

Weather Corner



National Weather Service

Tonight: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 59. East wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 84. Northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61. East wind around 10 mph.

Sunday: Patchy fog before 1 p.m. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 92. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 95.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 65.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 96.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 67.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 93.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 60.

Thursday: Sunny and breezy, with a high near 86.

Thursday: High, 93; Low 64
Precip: Thursday None
Month: None
Year: 5.20 inches
Normal: 9.84 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset

Saturday 6:18 a.m. 9:07 p.m.
Sunday 6:18 a.m. 9:08 p.m.
Monday 6:18 a.m. 9:08 p.m.
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Colby Water Use

Wednesday 2,389,000 gal.
(Colby Public Works)

Drought persists; wheat crop matures faster

From "DROUGHT," Page 1

has matured faster, he said, and will continue to do so unless the weather turns cool.

The quality of this year's crop is holding in there, Milliman said, and the area hasn't had much pressure from diseases like rust. Oklahoma and Texas have also been under drought conditions this year, so rust hasn't been able to take hold there and spread to Kansas.

Even if the weather remains dry, farmers won't see any further yield loss than they have already, Milliman said, and with the price at close of market on Thursday at \$8.22, farmers may still be able to turn a profit this year.

Milliman said there have been a few farmers who filled up their ailing wheat and planted other



TOM BETZ/Colby Free Press

High winds on Wednesday tore part of the roof off this mobile home in Goodland and from a barn in Logan County. Damage in

Colby was confined to tree limbs, but wind gusts reached as high as 70 miles per hour.

crops, but not as many as he had predicted. The decision rested on a number of factors, including crop insurance requirements and

what chemicals they put on the field that might affect other crops.

Milliman said some farmers are still planting corn and soybeans.

He spoke to several farmers who planted soybeans early only to see them freeze. The fields had to be replanted. Farmers also do not

have a lot of milo in the ground yet, he said, because they are still finishing with other planting.

Student shot on school trip

From "STUDENT," Page 1

two school district sponsors.

"The district's primary concern is for the Johnston family and also for the many students and staff members who are affected by this tragedy," Splichal said in a written statement. He said the district had activated its crisis plan and that counselors would be available for students and staff.

"The safety and security of the students and sponsors is imperative to the school district," he said.

Arrangements for the other Kansas students to re-

turn early are being made by EF Education Tours of Cambridge, Mass., which arranged the trip.

Johnston's death was the second time a northeast Kansas student was killed while on an educational trip to Costa Rica, according to the Lawrence Journal-World.

Shannon Lucile Martin was only a few days from graduating from the University of Kansas in May 2001 when she was murdered in Golfito, Costa Rica, while walking to her residence. She had been in Golfito finishing a class project to collect rare fern samples.

South-central crops hit hard by drought

By Roxana Hegeman

The Associated Press

WICHITA – The winter wheat harvest is expected to begin within days in south-central Kansas as the industry grapples with mostly poor crops, but lofty prices for whatever farmers manage to salvage.

At the OK Co-op Grain elevator in Kiowa, growers already have begun test cutting wheat on both sides of the Kansas-Oklahoma border, said assistant manager Dennis Carroll.

Those early test samples are still too high in moisture, but the first Kansas fields should be ready to harvest in the area within a day or two, he said.

But with cash prices at the Kiowa elevator at \$8.55 a bushel on Thursday, the mood among growers remains "pretty good" despite the lower anticipated yields. At this same time last year, wheat prices were hovering at around \$3 a bushel.

"You can get by with a third of the bushels," Carroll said wryly.

That is good for those farmers who will get high prices for the grain they do harvest and crop insurance payments for the fields

that they lost. But this is going to be a rough winter wheat harvest for the custom harvesters that make their living cutting the crop and the grain elevators that make their revenues by storing it.

"It is a bleak picture," said Pam Shmidl, operations manager for U.S. Custom Harvesters, the trade group for custom cutters.

Some custom harvesters have lost thousands of acres that they normally cut at a time when fuel prices for their machines at the start of harvest hit \$4 a gallon before falling some in recent days. Meanwhile, their costs for equipment payments, wages for hired men and food expenses continue as they wind their way northward across the nation's breadbasket following the ripening crops.

Winter wheat crops in Texas and Oklahoma have been so poor that many custom cutters never bothered to haul their machines down there, Shmidl said. A lot of them are hoping they will have something in Kansas to cut.

"This year more than others, there is just so much unknown as the combines start rolling into the fields," said Aaron Harries, marketing director for the industry trade group Kansas Wheat.

"We owe that to the fact that the weather has been so variable in the last two weeks," he said. "We've had days of 100 degree temperatures and high winds and we have had some beneficial rains – and it has all come in the critical stage for the wheat when it is filling the grain kernels in the heads."

Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service forecast last month that this year's Kansas winter wheat crop would come in at 261.8 million bushels, a figure based on crop conditions as of May 1. If realized, the Kansas crop would still be down 27 percent from last year for the lowest production in the state since 1996. An updated forecast will not be released until Thursday.

Expectations for the Kansas crop are "somewhat cautious," he said, adding he is feeling more comfortable with the government forecast after recent rainfall in central and northern parts of the state. But the drought conditions linger in west-central and south-west Kansas. Meanwhile, north-central Kansas is struggling with the opposite extreme with fields there receiving way too much moisture.

State to fix curves on K-27 this year

From "CURVES," Page 1

smaller than two previous transportation programs. As a result, KDOT recommended lower-cost options such as expressways instead of freeways, and adding passing lanes instead of four-laning many highways.

"We call that 'designing to a budget,' much like you have to do when you think about home repairs and remodeling," Secretary Miller said.

"We're taking this approach because most Kansans we've heard from have said some improvement is better than no improvement at all."

The other project in north-west Kansas is for alignment and shoulder improvements on 26 miles of K-383 in Phillips and Norton counties.

The list of expansion and modernization projects can be viewed on the T-WORKS website at <http://www.ksdot.org/t->

Police find grave markers dating back to the Revolution

SANDY LAKE, Pa. (AP) – State police in northwestern Pennsylvania report finding more than two dozen grave markers of fallen veterans, some dating back to the Revolutionary War, in a local creek.

Trooper James Mason was sent out to investigate a report of a safe lying in the rural Mercer County creek. But before he found the safe in the creek near the road in New Vernon Township, Mason said he found 29 bronze markers.

Corporal James Powell of the Mercer barracks said they may have been from Spring Creek Cemetery in Corry, southeast of Erie, where police reported 25 to 29 grave markers missing last summer.

Powell says the markers are fairly small, some of them circular and about the size of a compact disk, while others are shaped like stars and about six inches in

diameter. They bear engravings with the names of wars – from the American Revolutionary War to the War of 1812 to the Civil War to World Wars I and II and the Korean War – along with the dates of the wars. They are attached to 2- to 3-foot-long rods used to secure them in the ground, but bear no names.

Powell said he suspects that the markers were stolen to be sold as scrap metal before the thief realized that trying to sell Revolutionary War-era grave markings might "raise a red flag" and decided it was easier just to dump them. Stealing items from a grave site is a felony in Pennsylvania. Officials said they do not think the markers and the safe are connected.

Police say historical specialists are to examine the markers, and they are awaiting word from the Corry cemetery about whether they might have come from there.

Rawlins County Health Center

RAWLINS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

707 Grant
Atwood, KS 67730
(785) 626-3211

Bringing Specialized Healthcare To Your Community

June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic	MRI'S	Nuclear Medicine Cardiac Rehab	
5	6 Dr. Rubowitz Oncology	7	8 Dr. Frankum Surgery	9 Dr. Reeves Podiatry	10 Dr. Reeves Podiatry	11
	Mammograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab		Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic	MRI's	Cardiac Rehab	
12	13	14	15 Dr. Curtis Cardiology	16 Dr. Saba Orthopedics	17	18
	Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab		Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic	MRI's	Nuclear Medicine Cardiac Rehab	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	DEXA Bone Density	Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic	MRI'S	Cardiac Rehab	
26	27 Dr. Rubowitz Oncology	28 Dr. Frederick C. Miller Cardiology	29	30		
	Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab		Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic	MRI's		

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

SUNDAY JUNE 20

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH A VISITING PHYSICIAN, PLEASE CALL (785) 626-3211

Cheryl Banister, RN
Specialty Clinic Director

LOCAL TV LISTINGS

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