


### Weather Corner



**Tonight** — Partly cloudy, then gradually becoming clear with a low around 17. North wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Tuesday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 51. Breeze with a northwest wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

**Tuesday night** — Mostly clear with a low near 22. West wind around 10 mph.

**Wednesday** — Partly cloudy with a high around 60. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Wednesday night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 22.

**Thursday** — Partly cloudy with a high near 45.

**Temperatures:** Sunday's high, Low this morning, 72 in 1894, -15 in 1930, Records for this date, Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00, January's precipitation, 0.07

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

Briefly

Parents wanted to complete survey

The Thomas County Interagency Coalition and Regional Prevention Center is mailing a “very brief” survey to parents of middle school and high school students in Colby and Brewster, said Diane Stithem, prevention center. The purpose of the survey is in finding out information on what parents know about underage drinking and gthe laws. “All you need to do is complete the surve and mail it back in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided,” she said. “Surveys are completely confidential with the first survey received at Greenbush winning \$50.” The goal this year is an 80 percent return rate and if the goal is met, more prizes will be awarded.

Workshop starts Tuesday

A three-day foundation workshop will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Thomas County Office Complex conference room, 350 S. Range Ave., Colby. Dr. Don Udell, workshop instructor, will focus on helping participants by creating local foundations as one option in looking at state and federal money. For those who have already

started a foundation, the workshop can also help. There is a cost for the three-day workshop. For details or to register, call Western Prairie RC&D, (785) 462-2602.

Heartland plans benefit barbecue

Heartland Christian School, 1995 W. 4th St., Colby, is planning a benefit barbecue and open house from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday. The menu includes pit barbecue meat, sloppy joes, corn, baked potato, rolls, green salad, and dessert bar. Everyone is welcome with free-will donations accepted.

Will Roger Follies to appear in Hays

HAYS — Fort Hays State University is featuring *The Will Roger Follies* at 8 p.m., Monday, Jan. 30, at Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center. The event will highlight Will’s story with all the magnificent sets, luscious costumes, and stunning showgirls that made *The Follies* the toast of New York, organizers said.

Tickets for the performance went on sale last week. If interested in reserved or unreserved seating, call the Student Service Center at the Student Union at (785) 628-5306 or

Carol Brock at (785) 628-5801 or [cbrock@fhsu.edu](mailto:cbrock@fhsu.edu)

School board meets tonight

The Colby School Board will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at the board room in the Administration Building. The meeting is open to the public.

Share delivery Saturday

Heartland Share delivery is at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 21 at Sacred Heart School gym. The food menu is smoked sausage, chicken thighs, 18 ounce fish stick filets, bacon, deli sliced roast beef, popcorn chicken, cauliflower, lettuce, potatoes, apples, oranges, grape fruit, pears and American sliced cheese. A few shares are left. If interested, call 460-3579.

Dog training classes begin

Dog training classes, sponsored by the Thomas County 4-H Dog Program, began last week with an orientation meeting at the 4-H Building in Colby. For those unable to attend the first meeting, but would still like to participate should call 460-3816.

Hoxie bank to merge with Norton’s First State Bank

By Jan Katz Ackerman  
Colby Free Press

A merger is underway between a bank in Hoxie and one in Norton. “First State Bank of Norton recently entered into an agreement to purchase First National Bank of Hoxie,” said John Engelbert, president of Norton’s First State Bank. “We are in the process of submitting an application to the appropriate regulators for their review and approval.” Engelbert said he anticipated the approval process being completed within 90 days.

We are excited about the purchase and working with the Hoxie community,” he said. “First National is an excellent bank that has always prided itself on customer service, and our goal is to maintain this level of service for the community and the existing customer base,” Engelbert said. Outside of a few new services, Engelbert said First National Bank customers will notice “very few changes.” “The same staff will be there to serve them and take care of their financial needs,” he said. “Some of the new services in-

clude fixed rate land loans, internet banking, trust services, and insurance services.” One change customers and area residents will see immediately will be the name of the bank. “The name of the bank will change to First State Bank of Hoxie,” Engelbert said. “First State Bank is an agricultural bank managed by farmers and ranchers and we understand agriculture. That is why we are excited to be in Hoxie; it is a progressive ag community with excellent farmers and cattlemen and we want to continue to assist them with their finan-

cial needs.” First National Bank President and Chairman of the Board Myron Dietz agreed. “I do believe the purchase by First State Bank of Norton, with regulatory approval, will allow First National Bank to continue operation and working with our customers on the same level as in the past,” Dietz said. Dietz said selling a bank is a difficult process. “I don’t believe the process of selling a bank is ever an easy process when you have so many issues to be resolved,” he said. “But, with

perseverance and lots of conversation, you hopefully arrive at a compromise. The customers and employees of the bank are the main consideration.” Dietz said the officers and employees at First National Bank “feel the purchasers are an excellent choice.” He said bank customers have their “sincere appreciation” and they look forward to a continued banking relationship. He also business will be “as it’s always been” and encouraged those having questions not to hesitate to ask them.

American Indian rituals, buffalo hunt master recreates history

By Jan Katz Ackerman  
Colby Free Press

Dressed in early American hunting dress, Mike “Blue Hawk” Adams of Fredonia looked like he stepped back in time as he guided two men on a bison hunt Saturday. Adams recreates history during controlled hunts in a 300-acre pasture north of Hoxie, where Roger and Deloris Mauck have raised buffalo, technically known as bison, for the past 11 years. Using Native American rituals and traditional hunting skills, Adams assisted Mark Finnell of Burr Oak and his father Larry Finnell of Ft. Collins, Colo., bringing down two bison. Adams is a Hunt Master who is skilled in hunting the centuries old animals. “I’ve always liked to hunt buffalo,” Adams said. “It’s one of God’s critters that will give you everything you need. It’s like a Wal-Mart store that walks around on four legs.” Continuing on that train of thought, Adams said a buffalo’s hide can be tanned into a warm blanket or comfortable floor rug, while its stomach can be turned into a cook pot similar to that used by Native Americans, and its bladder

can serve as a water container. Besides the meat obtained from a buffalo, horns can be made into a cup, dipper or even combs. Adams began guiding buffalo hunts when the Maucks decided they wanted to do something with their herd other than take them to traditional markets. Called Buffalo Commons, Adams guides hunts in both December and January. “I love to hunt buffalo because they are so unique. Sometimes you’ll get one in three-quarters of a mile and sometimes you track one for five miles,” Adams said. “You can make all the plans you want and the buffalo will change them.” While Mark Finnell has hunted buffalo, Saturday’s hunt was his dad’s first. “It’s great,” Larry said. “Maggie, my gun, has added another thing to her list. He’s got goat, three or four deer and now buffalo.” “It’s just fun,” Mark said. “I love hanging out in the tipi and I just wanted another buffalo robe.” Both Mark and Larry spent Friday and Saturday nights in an 18-foot tall Sioux type tipi. The 17-pole tipi was big enough to allow two full-sized cots, a cook stove which also served as a warming stove, and enough gear for the



JAN KATZ ACKERMAN/Colby Free Press

Larry Finnell of Ft. Collins, Colo. (left) and his son, Mark Finnell of Burr Oak, Kan., stayed in an 18-foot tall, 17-pole tipi Friday and Saturday nights while hunting buffalo northeast of Hoxie. two-day hunt. “I’ve hunted since I was 8-years-old and my dad took me out and I got my first deer,” Larry, the now 73-year-old, said. “I was 14 in 1972 when I got my

Governor wants quick equipment restocking

TOPEKA (AP) — Five days after Christmas, Gov. Kathleen Sebelius sent a wish list to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, asking the Pentagon to step up efforts to replenish equipment left by the National Guard in Iraq. Her list contained several thousand items — tents, computers, trucks, semitrailers, machine gun mounts and even a complete latrine. She urged the Pentagon to take notice before the state faces a crisis, adding her voice to a chorus of concerns about the Guard’s ability to handle stateside duties. “We must be able to maintain a high level of readiness, because no one knows when disaster will strike,” Sebelius wrote. “Anything that weakens the Guard, whether it is failure to re-equip a unit after redeployment or a force structure change eliminating key response capabilities, is of concern to me as a governor.” A Defense Department spokeswoman would neither confirm nor deny that Rumsfeld received Sebelius’ letter, citing policy against disclosing communications with the agency’s officials. Adjutant General Tod Bunting said the National Guard can’t rely


on the Kansas farm tradition of “duct tape and baling wire” to get by. “It’s time to get us something out here where we can move forward. “We’re down to the bare minimums,” said Bunting, a major general. “We need to see real results and real equipment start to arrive and not promises of equipment coming sometime.” While equipment has been a 25-year issue, National Guard Bureau spokesman Jack Harrison said reliance on states in the war in Iraq, when they still have homeland missions, is getting Washington’s attention. “It’s certainly come under a bright light. There’s some move-

ment in the right direction,” he said. Harrison said logistics require that Guard units leave their equipment in Iraq when their tours are finished, and the next units can use it. “It’s not a bad policy,” he said. “What needs to be addressed is the resetting of the states so they can be as fully equipped as possible.” Lt. Col. Lee Tafanelli, commander of the 891st Engineers of the Kansas National Guard, said the battalion left behind equipment that will be used for a year by engineers from the Missouri. “All the vehicles had been up-armored over there. It makes no sense to move those back home,” said Tafanelli, who also serves in the Kansas House.

“Most of it is something that we don’t use very frequently.” While the wish list sent by Sebelius is important, Tafanelli said the battalion is going through a transformation and will be fielding new equipment. Some of that will be made available from the Missouri unit, also is undergoing transformation. Col. Eric Peck, chief of staff for the Kansas Army National Guard, said equipment issues hamper the ability to train and recruit soldiers. “It’s kind of like a diamond. Every time you turn it, there’s another facet you haven’t seen,” Peck said. Bunting said regional equipment pools for the Guard, or reducing troop levels to offset costs, are unacceptable.

## LIBERTY & JUSTICE FOR ALL

# One Man's Dream



Martin Luther King, Jr., a pioneer of the civil rights movement, dedicated his life to turning his dream of equal justice and civil rights for all mankind into a reality. Through his famous words of peace and hope, he inspired the people of this nation to stand up for their rights and demand them in a nonviolent way.


Dr. King helped bring about dramatic social change, and we shall forever remember his heroic acts and be thankful for all he taught our nation and the world.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day • January 16, 2006**

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