

Weather

# Statewide snow storm makes its way out of area

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storm, 11 inches fell in Goodland, nine in Oakley, seven in Brewster and 15 in Hill City.

Last night, city vehicles could be heard clearing the streets, and state crews were out on the highways.

Colby Police reported one accident in town Thursday. The city lifted a "snow emergency," which prohibited people from parking on the main streets starting Wednesday afternoon, at 8 a.m. today.

Sixteen National Guard soldiers in eight Humvees based in

Hays and Salina spent Wednesday patrolling Interstate 70 for stranded cars, the Kansas Department of Transportation said. Secretary Mike King said the department had over 1,000 snowplows working.

Thursday morning, blowing snow prompted the department to close Interstate 70 from Salina to Hays. As hotels in Hays filled up, the road was closed eastbound first at Colby and later at Goodland. All highways in the state were re-opened by 9 p.m. Thursday, but officials advised people to stay home and to travel as absolutely necessary.

"It's just not the right conditions to get out and travel," Gov. Sam Brownback said in a statement. "If you don't have to travel, don't do it."

The Kansas Highway Patrol reported no injury accidents on area highways Thursday, and just one Wednesday when a passenger car was hit in the back by a tractor trailer rig as it tried to pass a snowplow on the Interstate east of town. Emergency responders kept busy all day and into this morning rushing with countless slideoffs along the highway.

## Midwest travel woes tick up

By Barbara Rodriguez

The Associated Press

that many flights were being affected by snow in other cities.

DES MOINES, Iowa — A snowstorm left behind varying amounts of snow and ice across the Midwest, but those areas affected were united by one thing this morning: difficult travel conditions.

Powerful wind gusts created large snow drifts on many roadways, making navigating the slick conditions a challenge. Accidents and slide-offs were reported from Kansas to Michigan as the storm pushed east today.

Strong gusts off Lake Michigan caused problems for commuters in eastern Wisconsin. Chicago's more than 280 snowplows salted and cleared the city's streets, while commuters slogged through slush to get to their offices.

But in some locations, the storm didn't live up to the hype. At the Pilot Flying J station near Interstate 29 in southwest Iowa, shift manager Kelly Malone said today his company had taken precautions by reserving seven rooms for employees at the nearby Super 8 Motel.

About 270 flights in and out of Chicago's two airports were canceled this morning, according to the airline tracking website FlightAware.com. Kansas City International Airport and Lambert International Airport in St. Louis, Mo., both re-opened this morning, but cancellations were possible. Lambert spokesman Jeff Lee told KMOX

There were some impressive snow totals — 17 inches in Hays.; 13 inches in northern Oklahoma; 13 1/2 inches in south central Nebraska; and 10 inches near Kansas City, Mo.

Other areas had accumulation more in line with a regular winter system. Wisconsin topped out at 6 inches in New London. Minnesota ranged from 2 to 6 inches of snow, with Dodge County getting 8 inches. Northern Indiana's top total was 4 inches in Crown Point, close to the Illinois border, and Indianapolis was dealing with ice-coated surfaces.

Schools were closed in parts of Kansas, Missouri, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

That included the University of Missouri, where classes were canceled two days in a row, one of the few times in its 174-year history. Chancellor Brady Deaton said today the road conditions in Columbia would make it difficult for many to reach campus.

But on Thursday, students trekked out to a local Walmart, making a beeline for the aisles containing sleds and alcohol.

Transportation officials in the affected states urged people to stay home on Thursday. The Kansas National Guard had 12 teams patrolling three state highways in Humvees overnight to rescue motorists stranded by the storm.

## College tests fingerprint tech

By Amber Hunt

The Associated Press

RAPID CITY, S.D. — Futurists have long proclaimed the coming of a cashless society, where dollar bills and plastic cards are replaced by fingerprint and retina scanners smart enough to distinguish a living, breathing account holder from an identity thief.

What they probably didn't see coming was that one such technology would make its debut not in Silicon Valley or MIT but at a small state college in remote western South Dakota, 25 miles from Mount Rushmore.

Two shops on the School of Mines and Technology campus are performing one of the world's first experiments in Biocryptology — a mix of biometrics (using physical traits for identification) and cryptology (the study of encoding private information). Students at the

Rapid City school can buy a bag of potato chips with a machine that non-intrusively detects their hemoglobin to make sure the transaction is legitimate.

Researchers figure their technology would provide a critical safeguard against a morbid scenario sometimes found in spy movies in which a thief removes someone else's finger to fool the scanner.

On a recent Friday, mechanical engineering major Bernard Keeler handed a Red Bull to a cashier in the Miner's Shack campus shop, typed his birthdate into a pay pad and swiped his finger. Within seconds, the machine had identified his print and checked that blood was pulsing beneath it, allowing him to make the buy. Afterward, Keeler proudly showed off the receipt he was sent via email on his smartphone.

Fingerprint technology isn't

new, nor is the general concept of using biometrics as a way to pay for goods. But it's the extra layer of protection — that deeper check to ensure the finger has a pulse — that researchers say sets this technology apart from already-existing digital fingerprint scans, which are used mostly for criminal background checks.

Al Maas, president of Nexus USA — a subsidiary of Spanish-based Hanscan Identity Management, which patented the technology — acknowledged South Dakota might seem an unlikely locale to test it, but to him, it was a perfect fit.

"I said, if it flies here in the conservative Midwest, it's going to go anywhere," Maas said.

Briefly

### Baptist Church invites everyone to lunch

Everyone is invited to come and bring a friend for a free lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the First Baptist Church at Webster and Grant. For information, call Radonda Buford at 462-2804.

### Sacred Heart carnival set for this weekend

The Sacred Heart School carnival will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday at the school in Colby. Come for bierocks, games, fellowship and to enter a drawing for many prizes. For information, call Principal Laura Krecji at the school, 460-2813.

### Seminar offers help on starting own business

Thinking of starting your own business? Come to a free Business Start-up Workshop, facilitated by the Kansas Small Business Development Center and sponsored by Thomas County Economic Development, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range Ave., Colby. Make your dreams come true; call Christy Rocca at 460-4511 to register.

### S&T to hold Business After 5 this month

Join a Mexican fiesta at Business After 5 on Wednesday at S&T Communications in Colby, 755 Davis Ave. For information, call Alicia Moore at 460-7300.

### First graders will perform 'Lemonade'

The Colby Grade School first graders will be presenting the musical "Lemonade" at 2 and 7 p.m. Thursday in the school auditorium. The show is free and open to the public. For information, call Jennifer Koel at 460-5100.

### Genesis-Thomas County meeting set

The annual meeting of Genesis-Thomas County Inc. will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the meeting room of the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range in Colby. The public is invited. For information, call Wynn Duffey at 462-6342.

### Head Start looking for kids to fill classes

Head Start, a tuition-free preschool, is looking for a few good kids. Services include education, nutrition, health, disability services and family support. The school accepts applications all year long for children 3 and 4, but they must be 3 by Aug. 31. For information or to get an application, call Janell Griffin at 460-6067.

### Gem Lions Club plans annual soup day

The Gem Lions Club will have its annual winter soup day from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, March 2. Your donations and recycled eyeglasses and hearing aids go to help people in need. Serving homemade veggie, chili or potato soup and good conversation. For information, call Ken Poland at 462-7809.

### Program needs volunteer to provide tax help

The American Association of Retired Persons program to provide free tax help in Colby needs a volunteer who understands basic taxes and is willing to commit about four hours a week to help senior citizens. Regional Director Cathy Eddleman said she will provide a day of training in Colby. Volunteers work in the Pioneer Memorial Library meeting room on scheduled days. For information or to volunteer, call Eddleman at (785) 821-1827.

### Girl Scouts will sell cookies through March

Colby Girl Scouts are out selling cookies through Sunday, March 10. This year is the first the girls will have the cookies as they sell. No more ordering and waiting for the goodies to arrive, said Leader Penny Cline. Price is \$3.50 per box and the new cookie this year is called "Mango Crème." For information or questions, call Cline at 460-5404.

### 'Kids a Cookin' classes continue next month

Spring sessions of Kids-a-Cookin', a hands-on food preparation and nutrition class for third through fifth graders, continue Thursdays, March 21 and April 11. Sessions will start right after school, about 3:45 p.m., at the Colby Community Building, sponsored by Thomas County Extension. Classes are taught by K-State Research and Extension agents Karen Jones and Diann Gerstner. Sign up by calling the Colby Recreation Department, 460-4440.

## School board will evaluate new way

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Kansas Educator Evaluation Protocol and a system developed recently by the Southwest Plains Regional Service Center.

Stacy Wolf, a kindergarten teacher who was on the evaluation committee, said that the McREL system gave more importance to professional growth, while teachers on the committee said the other two did not.

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Monday Evening										February 25, 2013	
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
KAKE/ABC	The Bachelor				Castle		Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Nightline		
KBSL/CBS	How I Met Rules	2 Broke G	Mike		Hawaii Five-0		Local	Late Show Letterman	Ferguson		
KSNK/NBC	The Biggest Loser				Deception		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	J. Fallon		
KSAS/FOX	Bones		The Following		Local						
<b>Cable Channels</b>											
A & E	Gangsters: Most Evil	Gangsters: Most Evil	Beyond Scared Straig	To Be Announced	Gangsters: Most Evil						
AMC	Signs		Demolition Man								
ANIM	Finding Bigfoot	Finding Bigfoot	Gator Boys	Finding Bigfoot	Finding Bigfoot						
BRAVO	Real Housewives	Vanderpump Rules	Real Housewives	Happens	Vanderpump Rules	Real					
CMT	Reba	Reba	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear	Redneck Vacation	The Dukes of Hazzard					
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Piers Morgan Tonight	Anderson Cooper 360	E. B. OutFront	Piers Morgan Tonight						
COMEDY	Futurama	Futurama	South Pk	South Pk	Brickle	South Pk	Daily	Colbert	South Pk	The Jesel	
DISC	Fast N' Loud	Fast N' Loud	Fast N' Loud	Fast N' Loud	Fast N' Loud	Shake It	Wizards	Wizards			
DISN	Austin	Starstruck	Austin	Good Luck	Jessie	Shake It	Wizards	Wizards			
E!	Sex-City	Sex-City	Fashion Police	Burning L	After Lat	Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea			
ESPN	College Basketball	College Basketball			SportsCenter	SportsCenter					
ESPN2	Wm. Basketball	Content of Character	SEC Storied	NFL Live	NBA	NASCAR					
FAM	Switched at Birth	Bunheads	Switched at Birth	The 700 Club	Prince						
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners			
FX	The Proposal										
HGTV	Love It or List It	Love It or List It	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Love It or List It	Love It or List It					
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	American Pickers	Pawn	Pawn	Soldier Chall.	Pawn	Pawn			
LIFE	Pastor Brown		Betty & Coretta								
MTV	Catfish: The TV Show	Teen Mom 2	Teen Mom 2	Catfish: The TV Show	Teen Mom 2						
NICK	Nick News	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	The Nanny	The Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
SCI	Continuum	Being Human	Continuum	Continuum	Being Human						
SPIKE	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue					
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Conan	Office	Office		
TCM	Who Framed		Dead Poets Society							GoodViet	
TLC	Here Comes Honey Boo	Here Comes Honey Boo	Boo: Fami	Here Comes Honey Boo	Here Comes Honey Boo	Here Comes					
TNT	Castle	Dallas	Monday Mornings	Dallas	Monday Mornings						
TOON	Regular	MAD	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen	
TRAV	Bizarre Foods	Bizarre Foods	Hotel Impossible	Trip of a Lifetime	Bizarre Foods						
TV LAND	Cosby	Cosby	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King	King			
USA	WWE Monday Night RAW				NCIS: Los Angeles	CSI: Crime Scene					
VH1	Love & Hip Hop	Black Ink Crew	La La	La La	Love & Hip Hop	Black Ink Crew					
WGN	Funniest Home Videos	Funniest Home Videos	WGN News at Nine	Funniest Home Videos	Rules	Rules					
<b>Premium Channels</b>											
HBO	Real Time/Bill Maher	Beyoncé: Life Is but a Dream	Wanderlust						The Philly Kid		
MAX	No Escape	Child's Play	Dragon Eyes	Banshee	Life-Top						
SHOW	Homeland	Californ.	Lies	Shameless	Comedy	Lies	Californ.	Shameless			