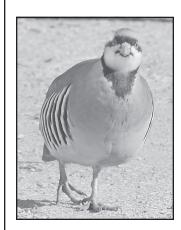
#### Weather Corner



National Weather Service Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 26. South wind 5 to 15 mph becoming west.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 57. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday Night: Patchy fog after midnight. Otherwise, mostly clear, with a low around 24. East wind between 5 and 10

Wednesday: Patchy fog before noon. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 50. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming southeast.

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

Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 58.

Thursday Night: A slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 29. Chance of precipitation is 20

Friday: A chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 47. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 21.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 45.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 21.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 50.

> Friday: High, 20; Low 10 Saturday: High, 41; Low 19 Sunday: High, 40; Low 12 Precip: Friday 0.02 inches

Saturday none Sunday none Month: 0.21 inches 0.43 inches Year: Normal: 0.45 inches (K-State Experiment Station)

**Sunrise and Sunset** 

Tuesday 7:17 a.m. 6:36 p.m. Wednesday 7:16 a.m. 6:37 p.m. (U.S. Naval Observatory)

**NEWSPAPER** 

CARRIERS

WANTED

The Colby Free Press

is looking for Carriers!

After School; Monday - Friday

About 1-2 hours per day

A great job for students,

moms, or retired people

wanting a little "fresh air."

# Thomas County needs more emergency medical technicians

From "MEDICS," Page 1

Runs average about an hour from the time a crew is paged out until they are back to the ambulance garage, Gatlin said. Pay is \$26 an hour during an emergency and \$2 an hour when a technician is on standby, waiting for the pager to go off. They have the freedom to be doing other things, he said, but must be able to get away when an emergency happens.

Gatlin said the county averages anywhere from 300 to 500 calls each year, not counting transfers, and that doesn't vary much.

During daytime hours, the county ambulance garage is manned by two full-time technicians. That means a call during the day generally takes less time for an emergency crew to respond than a night emergency. At night, volunteers respond from their homes, and have to drive to the ambulance building, on the hospital grounds.

"However, if a call comes in where someone is not breathing," Umberger said, "volunteers respond directly to the scene and go to work on the patient while someone else brings the ambulance. Volunteers must have 20 runs under their belt with experiMedical volunteers paid for work on emergency runs

Thomas County has 24 emer- per hour when called out. gency medical technicians the county's emergency medical services director.

While classed as volunteers, hour when on standby and \$26 said Gatlin.

The job is a great opportunity working on the ambulance for students who are considercrew, but could use at least a ing a career in the medical field dozen more, says Ken Gatlin, or for someone who has a desire to help people in need, he said.

Anyone who's interested should call the ambulance dethe technicians are paid \$2 an partment at (785) 460-4585,

allowed to respond on their own.

"We need more volunteers. Most people have jobs and can't leave their jobs to take a call. Rexford is uncovered during the day for that reason. And the more volunteers there are, the less burnout we have."

Umberger said the service has had an ad in the paper for three weeks to try to hire someone with emergency medical technician certification who can also serve as secretary. The person would also help take calls during day hours.

"It's a good-paying job, but so

enced technicians before they are far we've not had anyone apply,'

The person who's hired, she said, will have the opportunity for advancement, as a supervisor, dispatcher or other post. Sometimes a technician will move into nursing or become a physician assistant, and some even become doctors.

Gatlin said the volunteer shortage is a point of concern.

"At what point do you change the service when there are no volunteers?" he asked. "It's not a job that allows for on-on-the-job training."

SHOW Adventrld Holy Rollers

# Colby wrestlers take first at state

From "STATE," Page 1

40-7.

Senior George Smollock lost his first match 10-5 and won by a 3-2 decision in his second at 189. He lost his third 2-1. Smollock was 33-13 this season.

Freshman David Mainus lost his first match 7-5 and was son.

pinned in his second at 103. Despite the losses, Williams said Mainus was one of the Eagles most improved wrestlers this

Schmitt said Mainus and freshman Andrew Taylor "really

turned a corner this season." Mainus was 20-18 this sea-

#### Lawmakers may pass rural tax abatement

From "TAX," Page 1

publican, said the program would be re-evaluated periodically, including annual reports to legislators with the number of people taking advantage of the program.

His Senate district covers four counties south and west of the Kansas City metro area. New Census figures due out this week for the 2010 count are likely to show the region continuing to add residents, while some counties in they could find jobs and take adwestern Kansas have lost nearly a fifth of their population since

"We're fortunate on the eastern part of the state where we take so much for granted," Apple said. "I think it's a good start.'

Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley said initially wasn't sure if he could support the plan but ended up being one of three Democrats to vote for it. His concern was whether the counties would have enough economic activity to attract new residents so vantage of the abatement.

### School district to join regional mapping project

From "MAPPING," Page 1

Board vice president Tracy Rogers said he had several problems with the project. First, he wondered how secure the plans would be and whether they are to be posted on the Internet. The agreement says the physical plans will be kept at a secure location and then returned to the district, Harrison said. The computer files will not be published on a website, but rather given to the regional security council, local and state emergency managers and the Kansas Highway Patrol. The district also gets a copy.

Rogers' other concern was cost. The security group is paying for the project – which costs \$59,850 - with grant money, Harrison said. However, Rogers said, the money had to come from somewhere and that should be used for the regular general. school budget.

Board member Omar Weber said he agreed with Rogers, but said the district shouldn't pass up the opportunity to get in on the project for free.

"What happens if somewhere down the line, some Homeland Security official makes it mandatory, and then we don't have the money?" he asked.

The board approved the project 5-1, with Rogers voting no. Board member Stan Molstad was

The Northwest Regional Homeland Security Council covers Thomas, Cheyenne, Rawlins, Decatur, Norton, Philips, Sherman, Sheridan, Graham, Rooks, Wallace, Logan, Gove, Trego, Ellis, Russell, Ness and Rush counties. There are seven regional councils in the state, all under the Kansas Department of Homeland Secuitems like this draw off money rity, which answers to the adjutant





Tuesday Evening March 1, 2011 7:00 7:30 Late Show Letterman Late KBSL/CBS NCIS The Good Wife KSNK/NBC The Biggest Los Parenthood Tonight Show w/Leno Late KSAS/FOX American Idol Cable Channels The First 48 A & E The First 48 True Grit True Grit Confessions Confession lousewives/At To Be Announced Real Housewives Happens Real Housewives Parker Spitzer Anderson Cooper 360 Tosh.0 Tosh.0 Dirty Jobs Dirty Jobs The Luck of the Irish Good Luck Good Luck Hannah ish Hook Sex and t Sex and t Fashion Police Kourtney Chelsea E! News Chelsea SportsCenter College Basketball College Basketbal NBA College Basketball NBA Coast to Coast Final Nation The 700 Club Funniest Home Videos Funniest Home Videos Whose? Challenge Cupcake Wars One Born E Teen Mom 2 Teen Mom 2 Teen Mom 2 \_ife, Liz Teen Mom 2 My Wi The Nanny The Nanny The Nanny The Nann My Wife Star Trek: Next Star Trek: Next Star Trek: Next Chrono Chrono Gurren Death Proof Office Office Office Office All About Eve Cabaret The Emperor Waltz What Not to Wear What Not to Wear What Not to Wear Extreme Couponing What Not to Wear Memphis Beat Southland Hole/Wall Adventure King-Hill King-Hill Fam. Guy Fam. Guy Chicken Aqua Teer Bizarre Foods Raymond Raymond Indiana Jones Royal Pains RuPaul's Drag Race RuPaul's Drag Race Basketball Wives RuPaul's Drag Race How I Met How I Met Chipmunks-Squeakque Date Night

Wednesday Evening March 2, 2011 Criminal Minds KBSL/CBS Survivor: Redemption Late Show Letterman Late KSNK/NBC Minute to Win It Minute to Win It Law & Order: SVU Tonight Show w/Leno Late KSAS/FOX American Idol Cable Channels Dog Bounty Hunt River Monsters Top Che Top Chef Bethenny Ever After Top Che he Dukes of Hazzard Dukes-Hazzard Smarter Piers Morgan Tonight Piers Morgan Tonigh South Pk South Pk Tosh.0 South Pk South Pk Futurama Sons Fish Hook Fish Hook Γinker Bell and the Lost Deck Good Luck Good Luck Hannah Hannah Sex and t Sex and t College Basketball NFL Live NBA College Basketball SportsCenter College Basketba Cheaper by the Doze Chopped

Californ. | Californ. | Shameless

Charlie Valentine

We Celebrate Hometown Life Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper. How I Met How I Met Chris Gangsta Girls Used to Be Fat The Nanny The Nanny The Nanny The Nanny Lopez ace Of Face Off Ghost Hunters **Ghost Hunters** Ghost Hunters Ways Die Ways Die Ways Die Ways Die Ways Die Ways Die Ultimate Fight Nigh Are We Th Are We Th East of Eden Hoard-Buried Hoard-Buried Hoard-Buried CSI: NY Bones Bones Southland Dude King-Hill King-Hill Amer. Dad Amer. Dad Fam. Guy Fam. Guy Chicken Man, Food Man, Food Carnivore Man, Food Bacon Paradise Sanford Raymond Raymond airly Lega Royal Pains You're Cut Off You're Cut Of You're Cut Off You're Cut Off Brandy

Edge of Darkness

Shameless

NASCAR Extreme Movie

1-3 Front CFP 2-28-11.indd 2

Thurgood

SHOW A Single Man

NASCAR Californ

How I Met How I Met WGN News at Nine

For more information call the Colby Free Press office: 785-462-3963 or stop in at 155 W. 5th Street