

Weather Corner



Cooler temps this weekend

The forecast

Tonight — A 20 percent chance of showers.

Partly cloudy with a low around 38. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Saturday — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 p.m. Partly cloudy with a high near 63. Breezy, with a northwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. **Saturday night** — Partly cloudy, with a low around 30.

Sunday — Partly cloudy with a high around 58. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

Sunday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 31. **Monday** — Partly cloudy with a high around 61. **Monday night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 27. **Tuesday** — Partly cloudy with a high near 44.

Temperatures

Records for this date, 78 in 1902, 2 in 1911

Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00

November's precipitation, 0.03

A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

Man to be tried in mom's death

GIRARD (AP)—A man accused of killing his mother in Crawford County more than three years ago helped search the woman's house and put up missing persons posters shortly after she disappeared.

Paul Hunt, 36, is charged with killing Mary Taylor, 52, whose body was found in a strip mine pit near Arcadia on June 29, 2002, six days after she was reported missing from her home in Fort Scott. He was arrested in March in Kennett Square, Pa., where he had been living. Hunt was bound over for trial on a first-degree murder charge Wednesday after a preliminary hearing.

Hunt was scheduled to be arraigned Dec. 21. A forgery charge against him was dismissed.

Taylor's brother, James Cox, went to her home after one of her sons couldn't reach her.

Hunt was living at the home with his son and told Cox he had not seen his mother.

Briefly

Heart Tree to benefit needy children

Family and friends of Dr. Jeff Jennings are again sponsoring a *Heart Tree* in Memory of Jeff this Christmas, said Jennifer Van Eaton, one of the coordinator. For those who know of a child who could benefit by having their "Christmas Wish" placed on the tree, call Sacred Heart Church at 462-2179. "Please turn in any names by Wednesday, Nov. 16," she said. "Thank for helping provide a bright Christmas to the children of our community."

College pool closes until Nov. 28

The Colby Community College swimming pool is closed for maintenance, said Debbie Schwanke, public information officer. The pool will reopen on Monday, Nov. 28. For questions, call 462-3984.

Beth Moore Study group to begin

The Beth Moore Study group, "Believing God," will begin at 1:30 p.m., starting Monday, Nov. 21 1:30 at 550 S School, Colby. To order a study book, call Myrna Griffin, organizer of the group, 460-2903, to order the study book.

Special flag fundraiser underway

Money for the Special Olympics and Sons of the Legion are made possible when residents have flags placed in their

front yard or at their businesses on special holidays. For those wanting to help the two organizations and show patriotism at the same time, call Greg Griffin, 460-0647, for details on cost. The flags are displayed on Memorial Day, Flag Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, and Armed Forces Day.

Rexford plans ham/turkey dinner

Rexford Lions and Royal Neighbors are sponsoring an all-you-can-eat ham and turkey dinner, starting at 11 a.m., Saturday, at the Rexford Community Hall. Tickets are \$6.50 adults and \$3.50 for children under 10.

Flute/harp ensemble to perform

Western Plains Arts Association is hosting the flute and harp ensemble of Megan Meisenbach and Mary Golden, starting at 3 p.m., Sunday, at the Atwood High School auditorium. Admission is by association season pass or at the door — \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. On Monday, the ensemble will do an educational lecture/demonstration on the harp at Atwood Elementary School beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Library to host special event

Pioneer Memorial Library is hosting "Chocolate...and all that Jazz" in the library from 7 to 9 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 19. Librarian Jeff Friesen is encouraging everyone to join them

for a night of live jazz. Chocolate will be served. For questions, call 460-4470.

Support group meets Saturday

The Northwest Kansas Military Family Support Group will meet at 4 p.m., Saturday, at the Colby VFW, 220 Lake St. Anyone who has a family member or friend in any branch of the Armed Forces, activated or not, or anyone who would like to be involved in the Support Group is encouraged to attend. For questions, call Melanie Fortin 460-2995, or Lisa Varney 890-6939.

College sponsors blood drive

Colby Community College Department of Nursing will host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 17, in the student union on the college campus. The blood drive will be used in the Central Plains Region of the American Red Cross, which includes this area, said Pam Head, chief executive officer for the region. To make an appointment, call Tina Schrick, 460-4797. Walk-ins are also welcome.

'Harvest of Holidays' Tuesday

"Harvest of Holidays" is scheduled from 7-9 p.m. at the Colby Community Building. For questions, call Diann Gerstner, Thomas County Extension Office, 460-4582.

Washburn student dominates female fighting ranks

TOPEKA (AP)—Somewhere in Kansas, there's a guy whose buddies won't let him forget about the time a girl beat him up.

It happened at a bar in Topeka, Electric Cowboy, when a 150-pound bouncer named Jen Case confronted three disruptive patrons. One of the drunks grabbed Case by the throat.

The guy got bounced.

"I had to throw quite a few people out," said Case, who worked at the Cowboy for a year. "If they got really out of hand, I'd put 'em in a choke. There are some nights when somebody goes out a window."

What the guy didn't know was Case might be the best female fighter in the world. At 155 pounds, her relatively high weight and the low number of no-holds-barred female fighters makes it difficult to find opponents. But when she finds one, Case crushes her.

A farm girl from Clay Center, Case is 4-0 as a professional. All four fights ended by submission in the first round. She hasn't been tested and probably won't be anytime soon.

"I don't mean to sound arrogant," she said. "I look forward to meeting that woman who can challenge me. As of right now, I just really haven't found it yet."

When she fought Wisconsin's Greta Hicks, the No. 2 fighter in Case's weight class, on June 3, the fight was over in two minutes. Case won by submission using a "rear naked choke," which, if nothing else, sounds more hip than "by decision." Hicks gets a rematch Friday in Milwaukee.

"When I fought Greta Hicks," Case said, "I thought, 'Hey, maybe my sensei's not lying to me. Maybe I am really good.'"

That was the spark.

It's not just that Case likes to fight; she needs to fight. A dean's list student at Washburn, she's got tuition and books to pay for. There's the rent and the electricity bill and groceries and high gasoline prices. Case makes \$400 to \$500 for show-

"If they got really out of hand, I'd put 'em in a choke. There are some nights when somebody goes out a window."

Jen Case, student

ing up at an event and might haul in another \$500 for winning. She bought a laptop with the prize money from her first bout. She works part-time jobs — bouncing, teaching karate, normal college girl stuff — and her parents Mark and Vicki, farmers in Clay Center, help financially.

When Case graduates from Washburn in December, the 16th to be exact — "Not that I'm counting the days or anything," she said — she's not going to wave her diploma for the CEOs of the world. She won't sit in a cubicle. She won't clock in and clock out. Case plans on fighting for a living, while putting to use the athletic training she has studied at Washburn.

Case is not someone who fights. Case is a fighter.

"(My parents) thought it was a phase I was going through," she said. "They've realized it's a lifetime commitment."

The Cases never saw it coming. "It's new to us," her father said. "We're not used to (her fighting). The biggest thing that worried her mom and I was her getting hurt."

Lucky for her parents, Case does most of the hurting.

"The tapes and stuff I've watched," Mark said, "it doesn't last very long."

Case always has been athletic. She played basketball and ran track and cross country in high school, though she wasn't a standout.

"I made sure the bench didn't get cold," she said. "I was more into the arts at that time — debate, forensics."

When she moved to Topeka for college, Case enrolled in a self-defense class. She was, after all, a young woman living on her own.

Self-defense grew into offense. After mastering grappling, Okinawan Kudo and Hawaiian Kempo karate (her specialty), Jen Case, the farm girl, became Jen "Genetic Wonder" Case.

She trains two or three times a day, running, lifting and practicing her craft. Though her lifting is focused on practical movements rather than strength training, she still can squat 300 pounds. She has become a machine.

Jeff Osborne is a former ultimate

fighter and fight promoter based in Evansville, Ind., who watches hundreds of fights every year.

"She has something special about her on the ground," he said. "Two of the girls she's beaten were very, very good. I don't foresee anyone beating her at that weight class."

Like many female fighters, Osborne said, Case is a role model. As opposed to the male set, which he described as "guys with shaved heads with tattoos all over them that work 40 hours a week ... a dime a dozen," Case typifies the female fighter.

In Osborne's first women's show, 14 of the 16 competitors were college graduates. One was the head of a retirement community. One was a reformed drug addict. One works on Capitol Hill.

"The women, their stories are so much greater than the average man," Osborne said. "It's hard to believe that your sister or your wife or neighbor is out there fighting."

For Mark and Vickie Case, it's hard to believe their daughter is out there fighting, but Mark isn't surprised at her success.

"With Jen, you never know what's coming next," Mark said. "Jen's real disciplined. If she puts her mind to something, why, it's gonna happen."

Jen credits martial arts with instilling some of the discipline that

has created a world-class fighting career and a grade-point average north of 3.8. Without fighting, she

doesn't know what she'd be doing.

"Without karate," she said, "I don't know if I'd have to be paying for school because I don't know if I'd still be in it. Since I started karate, I've raised my GPA immensely."

Case is planning on the rematch with Hicks, but she is still looking for worthy opponents.

The guy from the Electric Cowboy wouldn't qualify.

"I had to throw one punch," Case said. "He just ran for the door."

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The Friends of the Colby Airport want to extend a big THANK YOU!

to everyone who helped make the 2005 Fly-In Breakfast another successful event. The weather cooperated and everyone ate well, thanks to the Boy Scout Troop #140 who served the breakfast.

Special thanks to: City of Colby, MC Aviation Services, Great Plains Spraying, CBK Flyers, Tim Moss, Richard Westfall, Peoples State Bank, Kansas Highway Patrol, Eagle Med, Kansas State University - Salina, Dillons Food Store, LeRoy's Printing, Colby Fertilizer, KQLS/KXXX and all the volunteers from Friends of the Colby Airport.

Proceeds supporting youth groups and the Colby Municipal Airport!

THANK YOU AGAIN!!

Oct. 1, 2005 Fly-In Breakfast

Harry Barrs' P-51 Mustang