

Weather Corner



Wind gusts could reach 35

The forecast Tonight — Partly cloudy then gradually becoming clear with a low around 27. Blustery with a northwest wind between 15 and 25 mph with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Thursday — Mostly sunny with a high near 55. North wind around 10 mph.

Thursday night — Mostly clear with a low near 27. East wind around 10 mph.

Friday — Partly cloudy with a high near 56. Southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Friday night — Skies partly cloudy and breezy with a low around 33.

Saturday — A chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy and breezy with a high near 41. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Temperatures
 Tuesday's high, 55
 Low this morning, 27
 Records for this date, 79 in 1935, -2 in 1912
 Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
 March's precipitation, 0.00
 A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119.

The current temperatures can be reached by calling, 460-TEMP.

Briefly

Town meeting scheduled

The Thomas County Interagency Coalition is hosting a town meeting for all residents interested in curbing underage drinking. The event starts at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 28, at the Colby Community Building. The meeting is also being coordinated with many other towns across the nation. For questions, call Vicki Beiser or Diane Stithem at the Prevention Center, (785) 460-8177.

Basketball awards night planned

The Colby High School girls basketball awards night will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 27 in the high school cafeteria. This will be a potluck with tea and water provided. Please bring own table service. It is open to the public.

Memory Walk set for April 1

The Alzheimer's Association in the nine-county area is sponsoring a Memory Walk starting at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 1, at Fike Park in Colby. The counties involved include Thomas, Rawlins, Logan, Cheyenne, Sherman, Sheridan, Decatur, Wallace and Gove. Residents in these counties are encouraged to take part in this fundraising event, said Rhonda Riedel, with the association. The walk, she said,

raises not only money, but awareness about the disease and is the largest national fundraising event for support programs. To register or with questions, call Riedel at (785) 673-3149 or visit: colbywalk.kintera.org

'Bowl for Kids Sake' needs teams

The Big Brothers Big Sisters organization in Thomas County is having its annual "Bowl For Kids Sake" on Saturday and Sunday, April 1-2, at Colby Bowl, said Donna Jennings, board member. Many people can be involved in this event by forming teams and recruiting team members, she said. Many of the "littles" also bowl and help raise money for the group. "It is a celebration and fundraiser, and we welcome anyone who wants to form a team or bowl on an established team." For questions, call (785) 460-9125.

Basketball fundraiser March 30

The Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce is having its Mini-March Madness Basketball fundraiser from 4-6 p.m., March 30, in the Colby Grade and Middle School gymnasiums, said Holly Stephens, executive director. The event is for boys and girls in grades second through fifth. The fundraiser includes a basketball clinic for the students, show-

ing them new skills and more. Then at 6 p.m., the students will play in basketball games with coaches and referees. Concessions will be available and tickets are being sold by all chamber members. For questions, call 460-3401.

Colby College board meets Thursday

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Colby Community College will be held at 5 p.m., Thursday in the board room of Thomas Hall. Items of business on the agenda include the audit; discussion about Wellness Center and policy change, along with approval of agreements, resignations and employment contracts; consideration of administrative contracts; and employment contracts. The board will discuss negotiations, interviewing process and the Norton meeting. Reports from administration also are planned.

Military support group to meet

The Northwest Kansas Military Family Support Group will meet at 2 p.m., Saturday, at Montana Mike's in Colby. 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.

Not 'tiring' at all



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Sean Pike, formerly of Colby, pushed son, Ivan, on a tire swing at Fike Park recently. The Pikes were one of many families playing at the park and enjoying the warmer temperatures.

Woman pleads on burglary

By Jan Katz Ackerman
 Colby Free Press

An Oakley woman who changed her story during a hearing in January was sentenced last week in Thomas County District Court.

After Goldie Moore, 22, pleaded guilty to one count of burglary she changed her story and said she did

not enter Murray Enterprises, Murray Roofing, JM Tree and Lawn Service and Sundance Spas on Nov. 23.

Moore and co-defendants Eric Schiltz and Lewis M. George, both of Oakley, were arrested in December after fleeing the area in December.

Sitting beside her attorney, Doug

Spencer of Oakley, Moore told Schiffner she didn't have anything to say to the court or her victims prior to sentencing.

Moore, who is several months pregnant, was sentenced to an underlying prison sentence of seven months and placed on probation for 12 months.

In addition, District Judge Glenn Schiffner told Moore she must serve a 12 month post-release probation period.

Moore must pay restitution to Murray Enterprises in the amount of \$3,814, as well as court costs and attorney fees amounting to \$802.

In February, Moore pleaded guilty in Logan County to one count of failure to reveal a runaway for allegedly sheltering or concealing a runaway child from authorities on or about July 24.

She was sentenced to six months on probation with an underlying jail term of 90 days should she violate her probation.

Besides the charges in Thomas and Logan Counties, Moore has pending forgery charges against her in Ellis County for her alleged part of passing worthless checks with Schiltz and George in December.

Senate endorses ed plan

TOPEKA (AP) — A \$660 million school finance plan cleared a Senate committee Monday, but its future was uncertain.

The Education Committee's 6-5 vote sent the legislation to the Senate for debate, probably next week. The bill phases in the spending increases over three years.

The plan, drafted by Senate leaders, emerged from committee largely intact.

The committee's biggest change was to allow districts to use additional dollars set aside for programs that help at-risk students to also pay for all-day kindergarten.

The committee's vote was the first major action on school finance

legislation this year.

Under the plan, the state would provide \$480 million in new dollars, while school districts would be required to set aside \$180 million in property tax revenues over three years.

The state could cover its share of the plan's first year and also \$180 million from existing resources, according to information.

However, projections have shown that a budget shortfall would emerge the next year.

Committee Chairwoman Jean Schodorf, R-Wichita, said she doesn't know whether enough senators support the plan for it to pass the chamber.

Colby man sentenced for DUI

By Jan Katz Ackerman
 Colby Free Press

A Colby man was sentenced in Thomas County District Court last week for felony driving under the influence of alcohol.

Mark Dickey of Colby will serve two days in the county jail and 88 days on house arrest and work release for having driven drunk in Thomas County for the third time Sept. 17. Dickey will also serve nine months probation and pay a fine of \$1,500 and \$202 court costs for the same crime.

Dickey's attorney, Allen Taylor, told District Judge Glenn Schiffner his client was gainfully employed, attending Alcoholic Anonymous meetings and was meeting with a counselor.

Taylor asked Schiffner to consider all this in his sentencing pro-

cess. Schiffner told Dickey he would agree to the terms of a plea agreement worked out between Taylor and Thomas County Attorney Andrea Wyrick.

Schiffner also told Dickey should he violate the terms of the more lenient sentence he will order him to the balance of the 365 day sentence in the county jail.

Dickey is to check himself in to the Thomas County Jail March 17 and will be released March 20. State law requires a minimum of two days be served in a county jail for a felony drunk driving charge.

The balance of the sentence depends on the outcome of a presentence investigation. Any plea agreement a county attorney and defense attorney may come to with the defendant and somewhat of a judge's discretion within the confines of

Kansas sentencing guidelines.

Dickey will be required to submit blood or saliva samples to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, refrain from owning a firearm for a period of five years and continue his outpatient treatment program as part of his sentence which will be supervised by the Kansas Department of Community Corrections officers based in Colby.

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