

Weather Corner



Wind gusts could reach 40

The forecast
Tonight — Mostly clear with a high around 67. Windy with a west wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.
Thursday — Mostly sunny with a high around 66. Northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.
Thursday night — Mostly clear with a low near 34. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Friday — Mostly sunny with a high near 71. West wind around 5 mph.
Friday night — Mostly clear with a low around 42.
Saturday — Partly cloudy with a high near 74.
Saturday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 42.
Sunday — Partly cloudy with a high around 71..
Temperatures
Tuesday's high, 61.
Low this morning, 31.
Records for this date, 92 in 1946, 19 in 1953.
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
April's precipitation, .44
A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

Briefly

Free movie for senior citizens

A free movie for senior citizens will be shown at the Colby Cinema in Wal-Mart Plaza at 1:30 p.m. Thursday. Anyone 55 or over can see "Benchwarmers." For information, call 462-6617.

'Dig Into History' Sunday at museum

The Thomas County Historical Society will be celebrating its 47th year with an eye on archeology. The TCHS Annual Meeting will be held at the Prairie Museum of Art and History on April 23, 2006 with a short business meeting starting at 1:30 p.m. At 1:45 there will be a DVD Presentation by Brad Geist, a Goodland High School student. At 2:30 Dr. Donna Roper, an archeologist, will speak about Recent Explorations of an Early Wichita Indian Village in Central Kansas. Following the programs there will be an atlatl throwing demonstration The Annual Meeting is open to the public. There is no charge. For more information contact the Thomas County Historical Society at 1905 S. Franklin, Colby or call (785) 460-4590.

Kindergarten program Thursday

The Colby Grade School kindergartners will perform "A Day in the Country," a musical program, at 7 p.m. Thursday in the grade school auditorium. The public is invited to attend.

Hazardous waste site open Saturday

As part of this year's Earth Day celebration, the Thomas County Household Hazardous Waste Site facility, 190 W. Fourth, Colby, will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, for safe disposal. Acceptable items include old paints, stains,

College play set for April 27-29

Colby Community College's drama department will feature "The House of Blue Leaves," at 7:30 p.m., April 27, 28, 29, in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center Frahm Theater. Tickets are available in advance at the college bookstore, 460-4670 or at the door.

Help needed for cleanup week

The City of Colby and the Thomas County Commissioners are combining their efforts to sponsor a city-wide and county-wide cleanup week from May 1 through May 6. Area service clubs and church groups are asked to commit their organizations to clean public areas in the city, such as ballfields, parks, all roadsides and entrances in Colby. If anyone is willing to volunteer their services to assist the elderly and infirm, call Jo Stange, administrative assistant to the city manager, 460-4410, and leave name. Those who need assistance should also call the city and leave their names. The city will then match up those who can help and those who need help.

varnish, thinners, cleaning products, lawn and garden chemicals, automotive products, swimming pool chemicals and batteries, said Sandy Swob, director. "This is a free service to Thomas County households only," she said. "No business wastes can be accepted." Used motor oil should be taken to the county landfill for recycling. Empty containers need not be brought to the facility. "These can be discarded as regular household trash," Swob said. For questions, call her at 460-4526.

Tree Day Saturday

The Thomas County Conservation District is holding its Tree Day from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday at the Recycling Center in Colby. If anyone has placed an order for trees, please plan to pick them up at that time. The District still has a few trees left unclaimed. If anyone is interested in the varieties still available, please call the office at (785) 462-7482 Ext. 303 or stop by the Recycling Center on Saturday.

CRP deadline extended

The USDA's Farm Service Agency in Thomas County announced the extension of the sign-up deadlines for both the Conservation Reserve Program general sign-up and the special Conservation Reserve Program re-enrollment and extension opportunities until Friday, April 28. Information is available at the agency's website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/crpinfo.htm>.

Brewster man charged with multiple crimes

By Jan Katz Ackerman
Colby Free Press

A Brewster man has been charged with multiple crimes including child endangerment and battery against a law enforcement officer.

Gary E. Rogers, 42, was charged in Thomas County District Court with driving drunk with his two children in the car and kicking an officer while being arrested. He has also been charged with driving on a suspended license while transporting an open alcoholic beverage container and having illegal car tags.

Colby Police Detective Sgt. Gary Shull said a Colby Police officer stopped Rogers April 1 for driving with an expired temporary tag on a vehicle and learned he was intoxicated. A second officer was called as backup and Rogers kicked that officer while being arrested.

A sheriff's deputy was called to the scene and Rogers' two children, a 6-year-old and 14-year-old, were taken to a relative's home.

"Once Mr. Rogers was in the police department patrol car he tried to kick out the back window," Shull said.

A third altercation took place while officers and the jailer were trying to secure Rogers in a jail cell. Rogers started striking one of the officers and kicked the other a second time.

Thomas County Sheriff Mike Baughn said Rogers' behavior was similar to an incident in February when he was arrested for drinking and driving. Baughn said Rogers, at that time, was evaluated and transferred to Larned State Hospital in Larned for his drinking.

"He was discussing ways he could kill himself and hit his head on the concrete floor," Baughn said. "He said he would drown himself in the toilet, but it would be hard to do with the configuration of equipment back (in the jail)."

Should Rogers be convicted of this latest DUI, depending on a presentence investigation, he faces 90 to 365 days in prison with a mandatory sentence of 48 hours in confinement. He could be put on work release or house arrest and fined up to \$2,500.

The penalty for the charges of endangering a child and battery on an officer is up to one year in prison and a fine up to \$2,500. The penalty for driving on a suspended or revoked drivers, license and driving with illegal tags is six months in confinement and up to \$1,000 in fines. And for the transporting an open container charge Rogers faces a fine of \$500 unless otherwise specified by the judge and one month in jail. The maximum penalty in the case is twice the most severe.

Wildfires scorch 2.15 million acres nationally

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Major wildfires already have scorched more than 2.15 million acres across the nation so far this spring, setting the stage for what could be one of the worst fire seasons ever amid an escalating weather danger for fire, the National Interagency Fire Center said Tuesday.

On the front lines of the fire danger, fire departments in Kansas and elsewhere are straining under the load with little relief in sight from the windy, dry conditions.

Their mostly volunteer firefighters have been working 16-hour days in-between their regular jobs. Firefighting equipment is breaking down under heavy use. Budgets have been decimated as high fuel costs and maintenance take a growing bite. And fears are growing that fire conditions are deteriorating as summer nears.

"We are seeing stuff that hasn't happened in the last decade," said Jim Schmidt, Butler County emergency management director. "We are seeing cedar trees ... igniting 40 feet in front of our fire trucks —

Oakley to sponsor first-ever Corvette Rally

By Jan Katz Ackerman
Colby Free Press

Corvettes fans need to mark their calendar for the first annual Buffalo Bill Corvette Rally and Show on April 29 in Oakley.

Sponsored by the Oakley Chamber of Commerce and area merchants, registration will take place from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. with a show and shine taking place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in downtown Oakley.

One of the key organizers is Dave Molstad of Oakley, a Corvette fan himself.

"I went to a Corvette rally in Imperial, Neb.," Molstad said, "and I belong to a Corvette club up there. I was asked if I was interested in putting on a rally here and I decided to give it a try."

Registration costs \$25 per car and judging will be during the show and shine. Other events for the day include a free barbecue for registered entrants from noon to 2 p.m., and a 60 mile poker run from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Trophies and prizes for the rally will be awarded during a dance at the Oakley 4-H building located at the intersection of Kaler and Second Ave. from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Anyone interested in participating in the rally can contact Oakley Chamber of Commerce Director Margie Broeckelman at (785) 672-4862 or Molstad at 672-4617. Early registration is being encouraged.

Interstate-70 accident sends two to hospital

By Tisha Cox
Colby Free Press

An accident on Interstate 70 Saturday morning sent two people to hospital.

Citizens Medical Center in Colby with injuries.

According to a report from the Kansas Highway Patrol, the one-vehicle collision happened at 7:25 a.m. at mile marker 55.8, one mile east of Colby.

The accident happened when Addam Clifton Bess-Lagrone, 25, of Aurora, Colo., was headed east-bound in a 2002 Nissan car.

The car went into the median and hit a paved turnaround.

The car then rolled several times before coming to a rest on its top.

Bess-Lagrone and passenger Tiffany Deeann Linville of Denver, Colo. were both taken to Citizens Medical Center by emergency medical personnel from Thomas County. The exact injuries were not disclosed.

Gwen Young of Citizens Medical Center said the two were treated and released the same day.

Heart attack, stroke program set April 26

The Family Consumer Sciences agent in Logan County is sponsoring an informative program regarding heart attack and stroke in Colby.

The program begins at noon April 26 at the Pioneer Memorial Library, 375 W. Fourth St., in Colby.

"Prevention of Heart Attack and Stroke," is an extension block program, said Lori Sporer, Logan County Family Consumer Science extension agent.

"Cardiovascular disease is one of our most serious health threats," she said.

Two forms of the disease, coronary heart disease and stroke account for the No. 1 and No. 3 causes of death in the United States.

"Come and find out more about how we can make different lifestyle choices and the risk factors for this disease," Sporer said.

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COLBY (S. Range Ave.)



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WED: Homestyle Buffet
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462-6565



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Looking for a few days of fun and engaging in current leadership topics?

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Register online at www.fhsu.edu/ccl/lead or call 785.628.4303.

Urgent news for people who took
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