she continued to do freelance and deposition work until her husband Paul graduated from Kansas State University and got a job in Colby. When she came here with him, she said, the reporter who worked for the district had just retired, so she applied and got the job.

When she first started, she said the judicial district ran from Stockton to Goodland. In 1982, the state redrew its districts, and the 15th now covers Thomas, Rawlins, Sherman, Cheyenne, Wallace Sheridan and Logan counties.

"I travel to all of the counties that (Chief) Judge (Kevin) Berens goes to," Bailey said, "so basically Rawlins, Thomas, Logan and Sheridan are our main counties."

She said she has worked in other districts, but mainly she travels with the chief judge. Beyond being the official reporter for a court, she said, certified reporters can do freelance work, captioning for things seen on television and what is known as communication access real-time translation, which provides realtime captions for those with hearing disabilities.

Bailey said a post by stenographer Kellie Smith on Facebook explains the profession well. The stenograph machine used, Smith said, looks almost like a cash register and takes down the words verbatim.

"(It) allows me to write the spoken words you say at 225-plus words per minute," she said, "The words go in through my ears into my brain, where they get translated, very quickly, into another language of sorts, and then that other language comes out through my fingers into the keys of my 'cash register,' (or) steno machine."

Smith said to picture a piano player playing chords. This visualization is similar to a court reporter, who will press several keys at once to write an entire



Marilyn Bailey (above), official court reporter for the 15th Judicial District can be seen along side her stenograph machines at court hearings, precisely taking down every word spoken in the court room.

As in the illustration below, on every stenograph machine, there is the left side of the keyboard, 'initial bank', and the right side, 'final bank', but it does not include every letter in the alphabet. To make letters like 'm' you would depress 'PH' on the initial side and 'PL' on the final side. Learning this skill takes many hours of practice daily to increase accuracy to 95 percent.

SLOANE ENNINGA/Colby Free Press

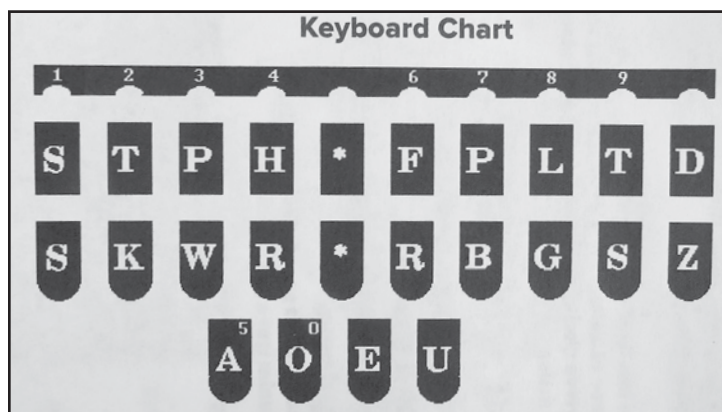
word or phrase in one stroke.

Schooling for court reporting, Bailey said, takes two or three years or can be self paced depending on the program you choose. After graduating, most states require you to pass an exam at 95 percent accuracy at speeds of 225 words per minute, including punctuation, capitalization and spelling.

"We are the oldest profession there is really, (if you think of) scribes," she said, "That's what scribes did clear back in the very, very beginning.... We are preserving history."

Before stenograph machines were invented, court hearings and the like were taken down by hand in a form of shorthand. Scribes were used before printing was invented to keep the record.

The need for court reporters everywhere is high, Bailey said. Many reporters are retiring and there aren't enough people grad-



uating to fill those positions. Because of this, she said there are a lot of opportunities available for those who would like to enter the field.

"What I like about this profession is it's challenging," she said. "Every day is different. I'm never going to hear the same thing twice; the players are different, circumstances are different ... and so it never gets old."

This career, she said, is for

people who like variety and like to learn, who also have a passion for the English language. Music backgrounds have also proven to be helpful because of the similarities in reading music and reading the stenography language.

Promoting court reporting, Bailey said, is important to her. After having been in the career

See "REPORTER," Page 2

Rodeo coach building team

By Sloane Enninga
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Leroy Hays, new rodeo coach at Colby Community College, says he is using his expansive background in rodeo to build up the team and has high hopes to field a full team next fall.

Hays, from Phillipsburg, said he was an electric lineman for 35 years before he retired. He said he saw the posting for the job here in Colby and was interested because he has been involved in rodeo all his life.

"Went to college in Lamar, Colo., before lineman work, and I rodeoed there," Hays said. "(I have a) background in the horse training and management field. I just thought it'd be something I'd be interested in coaching, so I applied and interviewed and decided to come out here."

His wife stays at their home in Phillipsburg, he said, but he has a son who is transferring to Colby in the fall. His daughter and son in law live in eastern Kansas, he added.

Back in Phillipsburg, he said, he had been on the committee for Kansas Biggest Rodeo since 2001. When his children were growing up, he was involved in their rodeo events as well as the Kansas Junior High School Rodeo Association in 2005.

Hays said he enjoys being a part of all aspects of the sport. For Colby's team, he said, he is now recruiting and has hopes that next fall they will have 10 to 12 stu-



Rodeo Coach Leroy Hays

dents on the team. "They will be practicing in the fall," he said. "Colby Community College leases the fairground, so we will practice and use the arena there and the kids can keep their horses over there."

He asked that anyone interested in the rodeo program contact him at the college at (785) 460-5523 or leroy.hays@colbycc.edu.

"If you're interested in rodeo and good education," he said, "Colby has a good academic program here and (we're) hoping to get some rodeo kids involved again and build that team again. It was very good in the past, and I'd like to see it good again."

He said the team will be a part of the Central Plains Region, with four rodeos in the fall starting with a home competition in Colby, and then in the spring semester, six more events.

Top spellers to square off

Classroom and school Spelling Bees are the rage right now for students all over Thomas County. This is the first step for a student to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee this summer.

Students in third through eighth grades at Brewster, Golden Plains, Colby Elementary, Sacred Heart and Heartland Christian schools will compete at the Thomas County Spelling Bee at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, at Sacred Heart in Colby, said Kathy Baird, county Spelling Bee coordinator and a teacher at Brewster.

She said the top two students who attend qualified Scripps schools will be named Thomas County Sunflower Spelling Bee

Champions and receive a second medal. Those schools, qualified to send students on to state, are Sacred Heart, Heartland and Brewster.

One qualified speller from the county will compete in the Sunflower Spelling Bee Wednesday, March 26, in Wichita. This is the State Spelling Bee which, as planned, will be a live event. The champion will compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee this summer.

The public is invited to come watch the county bee, Baird said.

"We will encourage everyone to use safe practices when it comes to seating," she added. "The choice of wearing masks is voluntary."

Small city wins first round in natural gas lawsuit

MULBERRY (AP) - Residents of a small city in southeast Kansas may continue a lawsuit that claims energy utility BP gouged them with hefty price increases for natural gas during freezing weather last year, a judge has ruled.

A Crawford County judge on Wednesday dismissed a motion by the British multinational oil and gas company to end

the lawsuit and said residents of the town have the right to sue BP, formerly known as British Petroleum, The Wichita Eagle reported.

Mulberry is contesting about \$51,000 of a natural gas bill it received last February, a hefty amount for the Crawford County town of less than 500 residents.

BP, which on Wednesday announced a

2021 profit of \$12.8 billion, did not respond to requests for comment, The Eagle reported.

The decision came a day after the Kansas Corporation Commission approved Kansas Gas Service's decision to increase prices for its customers for the next five to 10 years to pay \$366 million of winter storm costs from the freeze.

Mulberry residents buy their gas through their city utility and not Kansas Gas Service, so Wednesday's ruling could provide a way for customers of any utility to sue for relief under the Kansas Consumer Protection Act, said James Zakoura, an attorney for Mulberry and its municipal gas consumers.

The city government and four named residents allege in the lawsuit that BP violated the anti-profiteering section of the act that limits price increases on consumer goods to 25 percent during emergencies.

Mulberry's gas cost on Feb. 9, 2021, was \$2.98 per million British Thermal Units. The price rose to \$329.60 per million BTU from Feb. 13 to Feb. 16, when the city stopped buying gas. On Feb. 17, the price hit \$622.79.

BP officials argued that the four individuals should be dismissed from the lawsuit because it sold gas to the city, not residents. The residents countered that the gas went through the city but they are the actual consumers.

Judge Lori Bolton Fleming, the chief judge for Crawford, Cherokee and Labette counties, agreed saying dismissing the individual residents' claims would create a situation in which any supplier who uses a distributor rather than having contracts with individual consumers would be able to avoid liability under the state's Consumer Protection Act.

"Such an interpretation is simply not consistent with the stated policy of the KCPA," Fleming said.

The city government was dismissed as a plaintiff in the lawsuit but could be added back under the Uniform Commercial Code, which bans "unconscionable" business practices, said attorney Lee Smithyman.

He said allowing the lawsuit to proceed gives the plaintiffs access to documents that could explain why natural gas prices went up so much last year.

Kansas Gas Service sets payments

TOPEKA (AP) - Kansas Gas Service customers will pay an estimated \$5 to \$7 a month for five to 10 years to pay for a spike in natural gas costs during frigid weather last year.

The Kansas Corporation Commission approved a settlement Tuesday that will allow the utility company to pass on \$366 million in extra natural gas costs to its 640,000 gas customers, The Wichita Eagle reported.

The exact cost per customer will de-

pend on terms Kansas Gas gets for bonds it will issue to cover the costs from last February, when gas prices increased dramatically in the midst of severe cold. Customers won't see the cost on their bills for several months.

The agreement includes provisions for refunds if investigations and lawsuits find market manipulation and price gouging occurred during the freeze emergency.

Before the cold snap last February, gas was selling on the spot market around \$3

per million British thermal units. At the height of the freeze, spot-market prices reached \$622 for the same amount.

Kansas Gas said in a statement that it was pleased with the settlement.

"We prioritize keeping our customers safe and warm during these extreme weather events and aim to recover the unprecedented costs from the high natural gas prices due to the storm with fairness and minimal impact to customers," the firm said.

Cow-calf risk management session to be in Colby

Jenny Ifft says successful cow-calf producers are "risk experts." "They face multiple sources of risk every day," said Ifft, an agricultural policy specialist with K-State Research and Extension. "Forage production can vary dramatically based on when or how much it rains. If the market tanks the month before they sell their herd, a producer's profit could be wiped out." Ifft is the featured speaker for a Wednesday, Feb. 23, session slated in conjunction with the four-part workshop, Risk Management Skills for Kansas Women in Agriculture, which began in mid-January. Her talk is an optional fifth session added to the series, and she will focus on risk management for cow-calf producers. The session will be presented at 28 locations in Kansas, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Registration costs \$15 and is available online at kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3E6VDnWdzHKE9p4.

Sessions are scheduled for Atwood and Colby, among other sites. LaVell Winsor, a farm analyst with K-State's Department of Agricultural Economics, said some of the topics covered on Feb. 23 include enterprise budgeting, cattle marketing and cow-calf insurance options. "It is important for ranchers to understand their cost structure because there is a wide range of costs of production," Winsor said. "Marketing is always critical, but with high feed costs (currently), it is especially important for cattle producers to be watching for opportunities to lock in profits." Ifft said cow-calf producers can also be strategic when considering insurance options. She notes that half of Kansas currently is facing moderate drought and feed prices are volatile.

"Insurance products are available to help producers manage forage risk and price risk by making payouts when a producer's local area is abnormally dry, and when cattle prices are lower than expected," she said. Though the series title highlights a need for women to attend, the session is open to all participants, regardless of gender.

Research to highlight Cattlemen's Day in March

Beef cattle research updates by faculty members in Kansas State University's Department of Animal Sciences and Industry will highlight the 109th annual Cattlemen's Day, set for Friday, March 4, in Weber Hall. Registration is available online and costs \$25 for those who sign up by Friday, Feb. 25, or \$35 on the day of the event. Students who pre-register admitted free. K-State faculty members slated to speak include:

- KC Olson – cow-calf and range management.
- Dale Blasi – stocker, growing and backgrounding.
- Jim Drouillard – feedlot and ruminant nutrition.

• Michael Chao – meat science and muscle biology. "We're excited to be back in person," said A.J. Tarpoff, associate professor and Cattlemen's Day co-chairman. "Our annual program strives to address key issues and to provide current information that keeps our industry efficient and relevant. For many attendees, this may be their first time back to campus in over a year, so we wanted to ensure that this year's lineup will be well worth their trip." The day starts at 8 a.m. with refreshments, educational exhibits and a commercial trade show. "This year we have numerous participants signed up for our allied industry trade show," Tarpoff said. "On the floor in

Weber Arena, the trade show provides a forum for the attendees to observe what's new in the beef industry, and network with key industry leaders." The program begins at 9:30 a.m. with the beef research update, followed by a beef industry economic outlook by K-State agricultural economics professor Glynn Tonsor. The afternoon sessions include:

- What's Up with the Weather – Jeff Basara, University of Oklahoma School of Meteorology professor, will discuss weather extremes and outlook.
- Rules of the Road for Kansas Farmers and Ranchers – Kansas Highway Patrol will give an overview of ways to utilize the road.

• Reproductive Research Updates, All Things Reproduction Questions-and-Answer Session – Sandy Johnson, extension beef specialist, and David Grieger, professor, will outline advancements made in terms of reproductive research followed by an interactive discussion session focused on beef cattle reproduction.

- Meat Alternatives, Taste Testing and Consumer Acceptance – Lane Eggers, extension associate and graduate student, will discuss meat alternatives and their acceptance.

This year's Cattlemen's Day lunch will be smoked brisket, sponsored by U.S. Premium Beef and trade show exhibitors. Cajun-spiced catfish will also be served. Information and online registration is available at KSUBeef.org or contact Lois Schreiner, (785) 532-1267 or lschrein@ksu.edu.

Other events

In addition to Cattlemen's Day, the 45th annual Legacy Bull and Female Sale will begin at 4 p.m. on March 4 at the Stanley Stout Center (2200 Denison Avenue in Manhattan). Go to asi.ksu.edu/legacysale to learn more about this year's offering and to request a sale catalog. On Thursday, March 3, Pat Koons will be honored as the Stockman of the Year at the annual Stockmen's Dinner, scheduled for 6 p.m. at the Stanley Stout Center. A separate registration is required for the dinner. Information can be found online at asi.ksu.edu/stockmensdinner.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE
Feb. 1
2:53 a.m. – House check
7:50 a.m. – Report filed for burglary at 670 N. Grant.
7:56 a.m. – School zones.
10:45 a.m. – Report filed for theft at Sleep Inn.
11:51 a.m. – Caller reported an incident at 770 N. French; information provided.
2:52 p.m. – Death investigation at 685 N. French.
Feb. 2
12:44 a.m. – Security check at the Colby Event Center.
1:21 a.m. – Caller reported a person walking south on Country Club from Fourth. Unable to locate.
9:12 a.m. – Report filed for theft at Love's.
10:10 a.m. – Accident at Seventh and School.
10:15 a.m. – Caller reported animal complaint incident at 790 N. Chickamauga; unable to locate the dog's owners.
6:15 p.m. – Dog at 480 N. Riddle returned to owner.

Feb. 3
1:20 a.m. – Security check at Colby Middle School.
1:50 a.m. – Security check at Colby High School.
12:55 p.m. – Caller reported a dog at large at 1045 Villa Vista; unable to locate.
2:08 p.m. – Welfare check.
5:01 p.m. – Accident at Oasis.
7:13 p.m. – Report filed for stolen medication on West Third St.
11:29 p.m. – Security check for Cornerstone Ag South.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF
Feb. 1
6:24 a.m. – Brought two inmates from Adams County jail to the Thomas County jail.
9:26 a.m. – Report filed for identity theft at 2925 County Rd. L.
9:39 a.m. – Helped at 112 Walnut in Gem.
10:15 a.m. – Booked Kelly Marie Chavez.
10:20 a.m. – Booked Shane Edwin Tomey.
10:57 a.m. – Took subject from

the Thomas/Sheridan County line to JJ Oil.
11:43 a.m. – Report filed on Joseph Detoy for jail care service.
11:56 a.m. – Booked Detoy.
1:39 p.m. – Chavez arrested on warrant.
1:39 p.m. – Tomey arrested on warrant.
3:10 p.m. – Burglary report filed for incident at County Rds. 24 and I.
3:53 p.m. – Report filed for incident at 420 Kansas Ave. in Rexford.

Feb. 2
12:44 a.m. – Helped Colby police with security check of Colby Event Center.
3:01 a.m. – House check
1:21 a.m. – Helped Colby police look for suspicious person walking south on Country Club. Unable to locate.
9:34 a.m. – Released Feliciano Bermudez-Castanon.
12:27 p.m. – Accident in the 1800 block of S. Country Club.
4:05 p.m. – Released Hannah Pyle.



Lloyd Chester Foltz (1897-1990)
Tornado (Circa 1945)

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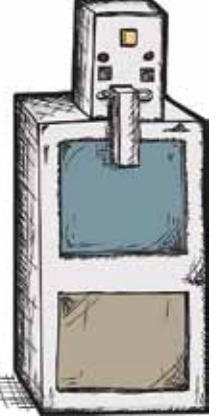
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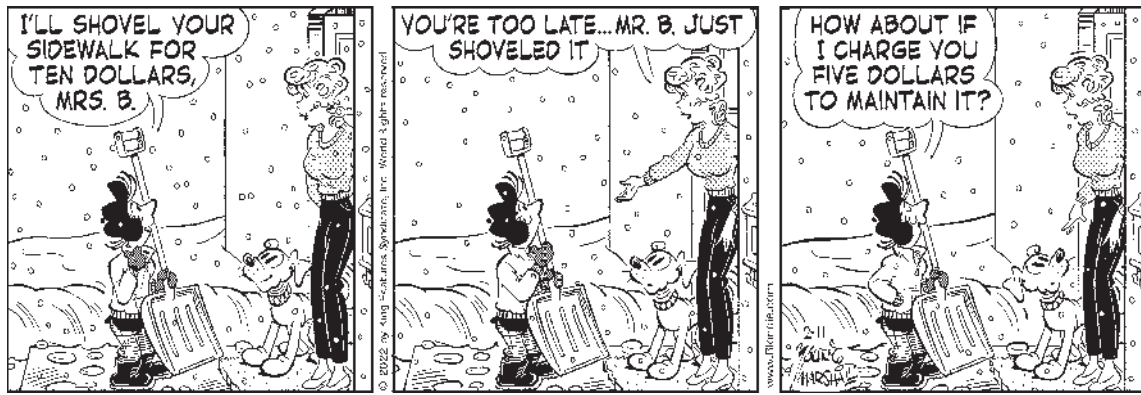
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



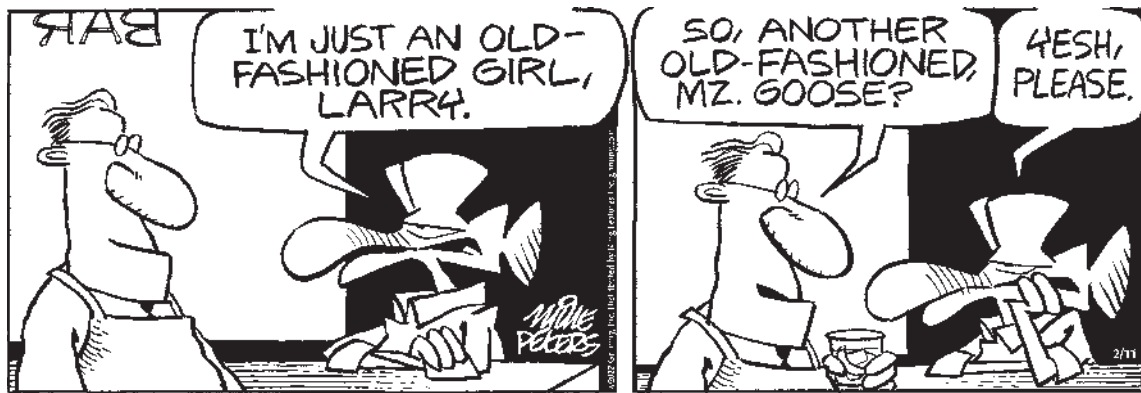
Blondie • Chic Young



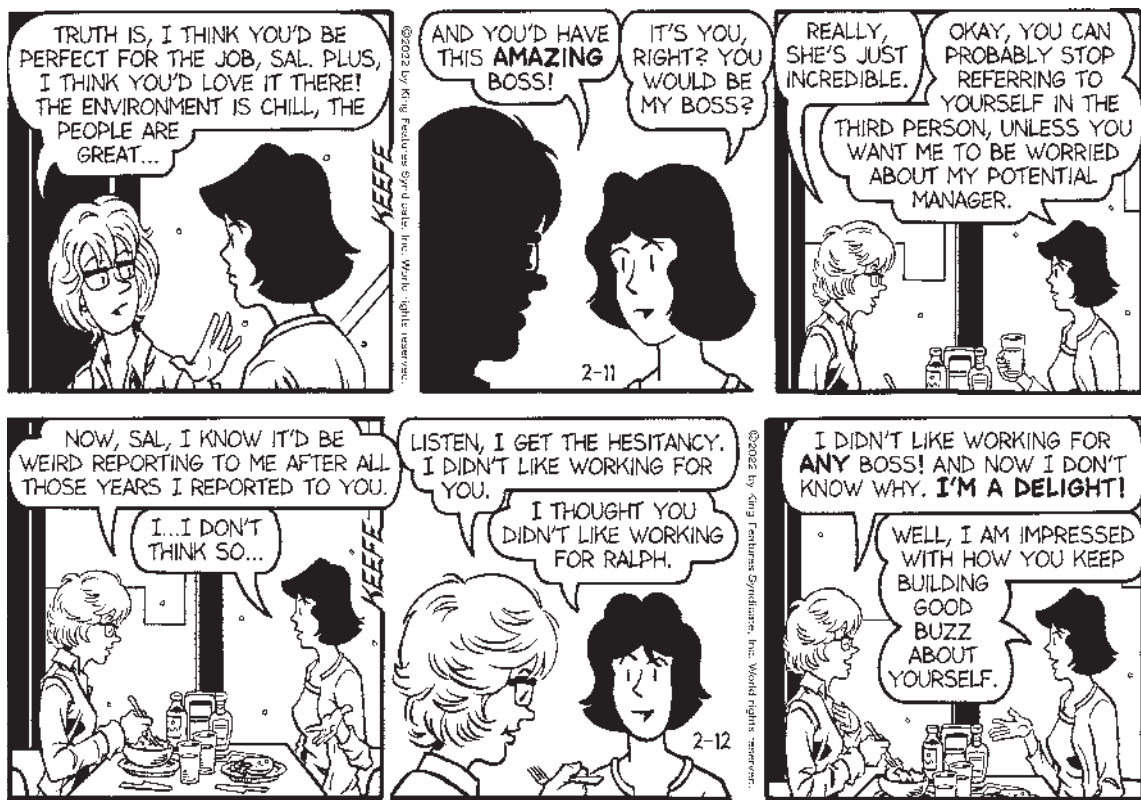
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Keep phone where it's handy

Dear Heloise: A friend of mine who lives alone slipped and fell in the shower and could not get up or get to his phone, which was in another room. A neighbor decided to check on him, and he told her that he had to lay where he fell for four days and nights. He had a broken leg, he couldn't get to his insulin for his diabetes, and he had no food or water. He's a big man of about 300 pounds and 72 years old. Please warn people to place their cellphones on the floor next to their bathtub or shower, just in case a situation like this happens to them. At least they can call for help. — Merlin F., Dakota City, Iowa

Merlin, this is an excellent idea. Too many people fall in their homes and can't call for help because they can't reach a phone. If they place their phone where they can reach it, it could save their life. — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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P.O. Box 795001
San Antonio, TX 78279-5001
Fax: 1-210-HELOISE
Email: Heloise@Heloise.com

SCAM ALERT

Dear Heloise: There is an old scam that's been revived and is going around the country with lightning speed. A young man (or woman) calls an elderly person and says they have been in an accident or are in jail, and they need bail money. They always sound tearful and scared, and beg for their grandmother or grandfather's assistance. They want cash!

It's a scam. Sometimes they say they'll send a bail bondsman over to pick up the money, which can vary from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Don't give them a dime. Get as much information as you can, then call the police.

Another twist to this scam is someone showing up on your doorstep unannounced, claiming to be a friend (or an attorney or bail bondsman) to collect funds for your grandchild. Do not let them in your house no matter what they tell you, and above all do not give them money or credit cards, and never disclose any personal information. — Harrison H., Dover, Delaware

TRAVELING TIP

Dear Heloise: When traveling, never put your home address on your luggage tag. Instead, put your business address on the tag. If someone has your luggage, they know you're not home, which leaves your house an easy target for burglars. — Cynthia W., Lima, Ohio

SHINY SHOES

Dear Heloise: I was on a trip for a job interview and had packed with care a nice suit, new shirt and a new tie. It was while dressing that I realized my shoes were in need of polishing. I used a washcloth and a little petroleum jelly and rubbed it in a circular motion on my shoes. It gave my shoes a soft sheen and improved my chances for the job. — Robert J., Portland, Oregon

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



2-11

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"You hafta leave the Band-Aid on or the shot will leak out."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

		5							2
			5		3				
9	1		2						
	3		8		1		7		
		9				2			
	4		9		2		8		
				9		7		4	
			7		4				
2							3		

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

3	8	1	4	7	9	6	5	2
6	5	4	2	1	8	7	9	3
9	2	7	3	6	5	8	1	4
4	3	8	1	9	7	5	2	6
1	7	5	6	4	2	3	8	9
2	9	6	8	5	3	4	7	1
5	4	2	9	8	6	1	3	7
8	1	9	7	3	4	2	6	5
7	6	3	5	2	1	9	4	8

Cryptoquip

SUSCTVNOT NJ KT VINEP AR

RNIUAJY ZIYSVCZ ZJO

EZIEIXR LCNVSKR IAPS KZO.

AG'R KZGM MTRGSCAZ!

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: POPULAR CANDY BAR BEING MANUFACTURED IN THE SHAPE OF A LEGENDARY LOCH MONSTER: NESSIE CRUNCH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals Y

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Sir's counter-part
- 6 Scratch letters?
- 9 Block to Juan
- 13 Kimono closer
- 14 Actor Linden
- 15 Car sticker
- 16 Fashion variable
- 18 Andean animals
- 20 "The Haj" author
- 21 Shapiro of NPR
- 23 Like sashimi
- 24 Quilt square
- 25 Harangue
- 27 Yam unit
- 29 Low-quality
- 31 Arizona resort
- 35 French legislature

DOWN

- 1 Club — line
- 2 Hydro-carbon suffix
- 3 Turn down
- 4 Asia's — Sea
- 5 Grinding tooth
- 6 Hudson River feeder
- 7 Fortas and Lincoln
- 8 Brink
- 9 Polo, e.g.
- 10 Freak out
- 11 Skin
- 17 Angola's capital
- 19 Brick worker
- 21 Curved
- 22 Fan's cry
- 24 Diner dessert
- 26 Mortar-board dangler
- 28 Perfume compound
- 30 Favorite
- 32 Disconnected
- 33 Scot's denial
- 34 Verb for you
- 36 Trembling trees
- 38 "I — differ!"
- 39 Dutch exports
- 40 Texas A&M student
- 42 West Pointer
- 45 Elitist
- 46 Donned
- 48 Roth svgs. plan
- 50 Architect Maya
- 51 "You bet!"

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	O	O	P	W	A	P	C	O	M	O	N
M	A	M	A	O	N	E	L	O	R	I	
W	H	E	T	R	A	G	E	R	A	T	
S	N	H	A	T	S	T	A	P	L	E	
O	B	I	A	T	E						
H	A	M	S	C	A	M	P	S	I	T	E
W	O	I	P	O	A	A	G				
T	E	R	I	G	A	R	A	E	R	O	
A	M	P	N	A	M						
G	A	P	A	L	I	D	E	A	L	S	
O	T	O	P	A	N	N	G	A			
B	O	T	S	G	I	S	D	L	V	I	
S	T	Y	C	A	R	S	S	L	C	D	

Yesterday's answer 2-11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12					13				14		
15					16				17		
		18			19			20			
21	22			23			24				
25		26		27			28				
29			30			31			32	33	34
			35			36			37		
38	39	40			41		42		43		
44				45				46			
47			48				49		50	51	
52			53				54				
55			56				57				

There's no way of knowing precisely where the 12 tricks will come from, but that shouldn't stop you from bidding the slam. The only real criterion in these situations is whether you think partner can make 12 tricks — and it would be unduly pessimistic to think he can't. A typical hand for partner would be

♠ 7 ♥ KQ4 ♦ AK5 ♣ KQ10852

which, opposite yours, would make slam a virtual laydown.

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Girls regional wrestling starts Saturday in Colby

By Brad Weese

Colby Free Press
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The Class 4-3-2-1A girls wrestling regional tournament will start at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Colby High gym. The top four finishers in each weight class will move on to the girls state tournament Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 23 and 24, in Salina.

The first round will begin at 9 with two or three mats running depending on the number of matches. Most rounds of the tourney will have two in action.

Times are approximate and

matches will run ahead of schedule if possible. At 9:45 a.m., round 2 begins with two mats. This will be the first round where quarterfinals will occur, along with the first round of consolation matches. At 11:15, round 3 begins with the second round of consolation and at noon will be championship semifinals in round 4.

The consolation quarterfinals begin at 1 p.m. in round 5, and then a break.

Starting at 2:15 p.m. will be round 6 with consolation semifinals. At 3:15 will be round 7 with championship and consolation finals.

School teams participating besides Colby will include Abilene, Atwood-Rawlins County, Brookville-Ell-Saline, Chapman, Cimarron, Clay Center, Concordia, Ellinwood, Ellis, Ellsworth, Goodland, Hays-Marian, Hoisington, Holcomb, Hoxie, Hugoton, Lakin, Larned, Norton, Oakley, Phillipsburg, Plainville, Russell, Scott City, Stockton, Ulysses and WaKeeney.

Admission will be \$7 for students and \$8 for adults.

The Class 1-2-3-4A girls state competition will be at the Tony's Pizza Events Center, formerly the Bicentennial Center, in Salina.

Wear pink Tuesday

By Brad Weese

Colby Free Press
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It's time to wear pink and show your support for the fight against cancer. Colby High will celebrate a Pink Out on Tuesday at the basketball games versus Scott City at the Colby Event Center. Lower-level ballgames begin at 4 p.m., with the varsity to follow.

People are encouraged to wear pink at the Col-

by Community College games on Monday, Valentine's Day, and then the next night to the high school games. Colby High students helping support this event hope to see a lot of fans wearing pink.

The slogan for the night is: "Go Pink, Fight Cancer and Win the fight!"

This event is planned by the Northwest Kansas Foundation for Hope. For more, go to www.nwks-hope.org.

Seventh graders win three

By Brad Weese

Colby Free Press
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The Colby Middle School seventh-grade basketball teams picked up three wins against Goodland at the Event Center on Thursday.

The A team on a big 26-23 victory, while the B team won 23-17. The C team finished the a sweep by winning 7-1.

"The kids really played well together," said Coach Ryan Mosier. "Their hustle and attention to detail got them to win (in all three games)."

Next up for the Colby Middle School hoopsters will be at 4 p.m. Monday at Holcomb. Saturday, Feb. 19, the young Eagles will play Cimarron and Hugoton. Games begin at 10 a.m. at the Colby High and Colby Grade School gyms.

The season will wrap at 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 21, at home against Scott City.

Wrestler gets 100 wins

By Brad Weese

Colby Free Press
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Colby High senior 120 pounder Aiden Cook for reached the triple-digit mark in career victories on Thursday at the Hays High dual.

Cook, who placed sixth at 113 pounds in the 2021 state tourney, won a 4-2 decision and after the match, received a banner for his accomplishment. Aiden was ranked fifth in the Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association poll for Class 4A which came out Tuesday.

Three other Eagles received top-six ranking honors in their weight classes. Sophomore Kaeden McCarty at 113 pounds was ranked third, sophomore Tucker Wark was fourth at 132 and senior Tyler Voss No. 2 at 170. In the all-class rankings, Voss was fifth in the state.

As a team, the Colby boys are ranked No in the Class 4A poll.

Sophomore Kathe Chavez was ranked fifth in Class 4-3-2-1A at 115 pounds.



Aiden Cook

Conference selects player of the week

Honor goes to Colby athlete

Trojans sophomore Kiarra Henderson was named Jayhawk Conference Division I women's basketball Player of the Week for week 11.

During a span in which Colby Community College won two of three games, the 5-foot, 7-inch Fort Worth native averaged 16 points and 11 rebounds while shooting 65 percent from the floor.

Henderson has now recorded 16 career double-doubles.



Kiarra Henderson

Eagles take down Hays

By Brad Weese

Colby Free Press
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The Colby High varsity Eagles wrestling team faced Hays High on the road Thursday, capturing a 43-30 dual victory.

Out of the 14 weight classes there were 11 matches. Colby won forfeits from the Hays Indians at 182 and 195 pounds. Neither school had a wrestler at 220.

Out of the 11 matches wrestled, Colby won seven, three by pins, one a major decision and three by decision. All those were by four point or less. There were three junior varsity matches, Colby winning two and losing one.

Next up for the Colby Eagles will be the Class 4A Regional Tournament Saturday, Feb. 19 at Abilene.

The Lady Eagles will wrestle in the Class 4-2-3-1A Regional tourney Saturday at the Colby High gym.

Individual match results for Colby wrestlers in Hays:

- 106 - Dawsen DeGood won 7-6.
- 113 - Kaeden McCarty won 8-4.
- 120 - Aiden Cook won 4-2.
- 126 - Aiden Reilly was pinned.
- 132 - Tucker Wark was pinned.
- 138 - Conner Lanning pinned his man.
- 145 - Cai Lanning was pinned.
- 152 - Esteban Alvarado was pinned.
- 160 - Tyler Voss won 9-1 major decision.
- 170 - Cameron Lilly pinned his man.
- 182 - Tyler Rehmer won forfeit.
- 195 - Colin Carroll won forfeit.
- 220 - Open

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