

Weather Corner



Chance of snow and windy

Tonight — A chance of snow. Mostly cloudy with a low around 25. Blustery with a north wind between 10 and 20 mph with gusts as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Thursday — Mostly sunny with a high around 52. West wind around 5 mph becoming south.

Thursday night — Partly cloudy with a low near 29. West wind around 5 mph becoming south.

Friday — Partly cloudy with a high near 54. North wind 10 to 15 mph becoming southeast.

Friday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 29.

Saturday — Partly cloudy with a high around 57.

Temperatures
Tuesday's high, 77
Low this morning, 37
Records for this date, 82 in 1899, -4 in 1967
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
March's precipitation, 0.00
A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

Brown bag and Bibles underway

The United Methodist, First Baptist, First Christian and First Presbyterian Churches of Colby are sponsoring Brown Bags and Bibles during Lent.

These churches are hosting lunch time gatherings on each Wednesday during Lent from noon to 1 p.m. You are invited for an hour of fellowship, hymn singing, and a brief Lenten message. Bring your own sack lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided.

The schedule is: March 15 at First Christian; March 22 at United Methodist; March 29 at First Presbyterian; April 5 at First Baptist; and April 12 - United Methodist.

• NOTICE •

AD RATES
For Classified Word ads are as follows:
1-2 days 25¢*/word
3-4 days 18¢/word
5-9 days 17¢/word
10-14 days 16¢/word
Monthly (tfn) 15¢/word
(*Price reflects 15 word minimum ad. Ads must be in our office by 12:00 noon the day before. In case of error, call us the FIRST day your ad runs since we will not be responsible for errors after the first day/week.)

COUNTRY ADVOCATE
\$9.45 for the first 15 words & 55¢ each additional word (per week). Your ad will run 1 time in the Advocate and 1 week in the sister paper of your choice.

ADS MUST BE IN THE OFFICE BY 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY.

DISPLAY (box) AD DEADLINE FOR FREE PRESS IS 3:00 P.M. TWO DAYS BEFORE AD RUNS.
Classified Display Rate: \$7.15 per column inch
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COLBY FREE PRESS
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Briefly

‘Bowl for Kids Sake’ needs teams

The Big Brothers Big Sisters organization in Thomas County is having its annual “Bowl For Kids Sake” on Saturday and Sunday, April 1-2, at Colby Bowl, said Donna Jennings, board member. Many people can be involved in this event by forming teams and recruiting team members, she said. Many of the “littles” also bowl and help raise money for the group. “It is a celebration and fundraiser, and we welcome anyone who wants to form a team or bowl on an established team.” For questions or to register a team, call (785) 460-9125.

Kindergarten pre-enrollment nears

Colby Grade School kindergarten pre-enrollment for the 2006-07 school year is from 7:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., Wednesday, March 15, in the conference room. Parents or guardians are asked to bring the child’s birth certificate, immunization records and social security card. For questions, call 460-5100.

Memory Walk planned April 1

The Alzheimer’s Association in the nine-county area is sponsoring a Memory Walk starting at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 1, at Fike Park in Colby. The counties involved include

Thomas, Rawlins, Logan, Cheyenne, Sherman, Sheridan, Decatur, Wallace and Gove. Residents in these counties are encouraged to take part in this fundraising event, said Rhonda Riedel, with the association. The walk, she said, raises not only money, but awareness about the disease and is the largest national fundraising event for support programs. To register or with questions, call Riedel at (785) 673-3149 or visit: colbywalk.kintera.org

Fair board to meet Thursday

The Thomas County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. Thursday at the 4-H Building at the Thomas County Fairgrounds. Items on the agenda include Thomas County extension agent report; bills and financial report; committee reports on the buildings and grounds, carnival, rodeo, parade, demolition derby, races, fair book and advertising; old business includes the fair barbecue and even sponsor contract; other business will be a discussion on display cases for open class and Colby Community College rodeo contract.

Orchestra continues rehearsals

The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra holds rehearsals from 7:30 to 9 p.m., Mondays in the Colby High School band room. All musicians are invited to join the orchestra, said Sharon

Kriss, one of the members.

Musicians span a wide range of vocations and ages (middle school to retirees) from communities throughout northwest Kansas and northeast Colorado, she said.

For questions, call Kriss at 460-2800 or Mary Shoaff, 462-2391.

Mother’s group meets Thursday

Mothers of Preschoolers will meet at 9:15 a.m. Thursday, at Colby United Methodist Church, 950 S. Franklin. The program will be local preschool teachers talking about enrollment information and curriculum.

Childcare is provided, for a small fee, for children ranging from infant to age 5. Any mother with children under the age of 6 or expecting mothers are invited. For information, call Michelle Mettlen at 460-3310.

School board member wanted

The Brewster School Board is looking to fill a vacancy until the general election. The vacancy will be filled by appointment. The board has an opening because of the resignation of board member Tony Horinek.

Anyone interested should call board clerk Daryl Ann Jorgensen at (785) 694-2236 before 4 p.m. Friday, March 17.

Prairie Museum plans ‘Wear Your Hat’ program

Angela Bates of Nicodemus will present “African American Women and Their Church Hats” at 3 p.m., Sunday, at the Prairie Museum of Art and History.

The program celebrates the African American Woman and her style

through her hats.

Bates was born in Kansas, raised in Pasadena, California and returned to earn a B.S. in Education from Emporia State University in 1975.

According to information pro-

vided, after working in Washington, D.C. and Denver, she returned to Nicodemus in 1989.

Bates spearheaded efforts with the community, Senator Dole and Pat Roberts offices and the National Park Service to get Nicodemus des-

ignated as a National Historic Site. After seven years of effort and coordination, Nicodemus became a unit of the National Park Service in 1996. Bates continues her extensive research on the history of Nicodemus and her relatives that mi-

grated from central Kentucky to become settlers and homesteaders. Her research efforts have led her to uncover much of the history of the African American in the West.

She now works as an educational consultant, providing educational materials and programs on Nicodemus and the African American experience in the west.

As a descendant of one of the town’s original settlers and she is determined to keep the town and its story alive.

She is a niece to the late Ernestine Van Duvall of the famous Ernestine’s Café. Angela is doing her part to share her Aunt’s cuisine through the marketing of Ernestine’s Barbeque Sauce.

Come hear Bates as she dons the hats and wraps worn by African American Women and shares their stories. Refreshments will follow the 3 p.m. program.

The Women’s History Month Program is presented by the Colby A.A.U.W. and the Prairie Museum of Art and History and is free.

For information call 460-4590.

Close vote preserves immigrant law for now

TOPEKA (AP) — Illegal immigrants living in Kansas can continue receiving a tuition break at state universities and colleges because of decisions made Tuesday by legislators.

who supported repealing the immigrant tuition law, said the debate over it is probably over for the year. Senators have shown no interest in repealing the law, and Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has criticized the idea.

The House voted 63-58 against repealing a 2004 law designating some students “without lawful immigration status” as residents when they attend universities, community colleges or vocational colleges — allowing them to pay lower tuition normally reserved for Kansas residents.

The law has so far survived a federal court challenge, but critics said it will continue to come under attack because most Kansans believe it encourages illegal immigration, which they oppose.

After debating an alternative proposal to get tougher on companies that hire illegal immigrants, House members voted 62-59 to send that issue back to committee.

“This issue is not going to go away,” said Rep. Becky Hutchins, R-Holton, who led the effort to repeal the law. “It’ll be back next year, and it will keep coming back.”

Speaker Doug Mays, R-Topeka,

Elias Garcia, the Kansas Hispanic and Latino American Affairs Commission’s executive director, said efforts to repeal the law will

continue as long as fear and uncertainty from the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks linger. But, he said, the law helps young adults who are “caught in that American dream.”

“I think we can use all the college grads we can get,” Garcia said. “Part of that American dream is having just a good life, which includes having a good education, a family, home ownership.”

Nine states allow non-U.S. citizens to pay in-state tuition rates. In Kansas, the break can be substantial.

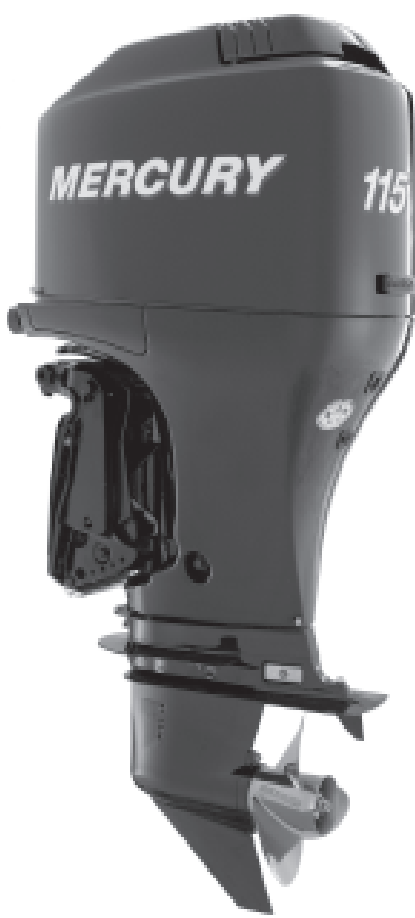
An undergraduate from Kansas taking 15 credit hours pays \$2,412 in tuition at the University of Kansas, compared with \$6,638 for a

non-Kansas resident. At Seward County Community College, Kansas residents pay \$40 a credit hour, compared with \$63 an hour for most out-of-state students.

Last fall, 221 students qualified under the immigrant tuition law, according to the state Board of Regents. A student must have attended a Kansas high school for three years and must be seeking citizenship.

Supporters argue that students shouldn’t be punished for the actions of parents who brought them illegally to the United States. Furthermore, they said, the law allows immigrants to improve their lives — and contribute more to the state’s economy.

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