# **Area/State**

Colby Free Press Monday, January 24, 2011 Page 3

### Weather Corner



National Weather Service Tonight: Clear, with a low around 15. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 45. West wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Tuesday Night: Increasing clouds, with a low around 22. Northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Wednesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 41. North wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 20. Thursday: Sunny, with a high

near 51. Thursday Night: Mostly

clear, with a low around 24. Friday: Sunny, with a high

near 53 Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 21.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 39.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 15.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 30.

Friday: High, 46	5; Low 19
Saturday: High,	53; Low 16
Sunday: High, 4	l5; Low 19
Precip: Friday	0.00 inches
Saturday	0.00 inches
Sunday	0.00 inches
Month:	0.22 inches
Year:	0.22 inches
Normal:	0.45 inches
(K-State Experim	nent Station)

Sunrise and Sunset 7:57 a.m. 5:56 p.m. Tuesday Wednesday 7:57 a.m. 5:57 p.m. (U.S. Naval Observatory)

## Leaders hope for better job report From "REPORT," Page 1

is central to his task of building a

Lady Eagles win tournament

the half. Holcomb led 23-20 at the break. Hockersmith made a transition layup and Morgan Bell scored off a rebound early in the third. Later on, Hockersmith scored inside while drawing a foul. She knocked down her free throw.

The Lady Eagles had trouble taking care of the ball early in the fourth, making some ill-advised passes. The two teams battled to a 38-38 tie with three minutes remaining.

Senior Katrina Kaus, Katherine's twin; made a jumper from the right baseline that broke the tie and helped the girls break free of the malaise that seemed to have enveloped them. McKee pinpointed the play as the shot that got his team back on the right track. The Lady Longhorns' Breanna Gottschalk scored on the other end of the floor, tying the game at 40 with 1:32 left.

Lauren Bell answered the bucket by burying a huge three pointer. Holcomb was forced to foul for the remainder of the game to stop the clock. Katherine Kaus and Hockersmith knocked down four play at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Scott City. straight free-throws and the Lady Eagles picked up

the 47-45 win.

Hockersmith said it was a challenging game because the Lady Longhorns, a league opponent, always had five really good players on the court.

Morgan Bell had a team-high 15 points, making 3 of 11 field goals and going 8 for 10 from the foul line. Hockersmith added 13, connecting on 4 of 6 shots and making all 6 of her free throws. Other scorers included Lauren Bell with 5, senior Kelsey Shields, Katherine Kaus and Curry, 4 each, and Katrina Kaus, 2.

Colby had 13 turnovers and Holcomb 17. The Lady Eagles outrebounded their opponents 20-18 and went 19 for 24 from the foul line. The girls shot about 39 percent, 13 for 33, and Holcomb 50 percent, making 13 of 26.

Hockersmith was named most inspirational girls? player of the tournament and Morgan Bell and Hockersmith were named to the all-tournament team. Mc-Kee was named the girls' coach of the tournament and Shields made the all-academic team.

With the win, the girls improved to 11-1. They will

## File by Tuesday for area elections

#### From "ELECTIONS," Page 1

election in each district.

County Clerk Shelly Harms said no one had filed in Thomas County for Oakley, Grinnell and Triplains school boards. Those districts each have area in Thomas County and candidates may file with Harms, but candidates may also file in other counties.

Fred Taylor and Pat Mallory are running for re-election for Colby City Council. Taylor represents Ward IV and Mallory, Ward I. Two candidates, Joshua Faber and Mike Hake, have filed for the Ward II currently held by council president Jim Brown. Faber is the chairman of the Thomas County Republican Party. So far, no candidates have filed for Ward III. Beverly Eicher, who holds the seat, said she would not be running for reelection.

Three candidates have filed for mayor: Ed Collins, Gary Adrian and Councilman Dave Voss. Adrian is the author of "Flight of the Eagles," a history of Colby sports, and a Colby High Booster Club member. Voss, a council member, lobbied unsuccessfully to be appointed to Rep. Jim Morrison's seat in the state House of Representatives in December.

In Brewster, Mayor Mike Baughn, former Thomas County sheriff, has filed for re-election. In Gem, Warren Ziegelmeier and Annette Spresser have filed for the city council. Mayor Phyllis Ziegelmeier, Warren's sister-in-law, has filed for reelection.

In Rexford, Mayor David Williams, who was appointed to the post when Dennis Allison moved out of town, has filed for election. R. Alan Jones has filed for city council.

## School debate really all about money

#### From "SCHOOL," Page 1

From "EAGLES," Page 1

the word actually doesn't appear in the Kansas Constitution's article on education. It says the Legislature shall provide for "intellectual, educational, vocational and scientific improvement" through public schools and other educational institutions and that the Legislature must "make suitable provision for finance" of the state's educational interests.

O'Neal and many other legislators, particularly Republicans, always have read the constitution as requiring legislators to ensure that the state fairly distributes what money it can afford to provide to schools.

But Kansas Supreme Court rulings in 2005 and 2006 in an education funding lawsuit declared that the Legislature has a duty to provide enough money to ensure that schools keep improving. Meanwhile, the No Child Left Behind federal education law resulted in reams of data about students' scores on standardized tests, giving schools – and, of course, their lawyers - detailed information about which schools were failing to close achievement gaps.

The Supreme Court rulings forced legislators into a huge increase in spending on public schools. Budget problems during the recession led the state to back away from some of its commitments, and school districts sued again.

ability meant listing what O'Neal – including the one now pending. calls "that essential basket of educational goods and services" due every child, more than reading, writing and arithmetic, but less than everything schools want to offer. In theory, the result is two lists: Courses and programs covered by the state, and other items that can be tackled by school boards and financed with their rein in costs and keep the state

First, the state has already tried it and fallen short, they argue. In in a debate about something as 1992, the state adopted its current framework for distributing aid, setting a per-student figure for all school districts, adding extra money for specific programs, such as those helping at-risk children.

Districts were allowed to use property taxes to finance a Local Option Budget for extras, but soon, districts began using their own levies to support day-to-day operations, complaining that the state was too miserly.

Secondly, skeptics say, the state already has multiple definitions of what constitutes a suitable education, embodied in admissions standards for state universities or in the requirements for ever-better tests scores from No Child Left Behind.

'The open-endedness of the Legislature's obligation is at least very much tied to the open-endedness of the demands to continue to raise educational standing,' said Mark Tallman, a lobbyist for the Kansas Association of School Boards.

O'Neal and other House Republicans are hinting that they'll consider ideas outside of describing what comprises a suitable education. The House speaker said the possibilities include a proposed constitutional amendment to make it clear that only the Legislature decides how much money is adequate and a bill directing the courts to consider certain issues in In the past, talk of defining suit- reviewing school finance lawsuits

"We're still talking about the

best way to do it," said House

Education Committee Chairman

Clay Aurand, a Courtland Repub-

lican. "My preference is to do a

House's work and Brownback's

interest are driven by a desire to

budget under control. Schools

would rather call the shots on their

own terms, in court if necessary.

What's clear so far is that the

constitutional amendment."

Amid all the government-speak nebulous as defining suitability in public education, the real issue is



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state budget as Kansas faces a projected \$550 million shortfall in the fiscal year that starts July 1.

"I hope it's good," Brownback said of the upcoming unemployment report after he spoke to Topeka business leaders last week. "We are seeing the early signs, particularly of big aircraft, coming back.'

While aviation has been a foundation of the Kansas economy for nearly a century, Brownback wants to see the state invest in other areas where it is recognized as a leader, including animal health and production.

"It's like playing to your grow in it."

Among Brownback's goals are reducing regulations that inhibit business expansion and providing tax breaks for small businesses.

"I am optimistic. I think everystate?"" Brownback said.

own property taxes. Skeptics see two big flaws with that approach.

## Birdwatcher spots stolen van

PORT ANGELES, Wash. (AP) strengths," he said. "This is some- - While Devan Miller was bird fingerprints, but Miller has little thing we're good at now; let's watching recently on Olympic hope of finding whoever took the Peninsula, he saw bald eagles, kingfishers, woodpeckers and his stolen Volkswagen Vanagon.

Miller told the *Peninsula Daily* News the van was so badly damaged he almost didn't recognize it. one is really leaning into, 'What The top and side panels had been do we need to do to grow the cut off and the dashboard ripped apart.

Clallam County detectives took van from his Port Angeles driveway in November.

The engine and transmission were intact when he spotted the van Jan. 2 in woods near the Elwha River. Miller was able to drive it eight miles to an auto sales yard, which is giving him credit toward another Volkswagen.



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HIST	Ancient Aliens Ancient Alie		ens			How the Earth		Ancient Aliens		
LIFE	Reba	Reba	Murder by N	Numbers				How I Met	Frasier	Frasier
MTV	True Life		Teen Mom 2		I Used to Be Fat		I Used to Be Fat		Teen Mom 2	
NICK	My Wife	My Wife	Chris	Chris	Lopez	Lopez	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny
SCI	Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters Inter.		Face Off		Ghost Hunters Inter.		Face Off	
SPIKE	UFC Unleashed		MANswers	MANswers	MANswers	MANswers	MANswers	MANswers	UFC Unleashed	
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TNT	Bones		Bones		Bones		Southland		CSI: NY	
TOON	Dude	Destroy	King/Hill	King-Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen
TRAV	Man, Food	Man, Food	Carnivore	Man, Food	Guide	Guide	Man, Food	Man, Food	Carnivore	Man, Food
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WGN	Chris	Chris	How I Met	How I Met	WGN News	at Nine	Scrubs	Scrubs	S. Park	South Pk
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HBO	Valentine's Day			Big Love		Real Time/Bill Maher		Clash of the Titans		
MAX	Brazil			The Blind Side				Busty Cops		
SHOW	Episodes Californ. Inside the NFL			Shameless		Inside the NFL		The Hurt Locker		
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