

Weather Corner



Sunny, clear highs near 50

Tonight — Mostly clear with a low around 17. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday — Mostly sunny with a high near 50. Calm wind becoming east between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 26. East wind around 10 mph becoming south.

Friday — Partly cloudy with a high near 61. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 32.

Saturday — Mostly sunny with a high near 65.

Saturday night — Mostly clear with a low around 39.

Sunday — Partly cloudy with a high near 64.

Temperatures
Tuesday's high, 40
Low this morning, 18

Records for this date, 79 in 1914, 13 in 1935

Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00

November's precipitation, 0.00

A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-8367.

Sheriff remembered

From "FUNERAL," page 1

"Little Church in the Wildwood."
"Oh my goodness," Hoxie Mayor Lori Horesky said. "Where do I begin? Jimmy was such a huge asset to this community. We've lost a great friend."

Horesky said those who knew Johnson knew he "liked to bark orders," but those who knew him well knew his bark was bigger than his bite.

"He was the most honest man I knew," she said, "until you started listening to his fishing stories. He was a big man with an even bigger heart."

Quoting from the Bible, Slack said Romans 8 verses 35 to 39 states God's word assures people not even death can separate them from His love, which is in Jesus Christ. He said as pastor he has answers to many questions, but one he can not answer is why Johnson's life ended by violence.

"This afternoon we do miss a good man, a man who had a good relationship with God," he said. "We are going to hurt of this loss for many weeks, months, years, but maybe God is saying 'Not now, but maybe later.'"

"Seek God for comfort," he said. "God is our refuge and our strength. We can turn to Him and know He is here."

Slack reminisced about the first time and last time he talked to Johnson. He said both times were at the post office in Hoxie; the first being about his size, the last for his attire. Slack said Johnson was not a man who could just said "hello," but always had something more to add.

The first time Slack met Johnson was about a year ago after moving to Hoxie. He said Johnson, not even knowing him, said, "I like you, you are a big guy and we need more of you in town."

Slack, a large stature man, was comparable in size to that of the late sheriff.

In closing, Sebelius called for a final radio call and retired Johnson's badge. Through the auditorium's sound system, radio tones used for alerts to emergency medical service, fire and sheriff's office personnel rang out from the Sheridan County Sheriff's office dispatch office.

"By order of Acting Sheriff Allan Weber, No. 86 is retired from duty," the dispatcher said.

And then there was silence.

Briefly

Grass clipping collection to end

The city of Colby Sanitation Department will stop picking up grass clippings and leaves Friday, Nov. 10. The city is also reminding residents household trash should be curbside by 8 a.m. on their scheduled pick-up days. For questions call the Public Works Department, 460-4420.

Library event Thursday

Pioneer Memorial Library, 375 W. Fourth St., is hosting a forum on the Freedom of Information Act at 7:30 p.m., Thursday. For questions, call 460-4470.

Rexford dinner Saturday

Members of the Rexford Lions Club and Royal Neighbors are sponsoring their annual ham and turkey dinner at 11 a.m., Saturday, in the Rexford Community Hall.

Square dance lessons Nov. 14

The Golden Buckle Square Dance Club is sponsoring

dance lessons at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 14, at the Colby Community Building, 285 E. Fifth St. For questions, call Frank Vacca, (785) 462-3465 or 460-2958.

Fundraising tournament Saturday

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Thomas County is hosting a tournament from 1 to 6 p.m., Saturday, at Twisters, 735 E. College Dr., Colby. For details about the tournament, call 460-9125.

Sacred Heart plans holiday event

Colby's Sacred Heart Parish is planning its second annual Holiday Celebration Concert at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 19. Performances include the McLemore family, the Jeff Waggoner family, the Lang brothers and son, and the Schroeder family. In addition, the childrens' choir and adult choir will also have some special numbers to kick off the holiday season, organizers said. Discount tickets are available at His Shop, F&M Bank at Dillons, and Donelan's Jewelry. For questions call, (785) 460-6426 or (785) 460-2022.

American Legion plans meeting

The Colby American Legion, 1850 W. Fourth St., is hosting a meeting and meal for all veterans and their families at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 7. The purpose of the meeting is to inform participants about their earned VA benefits and answer questions. The deadline to RSVP is Thursday. To reserve a place, call (785) 462-7728.

Dance troupe to appear Thursday

Western Plains Arts Association will present the dance troupe Ballet Folklorico "Quetzalli," at 7 p.m., Thursday, in the Oakley High School auditorium. The group features regional dances of Old Mexico, showcasing typical dress and music of the area.

'The Messiah' rehearsal Sunday

Those participating in the presentation of "The Messiah" are being reminded that choral rehearsals continue at 3:30 p.m., Sunday in the Cultural Arts Center on the campus of Colby College. For questions, call 462-3984, ext. 311.

E-mail alerts do not faze Topeka mayor

TOPEKA (AP) — Mayor Bill Bunten said he will continue alerting other cities about upcoming funeral protests by a Topeka church group despite the threat of a lawsuit by church members.

Bunten informed the City Council last week that since late last year, he has written to the mayors of cities around the country where Westboro Baptist Church has announced plans to picket military funerals.

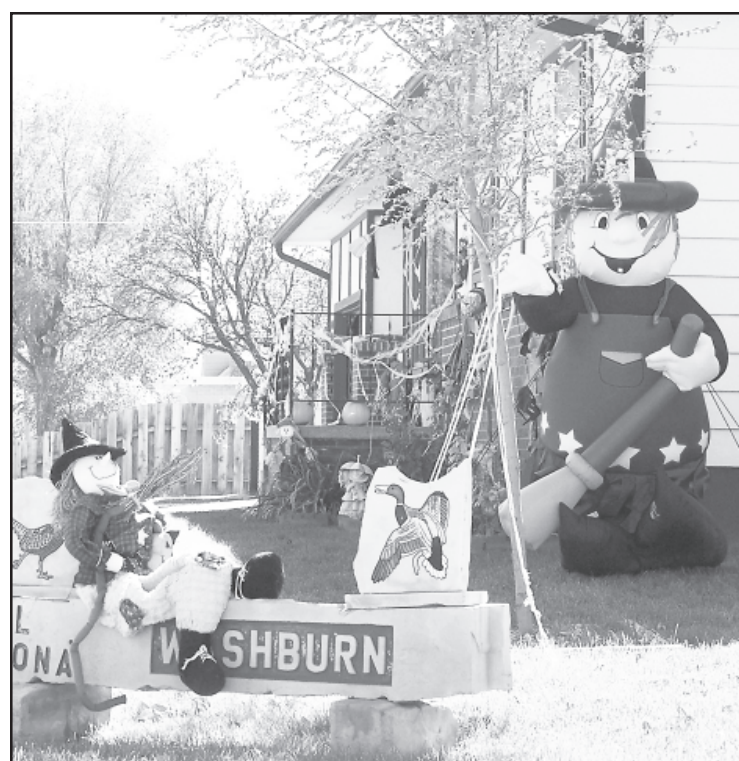
He gave the council five letters he had received in return expressing appreciation for the alerts and assuring him that the protests don't reflect badly on Topeka. Those letters were representative of scores of grateful messages he has received from around the country, Bunten said.

Bunten said Tuesday he won't be deterred from the practice by this week's filing of an open records request by attorney Jonathan Phelps, a son of the Rev. Fred Phelps Sr., pastor of Westboro Baptist.

"I'm not breaking any law," Bunten said.

The open records request seeks information on how much time and money the city has spent on Bunten's warnings to other cities.

Halloween in hoxie



JAN KATZACKERMAN/Colby Free Press

ABOVE: The home of the late Del Washburn and Leona Washburn in Hoxie is all decked out for Halloween Trick-or-Treaters. **LEFT:** A black cat being chased by bats is ready to welcome Halloween Trick-or-Treaters at the home of Darrick and Elizabeth Zerr of Hoxie.

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Saturday 4:00 & 7:00 & 9:00
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

MAN OF THE YEAR

PG-13 1 hour, 55 min.

Friday 7:00 & 9:10
Saturday 4:00 & 7:00 & 9:10
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

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