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# Teleconnections

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**Webster-Calhoun**  
Cooperative Telephone Association

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ESPN360.com is **Now Available** to Webster-Calhoun Internet customers!!

Just go to [www.wccta.net](http://www.wccta.net) and click on the link to **ESPN360.com**

ESPN360.com is ESPN's live sports broadband network giving fans a 24/7 destination that delivers more than 3,500 live, global sports events annually. It is available at no cost to fans who receive their high-speed Internet access from Webster-Calhoun.



## Construction Update

Representatives from **Kross Kountry** continue to hang Network Interface Devices (NIDS) on the side of homes in Clare and Barnum. They are doing their best to contact customers ahead of time so they are aware of when and where the NIDs will be placed.

**Vantage Point Solutions** is also going house to house in the Badger area testing the fiber connection from your home to our office.

If you ever have a concern about contractors or individuals working on behalf of Webster-Calhoun, feel free to contact our office at 352-3151 and we can confirm the situation with you! Sometimes they work hours involving evenings and weekends.

## Digital TV Update

Webster-Calhoun is looking forward to providing television through Fiber to the Home in 2010! Currently we're negotiating channel line ups, working with a vendor for the TV guide that would appear directly on your television and the software vendor that works with set top boxes.

Those who subscribe to WCCTA's IPTV will require a set top box on each TV, special remotes for the set top boxes, and possibly some rewiring. Keep watching this news insert for more information!

**High School Seniors** interested in scholarship opportunities may want to check out the Foundation for Rural Service web site at [www.frs.org](http://www.frs.org).

Should a student from our service area be selected to receive one of 30 national scholarships (\$2,000 each) WCCTA will make a \$500 matching contribution to the scholarship. Each application must come from a student living in the Webster-Calhoun serving area and bear the signature of the WCCTA General Manager, Daryl Carlson, to be eligible. Scholarship applications must be postmarked no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010.

New **retail items** are available in the WCCTA lobby! Items include digital frames, Flip video, jump drives, SD cards, SD card readers, and more!!

**NEW!**

## Winter Weather and Telecommunications

Winter weather is here to stay for a while! For telecommunications short power outages are not a problem. But ice, snow, wind and impassable roads that cover our serving area and leave those without power for days, certainly can be. How is your telephone and Internet service affected by power?



**Cabinets:** Most homes in the Badger, Barnum, Clare, Duncombe, Vincent and Thor areas receive their telephone service from cabinets strategically located in rural areas. These cabinets are powered by commercial power and an industry standard backup battery. Depending on the length of the power outage, WCCTA servicemen travel to these cabinets and ensure the batteries stay charged using generators.

**Fiber to the Home:** All other communities have Fiber technology powered at your home or business. When the power goes out, the industry standard 8 hour battery backup provided by WCCTA will power your phone. Length of the battery is determined by how the phone is used (incoming, outgoing calls or if the phone is used at all.)

**Cell Phones:** Cell phones are powered by batteries. If there is no commercial power, they cannot be recharged. Cell towers also rely on commercial power and backup generators.

**Cordless Phones:** Dependent on commercial power, the cordless phone is dead as soon as the electricity goes off. Your home should retain at least one phone that is hardwired to a jack. (That means the phone must have a cord attached to its receiver and is not plugged into an electrical outlet.)



**Internet Service:** In instances where power outages require the use of back up batteries and generators, WCCTA equipment utilizes a conservation mode and in some areas does not allow high speed Internet. Computers require commercial power as well so that may not be an issue.