

# Area / State

## Weather Corner



## Freezing rain predicted

**Tonight** — Areas of snow and freezing drizzle after 1 a.m. Increasing clouds, with a low around 16. East wind around 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible. **Thursday** — A chance of snow. Cloudy with a high around 22. Blustery with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible. **Thursday night** — Partly cloudy with a low near 6. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southeast. **Friday** — Patchy fog before 1 p.m. Otherwise, partly cloudy with a high around 21. East wind between 10 and 15 mph. **Friday night** — A 20 percent chance of snow after 1 a.m. Areas of fog after 1 a.m. Otherwise, mostly cloudy with a low around 5. **Saturday** — A 30 percent chance of snow before 1 p.m. Areas of fog before 1 p.m. Otherwise cloudy with a high around 16.

**Temperatures**  
Tuesday's high, 63  
Low this morning, 19  
Records for this date, 76 in 1967, -13 in 1895  
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00  
February's precipitation, 0.03  
A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

## Police hunt escapee, woman who runs prison dog program

LEAVENWORTH (AP) — A van used by a woman who apparently helped an inmate escape from Lansing Correctional Facility was found Tuesday not far from the prison — but the missing man and woman have not been located. Authorities have been looking for inmate John N. Manard, 27, formerly of Edgerton, and Toby Young, 48, of Wyandotte County, since Sunday afternoon, when Young drove a van out of the prison, apparently with Manard hiding in the back. The van, used by Young for the Safe Harbor Prison Dog program, was found in a storage facility in Bonner Springs, about 10 miles from the prison. Law enforcement officers found the van while acting on a tip received Monday, said

Frances Breyne, spokeswoman for the Kansas Department of Corrections.

The van was being processed for possible evidence by the Leavenworth and Wyandotte counties sheriff's departments.

"The focus has obviously shifted from finding the vehicle to trying to determine what other vehicle John Manard and Toby Young might be in," said Bill Miskell, Corrections Department spokesman. "We are trying to determine if anyone has sold, rented or leased a vehicle to Toby Young in the last month."

Miskell said all of Young's family vehicles have been accounted for.

He declined to offer any information about the storage facility where the van was found.



## Central Plains Irrigation Conference & Exposition

**Feb. 21-22**

City Limits Convention Center, Colby, Kansas  
Feb 21 8:30 a.m.-7:30 pm    Feb 22 7:30 a.m.-5:45 pm

*Sponsored by Central Plains Irrigation Association, Kansas State University Colorado State University and the University of Nebraska,*

**Technical Session Topics:**  
Center Pivot Sprinkler Management  
On-farm Center Pivot Field Demonstrations  
The Economics of Irrigation  
Wastewater Utilization    Limited Irrigation-Crop Options  
Irrigation Water Management  
Residue Management for Efficient Water Use  
SDI: Considerations and KSU Study Results  
Kan Sched II

**Registration Cost: \$70 or \$75 for CCA CEUs**  
Equipment exposition will feature dealers from all facets of the irrigation industry.

**Registration forms available at:**  
[www.oznet.ksu.edu/sdi/REvents/cpia.html](http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/sdi/REvents/cpia.html) or contact Donna Lamm at 785-462-7574 or 7140 or donnalamm@yahoo.com

## Briefly

### Genesis annual meeting Thursday

Genesis-Thomas County, Inc. will hold its annual meeting and election of officers starting at 7 p.m., Thursday. The meeting will be held in the conference room at the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range, Colby. The public is invited to attend.

### Power outage planned Friday

As part of the city's upgrade with the electrical distribution system, a brief power outage is scheduled for 6 a.m., Friday, in Colby. The outage should be a maximum of 30 minutes (6 to 6:30 a.m.) and will affect residences and businesses south of Hill Street, said Carolyn Armstrong, city manager. A second planned outage to re-energize the system is also scheduled at 6 a.m., Wednesday or Thursday, Feb. 22-23. Confirmation of the time and date will be published at a later date. For questions, call 460-4410.

### County offices closed Monday

The Thomas County Courthouse, district courts, health department and landfill will be closed Monday, Feb. 20 for Presidents Day. They will reopen as usual on Tuesday, Feb. 21.

### Open house planned for mayor

Warren Hixson is resigning as mayor of Colby. He and his wife, Sharon, are moving to Hutchinson to be closer to their family, said Carolyn Armstrong, city manager. In recognition of his service to the community, she said, the City of Colby is hosting an open house from 3 to 5 p.m., Thurs-

day, Feb. 23 at the Law Enforcement Training Center, 360 N. Franklin St. "We look forward to seeing all of his friends and colleagues," she said. For questions, call 460-4410.

### Treasurer's office to open late Friday

The Thomas County Treasurer's office will not open until 9 a.m., Friday, Feb. 17, said Donita Applebury, treasurer. For questions, call 460-4520. Applebury said she and her staff apologize for any inconvenience.

### Chorus celebrating 25 years

The Tumbleweed Chorus is celebrating 24 years of barbershop harmony with "Riverboat Cruise" at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 4 at the Frahm Theater at Colby Community College. Two guest quartets will accompany the chorus, 12th Street Rag and U.S. Male. For information or tickets, call 462-3004, 462-2474 or 460-6552. Or, outside Colby, call 1-800-279-8208.

### Sorority to hold soup supper Friday

Kappa Upsilon, a local sorority, is sponsoring a soup supper from 5 to 7:30 p.m., Friday, at the Colby Community Building when Colby takes on Atwood in basketball action. The menu will include chili, chicken noodle, and vegetable soups, along with cinnamon rolls, cookies and drinks. The cost is free-will donation with proceeds going to benefit PuddleDuck Pre-School.

### Farm Bureau offers scholarships

The Thomas County Farm Bureau Association is offering

scholarships to three students who are seniors in the three Thomas County schools. Students or their parents must be members of the Thomas County Farm Bureau Association. For applications, visit the specific school counselor or stop by the Farm Bureau office, 350 N. Franklin Ave., Colby. For questions, call 460-6332.

### Diplomats plan luncheon

The Colby Diplomats are hosting a "Financial Fitness for Women" event from noon to 1 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 22, at the Prairie Rose Restaurant in Quality Inn. Sylvia Kinderknecht of Ellis will present facts and figures focusing on your financial future. To make a reservation, call Jo DeYoung, 460-5003 or the Chamber, 460-3401.

### Formal wear requested by Infinia

The residents at Infinia at Colby Inc. are planning a Valentine's Formal Dance starting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 23, at the facility, 105 E. College Dr. "We are needing formal dresses and shirts and ties for the event," said Melony Egbert, activities director. "So please look in the back of your closets and revive that old prom or bridesmaid dress," she said. For questions call Egbert at 462-6721.

### College holds special meeting

The Colby Community College board of trustees will hold a special meeting at 1 p.m., Thursday, in the board room of Thomas Hall for the purpose of reviewing the audit and selecting a replacement to fill the unexpired term of Larry Arehart, who moved from the area.

# Colby teen faces weapons charge, more

**By Jan Katz Ackerman**  
*Colby Free Press*

A Colby man is headed back to court after being arrested for a probation and weapons violation among other charges.

Nolan J. Hull, 19, was charged in Thomas County District Court Jan. 27 with criminal possession of a firearm for allegedly having two

12-gauge shotguns in his possession Jan. 24.

The charge is a severity level 8 non-person felony, and if convicted and depending on a presentence investigation, Nolan faces between seven and 23 months in prison.

The incident follows Hull's 2005 conviction on criminal damage to property for the July 12 break-in which caused more than \$1,000

damage at residence owned Joseph and Mildred Lauritsen's home.

Hull, and an accomplice, Bryce C. Clark, were sentenced in December and placed on a six-month probation and ordered to pay the Lauritsens \$700 in restitution. In addition, Clark and Hull are required to serve a post-release probation period of 12-months, pay court costs and attorney fees, submit blood and

saliva samples within 10 days to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation and refrain from owning a firearm for a period of five years. Hull on Jan. 27 was also charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, a Class B nonperson misdemeanor carrying a fine up to \$1,000 and a six month jail sentence.

He was also charged with transporting an alcoholic beverage in an open container, an unclassified misdemeanor which could mean one month in jail and a fine of \$500 unless otherwise specified; purchase or consumption of an alcoholic beverage by a minor, a Class C misdemeanor having a sentence of one month in jail and a fine of \$500.

Hull was additionally charged with criminal damage to property, a Class B misdemeanor, for allegedly destroying Thomas County road signs worth less than \$500.

If convicted, Hull faces six months in the Thomas County Jail and a fine of \$1,000 for this charge.

## Man's estranged wife steals ATV

**By Jan Katz Ackerman**  
*Colby Free Press*

Aspart between a Georgia couple ended with charges filed in Thomas County District Court.

Cari McLucas, 45, of Carrollton, Ga., was charged with one count of felony theft over an all-terrain vehicle owned by her estranged husband, John S. McLucas.

According to Det. Sgt. Gary Shull of the Colby Police Department the couple has been separated for 12 years. He said the couple, in an effort to reconcile, was moving Cari from Colorado to Florida when

they stopped in Colby overnight Jan. 7.

"They were traveling separately in separate vehicles and stayed overnight in Colby," Shull said. "In the morning, Mrs. McLucas allegedly went out to her pickup, unhooked the trailer she was pulling and left the rig and returned to Colorado."

Shull said the pickup Cari McLucas was driving was owned

by her, but in the back was the ATV owned by her husband.

"We trailed her down to Glenwood Springs, Colo., but she had given the ATV to her boyfriend," Shull said.

After contacting the boyfriend, authorities learned he'd "lost it."

Shull said the sports vehicle has not been recovered, and he anticipates more charges being filed in the incident.

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### Bridal Registry



Ashley Marie Jones and  
Austen Dan Moser  
*Wedding - February 17, 2006*  
**Inlow Interiors**  
455 N. Franklin ~ 462-6000

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# RECYCLE