### Weather Corner



National Weather Service Tonight: Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy. Windy. Lows in the mid 50s. South winds 20 to 30 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly cloudy. Windy. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 70s. South winds 20 to 30 mph.

Windy. Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds 20 to 30 mph becoming west 10 to 15 mph after midnight.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs around 70. North winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the east in the after-

Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows around

Thursday through Friday Night: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 70s. Lows in the mid 40s.

Saturday: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s.

Saturday Night and Sunday: Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Highs in the lower 60s.

Friday: High, 68; Low 30 Saturday: High, 64; Low 32 Sunday: High, 73; Low 41 Precip: Friday 0.00 inches 0.00 inches

Saturday Sunday 0.00 inches 0.40 inches Month: Year: 3.01 inches Normal: 3.89 inches

(K-State Experiment Station) **Sunrise and Sunset** 7:10 a.m. 8:20 p.m. Wednesday 7:09a.m. 8:21 p.m. (U.S. Naval Observatory)

AP Technology Writer

WASHINGTON — When Congress included \$7.2 billion for broadband in last year's stimulus bill, its goal was to bring high-speed Internet connections and information-age jobs to parts of the country desperate for both.

Now as the government awards the money, some phone and cable companies complain that not all of it is being used to bring broadband to places that lack it. Instead, these companies say, much of the money will fund new networks in places where they already offer service.

customers with lower prices, private companies warn, they could be less likely to

and undermining the goals of the stimulus for bandwidth. The new stimulus-funded roughly 70 percent of them cover areas

"It is extremely unfair that the government comes in and uses big government money to harm existing private businesses," says Gary Shorman, president of Eagle Communications, a Kansas cable company with about 16,000 customers.

Eagle is bracing for competition in its hometown of Hays from Rural Telephone Service Co., a telephone cooperative which received \$101 million in stimulus grants and loans "to bring broadband to rural Kansas." Shorman's prediction: "This hurts our company.'

Yet government officials handing out the From the Blue Ridge Mountains to the awards and the backers of the projects insist Great Plains, local phone and cable com- the money is being well spent. They contend panies fear they will have to compete with that the stimulus dollars should be used to government-subsidized broadband systems, expand high-speed Internet access not only paid for largely with stimulus dollars. If to places where it is totally unavailable, but these taxpayer-funded networks siphon off also in regions where what is available is not good enough.

Many existing systems, they note, lack

networks will provide far more robust connections — many with speeds of up to 100 megabits or even 10 gigabits per second to schools, libraries and other "anchor institu-

"It's a little disappointing that companies that aren't adequately serving these areas are trying to undercut those of us who are trying to step in and get the service where it's needed," says Lawrence Strickling, head of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

The agency and the Agriculture Department's Rural Utilities Service have given out more than \$2 billion in stimulus grants and loans and now are sorting through piles of applications for what's left of the money. The cash is going for high-speed networks, computer centers and broadband adoption programs, and the recipients include government agencies, rural cooperatives and private companies.

Of the 140 awards made so far, 108 will upgrade their own lines, endangering jobs the capacity to meet mushrooming demand help pay for broadband networks. And ties Service, which awarded the money.

already served at least in part by existing broadband providers, according to a U.S. Telecom Association analysis of data that existing carriers have filed with the govern-

Government officials say such arguments reflect a fundamental misunderstanding of the stimulus program.

The \$101 million Kansas project, for instance, will bring connection speeds of up to 1 gigabit to businesses and up to 100 megabits to as many as 23,000 homes. While the network will cover the population center of Hays, where both Rural Telephone and Eagle Communications already offer broadband, that accounts for just eight of the 4,600 square miles to be reached. Much of the area has no broadband at all, says Larry Sevier, Rural Telephone's chief executive.

The goal is to "close the digital divide between Hays and the outlying areas," says Jonathan Adelstein, head of the Rural Utili-

## Network aims to stop theft of farm equipment, chemicals

From "THEFT," Page 1

past decade.

"They steal batteries out of tracin 2008, the Kansas Bureau of tors," he said, noting that farmers Investigation said. Lutz said the often leave their equipment in the number has stayed steady in the fields when spring arrives. "We've

had tractors stolen, as well."

Some thieves also take anhydrous ammonia from farmers and elevators to make meth. Others are stealing copper wire, metal and fuel from the pump motors on irrigation center pivots.

Broadband bill stimulates laments from companies

Some farmers have taken matters into their own hands.

Tuesday Evening

aty said two weeks ago, he found tem sent him a 4 a.m. call from a two men taking tools and other farm shop last summer, thwarting items out of his vehicle. He chased a burglary. them down when they took off.

set up a homemade burglar alarm protect against every thief in reusing a cell phone and motion sensor to alert him to any suspicious activity on a farm he owns but said. Olmitz-area farmer Mark Hlav- doesn't occupy. He said the sys-

Hickey said he understands that John Hickey of Barton County law-enforcement officers can't mote areas.

"They can't be everywhere," he

## Alumni recognize grads

From "ALUMNI," Page 1

will also be on display.

reception was amazing," Taylor st-tel.net, or by contact the Alumsaid. "There were several hundred ni Association at www.eaglesagraduates and friends in atten- lumni.org. dance, and we're expecting a good turn out again this year."

Nominations can be mailed to: Taylor said.

High Flying Eagles, CHS Wall of Honor in care of Prairie Museum, 1905 S. Franklin, Colby, Kan., "The response at last year's 67701, or e-mailed to prairiem@

The committee reserves the right to edit or omit submissions,

## State music festival here all day Thursday

From "MUSIC," Page 1

most every classroom. Nichols said Colby students will serve and setting up the stage for each

The festival is held in 15 loca- Quinter.

tions throughout the state, including as Overland Park, Burlington and Lindsborg.

Schools performing here include as student hosts, getting visiting Northern Valley, Rawlins County, bands and choirs to and from the Cheylin, Colby, Deerfield, Dighauditorium, moving equipment ton, Goodland, Holcomb, Lakin, Wichita County, Norton, Decatur Community, Syracuse and

OCAL TU IISTINGS

sponsored by the





### KBSL/CBS NCIS The Good Wife Late Show Letterman Late KSNK/NBC The Biggest Loser KSAS/FOX American Idol The Bear Whispere Extreme Makeover The Great Outdoor The Great Outdoo Anderson Cooper 360 Campbell Brown Larry King Live Larry King Live 3. Park Deadliest Catch Deadliest Catch Deadliest Catch construction Twitches Too Phineas Wizards Suite So Raver Insolve Crime Kendra 30 for 30 Baseball Tonight :60 30 for 30 SportsCenter Special Nation unniest Home Videos Funniest Home Videos Funniest Home Videos FOOD Unwrapped The Best Good Eats Unwrapped Unwrapped The Best Damages My First Grey's Anatomy Homecoming Medium Frasier Pregnant 16 and Pregnant 16 and Pregnant 16 and Pregnant Strict Parents G. Martin Malcolm Chris The Nanny The Nanny The Nanny The Nanny Lopez WWE NXT WWE NXT Star Trek Gen. Alone in the Dark UFC Unleashed Deadliest Warrior Deadliest Warrior UFC Unleashed DEA Office Office Office Office Office Lopez Tonight Name/Earl Name Earl High Wall Stand by for Action TLC Man-Half Body Little NBA Basketbal Codename Ed, Edd King-Hill King-Hill Fam. Guy Fam. Guy Chicken **Ghost Adventures** Food Wars Food Wars Food Wars Ghost Adventures Home Imp. Home Imp. Raymond Raymond Raymond Raymond Roseanne Roseanne Law & Order: SVU In Plain Sight Tough Love Couples RuPaul's Drag Race Basketbal Chilli Brandy & Ray Sober Hous WGN News at Nine Channels II Love You, Mar Far and Away Yes Man My Best Friend's Girl Nurse Meet the Browns

Wednesday Evening April 14, 2010 7:00 7:30 Family Local Late Show Letterman Late KBSL/CBS Chris Criminal Minds CSI: NY Local KSNK/NBC Minute to Win It Law & Order: SVI Law & O KSAS/FOX Human Target Dog Bounty Hunter ∕lission: Impossible Top Gun I Shouldn't Be Alive River Monsters River Monsters Top Chef Masters Top Chef Masters Top Chef Masters Top Chef: Las Vegas CMA Awards Smarter Smarte Campbell Brown Larry King Live Anderson Cooper 360 South Pk Ugl COMEDY Chappelle Chappelle Futurama Futurama South Pk Ugly DISC MythBusters MythBusters What a Tool MythBusters MythBusters True Hollywood Story Chelsea ESPN2 Good Eats Unwrapped Flay Dinner: Impossible Ultimate Recipe The Transporter

We Celebrate Hometown Life Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.

Gangland Derailed Grey's Anatomy 16 and Pregnant The Challenge G. Martin Malcolm The Nanny The Nanny The Nanny The Nanny Chris Chris Lopez Lopez Ghost Hunters **Ghost Hunters** Destination Truth **Ghost Hunters** Destination Truth The Ultimate Fighter Best of PRIDE UFC Unleashed **UFC** Unleashed The Ultimate Fighter Browns Payne Browns Pavne Lopez Tonight Name Earl Name Earl TCM Thank God Standing-Mtwn Lady Sings the Blues 650-lb. Virgin Hoard-Buried Hoard-Buried Addicted The Bourne Supremac CSI: NY CSI: NY TOON Ed, Edd Ed, Edd Fam. Guy Chicken TRAV Man/Food Man, Food Man, Food Raymond Raymond Raymond Raymond First Love Basketbal Brandy & Ray J Tough Love Couples What's Love Got to Do With It Beauty S. Park Real Time/Bill Maher Gran Torino The Pacific Funny or Life

State of Play

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## ATTENTION

Colby High School, Brewster High School, Golden **Plains High School and Heartland Christian School** 

# **Senior Parents** & HOMESCHOOLERS



Class of 2007





### **Hurry in parents!!** Deadline is April 26, 2010!!!

**Small Sample** 

The Colby Free Press is now planning the Senior Graduation Tab and will be giving parents a chance to put a baby picture in along with a short message from the family for a small fee.

> We will automatically feature your student's picture and information, but this will be your chance to put in a baby picture to show how much your senior has really changed over the years!

**Call Andrea, Heather or Shaly** @ 462-3963 for more information or stop by the office at 155 W. 5th in Colby.



## WHITNEY COLETTE ADAMS

I plan to attend Colby Community College and play softball PARENTS: Richard & Peggy Adams It's been a real hoot, Whit -

go get em girl, and Godspeed. Love, Mom & Dad

MAX

Fred Claus