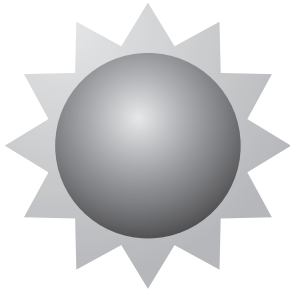


Weather Corner



National Weather Service

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 22. Northwest wind around 10 mph.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 45. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday Night: Clear, with a low around 22. West wind around 5 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 49. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 25.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 52.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 27.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 56.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 30.

Saturday: A slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 50. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 28.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 50.

Friday: High, 55; Low 30
 Saturday: High, 47; Low 32
 Sunday: High, 34; Low 24
 Precip: Friday 0.00 inches
 Saturday 0.09 inches
 Sunday 0.20 inches
 Month: 0.30 inches
 Year: 25.49 inches
 Normal: 19.95 inches
 (K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
 Tuesday 7:31 a.m. 5:28 p.m.
 Wednesday 7:32 a.m. 5:27 p.m.
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

Enhanced decorations



Sunday's snow decorated the city's Christmas decorations on Franklin Avenue. The storm passed through the area and moved on into eastern Kansas by morning.

KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

Kansas legislators can't escape debate over drive to raise taxes

From "BUDGET," Page 1

to boost education spending each year.

"Most of what we've added in terms of funding in recent years, that's now at risk, was put in to drive student achievement, and unfortunately, if we have to reduce dollars, that's where it's going to come back out of," said Mark Tallman, a lobbyist for the Kansas Association School Boards. "We're going to be advocating raising revenue."

But Parkinson — whose active support is crucial if any proposal is to pass — has sent mixed signals.

He said during an Oct. 30 news conference that Kansas had to avoid "crippling" budget cuts and was "very close" to being forced into considering higher taxes. But five days later, he told the *Lawrence Journal-World* that he hopes to get through next year without a tax increase.

Last week, Parkinson spokesman Seth Bundy declined to discuss whether Parkinson will propose revenue-raising measures in January.

But others already are floating ideas, and they start with closing at least some of the dozens of exemptions to the sales tax.

The most far-reaching proposal comes from Ed Hammond, president of Fort Hays State University, who pitched the idea of overhauling the Kansas tax system during a late-October tour of the state. He argued the state should eliminate all exemptions — a move that would have Kansas adding the sales tax to services, utility bills and prescription drugs — to raise money. But he'd offset those changes with others, such as lowering the overall sales tax rate and eliminating the corporate income tax, to keep Kansas business-friendly.

Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley, a Topeka Democrat, said the state needs to review its exemptions. He said some should stay, specifically those for utility bills and prescriptions, but argued that advocates for others should be forced to justify them. Even Emler, who's wary of raising taxes, said legislators ought to examine the exemptions to see if a few amount to luxuries.

Supporters of closing exemptions argue that such a step isn't a tax increase because it doesn't raise the sales tax rate but only closes loopholes.

But other legislators are skeptical, noting that many exemptions were designed to help nonprofit

groups such as the Girl Scouts or stimulate business activity.

For example, Senate Majority Leader Derek Schmidt noted that farmers don't pay the sales tax on new equipment. Eliminating the exemption means a farmer buying a \$400,000 combine would owe the state more than \$21,000 in sales tax.

"That's going to look remarkably like a tax increase, because it is," said Schmidt, an Independence Republican.

Hensley and some fellow

Democrats also have pointed to tax breaks legislators approved starting in the 1990s, when the economy was more robust. Over time, they note, those breaks have saved Kansans several billion dollars, with the bulk going to businesses. The idea was to encourage new and expanded businesses and more jobs.

House Speaker Mike O'Neal said those tax breaks stimulated economic activity, which created jobs and generated revenues for the state. He said the state may be

only months away from starting an economic recovery and shouldn't tinker with its tax codes.

"We just need to hunker down and see this recession through," said O'Neal, a Hutchinson Republican. "Then our businesses can rebound."

And O'Neal and his fellow legislators already are marshaling their arguments for a debate on tax issues because they sense they can't avoid it next year.

LOCAL TV LISTINGS

sponsored by the

Tuesday Evening		November 17, 2009									
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
KAKE/ABC	V		Dancing-Stars		the forgotten		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live		
KBSL/CBS	NCIS		NCIS: Los Angeles		The Good Wife		Local	Late Show-Letterman	Late Late		
KSNK/NBC	Merry		The Biggest Loser		The Jay Leno Show		Local	Tonight Show	Late Nigh		
KSAS/FOX	You Can Dance				Local						
Cable Channels											
A & E	Criminal Minds	Parking	Parking	Parking	Parking	Parking	Parking	Parking	Criminal Minds		
AMC	The Prisoner				The Prisoner				Terminator 2		
ANIM	Weird	Weird	Weird	Weird	Lost Tape	Lost Tape	Weird	Weird	Lost Tape	Lost Tape	
BRAVO	Salon Takeover	Salon Takeover	Salon Takeover	Salon Takeover	Salon Takeover	Salon Takeover	Salon Takeover	Salon Takeover	Real Housewives OC		
CMT	Extreme-Home	Strict Parents	Strict Parents	Strict Parents	Smarter	Smarter	Smarter	Smarter	Strict Parents		
CNN	Campbell Brown	Larry King Live	Larry King Live	Larry King Live	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	Larry King Live		
COMEDY	Scrubs	Scrubs	S. Park	S. Park	S. Park	S. Park	Daily	Colbert	Free Radi	S. Park	
DISC	Dirty Jobs	Dirty Jobs	Dirty Jobs	Dirty Jobs	Ghost Lab	Ghost Lab	Dirty Jobs	Dirty Jobs	Dirty Jobs		
DISN	Minutemen		As the Be	As the Be	Phineas	Montana	Wizards	So Raven	Life With	Cory	
E!	Swingers		Swingers	Swingers	Girls	Girls	Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea	Girls	
ESPN	College Basketball		College Basketball	College Basketball	College Basketball	College Basketball	College Basketball	College Basketball	SportsCenter		
ESPN2	College Basketball		Wm. Basketball	Wm. Basketball	College Basketball	College Basketball	College Basketball	College Basketball	SportsCenter		
FAM	Richie Rich				Funniest Home Videos	Funniest Home Videos	The 700 Club	Whose?	Whose?		
FOOD	Rachael Ray		Dear Food Network	Dear Food Network	Chopped	Chopped	The Next Iron Chef	Dear Food Network	Dear Food Network		
FX	S.W.A.T.				Sons of Anarchy	Sons of Anarchy	Sons of Anarchy	Nip/Tuck	Nip/Tuck		
HGTV	My First	My First	House	Buck	House	House	Property	My First	House	Buck	
HIST	WWII in HD		WWII in HD	WWII in HD	WWII in HD	WWII in HD	Earth-Made	WWII in HD	WWII in HD		
LIFE	Grey's Anatomy		Sherri	Sherri	Sherri	Sherri	Will	Will	Frasier	Medium	
MTV	S. Park	S. Park	The City	The Hills	The Hills	The City	Styl'd	The Hills	The City		
NICK	Malcolm	Malcolm	Chris	Chris	Lopez	Lopez	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	
SCI	Scare	Scare	Scare	Scare	ECW	ECW	Ghost Hunters	Stargate Universe	Stargate Universe		
SPIKE	UFC Unleashed	Super	Ultimate Knockouts 7	Ultimate Knockouts 7	Super	Super	UFC Unleashed	Real Vice	Real Vice		
TBS	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Lopez Tonight	My Boys	My Boys		
TCM	Once in West						8 1/2				
TLC	Table 12	Table 12	18 Kids	18 Kids	Little	Little	Table 12	Table 12	18 Kids	18 Kids	
TNT	Bones		Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	CSI: NY	CSI: NY	CSI: NY		
TOON	Agent Cody Banks 2	Tn-Titans	Tn-Titans	Tn-Titans	King-Hill	King-Hill	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen	
TRAV	Pizza Wars		Food Wars: Barbecue	Bizarre Foods	Bizarre Foods	Bizarre Foods	Ritual Masters	Pizza Wars	Pizza Wars		
TV LAND	Griffith	Griffith	Married	Married	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	Roseanne	Roseanne	
USA	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU		
VH1	Love of Ray J		Sex-Dr. Drew	Sex-Dr. Drew	Tough Love	Tough Love	Cocktail				
WGN	Inspector Gadget				WGN News at Nine	WGN News at Nine	Scrubs	Scrubs	S. Park	S. Park	
Premium Channels											
HBO	Bride Wars		Jumper	Jumper	Curb Your Enthusiasm	Curb Your Enthusiasm	Curb Your Enthusiasm	Curb Your Enthusiasm	Curb Your Enthusiasm		
MAX	Hellboy 2	The Bucket List			The Time Machine	The Time Machine	Life on Top	Wild Orch	Wild Orch		
SHOW	Mozart & the Whale				Dexter	Dexter	Californ	Promo	Lake City		

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Wednesday Evening		November 18, 2009									
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
KAKE/ABC	Hank	Middle	Family	Cougar	In the Spotlight	In the Spotlight	Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live		
KBSL/CBS	Christine	Gary	Criminal Minds	Criminal Minds	CSI: NY	CSI: NY	Local	Late Show-Letterman	Late Late		
KSNK/NBC	Mercy		Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	The Jay Leno Show	The Jay Leno Show	Local	Tonight Show	Late Nigh		
KSAS/FOX	You Can Dance		Glee	Glee	Local	Local					
Cable Channels											
A & E	Dog	Dog	Dog	Dog	Dog	Dog	Manhunter	Manhunter	Dog	Dog	
AMC	Terminator 3				End of Days	End of Days					
ANIM	Untamed and Uncut		River Monsters	River Monsters	Untamed and Uncut	Untamed and Uncut	River Monsters	River Monsters	River Monsters		
BRAVO	Top Chef: Las Vegas	Top Chef: Las Vegas	Top Chef: Las Vegas	Top Chef: Las Vegas	Top Chef: Las Vegas	Top Chef: Las Vegas	Top Chef: Las Vegas	Top Chef: Las Vegas	Chef Academy		
CMT	Smarter	Smarter	Ron White: Call Me Tater	Salad	Just for Laughs	Just for Laughs	Smarter	Smarter	Ron White		
CNN	Campbell Brown	Larry King Live	Larry King Live	Larry King Live	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	Larry King Live	Larry King Live	Larry King Live		
COMEDY	Scrubs	Dunham	S. Park	Michael	S. Park	Secret Gi	Daily	Colbert	Free Radi	S. Park	
DISC	MythBusters	MythBusters	MythBusters	MythBusters	Storm Chasers	Storm Chasers	MythBusters	MythBusters	MythBusters		
DISN	Adventures of Sharkboy		As the Be	As the Be	Phineas	Montana	Wizards	So Raven	Life With	Cory	
E!	Football Wives: THS		Kardashians	Kardashians	Chelsea	Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea	Chelsea	Girls	
ESPN	NBA Basketball		NBA Basketball	NBA Basketball	NBA Basketball	NBA Basketball	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	SportsCenter		
ESPN2	College Football		College Football	College Football	College Football	College Football	SportsCtr	NFL Live	Fastbreak	Sports	
FAM	Lilo & Stitch				Funniest Home Videos	Funniest Home Videos	The 700 Club	Whose?	Whose?		
FOOD	Challenge		Leftovers	Leftovers	Dinner: Impossible	Dinner: Impossible	Good Eats	Unwrapped	Leftovers		
FX	The Departed				Nip/Tuck	Nip/Tuck	Nip/Tuck	Sunny	League		
HGTV	Property	Property	House	Income	House	Renovatn	Haulin	My First	House	Income	
American Profile											
We Celebrate Hometown Life											
Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.											
HIST	WWII in HD		WWII in HD	WWII in HD	WWII in HD	WWII in HD	Nostradamus Effect	WWII in HD	WWII in HD		
LIFE	Grey's Anatomy		Lucky You	Lucky You	Will	Will	Frasier	Medium	Medium		
MTV	S. Park	S. Park	Real World-Rd	Real World-Rd	Real World-Rd	Real World-Rd	RW/RR Ch	Real World-Rd	RW/RR Ch		
NICK	Malcolm	Malcolm	Chris	Chris	Lopez	Lopez	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	
SCI	Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters	Ghost Hunters	Ghost Hunters	Ghost Hunters	Ghost Hunters	Ghost Hunters	Ghost Hunters		
SPIKE	Ultimate Fig				The Ultimate Fighter	The Ultimate Fighter	UFC 106	The Ultimate Fighter	Joe Rogan		
TBS	Payne	Payne	Payne	Payne	Browns	Browns	Lopez Tonight	Seinfeld	Seinfeld		
TCM	The Harvey Girls				Here Comes the Groom	Here Comes the Groom	Breakfast-Tiff's	Breakfast-Tiff's	Breakfast-Tiff's		
TLC	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Dress	Dress	Flowers	Flowers	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Dress	Dress	
TNT	Bones		Bones	Bones	Leverage	Leverage	Dark Blue	Leverage	Leverage		
TOON	Destroy	Destroy	Johnny T	Johnny T	King-Hill	King-Hill	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen	
TRAV	Deep Fried Paradise	Man/Food	Man/Food	Man/Food	Man/Food	Man/Food	Man/Food	Man/Food	Deep Fried Paradise		
TV LAND	Griffith	Griffith	Married	Married	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Roseanne	Roseanne	
USA	NCIS		NCIS	NCIS	NCIS	NCIS	Thank Smoking				
VH1	Work for Diddy		Sex-Dr. Drew	Sex-Dr. Drew	Sex-Dr. Drew	Sex-Dr. Drew	Sex-Dr. Drew	The T.O. Show	The T.O. Show		
WGN	Polyester				WGN News at Nine	WGN News at Nine	Scrubs	Scrubs	S. Park	S. Park	
Premium Channels											
HBO	The Dark Knight				Curb Your Enthusiasm	Curb Your Enthusiasm	RocknRolla	RocknRolla	RocknRolla		
MAX	The Express				Yes Man	Yes Man					
SHOW	Lock	Lock	Inside the NFL	Inside the NFL	Dexter	Dexter	Inside the NFL	Californ	Lock		

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Says there are only

25 Days Until Christmas

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