

## Friday

January 5, 2007

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Gary Erlenbusch

Briefly

### 'Durham Invite' is this weekend

Session I of the Jake Durham Invitational Wrestling Tournament will start at 9 a.m. Saturday in Stull Gymnasium at Norton Community High School. Session No. 2 will begin at 4:30 p.m.

Teams from Atwood, Beloit, Thomas More Prep-Hays, Hoxie, Leoti, Quinter, Scott City, Shawnee-Mill Valley, Smith Center and Cozad, Neb. will compete in addition to host team Norton.

Former state medalists from Norton, representing 1947, 1957, 1967, 1977 and 1997 will be introduced to the crowd at 5 p.m. A reception will be held after the finals in the school cafeteria. The public is invited to attend.

### Representative coming to help

A Veteran's representative for the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs will be at the Norton City Office from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 8 to assist veterans and their families with veteran benefits. The Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs is a state agency that provides free assistance to veterans and their families with veterans' benefits. Appointments are appreciated, but walk-ins are accepted. Call 785-625-8532 for information.

### Station should be back up soon

KQNK Radio's FM station is expected to be back on the air Monday. The station's antenna was one of several that was destroyed in a recent storm. Radio personality Deena Wentz said the antenna should arrive today and they hope to install it Monday, if the weather cooperates. KQNK can be heard on its AM broadcast at 1530, on Channel 6, and on the Internet.

Weather

### Forecast:

**Tonight** — Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of light snow in the evening. **Saturday** — Mostly sunny in the morning then becoming partly cloudy with highs in the lower 40s. **Saturday Night** — Partly cloudy with lows around 14. **Sunday** — Mostly sunny and breezy with highs in the lower 40s.

### Kingham report:

Wednesday ..... Low 7, High 34  
Thursday ..... Low 26, High 44  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for surrounding us with your blessings. Help us to so focus on your majesty each day that our hearts are full of praise. **Amen**

## A chance to play



Megan Arehart, left, and Kristen Burge (above) began the long hike up the hill at Elmwood Park Thursday afternoon before sledding back down (right) all over again.  
— Telegram photos by Veronica Monier

### In wake of devastating storm...

## President urged to act on disaster request

By TOM DREILING

The winter storm has subsided, but the effects remain. And it's always the aftermath that needs most attention.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius just days ago requested a federal disaster declaration designed to make available much needed relief to the areas in western and northwest Kansas hit hard by the storm late last week.

Norton County is one of the 44 counties included in Gov. Sebelius' request.

Power remains out for many people, especially in rural areas of northwest

Kansas, as ice-coated lines snapped sending utility poles and lines crashing to the ground. Some lines were reported to have contained ice three inches thick. Cattle roam the snow- and drift-filled pastures in a daze as they hunt food and water.

Sen. Pat Roberts on Thursday urged President Bush to quickly approve the governor's request. "It is critical to get aid to those in need, especially livestock producers who could be in even more trouble should another storm occur," the senator said. "I am working hard to ensure quick presidential action."

Sen. Roberts was joined by Sen. Sam Brownback and Rep. Jerry Moran in working on a joint letter to the president in support of the governor's request.

The letter sent Thursday states: "This past weekend, a large winter storm spread over 30 inches of heavy snow and up to three inches of ice in much of western Kansas. This event was compounded by another recent storm, which hit just before the holidays, that also left many parts of the region under snow and ice. As a result, 15-foot snow drifts have  
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## Council focuses on damage done by weather

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Weather issues dominated the Norton City Council meeting Monday evening, prompting City Administrator Rob Lawson to comment, "We had a storm like we haven't seen in years."

He praised the employees at the power plant for the excellent job they did and also thanked the public for their patience.

Mr. Lawson said Gov. Sebelius has declared Norton County (and 43 others) a disaster area. He told the council he was already investigating funding.

He said the meeting for the sewer

project was canceled due to the weather. It has been rescheduled for Jan. 17. Mr. Lawson did say the work on the project was proceeding and work was keeping up with the drawings.

Another storm-related issue was brought to the council by Jerry Jones regarding a broken tree limb. He said a limb was hanging over North State Street in the 600 Block and asked that it be removed before it fell.

Council members were informed that clean-up of the rubble from the summer's downtown fire has been delayed by the

weather. Mr. Lawson told the council that Norton County will help the project with labor and equipment.

In other business the council:  
• Met the city's new police officer, Andrew Wahlmeier.  
• Learned Darla Ellis had received certification as a Master Municipal Clerk.  
• Learned county commissioners adopted a new land fill rate of \$17.50 per ton for demolition debris from abandoned houses.  
• Learned the city sales tax collected in November totaled \$19,629.35.

## Stork stops in Norton with a boy

The first baby of the new year has arrived at the Norton County Hospital on Jan. 3.

A boy, he is the son of Ketan and Mani Kher. As yet unnamed, he weighed 5 pounds 1 1/2 ounces.

A full story will appear in Tuesday's *Norton Telegram*.

The new baby and his parents will receive the following gifts:

- A flower arrangement from Norton Flowers, Gifts and Greenhouse.
- A day of pampering for the new mom at Bella Sole.
- A \$15 gift certificate from Felton's Ace Building Center.
- A \$20 gift certificate for the new parents from Hidden Dragon Chinese Restaurant.
- A \$25 gift certificate from Russ' Jewelry and Repair.
- A Keepsake baby album from Moffet Drug Store.
- A special gift for the baby from United Northwest Federal Credit  
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