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Smiles, tears mark 2013

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Colby Free Press
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Possible the most persistent story in the news here in Thomas County this year has been the discussion and planning on **building a new jail and law enforcement center.**

County commissioners have heard from both the public and outside engineers and jail experts as they seek to decide the specifics of what is generally agreed to be a badly needed and overdue project.

Questions raised have ranged from whether

to remodel or replace the current Law Enforcement Center to building an entire new county complex encompassing jail, law enforcement, courts and all county offices. Stay tuned for more developments in 2014.

A story that shocked the community came in February with the **murder of Teri Morris** on Saturday, Feb. 9, in Colby. Billy Shank of Garden City, Morris' ex-boyfriend, was arrested in Phillips County with the couple's 8-month-old child Addy in his vehicle. He is being held for trial on charges on first-degree murder, aggravated arson and aggravated burglary.

Changes in Kansas law allowing **concealed**

carry of handguns in public buildings led to the need for decisions from cities, counties and other agencies about how and where to allow weapons. Due to the use of the Colby Community Building for school activities, the city council decided to make it exempt for four years, in accordance with the Colby Public Schools policy forbidding weapons at sporting events.

The schools are becoming more involved in **public safety issues** as well. In November, they held a drill with the help of local law

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SAM DIETER and EVAN BARNUM/Colby Free Press
TONY PACELLI

Topping off a major fund-raising campaign, a crowd took to the dance floor in the Cooper Barn Sept. 28 (top left) for the "Party for the Pottys," put on by the Prairie Museum of Art and History to raise money for new restrooms in the barn. Colby High School had a special homecoming week when Principal Jeff Wallingford (top right) spoke in September at the dedication of an iron eagle statue in front of the school, on the same day the district celebrated paying off the bond for the building. On a sadder note, police and firemen responded (above) to the house where Teri Morris, an emergency medical technician, was stabbed to death on Feb. 9. Pickin' on the Plains drew another big crowd to Colby in July, where this player (center) joined in the pre-festival jam session. Earlier in the summer, firemen worked on a blaze June 1 at Colby Trailer Village, (lower left) which burned one trailer to the ground and gutted the one next to it, although no one was hurt.

Crashes stem from icy roads

A 77-year-old Lindsborg man was taken to Citizens Medical Center after a New Year's Day snow turned Interstate 70 between Mingo and Oakley icy and dangerous Wednesday morning, sending car after car into the median or ditch.

The first, and apparently the most serious, wreck was reported about 10:52 Wednesday morning when Kansas Highway Patrol dispatchers received a report of a red pickup pulling a trailer on its top in the ditch between mile posts 65 and 70.

A trooper on the way to the wreck passed other cars which had slid off the freeway without overturning.

"I passed about six cars already," he told dispatch. "They're in the ditch, in the median, scattered everywhere."

At least one other vehicle had to

be towed. Sheriff's officers joined several troopers helping people either get out of the ditch or get a tow truck on the way. A Thomas County ambulance from Colby was sent to bring the driver, identified as Ronald E. Johnson, back to the hospital.

The patrol said Johnson had been wearing a seat belt. His truck, a 2001 Chevrolet S-10, was towed from the scene, at Mile 66.3, about 3.4 miles southeast of Mingo. Staff at Citizen's Medical Center said Johnson was transferred to another facility, but could not say where.

The Colby Fire Department was called to help to the accident, and other drivers stopped to help many of those who lost control. Troopers asked to have Department of Transportation crews come out to

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Hospital bars kids

Citing an increase in flu cases, Citizens Medical Center is barring children from the hospital if they are not sick.

The hospital has banned kids under 12 if they do not need medical care. Tricia Carney, advanced practice registered nurse, the infection prevention manager at the hospital, pointed out that kids will not be allowed to accompany relatives to the hospital for tests or lab procedures, either.

"Parents have a hard time accepting that they can't bring their kids with them," Carney said, "but it really is about the safety of the child."

The hospital can make exceptions on a case-by-case basis for children visiting a terminally ill patient, she said. Siblings of newborns who are showing no signs of illness can visit the hospital during the birth, but must stay in the mother's room for the whole visit.

Hospital officials announced

the restrictions today, saying the restrictions will stay in place until further notice.

If you have the flu or flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough, runny nose, head ache or body aches, you stay at home. Carney said people should seek medical attention if they have "emergent" conditions that indicate the flu is getting worse. These include fever over 103 degrees, respiratory problems, discoloring of the skin and dehydration.

Flu cases often spike this time of year, and flu season can last from November to June, Carney said. The hospital saw one positive case of the flu last month, and treated 15 flu-like cases that were not positively identified. She said she expects a lot more cases over the next month, and has heard reports of some especially serious cases such as a woman in St. Francis who needed to be transferred to a larger hospital.

Airport land condemned

The Colby City Council moved forward on plans to condemn land around the airport at its meeting on Dec. 17.

Following several discussions at meetings this fall, the council approved an ordinance to condemn land belonging to Louis and Linda Taylor and Gary and Yvonne Baumfalk, owners of the last two parcels out of 13 the city is trying to get for runway expansion and to create a new "safety zone" around the ends of the main north-south runway.

"This has been going on for five years," Linda Taylor, one of the landowners, said after the meeting. "We've been negotiating with them and working with them."

She said she and her husband

are trying to negotiate the terms of and an agreement to sell their land to the city.

Airport Manager Mark Ostermeyer said the city has been trying to get about 200 acres from the 13 landowners since the city approved an airport master plan in 2005. The plan calls for moving the north-south runway 1,200 feet to the north, extending it by 1,000 feet and widening it by 25 feet. That would make it 6,100 feet long and 100 feet wide.

The council hired the Nebraska firm Midwest Right of Way Services for \$19,655 to help buy property.



Weather

Smiles, tears mark 2013

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enforcement on how to deal with a school shooter. Other safety measures are under discussion.

Fire fighters and police officers have also had extra training this year, including a class on explosives last spring, led by the state fire marshal's office.

An after-school program begun at Colby Grade School in the spring has been widely accepted and wildly popular with students.

The Prairie Museum of Art and History has been busy, with a major new exhibit, "The Way We Worked," early in the year, and upgrades to the Cooper Barn occupying months ending with a fund raiser - the Party for the Potties - at the end of September.

Thomas County and Colby saw a number of retirements and new hires in public positions, including Randy Jones' retirement as Colby's police chief after 37 years with the department and Ron Alexander's appointment to replace him.

Concern over the state of the Ogallala Aquifer, boosted by a drought that's lasted several years, led to the development of the state's first Local Enhanced Management Area for irrigators in southwest Sheridan and southeast Thomas counties.

Though the drought continued this year, it was less severe. In fact, winter storms shut down schools and Interstate 70 several times and a hard rain flooded the area around Villa High pond.

Looking ahead, the school board began



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

Colby police and members of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation surveyed the scene where Teri Morris was fatally stabbed and the house burned in February.

a major district-wide renovation project at Colby Middle School, replacing the roof and heating and air-conditioning units. The renovations are expected to save up to \$52,000 a year in energy costs.

Housing shortages in Rexford and Colby got a helping hand. The old St. Thomas Hospital was added to the National Register of Historic Places, allowing tax credits to be used to help with reconstruction costs as a developer turns the old building into senior housing. On the east side of the county, Northwest Kansas Housing of Hill City received a Rural Development grant to build five duplexes in Rexford. According to Christi Rocca Preston, director of Thomas

County Economic Development Alliance, McCarty Dairy in Rexford hopes to add up to 100 new employees in the next few years.

More signs of growth could be seen in Colby as Citizens Medical Center added new surgical equipment, the Family Center for Health Care was expanded and three new doctors and an optometrist moved to town. Sarah and Kelley Gabel, a family practitioner and a general surgeon, are working out of the Family Center.

Dr. John Herscher is also new in town, at the new office of Colby Medical Services on Range Avenue.

Optometrist Dr. Sam Funk has joined the practice of Dr. Larry Washburn.

Winona woman injured Monday

A Winona woman was hurt when her car went off the side of the road Monday afternoon on K-25 south of Colby, rolling down an embankment on the left side of the road.

The Kansas Highway Patrol reported that Brooke L. Hinnergardt, 42, was driving south on K-25 out of Colby just after 4 p.m. She was about five miles south of town, she told the patrol, when she reached over in her car to grab a water bottle.

The 2003 Chevrolet Venture she was driving drifted off the

right side, then she overcorrected twice, veering towards the east ditch and back across the highway again.

Eric Cain of Monument told officers he was driving home with his son E.J. and witnessed part of the crash. Cain said he saw her vehicle swerve to the east side of the road just before his car dipped below a ridge. Coming up over the ridge, he said, he found her car flipped upside down, on the slope that drops off

the west side. Cain passed Hinnergardt, got off the side of the road and drove back through the ditch to the wreck. He said his mother-in-law, Lily Haverfield, a member of the Logan County ambulance crew, was off duty, but came on the scene soon afterward.

He said he thought the outdated design of the road was partly to blame for the accident. K-25 has no shoulders and the sides drop away steeply toward the barrow ditches.

"This highway, man, they need to do something about

Health care overhaul tops AP for year

Here is 2013's top story. HEALTH CARE OVERHAUL: The White House had hoped the Oct. 1 launch of open enrollment would be a showcase for the upside of Obama's much-debated overhaul. Instead, the website became a symbol of dysfunction, providing Republicans and late-night comics with ammunition, and worrying the president's Democratic allies.

The site gradually improved, but a wave of cancellation notices from insurers undercut Obama's oft-repeated promise that people who liked their existing coverage could keep it.

Other strong contenders were the bitter partisan conflict in Congress and the leaks about National Security Agency surveillance by former NSA analyst Edward Snowden. Last year, the top story was the massacre of 26 children and staff at an elementary school in Newtown, Conn. That result came after a rare decision by the AP to re-conduct the voting; the initial round of balloting had ended Dec. 13, a day before the Newtown shooting, with the 2012 election at the top.

The first AP top-stories poll was conducted in 1936, when editors chose the abdication of Britain's King Edward VIII.

pal transition 21.

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Health care overhaul tops AP for year

David Crary

AP National Writer

NEW YORK - The glitch-plagued rollout of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul was the top news story of 2013, followed by the Boston Marathon bombing and the dramatic papal changeover at the

Vatican, according to The Associated Press' annual poll of U.S. editors and news directors.

The saga of "Obamacare" - as the Affordable Care Act is widely known - received 45 first-place votes out of the 144 ballots cast for the top 10 stories. The marathon bombing received 29 first-place votes and the pa-

Crashes stem from icy Interstate

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ambulance was sent for a roll-over three miles to the southwest of the first, near mile 70, and close to the north Oakley exit. Later, however, troopers said that situation did not involve an injury. A sheriff's deputy was to

take the report.

Dispatchers said the patrol recorded seven to 10 "service rendered" calls that day, involving slide-offs or car trouble along the Interstate.

treat the treacherous pavement. The Thomas County sheriff's office reported working two noninjury accidents that morning along the interstate. A second

Briefly

The deadline for Briefly is noon the day before. Items submitted in the morning will be set up for the following day, space available. The deadline for Monday's paper is noon Friday.

Group plans dance at American Legion

A public dance is planned for 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday (note the time change) at the Colby American Legion Hall. Everyone welcome. For information, call Lue Duffey at (785) 269-7057.

Fostering classes set for January

Foster parenting classes by TFI Family Services will begin Monday in Colby, with the time and location to be determined by interested families' schedules. Call Vicki Beiser at (785) 443-0650 or (800) 279-9914.

Church offers class for women on divorce

A 10-week program of hope, healing and support for women experiencing divorce will be offered from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday evenings from next week through March 10 at the Colby United Methodist Church. Women of all faiths are welcome. Call Lynette Ball at (785) 675-8606 to enroll or for information.

Auxiliary moves meetings to church

The Colby Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary will hold its January and February meetings at the First Christian Church, 385 W. Third St., rather than at the post. The meetings will be at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday and 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12. For information, call Lily Thieler at 462-3590.

Art Club offers movie on Rockwell

The High Plains Art Club will serve free hot chocolate and popcorn with a movie about the life of illustrator Norman Rockwell at 1:30 p.m. next Thursday in the upstairs meeting room at the Pioneer Memorial Library. Call Marj Brown at 462-3515 for information.

Wellness Challenge to kick off with speaker

Dr. Doug Gruenbacher, a Quinter physician, will speak at the kickoff for the Thomas County Wellness Challenge at 7 p.m. Monday in the multipurpose room at the Colby Community College Student Union. Blood will be drawn for lab tests from 6 to 9 a.m. next Thursday to Saturday, Jan. 11, and Monday, Jan. 13, in the front lobby of Citizens Medical Center, 100 E. College Dr. The Challenge itself begins Monday, Jan. 13. For information, call the county Health Department at (785) 460-4596.

Head Start looking for kids to fill classes

Head Start, a development program for 3- and 4-year-olds, is taking applications. For information or to schedule an appointment, call 460-6067 by Tuesday, May 20.

AmericanProfile CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN SPIRIT

Saturday Evening January 4, 2014

7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC Over the Hedge				S.H.I.E.L.D.		Local			
KBSL/CBS How I Met Crazy		NCIS: Los Angeles		48 Hours		Local			
KSNK/NBC NFL Football						Local	Saturday Night Live		
KBAS/FOX Almost Human		Bones		Local		Animation	Following	Local	

Cable Channels

A & E	Flipping Vegas	Flipping Vegas	Flipping Vegas	Flipping Vegas	Flipping Vegas	Flipping Vegas			
AMC	The Dark Knight					X-Men			
ANIM	Pit Bulls-Parole	Pit Bulls-Parole	Pit Bulls-Parole	Pit Bulls-Parole	Pit Bulls-Parole				
BRAVO	Alliant	How to Lose				How to Lose			
CMT	Rambo: First Blood	OC Choppers	Swamp Pawn	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.		
CNN	Presumed	Murder in Mexico	CNN Presents	Presumed		Murder in Mexico			
COMEDY	Grandma's Boy	Superbad				Dumb & Dumber			
DISC	MythBusters	Naked and Afraid				MythBusters	Naked and		
DISN	Adventures of Sharkboy	Dog	Lab Rats	Kickin' i	Austin	Dog	ANT Farm	Jessie	
E!	Pride and Prejudice		Fashion Police		Chelsea	The Soup	Party On		
ESPN	BCS Countdown	30 for 30				SportsCenter	NFL PrimeTime		
ESPN2	High Scho	30 for 30		Shorts	30 for 30		SportsCenter		
FAM	Muppets Take	The Muppet Movie				Hook			
FOOD	Cutthroat Kitchen	Cutthroat Kitchen	Cutthroat Kitchen	On the Rocks		Cutthroat Kitchen			
FX	The Proposal			The Proposal					
HQTV	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Property Brothers		

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Sunday Evening January 5, 2014

7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC The Bachelor		Revenge		Betrayal		Local			
KBSL/CBS Elementary		The Good Wife		The Mentalist		Local			
KSNK/NBC Dateline NBC		Best of Fallon				Local		Dateline NBC	
KBAS/FOX Simpsons	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Amer. Dad	Local					

Cable Channels

A & E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage
AMC	The Bourne Identity					The Departed			
ANIM	Gator Boys	Gator Boys	Finding Bigfoot	Gator Boys	Finding Bigfoot				
BRAVO	Housewives/All	Blood, Sweat & Heels	Thicker Than Water	Happens	Fashion	Housewives/All			
CMT	Hazzard	The Dukes of Hazzard	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.			
CNN	Anthony Bourd.	March-Penguin		March-Penguin					
COMEDY	Dumb & Dumber	Superbad				Tosh.0	Brody Stevens		
DISC	Last Frontier	Last Frontier		Dude, You're Screwed	Last Frontier	Dude, You're Screwed			
DISN	Bedtime Stories	Jessie	Dog	Austin	Jessie	Good Luck	Good Luck		
E!	He's Just Not			The Soup	Chelsea	He's Just Not That Into You			
ESPN	NFL PrimeTime	College Football				SportCtr			
ESPN2	World Series	SportsCenter Special				SportsCenter		ESPN FC	
FAM	The Muppets			The Muppets		J. Osteen	J. Moyer		
FOOD	Guy's Grocery Games	Chopped		Cutthroat Kitchen	Restaurant: Im.	Chopped			
FX	Thor			Thor					
HQTV	Beach	Beach	Hawaii	Hawaii	Island	Island	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hawaii
HIST	Ax Men					The Curse of			Ax Men
LIFE	The Stepfather	Promotion				The Stepfather			
MTV	New Year's Code	Ridic.	Ridic.	Friday After Next		Wild/Out	Wild/Out		
NICK	See Dad	Instant	Jinxed		Full H'se	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	2012	Dawn Treader				Dungeons & Dragons			
SPIKE	Star Wars VI: Return	Star Wars VI: Return							Cops
TBS	The Change-Up					The Change-Up			Sex and t
TCM	How to Marry			Moon Over Miami		Fatty Join			
TLC	Sister Wives	Sister Wives		Breaking the Faith		Sister Wives		Breaking	
YNT	Public Enemies					Lucky Number Slewin			
TOON	Steven	Teen	King/Hill	King/Hill	Burgers	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Rick
TRAV	Monumental Mysteries	Mysteries-Museum	America Declassified	America Declassified	America Declassified	America Declassified	Mysterios-Museum		
TV LAND	Cosby	Cosby	Golden	Golden	Golden	Golden	Kirstie	The Exes	
USA	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU
VH1	Bad Boys					Couples Therapy	Mob Wives	40 Funniest Falls 3	
WGN	ET Extra-Terr.					The Net			

Premium Channels

HBO	Admission	Identity Thief		Warm Bodies		Sex/Now
MAX	Dark Shadows	Banshee	Banshee	Dark Knight		
SHOW	Shameless	Shameless	Shameless	Shameless	Lies	Silber



Free Press Viewpoint

Courthouse stands as 'grand old lady'

The engineers' report on the condition of the historic Thomas County Courthouse should be enough to bury any plans to replace the grand old lady at the east end of Third Street.

While noting some areas that need work, the engineers said the 106-year-old courthouse is basically sound, fit (with adequate maintenance) to last "another century."

Replacing the courthouse never caught on with the public, but some county commissioners feared the old building might not be worth keeping up. Cracks in basement walls gave rise to the idea that the building was settling unevenly and not sound.

Not true, the engineers said. The cracks that are present are no threat to the building or its foundations.

So it seems the best thing the commissioners could do at this point is shelve the courthouse plan and come up with a plan to best utilize the county's existing buildings, then unite the people behind a push to build a new, vastly better jail and Law Enforcement Center.

The present jail-office building is an embarrassment. Poorly built and poorly planned, it was barely adequate when it opened, already obsolete and had enough issues that you have to wonder if the county got its money's worth back then.

Today, city and county law enforcement staffs barely have room to breathe, let alone work. Even the sheriff does not have his own private office. Desks are crammed everywhere.

The cells can't hold nearly enough prisoners, the yard is insecure, the mechanical systems are crowded into a narrow pipe chase and the plumbing is substandard. The jail basically is a lawsuit – or an escape – waiting to happen.

Whether the best plan would be to include new courtrooms and offices in the building is anyone's guess. Maybe the consultants could say. Same with reuse of the existing jail building – one proposal was to move the road department into it, but a better one might be to bulldoze it.

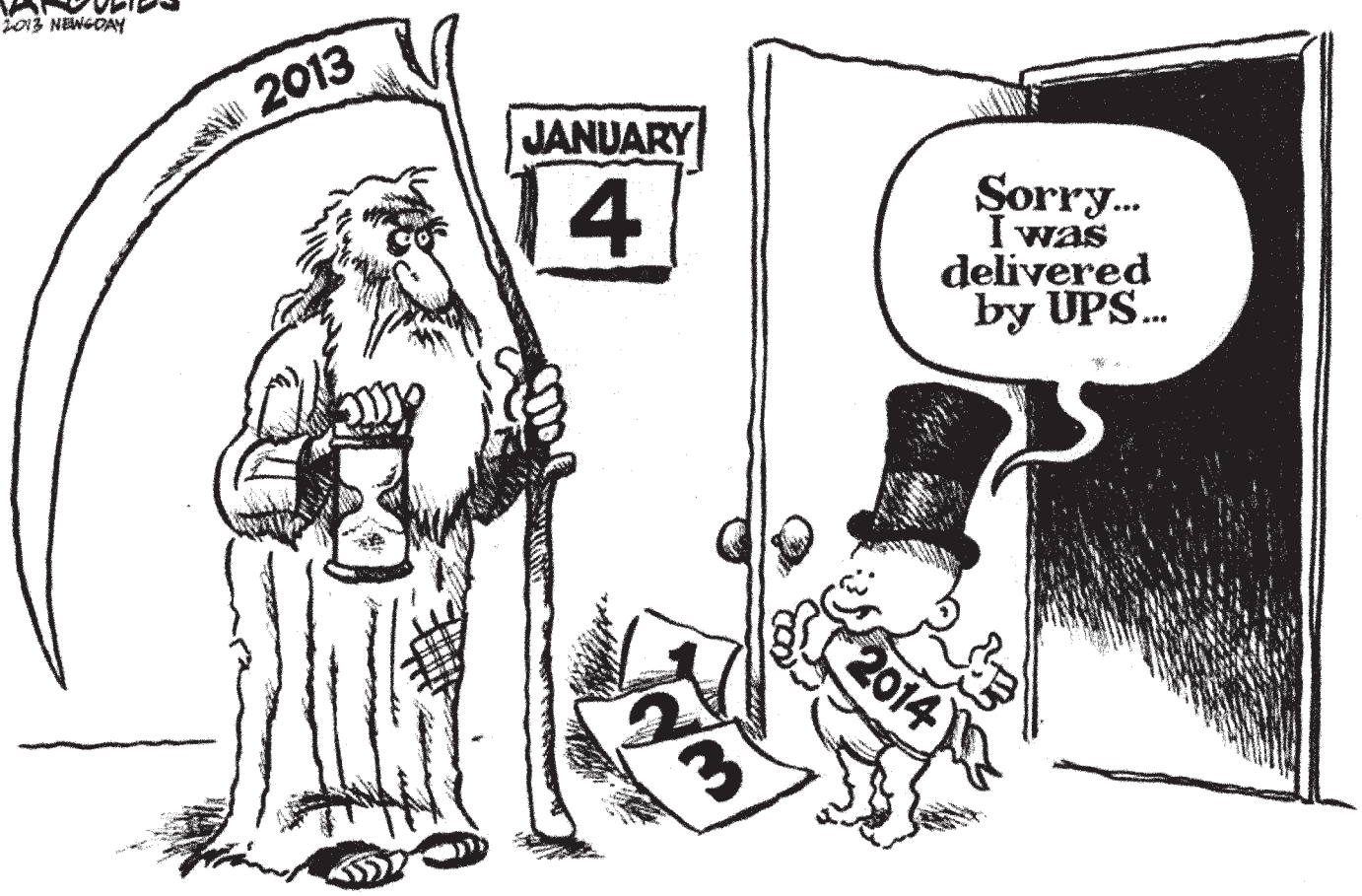
Looking at its buildings, the county might find it should just level the jail or perhaps sell the old nursing home on Range Avenue that now serves as the county office complex for commercial development. Anything is possible.

But one thing is sure. Seldom has a community loved a courthouse more than this one has. People talk about its design with pride. Few buildings remain from the era when it was built. When this newspaper searched for an icon to represent Colby, it chose the courthouse.

So whatever plan the county comes up with needs to include some money to start renovating the courthouse and restoring it to its former grandeur. Anything else might draw opposition and divide the county, endangering the plan to replace the jail.

Tear down the courthouse, indeed! Let's get it ready for the next century. – *Steve Haynes*

MARGULIES
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Names a puzzle on Christmas card list

We send out a lot of Christmas cards, and so we get a lot back. Sometimes we get cards back from people we're not sure we even know.

I always scan the return address on cards to make sure that my friends haven't moved. If I spot someone whose card went to Colorado living in Arizona, I make the change in my address book. If they've moved to Wisconsin, like one couple we know, I make the change and shake my head.

I can understand moving for warmer, not wetter, weather. It's probably as cold in Colorado as it is in Wisconsin, but it's a lot dryer, and as they told me when I moved out to Colorado's San Luis Valley 30 years ago – "It gets to 40 below, but it's a dry cold."

Ah well, maybe these friends are tired of the dry cold. At least I knew who I was getting the card from, even if their address was different.

This year, however, we received several cards from friends with odd address labels on them.

The most confusing was from Mary Fehr. It took us a few minutes to realize that was Steve's favorite cousin. Mary Lou and her husband Ken from Denver. Mary Lou, like every other Mary of our generation, goes by two



Cynthia Haynes
• Open Season

names because there were so many of them.

In my high school class we had Mary Frances, Mary Louise and Mary Alice. Today these girls would probably go by the middle name, but then there's no need, since not so many people name their daughters Mary anymore. And if they do they'd probably spell it Merry or Myri.

But back to the Christmas cards.

The other thing that struck me when looking at the address labels is most of us are really cheap. We use the ones we get in the mail from St. Jude's Hospital, our insurance company, Pheasants Forever and the college alumni association. These usually have one name on them, so that the return address has only one person on it, not the couple. That's enough to get the card home, but can be a little worrisome for the receiver.

Me: "Gee, we just got a card from Sam Smith. I hope June is OK. Maybe she died or they divorced or..."

Steve: "Just open up the card and look at the signature, for goodness sakes, and stop worrying over an address label that they probably got for free from their bank."

Me: "Oh good, it's signed by both of them and their three dogs."

Since I also use those little labels, our friends also must check the cards to make sure all is well in the Haynes household. So we also include a letter each year.

I know, I know. Those letters have a bad rep. But, if you don't want to know what we were doing last year – good and bad – toss it. I don't care. I'll never know. And, if you really, really don't want to get one next year, just move and don't send me a card with one of those free, if slightly confusing, return address labels.

Cynthia Haynes, co-owner and chief financial officer of Nor'West Newspapers, writes this column weekly. Her pets include cats, toads and a praying mantis. Contact her at c.haynes@nwkans.com

Where to write, call

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State Rep. Ward Cassidy, (120th District) State Capitol Building, 300 SW 10th St., Room 151-S, Topeka, Kan., 66612, (785) 296-7616 ward.cassidy@house.ks.gov

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Postage rate increase decision flawed

The Postal Regulatory Commission handed everyone who uses the mail a lump of coal on Christmas Eve, approving of the U.S. Postal Service's proposal to raise postage rates by more than triple today's inflation rate.

The new rates will likely go into effect Sunday, Jan. 26, if the service elects to accept the commission's decision.

The commission did disagree, however, with the Postal Service's justification for a proposed "exigency" rate increase that it lost more than 53 billion pieces of mail because of the Great Recession. Rather, the commission continues to blame Internet diversion as the principal reason for Postal Service losses. The commission only credits the recession with less than half the service's financial loss – but granted the increase anyway – noting service still needs the money.

National Newspaper Association President Robert M. Williams Jr., publisher of the *Blackshear (Ga.) Times*, said the association respectfully disagrees with the Postal Service's request as well as the commission's decision. He insists a lack of action by Congress on postal reform is at the root of the problem.

"We are whistling in the dark," said Williams. "We cannot avoid the fact the Postal Service is operating in a new world. We all are. The longer the Postal Service and lawmakers avoid reducing core costs for the delivery network, the more pain will be inflicted upon all

Other Opinions

• **Tonda Rush**
National Newspaper Assoc.

who use the mail. Fewer and fewer customers will be paying more and more. This approved postage increase solves nothing."

The Postal Rate Commission said it expects the service to wean itself of the "extra" increase over time. Although service said it expects the effects of the recession to go on for an unforeseeable period, the commission declined to allow the additional \$1.8 billion it expects the service to reap to go on forever. The ruling requires service to provide a plan by May for eliminating the extraordinary increase over a two-year time period.

Unless the service can achieve serious reductions in operating costs without critically diminishing services, Williams said, he is not optimistic this can happen.

"This latest action by the commission only makes the Postal Service's survival challenge tougher and scarier. This decision opens the door to perpetual steep postage increases for American businesses, including ours, which

strives to fill a deep desire by readers to receive a hard copy newspaper, even if they also read online."

Max Heath, long-time chair of the association's postal committee, said he also is disappointed the exigency rate increase is granted. Heath notes that although service certainly has been hurt by the recession, as have its customers, raising postage rates now is ill-advised.

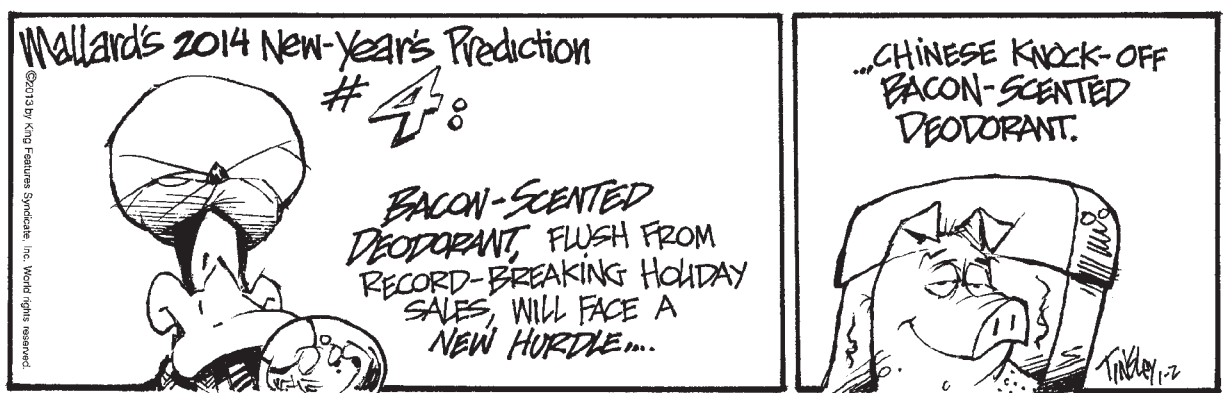
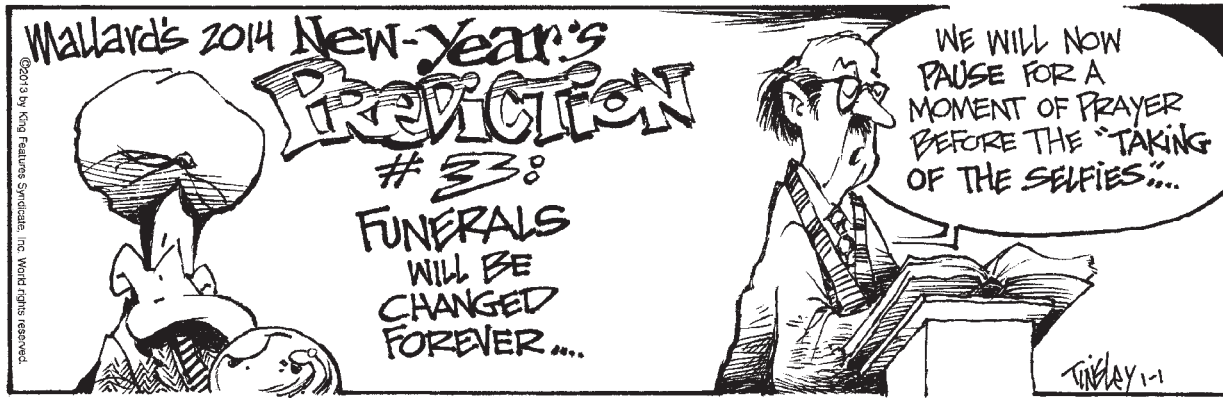
"We calculated increases up to 7 percent for some of our critical newspaper mail categories," he said. "To the extent that service suffered from the recession, so did our business. It is too bad the law doesn't allow for an "exigent decrease" in postage so we, who must respond to market realities, could be made whole as well."

Williams said the association will renew its efforts to seek prudent postal reform legislation during the annual Newspapers Leadership Summit March 13, when publishers visit their representatives on Capitol Hill.

Tonda Rush is chief executive officer of the National Newspaper Association, a 2,200 member organization of community newspapers. Founded in 1885, it represents newspapers in every state, especially weeklies and small daily newspapers providing local news and information to their towns. For more about the association, go to www.theassociationweb.org.

Mallard Fillmore

• Bruce Tinsley



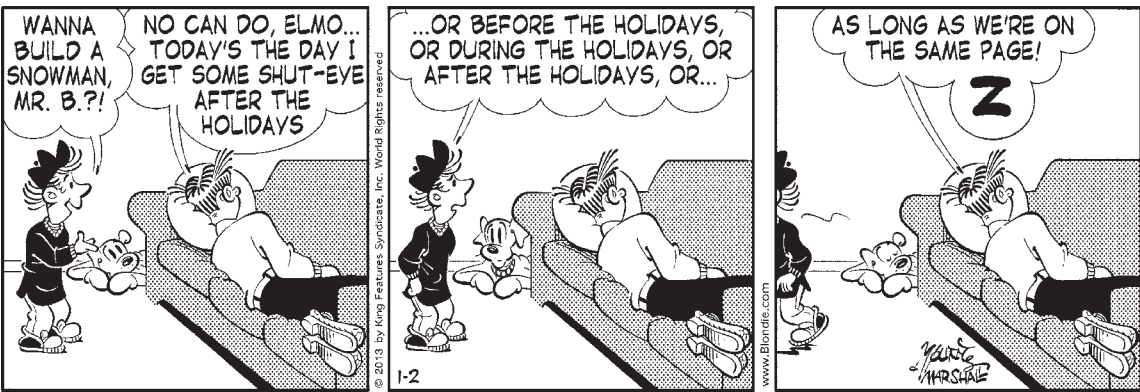
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



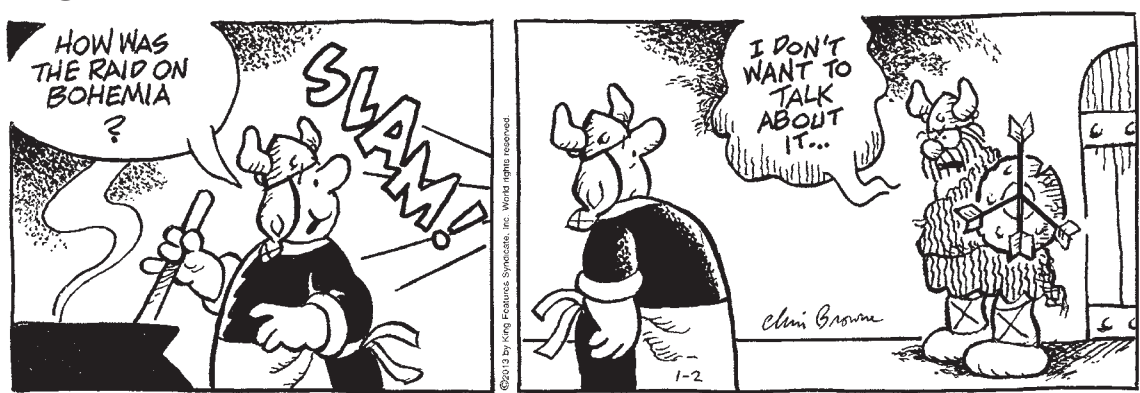
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



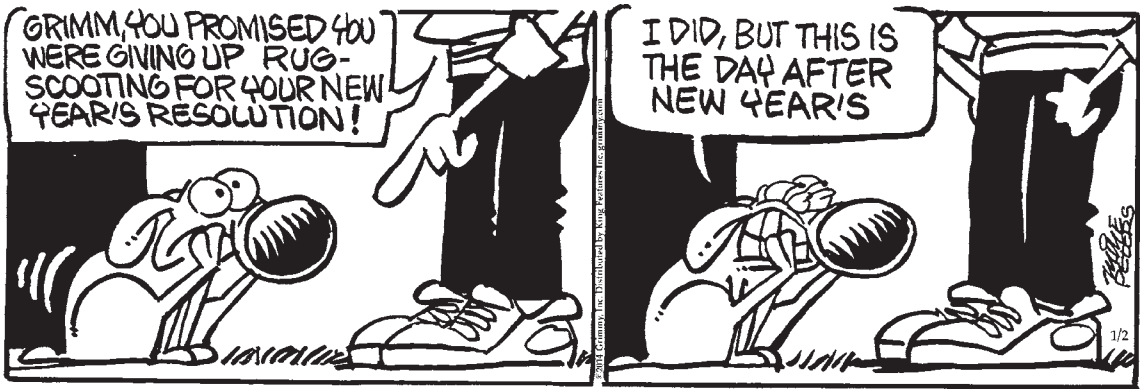
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



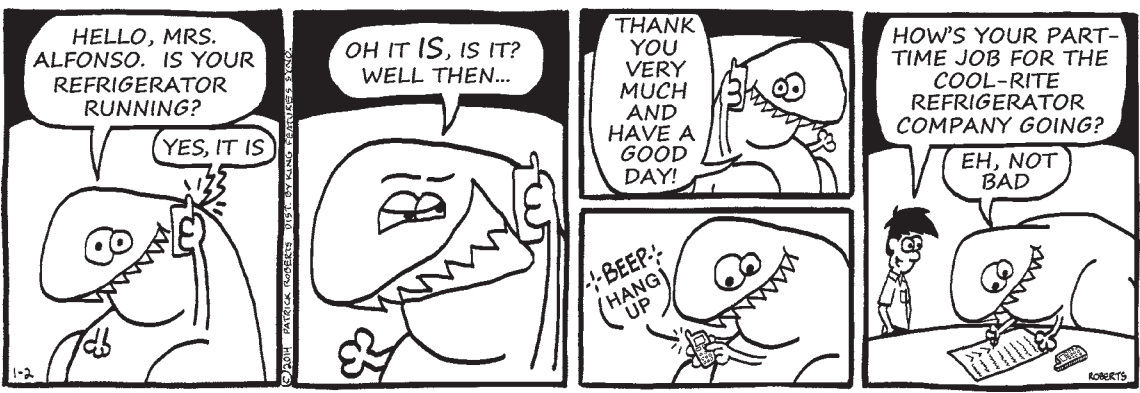
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



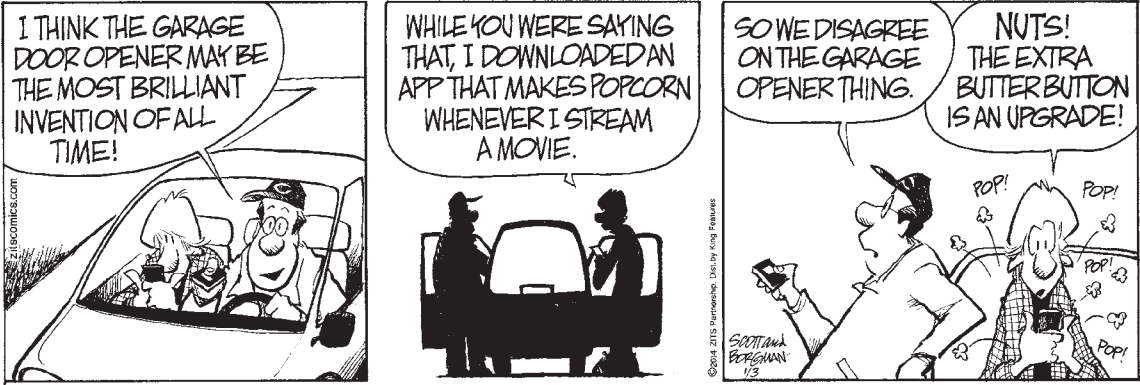
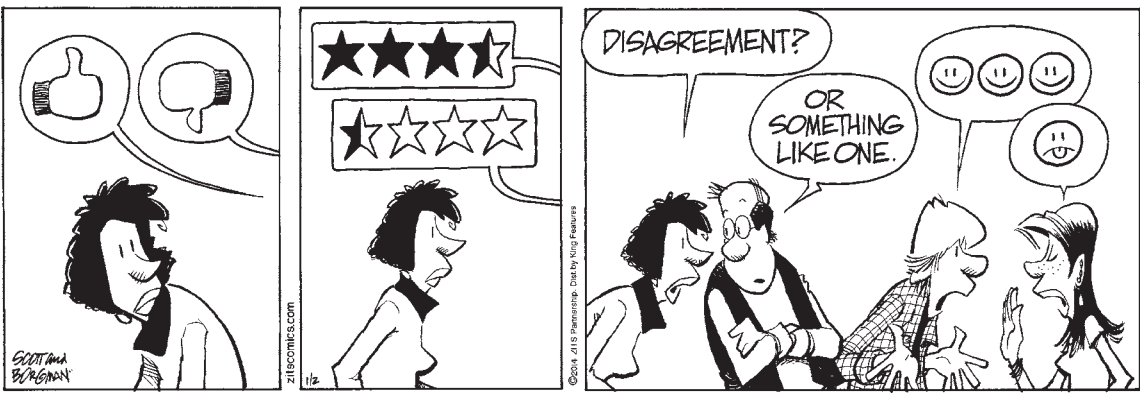
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Vintage table nothing special

Q: I have a dining-room set including a French Provincial table with three leaves, a china cabinet with glass doors, six chairs and an armchair. All the chairs have been recovered. A tag on one of the chairs says "B.F. Huntley Co." The set was purchased at an estate sale in the 1970s. When were these pieces made and what might their value be? I'm going to sell them before we remodel.

A: B.F. Huntley, an employee of the Oakland Furniture Co., established his own furniture company in Winston-Salem, N.C., in 1906. Later he acquired the Oakland Furniture Co. and two other furniture companies. In 1961 B.F. Huntley Furniture Co. merged with the Thomasville Chair Co. and became Thomasville Furniture Industries. Your vintage furniture is worth what comparable new sets sell for today.

Q: I have a very old glass plate that my great-grandmother gave me when I was 10 years old, 73 years ago. It's decorated with cigar bands on the back with a man's picture in the center. The back of the dish is covered with a felt-like material glued over the bands and center picture. Can you tell me how old it is and if it has any value?

A: Cigar bands, the decorative strips of paper wrapped around cigars, were first made in the 1830s to identify brand names. Cigar bands made from the late 1800s until about 1920 are the most colorful and decorative.

"Cigar band art," which is sometimes referred to as a form of folk art, was a popular home-made craft in the early 1900s. The bands were used to decorate dishes, coasters, bracelets and other items. Your dish was decorated by gluing the large picture, face down, to the bottom of the dish, then gluing cigar bands face down so they completely covered the rest of the dish's exterior. The bands were then covered with felt so that when the dish is turned upright, the bands can be seen but the back is protected by the felt.

Old cigar band dishes are not hard to find. They sell for \$10 to hundreds of dollars, depending on age, condition and the talent of the maker.

Q: I have a cut glass 20-inch, heavy vase. It was my mother's, and I'm wondering what the value would be. There are no markings to show who made it. It has a cracked handle.

A: You might be able to repair the handle, but the value is lower with the crack even if it's repaired. In perfect condition, the vase could sell for \$300 to \$400.

Tip: Cranberry juice will stain stone, so be careful if you have marble-top tables. Other liquids will stain, but cranberry juice stains are especially bad.

(c) 2013 by Cowles Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ A 7
♥ 8 5 3 2
♦ Q J 5
♣ K J 7 4

WEST
♠ J 9 8 6 2
♥ 6 4
♦ 10 9 6 2
♣ 5 3

EAST
♠ K 10 4
♥ A J 9 7
♦ 7 4 3
♣ A 8 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — six of spades.

The First Step Tells the Tale

It's impossible to play bridge well if you react to situations mechanically. As a case in point, consider this deal played in the 1958 world championship match between Argentina and the United States.

B. Jay Becker and Sidney Silodor were East and West, respectively, and Silodor led the six of spades against three notrump. The Argentine declarer followed low from dummy, whereupon Becker played the ten of spades instead of the king!

South took the ten with the queen and led a club to the king, won by Becker with the ace. Becker then returned the king of spades to dummy's ace, establishing three spade tricks for Silodor. When declarer later led a heart from dummy, Becker rose with the ace and returned a spade, and three notrump went down one.

The same contract was reached at the other table, and West also led the six of spades. But here the Argentine East won the spade with the king and returned the ten to dummy's ace.

East also took the club ace at trick three and returned a spade, won by South with the queen. West's remaining spades thus became established, but since he had no entry to cash them, the U.S. declarer made the contract.

Under the circumstances, the spade ten was clearly the better play at trick one, and Becker rose to the occasion by resisting the natural urge to take his king. Dummy's 11 points and East's 12 points left South with at most 17 points for his opening one-notrump bid (the Argentines were playing 16-18 notrumps).

West therefore could not have more than one point in his hand, and, in fact, given that Becker could see the other three jacks in dummy and his own hand, it could only be the jack of spades. Furthermore, assuming West was leading fourth-best, the only three spades he could have higher than the six were the unseen eight, nine and jack. It followed that the ten-of-spades play at trick one was far more likely to defeat the contract than the play of the king.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"It was a lot more fun takin' them OUT of their box 'stead of putting them back IN."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

5	8		2					
2		1	8					
	4			5				
	5		1					
3		6				4		2
					7		6	
			6				2	
				9	3			5
			8				1	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/02

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle.

The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral.

The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

4	7	8	3	5	2	9	6	1
9	6	3	8	1	4	2	7	5
5	2	1	7	9	6	4	8	3
8	1	7	4	2	5	3	9	6
2	9	6	1	3	7	8	5	4
3	5	4	6	8	9	1	2	7
6	8	5	2	4	1	7	3	9
7	4	2	9	6	3	5	1	8
1	3	9	5	7	8	6	4	2

Cryptoquip

UMWXE LRQBXE JWRL BJW

DUEERXY, YRY VJWL JM

SXJSVX WAXQ HJDX WJ

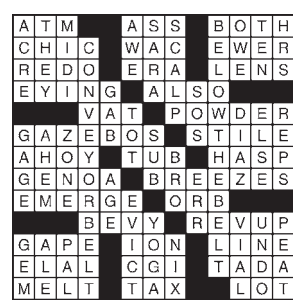
WAX EXYYRQB EXHXS WRJQ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF NO FEMALES WERE FOUND LIVING IN A CERTAIN TROPICAL SWAMP, WOULD YOU SAY IT'S A MAN-GROVE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals D

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Horse's foot | 37 Sea eagle | 1 Rope fiber | 20 Ostrich's cousin |
| 5 Impudent | 38 Burdened | 2 Hodge-podge | 22 Oktoberfest |
| 9 Unruly bunch | 40 Commercial | 3 Norway's capital | 23 Do-it-yourself souvenir |
| 12 "Born Free" lioness | 41 Complaint | 4 Leno's successor | 24 "Acid" hower |
| 13 Water pitcher | 43 Accusations | 5 Flex | 25 Eisenhower |
| 14 Rage | 47 Flightless bird | 6 Possess | 26 Very large |
| 15 Years : decades :: centuries : — | 48 Barbie's middle name | 7 Wahine's bestowal | 27 Hue the run |
| 17 Michele of "Glee" | 51 Spring mo. | 8 Pulitzer Prize category | 29 Heavy weight |
| 18 Combined resources | 52 Elliptical | 9 Hatmaker | 30 "The loneliest number" |
| 19 Honeydew, e.g. | 53 Vortex | 10 Sandwich treat | 35 Track circuit |
| 21 On the other hand | 54 Homer's neighbor | 11 Rowan Atkinson role | 37 Brought out |
| 22 Hindu pundit | 55 Information | 16 Always, in verse | 39 Minion of Satan |
| 24 Describe | 56 Medicinal amount | | 40 Black bird |
| 27 Chowd down | | | 41 Fed agt |
| 28 "Do — others ..." | | | 42 Lasso |
| 31 Schuss | | | 43 Troubles |
| 32 Third letter | | | 44 Modify fully |
| 33 Very long time | | | 45 Make — meet |
| 34 Farmer's home? | | | 46 Eyelid problem |
| | | | 49 "— got it!" |
| | | | 50 Legisla-tion |



Yesterday's answer 1-2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13					14		
15			16						17		
18							19	20			
			21		22	23					
24	25	26		27			28		29	30	
31				32					33		
34			35		36				37		
		38		39			40				
41	42					43			44	45	46
47				48	49	50					
51				52					53		
54				55					56		

Classifieds

To place your classified ad, mail (155 W. Fifth), fax (785-462-7749), phone (785-462-3963), or stop by our office at 155 W. Fifth

Notices

Brown's Consignment Auction - Sunday, Jan. 5th, 10 a.m., Hoxie, KS 4-H Building. Antiques & collectibles, old coins, household items, furniture - some older pieces, table saw, (2) electric welders, tools. Large part of auction two families must sell household, shop items plus other consigners. Next auction Feb. 2nd, tables are booked! Evenings 785-675-3767 Mickey Brown.
---12/30---1/3---

All remaining Christmas inventory 30% off. Including Santas, Trees and Ornaments. December 30 through January 4 - Emerald Edition, 135 W. 3rd, Colby.
---12/30---1/3---

Happy Holidays from that tree guy Kerry at Infinite Connections. Get on his schedule for 2014 - 785-626-4261.
---12/23---1/3---

Dan is back! Dan Geschwentner. Small remodeling and repair jobs. Call 785-443-3673.
---12/15---TFN---

Classified ad deadlines (word ads only). Noon the day before publication (noon Friday for Monday paper). Please check your ad the first time it runs. If you find an error, please call at (785) 462-3963 so it can be corrected, since we will not be responsible for errors after that first day. The Colby Free Press.
---3/1---TFN---

Help Wanted

Part-time Help Wanted at home-based daycare. Call 785-460-8261 for more information.
---1/2---1/8---

High Plains Mental Health Center currently has an opening for either a full time or part time Branch Office Support Staff at our Branch Office in Colby. Qualified candidate should have good secretarial and office skills, handle multi-line phone system, and data entry. Candidate must also successfully pass a KBI background check. Interested applicants - respond via mail to Maureen Mindrup, Human Resources Manager, High Plains Mental Health Center, 208 E. 7th St., Hays, KS. 67601, or by e-mail to Jean Montgomery at jean.montgomery@hpmhc.com. HPMHC is an Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V.
---1/2---1/15---

You have a Pickup & Trailer? Want to work for yourself? We are looking for you!!! We are looking for self motivated & dependable individual looking to work as a wholesale food distributor in Western Kansas. If you are interested in being your own boss email contact info to: guy@just4userv.com.
---12/20---1/27---

Homestead Nutrition Project is accepting applications for an assistant cook at the Colby Sr. Center Meal Site. M-F 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. No evenings, weekends or major holidays. Vac/Sick/Holiday pay and KPERS offered. Please call 1-800-432-7422.
---12/30---1/6---

Help Wanted

We are looking for a full-time experienced electrician. Please send resume with references or pick up an application 785-462-6692.
---1/2---1/15---

Outside Sales Rep. National company looking for 1-2 sales professionals in NW Kansas. 60-80k Base+Commissions, Benefits and Stock. Interviews Jan. 7th. Call: 720-839-9600.
---1/2---1/8---

PSI Transport, in Hoxie, KS, is expanding and looking for a dedicated, dependable and energetic person that is capable in helping run the office. The selected individual may be responsible for helping in areas of bookkeeping, DOT regulations, and dispatching. This ideal candidate must be an excellent communicator, demonstrate stellar customer service, have a strong desire to get things done accurately, and have the ability to handle pressure. PSI Transport is an Equal Opportunity Employer that offers a very competitive salary and benefit package. To be part of our plans to be a leader in the trucking industry call (785) 675-3477.
---12/19---1/3---

Position Available: Looking for an OTR driver, CDL required, clean MVR, have 2 years driving experience, will train the right person, drug testing required. 785-675-8581.
---12/19---1/17---

Professional Position Available: Experienced Bookkeeper proficient in QuickBooks. Payroll, Accounts Payable / Accounts Receivable, etc. Position is eligible for benefits package including Health Insurance, 401K, and more. Please send resume to Vap Construction, 605 N. 10th St., Atwood, KS 67730 or email wendy@vapconstruction.com.
---12/18---1/2---

Vision Source of Colby is hiring a full-time optician. Prior experience or ABOC certification a plus but we are willing to train the right person with great customer service skills. Duties include assisting patients with lens and frame selection, glasses adjustments and repairs; handling patient's optical concerns; merchandising optical floor; working with vendors and labs; maintaining inventory and cost controls; and assisting with optical lens production. More information on duties and qualifications can be found under Employment Opportunities on our website, www.eyeclinic.com. Please email your resume along with a letter of introduction and three work-related references to Practice Manager at service@eyeclinic.com (put "VS Optician" in the subject line).
---12/13---1/3---

Full time position open immediately in the Thomas County Appraiser Office. This position entails outdoor fieldwork as well as data entry associated with residential and personal property. Qualifications: high school diploma or GED, valid Kansas driver's license. Candidate should possess excellent organizational, communication, and public relations skills. Job description and employment application available at the Appraiser's office, Thomas County Courthouse, 300 N. Court Ave. Starting pay \$10.00 per hour.
---12/13---1/3---

Help Wanted

Great Western Tire of Colby, Inc., 1170 S. Country Club Drive, is now accepting applications for all positions. Experience required, but will train the right person. Valid driver's license is a requirement. Full time position includes competitive salary and benefits. Apply in person, EOE. Questions please call 785.462.2100.
---12/4---TFN---

Wagoner Repair & Performance, 1100 S. Country Club Dr., Colby, KS 785-460-1081. If you are a diesel mechanic or an auto mechanic and you are interested in working decent hours, with weekends by choice, please apply. Health insurance is optional.
---12/18---1/16---

CDL Drivers - Must be at least 23 years of age, clean MVR, minimum 2 years of driving experience. Hopper experience a plus. Call 785-462-0087.
---9/9---1/3---

PSI Transport, LLC, is always looking for good company livestock and grain haulers as well as shop mechanics. Competitive pay life/health/dental benefit and bonus program available. EOE (785) 675-3477
---7/13---TFN---

Carriers needed to deliver the Colby Free Press! Great for someone needing extra income. A few hours a day, 4 days a week. Bonus after 3 months. To apply please stop by the office at 155 W. Fifth St., Colby or for questions call 785-462-3963.
---3/21---TFN---

Office Space for Rent

Downtown office space for rent, corner location, utilities included with rent. Call Thomas County Insurance 785-462-3939.
---10/3---TFN---

Buildings for Sale

Steel Building Bargains, Allocated Discounts. We do deals 30x40, 50x60, 100x100 and more Total Construction and Blueprints Available www.gosteelbuildings.com. Source #18X - 620-577-4455.
---1/2---1/15---

Buildings for Sale

Vap Construction, the strongest name in steel and post frame buildings. We will beat any Northwest Kansas competitor's price on a comparable project. Contact us for a quote today! (866) 492-1978.
---12/12---1/9---

Apartments for Rent

1 Bedroom Apt. nice neighborhood, W/D with cable, util. & internet. Please call 785-443-2010.
---12/30---1/6---

Basement Apartment: 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, utilities paid, washer & dryer. Call 785-443-2070.
---12/30---1/6---

Houses for Sale

2 bedroom, 2 bath with one car garage house trailer in Brewster, move in ready, all appliances included \$7,500. 785-462-0528.
---1/2---1/8---

Misc. for Sale

6' Circular Hot Tub, great condition. Asking \$2,400 OBO 785-462-3308.
---1/2---1/15---

Suzuki Concert Master Personal Piano DP88 for sale \$750 - 785-462-2904 or cell 785-269-7012.
---1/2---1/15---

Abernathy solid walnut w/frosty plum finish, dining room table w/2 leaves, 5 chairs, 1 Captains chair & matching buffet \$800. 785-443-1414.
---1/2---1/8---

Refrigerators, electric stoves, gas range, under counter dishwashers, window air conditioners. We do not buy appliances 785-694-8013.
---12/18---1/16---

Pebble Embossed Plastic Banquet rolls 40'x300' (white) \$30 + tax. Can be purchased at the Colby Free Press, 155 W. 5th St.
---3/21---TFN---

Vehicles for Sale

Call us before you pay your next insurance premium. American Family Insurance - Rita Peters Agency - Colby 785-462-8246.
---1/18---TFN---

Public Notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS

State of Kansas,
Thomas County Sheriff's Office
Plaintiff
v.

2000 Ford Expedition
)
VIN #1FMPU18L6LYB61935
\$1,115.00 US Currency, M/L
Defendant.
Case No. 13-CV-65

NOTICE OF PENDING FORFEITURE
Pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4109 of the Kansas Standard Asset Seizure and Forfeiture Act K.S.A. 60-4101 et seq.

TO: Marco Antonio Alcazar-Castell, 304 East Fayle, Baytown, TX, 77520; to all other unknown persons who may claim an interest in the following property:

Notice is hereby given that property, described above, has been seized for forfeiture and is pending forfeiture to the State of Kansas pursuant to the Kansas Standard Asset Seizure and Forfeiture Act (KSASFA), K.S.A. 60-4101 et seq. If you have not previously received a Notice of Seizure for Forfeiture, this constitutes notice pursuant to the Act. The defendant's property was seized on or about October 31, 2013 in Thomas County, Kansas. A Notice of Pending Forfeiture is sufficient to begin this civil action and to seek out possible claimants to seized property. The conduct giving rise to forfeiture and/or the violation of law alleged is: Possession of a Narcotic Drug with Intent to Distribute. Plaintiff will further allege that a presumption of forfeitability exists pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4112(k). You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff's Attorney has chosen to initially proceed with this matter administratively and is making

stipulation of exemptions available for the property seized for forfeiture as described above. Therefore,

You may do either of the following:

- File a verified legal claim with the District Court of Thomas County, Kansas, the Plaintiff's Attorney and the contact person for the seizing agency, clearly identifying the property you seek to claim. This claim must be in affidavit form and include all information required by K.S.A. 60-4111. This claim shall be mailed via certified mail, return receipt requested. The addresses for the Court and seizing agency are as follows: Seizing Agency Contact: Thomas County Sheriff's Office, 225 N. Court, Colby, KS 67701, Thomas County District Court, 300 N. Court Street, P.O. Box 805, Colby, KS 67701; OR
- Do nothing.

The law further provides for provisional return of property under certain circumstances including the posting of a surety bond or court hearing on whether probable cause existed when the property was seized. You may wish to consult with an attorney before deciding what is best for you. However, if no claim is filed within thirty (30) days of the publication of this Notice, any interest you may have in the property described above will be forfeited. Again, all claims shall comply with the strict requirements for claims set forth in K.S.A. 60-4111.

Dated this 30 day of December, 2013.
s/Kevin N. Berens

Kevin N. Berens, #19304
Plaintiff's Attorney
Thomas County Attorney
300 N. Court Ave.
Colby, KS 67701
(785) 460-4580

(Published in the Colby Free Press on Thursday, January 2, 2014)

Seed and Feed

1,000 Round Net wrapped cane bales low nitrates. 245 net wrapped straw bales all southwest of Colby 785-443-2571 or 785-462-2012.
---12/23---1/22---

Feed High Quality - 877F Lab tested extra low nitrate all animal safe. Lg Rds. \$120.00 ton, price negotiable. Call 785-332-5600 or 785-332-3914. St. Francis, KS.
---12/20---1/20---

151 Round Bales, 9% Protein, low nitrates, SE Thomas County. 303-202-1000.
---1/2---1/29---

Services

Do you have weeds every year? Want a great looking yard? Call JM Tree & Lawn Service to fill ALL of your needs this year. We offer full tree care and sprinkler system maintenance/installs as well. Call today to get a free quote. 785-462-6908.
---5/13---TFN---

Do Your Feet Hurt? We can help with I-Step Technology. We also provide medicare approved diabetic shoes up to size 15 with doctors prescription by appointment only. Currier Drug, Inc, Atwood. 1-800-696-3214.
---4/22---TFN---

Have a leaking roof and need it repaired? Look no further. Murray Roofing & Construction, LLC will give you a free estimate and roof inspection. We specialize in residential and commercial roofing systems. Call our office to schedule an inspection. 785-462-6908.
---3/11---TFN---



Pepsi Beverages Company of Colby, KS has an **IMMEDIATE** opening for:
Burlington, CO Part Time Merchandiser
Please review the detailed job descriptions, requirements, and apply online TODAY at www.pepsico.com/careers
PBC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

The Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center is accepting applications for Early head Start Home Visitor.
Qualifications: High School Diploma or equivalent. Experience in early childhood preferred.
Contact Person: Shelby Hubert, Head Start Director, 785-672-3125, extension 160. Applications are available at www.nkesc.org or at 785-672-3125.

Application Deadline: Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

The Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center is seeking applicants for paraprofessionals for the USD 297-Saint Francis School District and USD 105-Rawlins County School District.
Qualifications: Spanish Language Proficiency. This position requires an individual to provide services to children who meet eligibility for the Migrant Education Program. Applications are available at www.nkesc.org or call 785-672-3125. For position related questions contact Tim Thornton at 785-672-3125 extension 125. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. NKESC is an EOE.



The West Region Department for Children & Families (DCF), Colby Service Center is now recruiting a Special Investigator I. This is a full-time benefit eligible position with hourly wage of \$15.75. Primary functions of this position are to meet service needs of children in families where abuse or neglect is suspected or are at risk for abuse and neglect.
Minimum requirement: Have a high school diploma or equivalent and one year investigating, fact finding or enforcing state or federal laws and regulations. Education in communications, psychology, social work, public or business administration, criminal justice or law may be substituted for experience as determined relevant by the agency.
An application is required and must be submitted by 5:00 pm, Monday, January 6, 2014. This can be done at www.jobs.ks.gov Submit to DCF - West Region, Requisition number 176379. For more information send an email to WestJobs@dcf.ks.gov
Tax Clearance: Each applicant applying for a State of Kansas job vacancy must obtain a State Tax Clearance Certificate by accessing the Kansas Department of Revenue's website at <http://www.ksrevenue.org/taxclearance.html>. A Tax Clearance is a comprehensive tax account review to determine and ensure that an individual's account is compliant with all primary Kansas Tax Laws. A Tax Clearance expires every 90 days. Applicants are responsible for submitting their certificate with all other application materials to the hiring agency. This is in accordance with Executive Order 2004-03. A tax clearance must be submitted to be considered for an interview.

Please Recycle 

MOTOR ROUTE DRIVER

The Colby Free Press is looking for a Motor Route Driver to deliver newspapers throughout the week. This is an independent contractor opportunity.

If you are looking to earn a little extra money please call or come in today!



- Sign on bonus after 3 mo.
- Bonus for new subscribers
- Gas mileage reimbursement
- 4 days a week, early evening
- Weekends always off
- Friendly Customers

 COLBY FREE PRESS
155 W. 5th • 785-462-3963

NOW HIRING
MONTANA MIKE'S STEAKHOUSE
Part Time:
Kitchen Staff & Servers
APPLY IN PERSON
1855 S. Range Ave. Colby, KS

The Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center is advertising for an Early Childhood Para-educator for the Hoxie and Oberlin School District for the 2013-2014 school year. Qualifications: High School diploma or equivalent. This position requires an individual to provide services to children with disabilities under the supervision of a certified school staff member. Applications are available at www.nkesc.org or call 785-672-3125. For position related questions, contact Kathy Kersenbrock Ostmeier at extension 111. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. NKESC is an EOE.

Coyotes fight off Bulldogs

By Judy Rogers
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains boys basketball team continues to show improvements as the season progresses.

They showed their abilities against Weskan on Dec. 20 as they hustled and worked together as a team.

The Bulldogs started strong and held a 7-6 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Weskan pulled ahead at the beginning of the second but baskets by Tristan Schwarz and Shane Ryburn narrowed the spread to one. A steal and layup by Grant Spresser put the Bulldogs back in the lead.

The Coyotes added a couple of shots to hold an 18-15 lead at the half.

The Coyotes pulled ahead in the third quarter. Shots from Kade Wessel, Spresser, and Ryburn



JUDY ROGERS/Golden Plains High School

Golden Plains 6'2" sophomore Kade Wessel established a strong post position on this play against the Weskan Coyotes recently.

kept Golden Plains within seven through three quarters.

The Bulldogs were determined to finish strong but the Coyotes pushed through for 16 points in the fourth to the Bulldogs' eight for a 45-30 win.

Ryburn put in nine points for the Bulldogs along with Spresser's eight, Kade Wessel's six, Schwarz's five and Koi Wessel's two.

The Bulldogs continue their season in St. Francis Friday.

Area teams march to titles

March meant a lot of championship for area teams and athletes as the *Free Press* review of 2013 sports moves on.

Dates represent when these events were reported in the *Free Press*.

March 18: Colby's Macen Shull wins the WaKeeney Powerlifting championship in his 148-pound division. Shull lifts a total of 805 pounds. Colby High senior Beau Brown also finishes first in three categories of his division, lifting 955 pounds.

March 13: The Golden Plains High girls win a substate championship and go on to claim a 1A consolation title with their two state tournament triumphs.

The Bulldogs' 77-67 final win over Wilson features 26 points from Jordan Christensen and senior Angela Ritter's 15.

"I'm sooooo proud to be a Bulldog!" Ritter remarked in Judy Rogers' game story.

Yet the month's No. 1 highlight was a Colby High wrestling squad earning all-academic first team from the Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association.

All 14 wrestlers have to post 3.5 grade averages for this honor. Not bad for an Eagles team that placed

second on the 4A state mats in February.

April highlights

April 2: The Colby Community College outdoor track and team qualifies seven athletes for nationals in its season debut.

"Since I've been at Colby, this is the best start to the outdoor season that we've ever had," coach Ames Ortiz said.

April 5: The Heartland Christian girls win their third consecutive Kansas Christian Athletic Association state basketball title. Alexi Regier is named tournament

Most Valuable Player, and Amy Myers earns all-tourney first team.

April 8: The Colby High track and field girls win a Norton Invitational team title, led by several multi-event champion individuals.

However, drama on April 25 highlights the month as Kaiya Canar's three-run walkoff homer gives Colby Community College's softball team a 15-12 over Barton.

Canar also homered earlier in this contest.

Other 2013 highlights will be featured on Friday.

Eagles are home for pair on Friday

Colby High's home varsity basketball doubleheader against Ulysses at the Colby Community Building tips off 2014 prep sports action.

More will be featured in Friday's edition.

A glance at other upcoming area sporting events:

Friday

Girls/boys basketball: Ulysses at Colby, 6:30/8 p.m.

College wrestling: Western Wyoming at Colby, 7 p.m.

Girls/boys basketball: Golden Plains at St. Francis, TBA

Monday

Junior high basketball: Golden Plains vs. Western Plains at Bazine, 4 p.m.

Tuesday

Girls/boys basketball: Colby at Goodland, 6:30/8 p.m.

Men's college basketball: Trini-



REECE MCDANIELS

Hugoton Hermes

Senior Cameron Brown and the Colby High basketball teams play their first home games this season Friday evening.

dad State at Colby, 7 p.m.

Wednesday

Women's college basketball: Colby at Lamar, 6 p.m.

Golden Plains girls sweep Weskan

By Judy Rogers
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs demonstrated their teamwork and unity as they overpowered the Weskan Lady Coyotes for two wins on Dec. 20.

The junior varsity started the night of basketball action with a three-quarter contest.

The girls got the tip from Morgan Ritter and drove to an 8-1

lead.

In the second quarter, they continued to work together and held the Lady Coyotes as they extended their lead to 14-1. The girls passed well and continued to dominate the Lady Coyotes finally allowing them a basket with just three minutes left to play for the 26-3 win.

Freshman Gabrielle Schiltz put in eight points for the Bulldogs followed by Rachael Ritter with

six, Maddy Walz five, Morgan Ritter-two, Carmen Sepulveda two and Ana Bermudez two.

As the varsity girls hit the floor, they knew they had to continue their Bulldog power play. They jumped to a 12-1 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Sophomore Kami Miller got hot in the second, leading the girls to a 16-7 halftime lead.

The Bulldogs kept up the pace throughout the second as many of

the younger girls gained varsity experience for the 50-12 win to redeem their losses during Castle Rock and give them a 3-2 record going into the break.

Miller posted up 14 points for the Bulldogs against Weskan along with 12 apiece from Hailee Spresser and Jordan Christensen.

Schiltz scored six, Walz added four and MiKayla Lobato tallied two.

The Golden Plains girls will

Can Big 12 rebound against mighty Tide?

Big 12 champion Baylor's sloppy collapse dashed *Free Press* scribbler R.B. Headley's chances

for a perfect 6-0 New Year's Day of picking bowl games.

Now Big 12 roommate Oklaho-

ma enters tonight's Sugar Bowl against mighty Alabama. The pick from R.B. and AP college football

writer Ralph Russo? R.B.: Close but no redemption for league. Tide 37-24. Russo: Alabama 38-14.

Knights rule Fiesta

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Central Florida was supposed to be a patsy for Big 12 Conference champion Baylor in its first BCS bowl. The Knights wanted no part of it, turning the Fiesta Bowl into a big-play party.

No. 15 Central Florida pulled off one of the biggest upsets of the bowl season by outlasting No. 6 Baylor 52-42 on Wednesday night. A 17-point underdog, Central Florida (12-1) didn't back down from the big, bad Bears.

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