

## Weather Corner



**Tonight...** Mostly clear. Lows around 30. South winds around 10 mph.

**Friday...** Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 50s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

**Friday night...** Partly cloudy. Lows around 30. East winds around 10 mph.

**Saturday...** Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s. South winds around 10 mph shifting to the west in the afternoon.

**Saturday night...** Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 30s.

**Sunday...** Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s.

**Sunday night...** Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 30s.

**Monday...** Sunny. Much cooler. Highs in the mid 50s.

**Monday night...** Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 20s.

**Tuesday...** Sunny. Highs in the upper 40s.

**Tuesday night...** Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 20s.

**Wednesday...** Sunny. Highs in the lower 50s.

## Kansas City casino ready after delay

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — A casino involved in a legal battle is almost done with its remodeling and set to open.

The remodeling cost for the 7th Street Casino is now estimated at \$20 million.

The long-dormant and deteriorating Masonic structure in downtown Kansas City, Kan., once housed the Scottish Rite Temple and dates back to 1906. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983, and the Oklahoma-based Wyandotte Nation bought it in 1996.

The remodeling is mixing the building's green marble pillars and other original fixtures with new features such as slot parlors and a restaurant that seats 125 guests.

"It's just like walking back into the 1920s," said David McCullough, an Oklahoma City attorney and tribal general counsel.

McCullough has been at the center of the Wyandottes' legal battle with the state over gambling since the mid-1990s.

The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals last week threw out the state's latest challenge to the tribe's right to operate a casino at the site.

However, the ruling — on a technicality — left the matter open and the state could essentially restart its case.

"There's nothing the state can do to keep us from opening," McCullough said.

If he's right, the casino could open as early as December, but more likely in early 2008, tribal officials said.

However, if the state is able to revive its case, the casino could be years from opening.

And if that happens, McCullough said the tribe would seek to have the state post a high bond guaranteeing its potential financial losses, estimated at \$5 million a month.

Although the tribe expects the casino to bring more than 150 jobs and gross a projected \$5 million a month, it would be the area's smallest casino by far.

The renovated building is 20,000 square feet and would initially have 400 Class II electronic wagering games that are a variation of bingo and are not slot machines.

The area's other casinos are in Missouri, which allows casino gambling on riverboats along the Missouri and Mississippi rivers.

## No pain, no gain



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby College

Colby Community College nursing student Assdhy (Frank) Lolowang, left, prepared to give Campus Bookstore Manager Jacquie Bedore her 2007 flu shot. The students in the nursing program gave shots to students, faculty and staff members last week.

## Wichita employee sentenced to 27 months

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — A former stockroom supervisor at Bombardier Aerospace was sentenced Monday to 27 months in prison for defrauding his employer of more than \$400,000 by submitting false contractor invoices, the U.S. attorney's office said.

Robert David Gullidge, 41, also was ordered by U.S. District Judge Wesley E. Brown to repay the stolen money and serve an additional three years on supervised release after he gets out of prison.

U.S. Attorney Eric Melgren said in a news release that Gullidge received \$426,637 for submitting invoices for services the company never received. At the time, he was working as a stockroom and warehouse supervisor at Bombardier.

Gullidge's defense attorney, Christopher McHugh, said the sentence was the lowest allowable under federal law.

"Obviously he doesn't want to go to prison, but getting the lowest sentence possible is something we are happy with," McHugh said.

To date, Gullidge has repaid all but \$145,000 of the money he stole, McHugh said, adding that the rest of the money was spent on cars, vacations and things for "living beyond your means."

Gullidge pleaded guilty in August to one count of mail fraud. In his plea deal, he admitted that he was doing business as DK Property Maintenance when he sent four invoices in 2006 and 2007 to Bombardier.

The company paid the first three invoices: one on Nov. 3, 2006, for \$225,500; another on Nov. 9, 2006, for \$201,137; and the last one on Jan. 3, 2007, for \$211,194.

## Teen obesity far too common in Kansas

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — The ballgame lasted until dark or dinner, whichever came first.

Or maybe it was the tree-climbing escapade, the bike-riding expedition or the driveway basketball game.

Playing outside is one of those sepia-toned memories adults invoke as a symbol of childhood — one that's increasingly rare.

"Children are living very sedentary lifestyles. When they leave school, they go home to TV, computers and video games.

It's not safe to play outside like it used to be," said Kim Morrissey, a local physical-education teacher and an instructor at Wichita State University.

Faced with a looming obesity crisis, health experts and educators are turning to middle school as a place for prevention.

Kansas doesn't require PE in seventh or eighth grade, but state Health Department data shows that's when kids are at risk for becoming overweight, probably because they're less active and more likely to make poor food choices.

"The statistics are frightening," Marcia Nielsen, executive director of the Kansas Health Policy Authority, told Topeka lawmakers recently at a planning session.

Since 1980, the percentage of overweight young has more than tripled in the United States. In Kansas, 43 percent of middle and high schoolers are not getting recommended amounts of exercise, Nielsen said.

Among other reforms, her office recommends requiring 100 to 150 minutes of physical education a week in elementary and middle schools.

On a recent school day, about 30 sixth-graders sat on the gym floor at Allison Traditional Magnet Middle School while PE teachers Melanie Moore and Dave Monger explained the rules of Eclipse Ball, a hybrid of volleyball and racquetball designed to improve eye-hand coordination.

Later, the kids swung rackets and dove for lobs, sending an oversize ball bobbling over the net.

Monger and Moore stood back,

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 Marcia Nielsen,  
 Executive Director Kansas Health and Policy Authority

shouting an occasional "nice try" or "good job."

Asked if they worried that some students could develop lifelong problems, the teachers nodded.

Monger pointed to two heavyset boys; Moore indicated a tall, thin girl.

She's not fat, but she's weak. If she continues to eat the refined sugar common in young people's diets, Moore said, "what it's doing inside in 20 years will appear on the outside."

These kids are evidence of the need for daily PE, Monger added.

"It doesn't matter how well our kids do on standardized tests if they die at 40 from a heart attack," he said.

Middle school PE programs vary widely.

When she travels to observe student teachers, Fort Hays State University instructor Joyce Ellis sees some schools offering six weeks. Others might have it for one semester, spread over a year, or combined with health classes.

"Some schools use it for sports practice," Ellis said at the Topeka planning session.

Although health advocates sup-

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strengthen PE programs.

Although she initially supported legislation for a required number of PE minutes, Colloton said she probably won't draft such a bill.

"A lot of people across the Legislature are interested in this issue, but we need a coordinated effort so that all these bills don't get lost," she said.

In Wichita schools, students are required to take the equivalent of one semester of PE, total, in three years of middle school. After that, it's an elective.

"If they take it again, it's because they really like it," said Moore, the Allison teacher.

But if kids enjoy PE, they're probably active and not at risk for problems related to a sedentary lifestyle.

"It's simply you either like physical activity or you don't," said Ryan Camenzind, a seventh-grader at Robinson Middle School who plans to take PE as an elective next semester.

He's a cross-country runner and wants to stay in shape after the season ends, Ryan said. His mother, Jane, doesn't worry about her four sons' weight.

But as a former teacher, she's concerned that kids don't get enough daily exercise.

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