Area/State

Weather Corner



National Weather Service Tonight: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62. Breezy, with a south wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 91. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east

Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62. South wind around 5 mph.

Friday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 92. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north.

Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 88.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 60.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 89. Monday: High, 91; Loy

Monday: High, 91; Low 60	
Tuesday: High, 81; Low 56	
Precip: Monday	Trace
Tuesday	0.00 inches
Month:	3.00 inches
Year:	16.04 inches
Normal:	13.76 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)	

Sunrise and Sunset

Thursday 6:36 a.m. 9:05 p.m. (U.S. Naval Observatory)

Colby Water Use 1,788,000 gal. Monday (Colby Public Works)

counties in the region.

State may help pay for bridge

Landfill operator Larry Jumper The commissioners looked over told the commissioners he has 60 gallons of interior latex paint in five-gallon lots, in a variety of colrector of the Alcohol and Drug ors, that is available free to anyone Abuse Council, but decided it was who needs paint.

not as complete as they needed. In other business, the commis-They called her to ask that more information to be sent before they sioners:

from Custom Energy on the new They asked for actual revenues courthouse roof. and expenses, a beginning and

• Accepted a bid of \$3,000 from ending balance and what money comes in from the other eight Fairview Estates for the used

School board reorganizes for new year

dent.

three schools.

cuss the budget cuts.

doing," Rogers said.

cuts later in the year.

In other business, the board:

• Welcomed new member Susan McLemore.

· Elected Janice Frahm as president and Tracy

• Heard Harrison report that Walmart has donated

· Discussed holding community meetings to dis-

"I think people in town need to know what we're

• Heard that the Thomas County Coalition hopes

to set up an after-school program. Harrison said she

told the coalition that the district can't put up any

Rogers, who had been the president, as vice presi-

three trees which have been planted at each of the

county van.

• Re-appointed Sue Evans to a three-year term to Northwest Kansas Juvenile Services governing board.

 Approved a commitment for a gas pricing formula for one year from Oneok, Natural Gas.

• Personally donated \$10 each to • Received a 50-year warranty a candy fund for the fair parade. • Agreed to meet at 3 p.m. Fri-

day to go over the final budget figures.

Speculation may be inflating wheat prices

From "WHEAT," Page 1

rupted normal price patterns and hurt the ability of farmers, grain processors and others to hedge against risk, according to the report released last month.

"Bakers cannot escape the impact," Hayden Wands, director of procurement at Sara Lee Corp. and an official of the American Bakers Association, said at Tuesday's hearing. "Today's volatility represents millions of dollars daily in undue financial risk."

Mark Cooper, research director at the Consumer Federation of America, urged "more aggressive" limits on the amount of positions held by speculative traders.

Steven Strongin, head of the global investment research division at Goldman Sachs Group Inc., said he would favor some new position limits.

But in testimony prepared for the hearing, Carey said the Senate report's findings "are based on faulty economic analysis and

a misunderstanding of basic market economics.'

Carey agreed that there is a problem with the lack of convergence between spot and futures prices - which he said the exchange is committed to solve. However, he rejected the notion that such "temporary order imbalances" have a lasting effect on prices.

The the Chicago Board of Trade is prepared to make further changes to the wheat futures contract if needed, Carey said.

Some analysts and lawmakers blame the surge in popularity of commodity index funds for boosting the prices of oil, gasoline, corn and other commodities.

The commodities commission announced Tuesday that it will hold the first of three public hearings next week on whether the government should impose limits on futures contracts in oil and other energy commodities held by speculative traders.

Pickin' on the Plains bluegrass festival full of stories

From "BLUEGRASS," Page 1

the cuts the board made for this year.

cuts I recommended," she said.

From "COUNTY," Page 1

finish the budget.

From "BOARD," Page 1

not they would have enough money.

drivers' education classes until they learn whether or

The board also voted to continue an activity fee of

\$20 per student per sport for this year by a vote of

5-1, with member Kevin Taylor casting the dissent-

Harrison said the governor has been forced to make

another \$39.1 million in budget cuts beyond what

had been cut during the legislative session because

state revenues were lower than expected. Base state

aid per student was cut down to \$4,218 per student.

Harrison said the district is in good shape because of

"I'm glad that as a board, you made the additional

Harrison said she remains concerned about further

a report from Wendi Wacker, di-

weren't factual.

ing vote.

"One reason Wyatt Erp's name is in history is because of silent pictures," he said. "He was, unfortunately, a blowhard. He didn't do all that stuff, but it sure is good for tourism."

He said he began playing guitar when he was 11, and was playing professionally for dances by age 13. He said he was a natural for it because he came from a musical family.

His travels don't take him far, he said, but of all the places he goes, he thinks Colby is probably his favorite.

"It's not a favorite just because I'm talking to a local newspaper," he added, "but it's because of the people. I became acquainted with the McLemore family several years ago in Garden City at the radio station, and fell in love with them.

I have been coming to the Colby bluegrass festival for the last six years, and I

go to Holly and Dighton, and to others, but people he knew. Colby is just special."

money but could provide space.

Bailey is known for his show on public radio, "Western Swing and Other Things." Besides being the emcee for the weekend festival, he gave the Sunday morning message to a big crowd of people at Cowboy Church.

"I'm not a preacher" he said, "but it's easy to stand up there and talk about my friend.'

Along with Bailey, Pickin' on the Plains draws many repeat visitors from across the state. Mary Miner said she was attending the Colby festival for her fourth year. They started out going to bluegrass festivals at Fairview, near her hometown in Hiawatha, she said, and found Colby's to be a really good one.

Louis Boultinghouse and a friend came from Garden City for their first time. He said he lived in Colby for 13 years many years ago, and thought the festival was

North Platte visitors Larry and Joann Petska said they are regulars at bluegrass festivals and thought Colby's was especially good. The Petskas said they were impressed with the numbers of young people in the crowd.

among the youngest age group at the North Platte festival, but I see lots of young people here, so Colby must be doing something right.

There's just something special about this kind of event. What other kind of concert will the performers take time to sit down with you and show you what they do and how they do it? You never hear one word of profanity, and it's something families can enjoy together.'

Two guns on display at the festival were the handiwork of Ozark Alliance star Dennis Vaughn. He said when he's ready to make a rifle, he starts with a tree and a chain good. He said he was glad to see a lot of saw, and finishes 1000-grit sandpaper. The

guns were of the old Hawkins rifle style, he said, with the hand-made stocks made from a walnut tree which grew wild in the Ozarks.

"My real job is restoring Corvettes," Vaughn added.

He said the main focal point of the band "I am 59," Larry said, "and pretty much is 18-year-old son Alex and 16-year-old daughter Jenny. Five-year-old Allison wears the title of "band manager" quite well, and signs autographs along with the rest of the family.

"We live in the hills of the Ozarks, and home school the kids," he said. "We hunt and fish, and sing. Everything we do, we do as a family.'

The family has about 300 songs in their repertoire, Vaughn said, and he writes only a handful of them.

He said Bluegrass is all about friends and family, and that's a lifestyle they all prefer.



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