Weather Corner



National Weather Service Tonight: Isolated thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. East wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Tuesday: Isolated thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 93. South wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Tuesday Night: Isolated thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 62. East wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Wednesday: Scattered thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 94. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Wednesday Night: Scattered thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Thursday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 90.

Thursday Night: Scattered thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Friday: Isolated thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 88. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Friday: High, 99; Low 64 Saturday: High, 85; Low 60 Sunday: High, 92; Low 58 Precip: Friday 0.11 inches Saturday 0.00 inches 0.00 inches Sunday Month: 3.69 inches Year: 13.84 inches Normal: 9.94 inches (K-State Experiment Station) Sunrise Tuesday 6:21 a.m. Sunset Tuesday 9:15 p.m.

(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Sunrise Wed.

Sunset Wed.

6:21 a.m.

9:15 p.m.

Experts examine Thomas County's stressed trees

From "TREES," Page 1

on top of the situation."

Leaf spot seems to be a fairly common here right now. Strine said it generally causes early leaf drop, and is more of a nuisance than a problem.

One case of iron chlorosis, or iron deficiency, was observed on Grant Street at the home of Peg Tole. She said the tree hasn't lost any leaves, but the color is puzzling.

Strine said the first thing to notice is that the color, or lack of color to the leaves.

"One solution to the problem," he said, is to get packets of Nutra Booster, then drill holes around the bottom of the trunk into the wood, and squeeze the booster into the holes. The treatment is generally good for about three years.

being tied up in the soil where it can't be to be dead. Jan Wolf, owner, said the tree year, he said, is that young evergreens are fice 460-4582.

released to feed the tree. In this particular isn't that old, and couldn't imagine why the the ones that are showing signs of disease. case, the tree was between the curb and leaves were sparse and appeared to not be sidewalk, causing a restricted area for the root system to draw from. Another solution is to feed tree roots at the drip line.

The most common problems this year seems to be with evergreen varieties. Examination of a cedar tree on Lincoln showed it to be suffering from bark beetles. The beetles get under the bark and girdle the tree, Strine said, causing it to turn dry and brittle and die. Other trees in the row can easily be infected, so the diseased tree needs to be taken out as soon as the problem is observed, and the diseased wood must be destroyed. Spraying is not effective, he said.

A honey locust on Cherry Street shows early stages of thyronectria canker, the for-The problem, he said, is caused from iron ester said. Parts of the trunk were found

completely leafed out.

"The fungus kills the living bark and outer wood of the tree, Strine said. It is caused by soil microorganisms and can attack any age of honey locust. The best solution is to remove the tree and plant a new one," he

Some Rocky Mountain junipers north of town appeared to have needle blight that starts at the base and affects the inner foliage. Strine said the species is not recommended for this area. The trees also showed signs of cedar apple rust. Early June and July fungicide application should help, he said, adding that trees need enough spacing for foliage to have ample air movement so they can dry out during wet conditions.

Milliman said examination of a young windbreak north of Gem around the county line showed that many trees appeared to be brown and dying. The examination revealed bark beetles, and that there have been quite a few reported this spring.

"The solution is to reduce the population of beetles by removing the infected trees and destroying them," Milliman said.

"If the windbreak owners can get in there and get rid of the infected trees, they have a better chance of saving the rest of the windbreak, he said."

Milliman said people should keep an eye on their trees, and report damage early. Then they can and treatment as soon as pos-

For more information, call Clint Milli-An uncommon problem being seen this man at the Thomas County Extension of-

Area radio amateurs ride the airwaves

From "RADIO," Page 1

The club used different signals to talk to other hams during the exercise. The best types for any given call depend on how long the radio wave travels before it cycles. At a bandwidth like 20 meters, Albers said, the club can talk to any area in North America.

"Basically, 20 is going to be our go-to band," he said.

The hams are able to talk over the horizon by bouncing the signal off the Earth's ionosphere. Different wave lengths work better at night or in the daytime, getting different reflections based on how the sun charges the ionosphere, Albers said. Lower frequencies do better in the evening and at night, while higher frequencies do better in the daytime.

How far a signal travels is also depends on interference from sunspots and solar flares.

"Given the right conditions, you can work the world on 40 (meters)," Albers said.

The club members also can communicate in Morse Code. Albers said the code can be useful in emergencies, since it is a very simple signal, but knowing it is not required for ham radio operators anymore.

Service. Members have tracking ters.



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

Bob McLemore, Trojans Ham Radio Club member and Colby Fire Chief, operates one of the radios set up for the Field Day, a nationwide amateur radio drill and demonstration held this weekend. With this set up, McLemore was able to talk to other radio clubs across North America.

Albers said the club is also in- devices in their portable radios so

In past years, the club has set up setting up at the airport. The area volved in Skywarn severe storm that the service's Goodland office its equipment at parks in Colby or open, he said, and free of power spotting for the National Weather can get ahold of particular spot- at rest stops on I-70 for exercises. poles and other things that might Albers said the club really enjoys cause interference.

I-70 ramp closed for repairs

From "I-70," Page 1

grain trains and needs hundreds of trucks to fill each one, and the new Bosselman Travel Center, both east of the exit, traffic is much

Heavy trucks, he said, have basically ruined the old pavement. Maintenance forces redid some of the asphalt last summer, but the ramp needs work again. Much of the asphalt is broken, with gravel showing through in some spots and ruts in others. The ramp should be reopened

sometime Tuesday, he said, after the crews finish paving. Even that won't hold the pavement forever, he added; eventually, it'll have to be torn out and rebuilt.

This morning, the pavement was moving up and down under the weight of trucks, Capo said. "These 100-degree days aren't

helping us any," he added.

Oelschlager said today's road asphalt is much stronger that the pavement material used back in the '80s, and should hold up longer. What the crew will use Tuesday is coming from a contractor's plant on a repaving job over in Gove County, he said, but it's expensive, more than \$70 a ton.

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