Area/State

Weather



National Weather Service Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 14. Blustery, with a northwest wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to 15 to 20 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 24. Blustery, with a northwest wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Night: Partly Saturday cloudy, with a low around 4. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west after midnight.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 26. West wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the afternoon.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 7.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 30 Monday Night: Partly cloudy,

with a low around 12. Tuesday: Sunny, with a high

near 36 Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy,

with a low around 19. Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 48.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 23.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high

Thursday: High, 38; Low 32 Precip: Thursday Trace 0.10 inches Month: 0.10 inches Year: Normal: 0.42 inches (K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset Saturday 8:03 a.m. 5:42 p.m. Moon: waxing, 1 percent Sunday 8:03 a.m. 5:43 p.m. Moon: waxing, 5 percent 8:03 a.m. 5:44 p.m. Moon: waxing, 12 percent (U.S. Naval Observatory)

Early morning accident



KATHRYN BALLARD/Colby Free Press

Josh Swarz, a tow-truck operator for Wagoner and Sons, said Baker failed to yield to an eastbound 2005 Ford F150 had to lean way into a damaged car to get it ready to tow pickup driven by Brenly Rachel Terrell, 15. Terrell's pickup this morning after a collision that left two Colby teens withstruck Baker's 1995 four-door Lincoln Town Car broadside. out a ride. Police Sgt. Kent Dible said Jaydan Lane Baker, 16, was southbound on Austin Ave. when he stopped at hospital, Dible said. Fourth Street about 7:25 a.m., then started up. The officer

Baker suffered minor injuries but did not want to go to the

Flu becoming an epidemic

From "EPIDEMIC," Page 1

Nationally, 20 children have died from the flu. There is no running tally of adult deaths, but the centers estimate that the flu kills about 24,000 people in an average year.

Flu vaccinations are recommended for everyone 6 months or older. Health officials are still recommending vaccinations, even in areas with widespread

Nearly 130 million doses of vaccine were distributed this year, and at least 112 million have been used, according to federal officials. Vaccine is still available, but supplies may have run low in some locations, offi-

cials said a recent study of more than 1,100 people has concluded the current flu vaccine is 62 percent effective. That's in line with how effective the vaccine has been in other years.

The vaccine is reformulated each year, and officials say this year's version is a good match to the viruses going around.

Flu usually peaks in midwinter. Symptoms can include fever, cough, runny nose, head and body aches and fatigue. Some people also suffer vomiting and diarrhea, and some develop pneumonia or other severe complications.

Most people with flu have a mild illness, but people with severe symptoms need to see a doctor. They may be given anti-Also on Friday, federal offi- viral drugs or other medications.

Colby hospital to limit visits

From "FLU," Page 1

that the clinic is asking people with the flu to only come in they have serious symptoms to eat or drink, or if their if symptoms last more than five days.

Someone with less serious symptoms, he said, should stay at home, drinks lots of water and use over-the-counter medications.

strain of the flu going around should not be life-threatening or cause serious symptoms need to be careful.

At Colby High School,

Donna Juenemann was acting as secretary Thursday because several staff members were sick. She said seven kids had called in sick by Thursday like high fever or are unable morning, and 14 were out sick Wednesday. "You could say this week

overall, we've had a higher number call in than usual," she said, "and the students seem to be sicker for longer."

Other schools had fewer call in sick. School Nurse Focke stressed that the Jodi Luckert said there were 10 kids sick at the elementary school Thursday, which did not represent a noticefor healthy people. The young able spike in numbers. Midor old, or people who already dle School Secretary Deann have health complications, Shields said six kids called in sick there Thursday.

Firm hired to study Law Enforcement Center

From "FIRM," Page 1

pen and it's only a matter of time."

"We are cognizant of the fact that something needs to be done," Steele said.

Lucas said that on the tour, Finley showed him some things the sheriff has done to keep the jail safe but said there just not cost effective. comes a point when you begin throwing good money after bad.

space to the west of the Thomas County in the future." Office Complex.

ent things, and different ways to pay for operate a new facility. In addition, they'll "I think you are well past that time," he it. But, right now, you need to be aware look at revenue sources and build a plan added, "and although I think you could of what your best option is. We could do for payment options.

find room to expand the facility, I'd rec- the feasibility study, and of course, there ommend building new. There is ample is no obligation that you use our services is \$3,500, although other expenses, such

For the study, Lucas said, the firm's "You have several options, but it's criminologist would sit down with Sherprobably not a good idea to expand and iff Rod Taylor to discuss his needs now I don't think it's in your best interest. It's and look at expected needs 20 to 30 years from now. They'll talk about what it may "There are different ways to do differ- cost to build and how much it will take to study?" asked Steele.

The base cost of the study, Lucas said, as transportation costs, would be billed as

"I wrote down that it'll cost as much as \$5.000," said Commission Chairman Ken Christiansen.

'So, do we want to spend \$5,000 on the

"I don't want to spend anything," replied Commissioner Byron Sowers, "but I'll agree to it.'

Judge delays arraignment in Colorado theater shooting

- A judge today delayed the ar- ple counts of first-degree murder the proceedings to discuss the raignment of the man charged with the Colorado theater shooting until March.

District Judge William Sylvester ruled Thursday night that to delay that proceeding. prosecutors had presented sufcharges alleging that James Holmes killed 12 people and injured 70 others at a suburban Denver movie theater on July 20.

Holmes is charged with multi- hearing. The judge reconvened be done by state doctors. and attempted murder.

Holmes won't have to enter a plea until March 12 after the reason for the delay. judge granted a defense motion

in the courtroom yelled "Rot in

An unidentified man seated ity of an insanity defense.

outburst. Defense lawyers didn't give a

One possible reason could be to seek a mental health evalua-A majority of the families of tion by a doctor of their choosing. ficient evidence to proceed with the victims objected to the de- His lawyers have said Holmes is mentally ill, raising the possibil-

If Holmes had entered an inhell, Holmes!" at the end of the sanity plea, an evaluation would

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during the arraignment. Cam- could face the death penalty.

Hangover Swingers

Untold History

eras have been barred from court Holmes' attorneys also ob- since Holmes' initial appearance jected to news media requests to in July. If Holmes, 25, is conbring cameras into the courtroom victed of first-degree murder, he

Briefly

Pets ready for adoption at Colby Animal Clinic

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has two dogs available for adoption: a 7-month-old female purebred red heeler and a 4-year-old female blue heeler. Call or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have current shots, and costs are minimal. For questions, call 460-8621.

Wellness Challenge will help improve health

The eight-week Thomas County Wellness Challenge encourages increased exercise and better eating habits to promote a healthy lifestyles and lower weight. It includes Bodpod testing for body composition, weekly weigh-ins and lessons on wellness, all for \$40. To register, go to the "Wellness Challenge" tab at www.thomascountywellness.org or stop by the Thomas County Health Department, 350 S. Range, by Monday. For information, call Director Kasiah Rothchild at 460-4596 or Extension Agent Diann Gerstner at 460-4582.

Hospital offering cut-rate blood, health checks

Citizens Medical Center, working with the Thomas County Healthy Communities Coalition, will offer health screenings in the specialty clinic lobby from 6 to 9 a.m. through Saturday. Screenings include a comprehensive blood profile for \$30 (lipid profile, glucose and complete blood count; requires a10- to 12-hour fast), thyroid for \$20, Hgb A1C (glucose) for \$20, prostate screening for \$25, electrocardiogram for \$35 and lung/breathing check, free. For questions, call Jeanene Brown at (785) 460-4850.

Want a free lunch? Go to church Saturday

The Once a Month Lunch will be served from 11:30 to 12:30 Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church, 515 W. Fourth St. in Colby. This free meal is the second Saturday of each month. For questions, call the church office at 462-6342.

Commodities to be given out here Monday U.S. Department of Agriculture com-

modities will be distributed from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program office in the Senior Progress Center at Fike Park. Distribution is first come, first-served, but you may send a signed permission slip with another person. Bring a sack or box. Expected commodities include rotini, green beans, peaches, peanut butter, sweet potatoes and juice. For questions. call the office at 462-6744.

Dance team plans clinic for kids Monday, Tuesday

The Colby High dance team will hold a junior clinic for kids from kindergarten through fifth grade from 3:45 to 5:15 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the Colby Middle School. Cost is \$20. All participants will receive a CD and perform during the halftime of the 6:30 p.m. game on Thursday at the Orange & Black Classic. Call Coach Denita Rodgers, 269-7908, for questions.

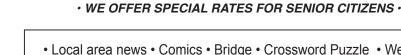
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Shameless



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Sherlock Holmes-Game



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