Area/State

Colby Free Press Wednesday, January 28, 2009 Page 3

Weather Corner

National Weather Service

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, with

a low around 16. West wind be-

tween 10 and 15 mph. Thursday: Partly sunny, with

a high near 37. Breezy, with a

northwest wind 10 to 15 mph in-

creasing to between 20 and 25

mph. Winds could gust as high

cloudy, with a low around 17.

West wind between 5 and 15

Friday: Sunny, with a high

Friday Night: Mostly clear,

Saturday: Sunny, with a high

Saturday Night: Mostly clear,

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy,

Monday: Sunny, with a high

Monday Night: Mostly clear,

Monday: High, 13; Low -5

Tuesday: High, 22; Low 4

Precip: Mpnday .Trace

(K-State Experiment Station)

Tuesday

Month:

Normal:

Year:

0.06 inches

0.15 inches

0.15 inches

0.48 inches

near 52. West wind between 10

Night: Partly

as 35 mph.

and 15 mph.

near 58.

high near 42.

near 48.

with a low around 23.

with a low around 22.

with a low around 17.

with a low around 20.

mph.

Thursday

Obama outreach to GOP a balancing act

By Tom Raum

Associated Press Writer WASHINGTON - In his first days on the job, President Barack Obama has acted to appease core Democratic interest groups, making good on a few campaign promises and shoring up support among key constituencies as he reaches out to Republicans on the big economic stimulus package. It's a balancing act.

While Obama's first week is generally being hailed by fellow Democrats, he's drawn some push-back from groups that don't think he's gone far enough.

And that can put him in the line of unwanted crossfire from both Republicans and disillusioned Democrats.

"He's trying to tilt left to stay in the center so he doesn't get done in by friendly fire," said Democratic pollster Doug Schoen. "Right now, I think he may be more worried about Nancy Pelosi than John Boehner." Pelosi, D-Calif., is the House speaker and Boehner, R-Ohio, the House minority leader.

"On the other hand, he's got good will. And I don't think he's made any missteps. But unless he achieves results quickly, he will be more vulnerable than anyone can imagine," said Schoen, who worked in the Clinton White House.



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Community College

Tuesday, Jan. 20, during the inauguration ceremonies, Colby Community College had televisions set up in several classrooms as well as in the Student Union. Students, faculty and staff members watched the ceremonies throughout the day.

to reverse many of former Presi- warming, imposed strict ethics dent George W. Bush's most contentious policies. He pledged to close the Guantanamo Bay prison within a year, set tighter limits on CIA interrogation tactics, outlined plans to withdraw combat forces from Iraq and reversed Bush's financing restrictions on overseas abortion-help groups.

He moved to reduce fuel con-

guidelines on top White House staff and appointees and halted last-minute rules and regulations put in place by his predecessor. He named special envoys for the Middle East and for Afghanistan-Pakistan. Then he went to Capitol

In his first week, Obama moved sumption and combat global cratic liberals. And it did for the most part.

> But some anti-war activists are unhappy he isn't shuttering Guantanamo sooner or moving to pull troops out of Iraq as quickly as he seemed to suggest during his campaign. Others are chagrined that Obama kept Defense Secretary Robert Gates and that he is intensifying the war on terror – although Obama expressly doesn't

call it that - in Afghanistan.

The anti-war group Code Pink complained when Obama did not protest Israel's bombing in Gaza. Some liberals and gay rights groups are still peeved he invited evangelical pastor Rick Warren to deliver an invocation at his inauguration.

His strict new limits on hiring lobbyists were welcomed by groups supporting more transparency and ethics in government. But the White House then had to issue a waiver for former Raytheon lobbyist William J. Lynn to become deputy defense secretary. And questions linger over Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner's explanations of why he initially failed to pay \$34,023 in Social Security and Medicare taxes when he worked for the International Monetary Fund.

On the Republican side, many are uncomfortable with the \$825 billion price tag of the White House-backed stimulus bill, suggesting it includes wasteful spending and too few tax cuts.

"There are some legitimate philosophical differences with parts of my plan that the Republicans have and I respect that," Obama said in the Capitol on Tuesday. He said he didn't "expect 100 percent agreement" but hoped both sides could put politics aside.

Kansas today – Governor promises veto of GOP budget

From "TODAY," Page 1

drafted the plan up for debate, said, "It doesn't change anything."

First-time jobless claims in Kan. spike again

slightly, as the number of jobless continue to lose jobs. workers seeking their first unemployment benefits spiked again.

said Tuesday that those develop-TOPEKA - Unemployment in that Kansas' economy soured last

Hill to try to sell his \$825 billion

stimulus plan. You'd think that

would go over well with Demo-

The state's unemployment rate was 4.9 percent in December, up The state Department of Labor from 4.8 percent in November, the department reported. The rate was ments were additional evidence only 4 percent in December 2007. The department also reported Kansas defied the typical seasonal year. The department also predict- that 37,482 Kansans filed their state's economy — manufactur- ment employment.

benefits in December. That's more than double the 18,212 who filed their first claims in December 2007, and it was the fifth consecuhigher numbers than in 2007.

business services - saw employment declines over the year. In fact, the number of Kansans holding nonfarm jobs remained stable ber 2007 to December 2008 only Several important parts of the because of an increase in govern-

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One school district to have primary election in March

From "ELECTION," Page 1

filed include City Councilman Tim Hutfles, Ward III; City Councilman Mark Beringer, Ward IV and David Voss filed to be the councilman for Ward II. Current Councilman for Ward I Phil DeYoung has not filed for re-election and Tom Waldschmidt has not filed to be re-elected as council-

Carolyn Armstrong said.

were Ed Ackerman, Leisha Carpenter and Ron Ribordy.

No one filed for school board positions at the Oakley, Winona or Grinnel school district. Those who are not eligible to

vote can register at the county

house during regular office hours election must register before they The three people who filed for from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Voter regis- can vote. Voter registration books school board positions in Brewster tration books will be closed after close 14 days before an election, 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 17, said said Harms. She said once people Harms. There are several ways to have registered to vote their regregister to vote. Harms said it can istration will be valid until they be done in person, by telephone, change their name, they change or by mailing a letter to the elec- residences or they have been tion officer of Thomas County. People who are 18 years-old

man for Ward II, City Manager clerk's office in the county court- or who will be 18 before the next purged according to law.

trend in December and increased ed that many areas of the state will initial claims for unemployment ing, finance and professional and tive month that saw significantly at nearly 1.4 million from Decem-



3 Area CFP 1/28/09.indd