Weather Corner



Tonight: Patchy fog after 1 a.m. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 43. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Patchy fog before 10 a.m. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a high near 72. East wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Saturday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Patchy fog after 1 a.m. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 45. Breezy, with a south wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday: Patchy fog before 10 a.m. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 80. Breezy, with a south wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy and breezy, with a low around

Monday: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 67. Chance of precipitation is 20

Monday Night: A chance of rain and snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 34. Chance of precipitation is 30

Thursday: High, 63; Low 35 Precip: Thursday 0.00 inches 0.00 inches Month: 0.64 inches Normal: 2.15 inches (K-State Experiment Station)

Tickets in

Advance:

\$10.00

Failure to pass law requiring seat belts will cost state money

states forfeit their grant by fail-

23 states, including Kansas, that

must be used on behavioral educa-

tion programs and the remainder

can be used on highway projects.

In addition, the state would re-

'While the money is important,

the real benefit of a primary seat

belt law is that it will save about

30 lives and prevent 300 serious

injuries each year," Secretary

not wearing a seat belt is some-

how a matter of individual rights.

Traffic fatalities and serious inju-

ries cost all of us in the form of

higher insurance rates and higher

Medicaid and Medicare payments.

In Kansas, these crashes cost each

of us more than a thousand dol-

lars a year. A primary seat belt law

will save all of us money and save

"I don't buy the argument that

One million dollars of the grant

don't have such a law.

ing a primary law.

Miller said.

Kansas will lose a one-time fed- million if it passes a primary law eral grant of at least \$11.2 million and could receive more if other and an annual appropriation of nearly a half-million dollars if it ing to pass such a law. There are doesn't have primary seat belt law in place by June 30.

The state is closer than it has ever been to enacting an all-ages, primary seat belt law after passage of Senate Bill 59 on Feb. 19. But the bill, which has since moved to the House, is now at risk of ceive \$465,000 annually for havnot even being considered by that chamber.

"With our state economy in turmoil and revenue estimates regularly falling below expectations, this is no time to be walking away from millions of dollars that can be used for important improvements to our highways," said Secretary Deb Miller of the Kansas Department of Transportation.

The primary law would allow officers to stop a vehicle solely for a seat belt violation. The current law is primary for those under 18, but only secondary for all others, which means adult drivers cannot be stopped solely for a seat belt violation.

Kansas has a seat belt usage rate of about 77 percent, considerably lower than the 87 percent compliance rate of states that have a primary law. Based on the experience of other states, Kansas could expect to have a 10 percent increase in seat belt usage after passage of a primary law.

Two-thirds of those who die in traffic crashes in Kansas aren't wearing seat belts.

Under provisions of the federal transportation program set to expire this year, states that have enacted a primary seat belt law by June 30 receive a one-time payment from the federal government. Kansas will receive \$11.2

Tickets at

THE DOOR

\$12.00

Spring fix-up



CYNTHIA HAYNES/Colby Free Press

Matt Coiner (left) and Kelly Wilson were cleaning and doing maintenance on a piece of oil field machinery at Murfin Drilling Co. on Thursday while it was sunny and nice.

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The Colby Area Barbershoppers will

present Back to the Roots of Barbershop on

Saturday, March 28th, 2009 at the

Colby Community College Cultural Arts Center.

The Featured Quartet is the 2005 Interna-

tional Champions, **REALTIME**. There will be

2 shows: 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

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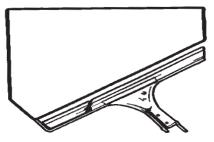


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