

Weather Corner



National Weather Service
Tonight: A 20 percent chance of rain before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 30. Windy, with a south wind 25 to 30 mph becoming west 5 to 10 mph.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 60. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Friday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly after 1 a.m. Patchy fog after 1 a.m. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 34. East wind around 15 mph.
Saturday: A 20 percent chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 50. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Saturday Night: A slight chance of rain before 1 a.m., then a slight chance of rain and snow. Cloudy, with a low around 28. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.
Sunday: A chance of rain and snow. Cloudy, with a high near 35. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.
Sunday Night: A chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 26. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.
Monday: A chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 37. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.
Monday Night: A slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy; low around 21. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.
Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 48.
 Wednesday: High, 57; Low 17
 Precip: Wed. None
 Month: 0.44 inches
 Year: 0.87 inches
 Normal: 2.11 inches
 (K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
 Friday 7:40 a.m. 8:01 p.m.
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

Senate approves new abortion limits

By John Milburn
The Associated Press

TOPEKA — The Kansas Senate approved a bill Wednesday restricting late-term abortions based on the presumption that a fetus feels pain after the 21st week of pregnancy.

With the 24-15 vote, Kansas follows Nebraska as the second state in the nation to use the fetal pain threshold as grounds for restricting abortion.

"It's a landmark vote," said Kathy Ostrowski, lobbyist for the antiabortion group Kansans for Life. "We are the first in the pack. Other states are moving in this direction."

The bill allows an abortion after the 21st week of pregnancy only if the mother's life is in danger or she faces substantial and permanent harm to "a major bodily function," which would exclude mental health.

Nebraska's fetal pain law, passed in 2010, took effect in October. It has yet to face a court challenge, but antiabortion activists say it creates another compelling reason for states to restrict abortions and invite further review by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"The court is waving us in," Ostrowski said.

House members approved the bill earlier in the session. They are expected to concur with a minor technical amendment and send the bill to Republican Gov. Sam Brownback to sign.

The bill ties the restrictions to a legal presumption that a fetus can feel pain after the 21st week. The science behind that idea is still in dispute, however.

Current state law imposes the same restrictions — with an additional mental health exception — but only when a doctor determines the fetus is viable or able to survive outside the womb.

The bill would take away a doctor's discretion to declare a fetus not viable and move ahead with a late-term abortion with no restrictions.

Sen. David Haley, a Kansas City Democrat, said the measures were "chauvinistic and patronizing"

because men were telling women what to do with their bodies.

"I would trust women, for or against, on either side of the issue to argue the pros and cons," Haley said.

But Republican Sen. Ralph Ostermeyer of Grinnell said his wife, daughters and other women in his western Kansas district are urging him to stand up against abortion.

"Protect the unborn," he said. "That's what it's all about."

Peter Brownlie, president of Planned Parenthood of Kansas and Mid-Missouri, said the law could jeopardize the health of a woman and that lawmakers fail to recognize that not all families are healthy or functioning normally.

"While rare, an abortion that takes place after 22 weeks into a pregnancy is most often necessary because of a severe fetal indication or serious medical condition that endangers the life or health of the mother," Brownlie said. "This bill is an attack on women and families facing wanted pregnancies that have gone terribly wrong."

Sen. Marci Francisco, a Lawrence Democrat, said the measure does nothing to prevent unwanted pregnancies or reduce the number of abortions in Kansas.

"I want our statutes to be compassionate, both to the unborn child and their families," she said.

The Senate also passed a second bill adding restrictions to late-term abortions and requiring parental consent for minors to have abortions. The House also approved that bill earlier in the session.

Brownback vowed to sign anti-abortion legislation when he took office in January.

"I do think it's a good law and I'm happy the governor is anxious to sign the bills," Ostrowski said.

Brownback spokeswoman Sherriene Jones-Sontag said the governor was pleased with the bipartisan effort on abortion and a variety of issues.

The second bill requires a doctor to obtain the consent of both parents or a guardian in writing before performing an abortion on a girl under 18. The girl could go to court to avoid the requirement.

Voters may get to decide on 'suitable' education money

From "VOTERS," Page 1

Harrison said the Legislature is also trying to eliminate Kan-Ed, a communications program that provides resources, databases and grant money to teachers and helps them collaborate with other schools. The superintendent said Colby teachers use it for testing, library materials and more. Curriculum Director Diana Wieland said she has already heard from parents who are concerned that the program may get cut.

HB 2390 would dissolve the program and transfer the money back into the state general fund. The bill was sent to the House Appropriations Committee on March 15.

Harrison said she hoped to know more about how the budget issues will shake out by the April board meeting.

In other business, the board:

- Received a \$2,500 donation from the Monsanto Co., an agricultural biotechnology corporation. Shiela Frahm of Colby won the award in the company's America's Farmers Grow Communities program, and got to choose a nonprofit organization to receive it. She chose the Col-

by School District, and she and her husband Ken matched the donation. The donation will go to the district's School Improvement Plan.

- Heard board member Kevan Taylor ask whether the new activity bus, approved at the Feb. 21 meeting, was being paid for out of the general fund or the capital outlay fund.
- Harrison said the money came from the capital outlay fund. She said all of the capital outlay projects for the year have been completed, except for wireless Internet installation at the high school, which is underway, and heating system repairs for the grade school, which are on hold.
- Harrison said the district will go back to the capital outlay plan and add another year's worth of projects so that it remains a five-year plan.
- Tried out the new bus, a Blue Bird. The board, along with a few guests, were the first passengers to ride in it when they took a trip to the high school during Monday's meeting. Harrison said she will be asking Colby Canvas and Commercial Sign to submit proposals for the exterior.
- Heard a presentation by

physical education teacher Ed Schmitt on the high school weight-lifting program. Schmitt said his goal is get everyone to improve physically. He said he has four strength training classes in addition to freshman physical education. The students start with a warm-up, lift weights for 30 minutes and then have time to change before their next class.

Schmitt said he has many dedicated students who help keep the weight room clean and help monitor other students.

- Hears grade school Principal Lance Krannawitter report that the preliminary results from state assessment tests look good. The students will be taking the math test later in the year.
- Krannawitter said the state is allowing schools to delay the test because so many had snow days during the scheduled time. Principal Rob Ross said the middle school also will take the test later.
- Received a book donation from the Kansas-National Education Association from language arts teacher Andrea Schuette. The association donated about 20 books geared toward younger students to the district.

LOCAL TV LISTINGS

sponsored by the

Saturday Evening										March 26, 2011	
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
KAKE/ABC	Wipeout		Dancing With Stars				Local				
KBSL/CBS	College Basketball		Criminal Minds		48 Hours Mystery		Local				
KSNK/NBC	Harry's Law		Law-Order L.A.		Law & Order: SVU		Local	Saturday Night Live			
KSAS/FOX	Cops	Cops	Amer. Most Wanted		Local		Fringe	Fame	Local		

We Celebrate Hometown Life

Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.

HIST	Marijuana: A	The History of Sex	Sex Civil War	Marijuana: A
LIFE	Sister Act 2: Back	Overnight Delivery	Coming Home	One Born Ev.
MTV	RJ Berger	The Real World	I Was 17	Jersey Shore
NICK	Victoriosa	Big Time	iCarly	My Wife
SCI	House of Bones	Scream of Ban	Goblin	The Nanny
SPIKE	UFC Unleashed	UFC Unleashed	UFC Fight Night	Days of Thunder
TBS	Mean Girls		Monster-in-Law	Riding in Cars
TCM	Mildred Pierce		Daisy Kenyon	This Woman
TLC	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Cake Boss
TNT	Disturbia		The Brave One	
TOON	Underdog	King/Hill	King/Hill	God Devil
TRAV	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures
TV LAND	CSI: Crime Scene	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond
USA	NCIS	NCIS	NCIS	The Condemned
VH1	40 Funniest Fails	Pretty in Pink		Trading Places
WGN	Videos	NBA Basketball		News/Nine

ATTENTION...

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

Senior Parents & Homeschoolers Hurry in!!

Deadline is April 15, 2011!!!

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.

HEATH STEPHENS

Love You Heath!

I plan to attend College for Pre-Optometry or Engineering.
 Parents: Leo and Shawn Stephens

•• Small Sample ••

Call Andrea or Kathryn, at 462-3963 for more information or stop by the office at 155 W. Fifth in Colby.

Sunday Evening										March 27, 2011	
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
KAKE/ABC	Secret Millionaire		Desperate Housewives		Brothers & Sisters		Local				
KBSL/CBS	The Amazing Race		Undercover Boss		CSI: Miami		Local				
KSNK/NBC	America's		Celebrity Apprentice				Local		Dateline NBC		
KSAS/FOX	Simpsons	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Amer. Dad	Local						