

Landfill fire lights up night sky

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Seward County Rural Fire Chief Mike Rice received the call shortly after 9 p.m. Sunday that a fire had ignited at the Seward County Landfill on the east side of Liberal. Rice said five trucks were sent to the scene, but after arrival, two trucks were released. Landfill staff had been stacking trash in large piles for a couple of days instead of spreading it out in a cell because of high winds. "Apparently there was something hot in the trash and with the winds, it ignited," Rice said earlier today. "The best thing to do was just let itself burn down and make sure it didn't spread or create any danger." The last truck left the scene around 12:45 a.m. today, but Rice stayed on scene until daybreak. Landfill staff will start spreading the ashes and covering them when possible today. "There were no injuries, no damage to equipment or financial losses," Rice added. "It was just trash." L&T photo/Earl Watt