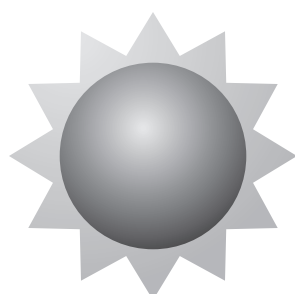


Weather Corner



National Weather Service
Tonight: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 23. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 51. Northwest wind around 5 mph becoming south.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 23. Southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 56. Southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 23.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 53.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 26.

M.L.King Day: Mostly sunny, with a high near 53.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 27.

Tuesday: A slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 46. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Tuesday Night: A slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 31. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Wednesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 49.

Wednesday: High, 60; Low 25
Precip: Wed. 0.00 inches
Month: 0.00 inches
Year: 0.00 inches
Normal: 0.45 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset
Friday 8:03 a.m. 5:45 p.m.
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

County commissioners deal with pile of bills

From "BILLS," Page 1

with the organization for overhead costs. The amounts were the same as last year.

The report said cardboard for recycling sold for a high in June 2008 of \$70 a ton, a low of \$14 a ton in December 2008 and is now at \$42 a ton. The commissioners were encouraged that prices are edging up, noting that most recyclables show better prices after the lows experienced last year.

County Appraiser Mary Cech and Marty Bieker of R&S Mapping Services came to the commissioners for approval on a \$12,200 bill to "square up" mapping ser-

vices charges. The original cost of the contract last year was \$68,000, she said, but the agreement was split in two for budgeting purposes. It covers the mapping equipment and maintenance agreement on the geographical information systems software, which can show every piece of land in the county.

The Emergency Pregnancy Clinic was got approval to get new carpeting, paint and furniture, all from an anonymous donor.

The stand-alone clinic, run by volunteers, gets free office space at the Thomas County Office Complex. The commissioners gave their approval for the upgrades on the con-

dition the installer do the carpet in a safe manner.

"I would remind them that any upgrades or furniture, or anything else, once given to the offices in the complex, become the property of the county," said Commissioner Steele.

Road Supervisor Clair Schrock told the commissioners that Dennis Odom of Team Lab Chemical Corp. had called about an increase in the price of chemical to be used on the Campus Road. He said if the county wanted to lock in the 2009 price, they could do it by placing the order now. The company will store it free until time to use it on

the road. Schrock thought they would be ready to start the project as soon as everything thaws. He also discussed sealing the Mingo Road before the Chase bridge south of town on K-25 is closed, since traffic may be detoured to the Mingo Road.

- In other business, the commissioners:
- Approved raising the purchase limit for departments from \$350 to \$500.
 - Approved a contract with Cory Swartz for purchase of \$23,000 in tax credits.
 - Approved tax abatements of \$1,815.

Chukar causes ruckus at Colby Grade School

From "CHUKAR," Page 1

Chukars are not native to North America, but rather Europe and Asia. Their range extends from southeastern Europe and Turkey to Pakistan and Afghanistan. It is the national bird of Pakistan.

The species was introduced into the western United States

as a game bird. Today, the chukars' range includes the western slope of the Colorado Rocky Mountains, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California and parts of Wyoming and Montana. They are bred for hunting stock by game preserves in Kansas, and sometimes kept as pets.

Governor proposes tax hike to help schools

From "TAX," Page 1

said because of \$1 billion in new spending in recent years, schools are better positioned to weather the state's financial downturn.

"Fortunately, whether it's the courts forcing the Legislature to do it or the Legislature doing it, we were in position to make some substantial investments in the schools before the recession hit," said O'Neal, a Hutchinson Republican, "so they've got more capacity to absorb this type of recession than most agencies."

For Wichita, the state's largest school district, with more than 49,600 students, \$50 per student will minimize further cuts but not prevent them, the district's lobbyist said.

Diane Gjerstad said district officials have used federal funds to maintain classroom support programs, but those could be lost,

along with numerous teaching positions districtwide.

"We are concerned about the support services that Wichita has built," she said. "Those are being eroded. That's important because of demographics (that includes many minority students and poverty)."

Districts will get \$4,012 per student this school year, though they originally expected about \$4,400 per student.

But Tallman noted that some legislators believe schools can withstand further cuts that take their base below \$4,012 per student.

"We can go back to the system that we had five or 10 years ago, but are you going to get the achievement results that we have been getting?" Tallman said. "That's what has the districts so concerned."

Three area attractions selected as finalists for geographic wonders

From "FINALISTS," Page 1

canyons and short-grass prairie make this a distinct and scenically-dramatic part of Kansas.

• Lake Scott State Park, Scott County. Lake Scott State Park is a finalist because of its history, its role as an oasis in an otherwise semiarid land, and its craggy canyons that provide sudden and surprising relief on the High Plains of western Kansas.

• Mount Sunflower, Wallace County. Mount Sunflower is a finalist because the U.S. Geological Survey recognized it as the spot

with the highest elevation in Kansas (4,039 feet above sea level), it provides vistas of the High Plains and the short-grass prairie, and because the Harold family has so effectively commemorated this site.

Other northwest sites include the Sternberg Museum of Natural History in Hays and the Geographic Center of the 48 Contiguous States near Lebanon.

Voting will continue until midnight Wednesday, Feb. 17. People may vote for their top eight online at 8wonders.org or by paper ballot. Ballots can be picked up at one of the finalist's locations or

by calling (620) 585-2374. One e-mail address may be used three times to vote.

The geography contest is one in a series organized by the Inman-based Kansas Sampler Foundation. The eight rural culture elements used by the Foundation to help a town assess itself are each showcased in one contest.

Previously, the top 8 Wonders have been decided in Architecture, Art, Commerce, Cuisine and Customs. After Geography, the focus will be on History and People.

All results can be seen at www.8wonders.org.

LOCAL TV LISTINGS

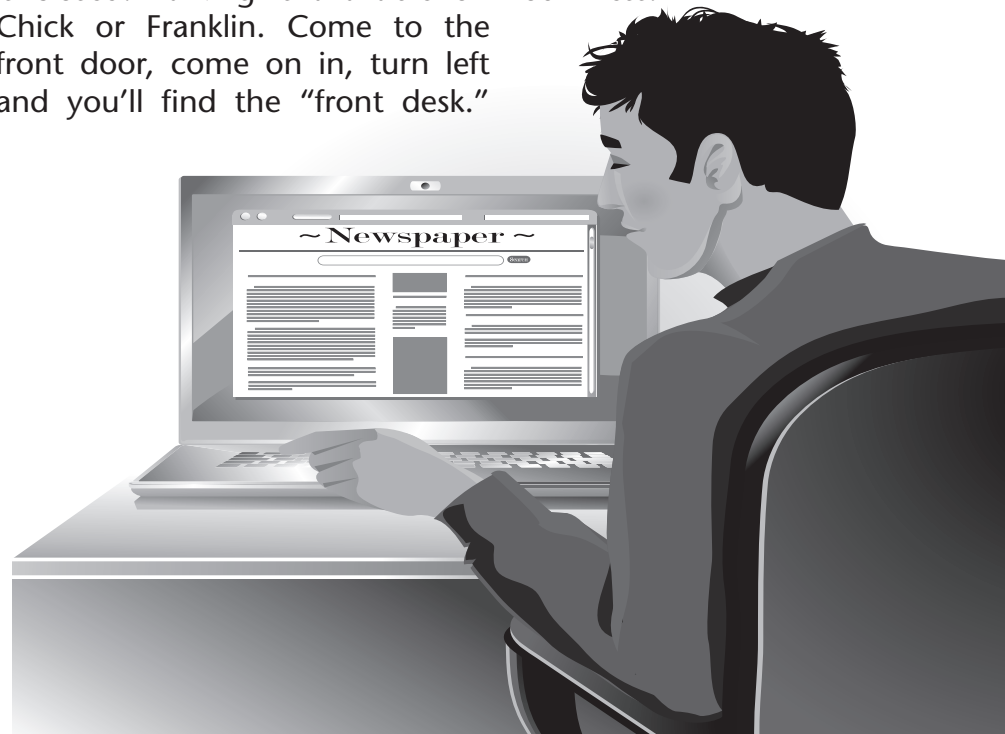
sponsored by the

Saturday Evening		January 16, 2010								
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Grey's Anatomy		Private Practice		Castle		Local			
KBSL/CBS	NFL Football						Local			
KSNK/NBC	Mercy		Law & Order		Law & Order: SVU		Local	Saturday Night Live		
KSAS/FOX	Cops	Cops	Amer. Most Wanted		Local		The Wanda Sykes Show	Sit Down	Local	
Cable Channels										
A & E	CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami	
AMC	Catwoman				Pitch Black				The Fan	
ANIM	It's Me or the Dog		Underdog-Wonderdog		Pit Boss		Underdog-Wonderdog		Pit Boss	
BRAVO	House		House		House		House		House	
CMT	The Singing Bee		Police Academy				Police Academy			
CNN	Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Campbell Brown		Larry King Live	
COMEDY	Ralphie May		Dave Chappelle		Dane Cook		Roseanne		Roseanne	Serious
DISC	Ghost Lab		Ghost Lab		Ghost Lab		Ghost Lab		Ghost Lab	
DISN	The Incredibles		Up, Up and Away		Montana		Wizards	Deck	Suite	So Raven
E!	Miami Vice				Girls		The Soup	Chelsea	Miami Vice	
ESPN	College GameDay		Wm. Basketball				SportsCenter			NFL
ESPN2	College Basketball		College Basketball				NBA 10	NBA	Final	Fastbreak
FAM	Bring It On: All				Bring It On				Sleepover	
FOOD	Chopped		Chopped		Chopped		Iron Chef America		Chopped	
FX	The Benchwarmers		Grandma's Boy				Damages		'70s Show	'70s Show
HGTV	Divine	Sarah	Outdoor	Block	Design Interns		House	House	Outdoor	Block
Get Fit for the New Year with the Hottest Fitness DVDs!										
BUY NOW										
HIST	MonsterQuest		MonsterQuest		MonsterQuest		MonsterQuest		MonsterQuest	
LIFE	Trapped		Karla		Project Runway		Karla			
MTV	S. Park	S. Park	Jersey Shore		Jersey Shore		Jersey Shore		Jersey	Library
NICK	iCarly	Jackson	The Troop	iCarly	Lopez	George	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny
SCI	Ghost Town		House of Bones				Open Graves			
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn		Outlaw Josey	
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Miss Congeniality 2				Miss Congeniality 2			
TCM	Battleground				Miracle in the Rain				The Bride	
TLC	Emergency Level One		Emergency Level One		To Be Announced		Emergency Level One		Emergency Level One	
TNT	Daddy's Little Girls				Last Holiday				Legend-Bagger	
TOON	Green Lantern: First Flight		HotWhls		King-Hill	King-Hill	The PJs	Stroker	Boondocks	Bleach
TRAV	Castles-Palaces		Top Ten Bridges		Mega Structures		High-Tech Monorails		Castles-Palaces	
TV LAND	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Home Imp.		High School Reunion		Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne
USA	Game Plan	Ocean's Thirteen					Law Order: CI		Action Sports	
VH1	The Karate Kid				Frank Enter.		Celebrity Rehab		Fantasia	
WGN	Unfaithful				America's	Scrubs	Scrubs		Sky Captain-World	
Premium Channels										
HBO	Yes Man				Pride and Glory				Yes Man	
MAX	Spider-Man				I Love You, Man					
SHOW	Disaster Movie		Superhero Movie				Beer League		Dead Man	

We're Open!

• Because of the flooding, we are working in the back room. The front door is open, but Fifth Street is closed. Parking is available on Chick or Franklin. Come to the front door, come on in, turn left and you'll find the "front desk."

• As always, customers are our priority at the Colby Free Press. We're here to serve you. Please pardon our mess.



COLBY FREE PRESS

Office hours: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Monday to Friday.

155 W. Fifth St. • (785) 462-3963

Sunday Evening		January 17, 2010								
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Extreme-Home		Desperate Housewives		Brothers & Sisters		Local			
KBSL/CBS	60 Minutes		Cold Case		NCIS		Local			
KSNK/NBC	Golden Globes						Wrap Party		Dateline NBC	
KSAS/FOX	Human Target		24				Local			
Cable Channels										
A & E	Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Jackson Family		Jackson Family		Criminal Minds	
AMC	Superman Returns						Superman Returns			
ANIM	I'm Alive		I Shouldn't Be Alive		The Haunted		I'm Alive		I Shouldn't Be Alive	
BRAVO	Law & Order: Intent		Law & Order: Intent		Law & Order: Intent		Law & Order: Intent		Law & Order: Intent	
CMT	Grumpier Old Men				Broken Bridges				Cable Guy	
CNN	Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom		State of the Union		Larry King Live	
COMEDY	Demetri Martin		Nick Swardson		Aziz Ansari		Russell Peters		Comedy Central's Hot	
DISC	Planet Earth				Planet Earth				Planet Earth	
DISN	Skyrunners				i'm-Band	Montana	Wizards	Montana	Suite	So Raven
E!	Kardashian		Kardas	Kardas	Kardashian		E! After Party		The Soup	Chelsea
ESPN	SportsCtr	NFL	NBA Basketball				SportsCenter			
ESPN2	Tennis									
FAM	Bring It On				Bring It On				J. Osteen	Feed
FOOD	Challenge		Iron Chef America		Worst Cooks		Flay	Flay	Iron Chef America	
FX	Grandma's Boy		The Simpsons Movie				Archer	Archer	Nip/Tuck	
HGTV	Outdoor	Block	House	House	Holmes on Homes		For Rent	Income	House	House
HIST	Ax Men		Ax Men		Madhouse		MonsterQuest		Ax Men	
LIFE	Mini's First Time		Gia				Project Runway		Frasier	
MTV	The Real World		Teen Mom		Teen Mom		Jersey Shore		Jersey Shore	
NICK	Malcolm	Malcolm	Chris	Chris	George	Lopez	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny
SCI	The Skeleton Key		The Prestige				Dead Like Me: Life After Death			
SPIKE	Ultimate Fig				BlueMount	BlueMount	The Lost Boys			
TBS	The Rock				The Rock					
TCM	Roxanne				Cyrano de Bergerac				The Conquering Power	
TLC	48 Hr-Evidence		TV Murders		Holloway-Lost		48 Hr-Evidence		TV Murders	
TNT	Hitch				Hitch					
TOON	TMNT				King-Hill	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Titan Maximum		
TRAV	101 Chowdown		101 Chowdown				101 Chowdown		101 Chowdown	
TV LAND	Griffith	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	High School Reunion	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	
USA	Bad II	Ocean's Thirteen					House		16 Blocks	
VH1	Frank Enter.		Tough Love		Aspen	Frank Enter.	Aspen		Tough Love	
WGN	Newhart	Newhart	BarneyM	BarneyM	WGN News	Replay	Cheers	Cheers	Newhart	Newhart
Premium Channels										
HBO	Band of Brothers		Big Love		Hung	Hung	Big Love		Watchmen	
MAX	I Love You, Man				Planet of the Apes				Co-ed Confidential 3	
SHOW	The Tudors		The Tudors		The Eye					