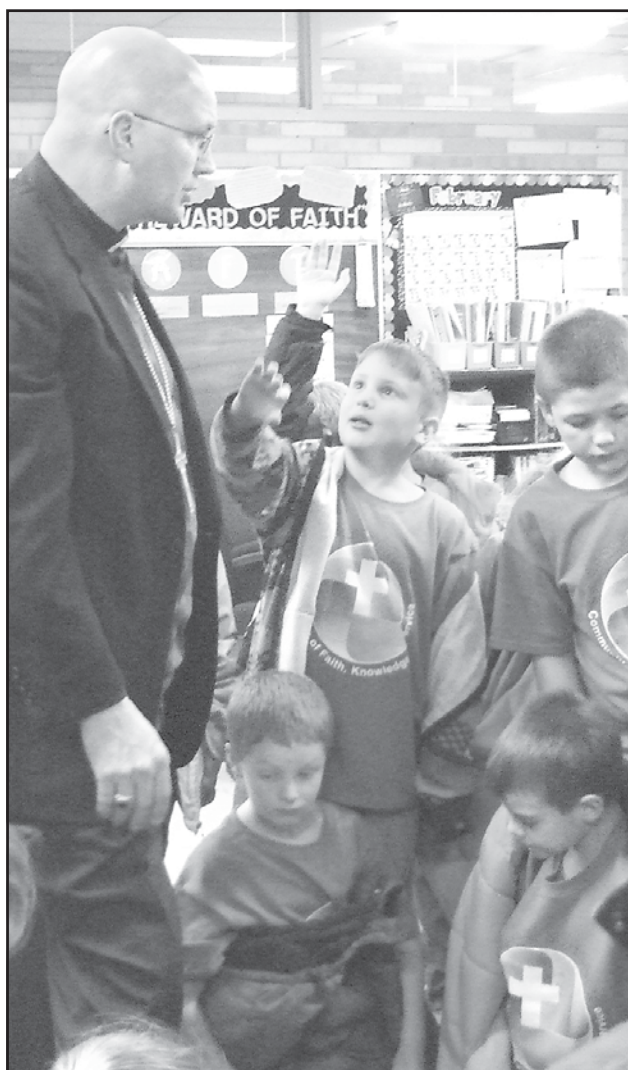


COLBY FREE PRESS

8 pages



Sacred Heart celebrates



Preschool cowboys and cowgirls (above), including Morgan Hills, Cora DeGood, Isaac Bain, Trevor Catlin, Janessa Leija, Dayton Johnson and Korrynne Duffy, rode through the hallways at Sacred Heart School Friday during Pioneer Day. Sacred Heart had the western dress-up day at the conclusion of this year's Catholic Schools Week. Wednesday the students visited with Bishop Edward Weisenburger (left) at St. Joseph's Catholic School in Oakley. While there, they had a Zumba class, played Bible bingo (bottom) and celebrated Mass. Sacred Heart Principal Laura Krejci said the event celebrates Catholic schools. Sacred Heart has different activities each year, she said, but always coordinates with the Oakley school. Katera Harter of Colby (below left), Miss Rodeo Kansas 2014, talked with children for Pioneer Day, telling about rodeos she goes to and asking if they knew the state flower, song and tree. Madisen Fabrizius, (below, left) Lauren Ortner and Aiden Cook raised their hands with answers to her questions. Monday was pajama day at the school and students made pastries with their parents Tuesday. The kids went to St. Joseph's on Wednesday. Thursday, students had a snack and recess here with the St. Joseph students and sisters from the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters in Wichita along with a grandparents' lunch. This year marks the 40th anniversary of Catholic Schools Week. The theme this year was "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service."

SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press
LAURA KREJCI/Sacred Heart Catholic School
St. Joseph's Catholic School



New jail project still stalled

By Heather Alwin

Colby Free Press
colby.society@nwkansas.com

Thomas County commissioners are still discussing how to move forward with planning a new jail, but one of the three members pushed for some action when the board met Friday.

On Dec. 16, the board received a jail study report which confirmed that the county's jail is inadequate and recommended a new 30-bed facility to meet current and future needs, but the commissioners have not moved to implement the recommendations.

One suggested jail design, still on the table for discussion, contained less bed space but also included offices to replace the historic old courthouse.

At the meeting Friday, Chairman Paul Steele suggested getting proposals from two financial firms he has been in contact to help the county sell the jail project to the public.

"Even before we have financial planners to sell it, we need to have a plan to present to sell, and we don't have that yet," said Commissioner Mike Baughn, adding

See "STALLED," Page 2

Increase sought for insurance fees

TOPEKA (AP) – The Kansas Insurance Department is asking the Legislature for permission to raise fees paid by insurance companies because the state has diverted millions of dollars from its regulatory fund for other purposes.

Zachary Anshutz, assistant commissioner of insurance, said the regulatory fund is likely to be down to \$200,000 in December if revenues don't improve.

The fund used to hold \$24 million but the state diverted \$15 million in June and another \$5 million in July. Another \$5 million is scheduled to be used in

July and Gov. Sam Brownback has proposed diverting \$3 million more in March 2015, *The Topeka Capital-Journal* reported (bit.ly/1dIGP73).

Since income tax reductions were enacted in 2012, the state has been diverting funds, called "fee sweeps," from agencies such as the insurance department, the highway fund and a tobacco litigation settlement for programs that usually are paid for by the state general fund.

"The sweep of fee funds from the insurance department is just

See "FEES," Page 2

Studio Friday features portraits

Fort Hays State University Professor Joel Dugan will be featured at Studio Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. Feb. 7, in Ferguson Hall, rooms 502 and 503, at Colby Community College.

Area artists, including high school students, are invited to attend Dugan's two free presentations. The morning session, featuring skin tones, color relationships and planar structures of the face will begin at 9 a.m. The afternoon session starting at 1 p.m. will focus on brush techniques, blending and spacial relationships of the face.

Dugan is professor of painting at Fort Hays. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the College for Creative Studies in 2002 and a master's from Indiana University's Henry Radford Hope School of Fine Art in 2011.

An accomplished visual artist, he works primarily as a painter, and has been featured in solo and group shows. He has completed public art commissions for institutions such as the Ford Motor Co. and the State of Michigan. He works to cultivate community interest in public art and community projects throughout the regions he has called home.

Influenced by the Regionalist Movement, the paintings of George Tooker and art of Lucian Freud, Dugan says he is drawn to artists who document the human condition. He draws inspiration for his work from his life experiences as well as interactions with



Artist Joel Dugan specializes on portraits, as this original work shows.

people. "Those who plan to attend should bring their own supplies," said art instructor Rebel Jay. "They may work using other mediums, including color pencils or chalk."

Studio Fridays are paid for in part by a grant from the Thomas County Community Foundation.

For information, call Jay at (785) 269-7065.



Weather



National Weather Service
Tonight: Snow, mainly after 3 a.m. Low around 13. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Tuesday: Snow with patchy blowing snow before 2 p.m., then snow likely with patchy blowing snow between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., then patchy blowing snow and a chance of snow after 4 p.m. High near 15. Blustery, with a northeast wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100 percent. New snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.

Tuesday Night: Patchy blowing snow and a chance of snow before 9 p.m., then patchy blowing snow and a slight chance of snow between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m., then patchy blowing snow after 11 p.m. Cloudy, with a low around -4. Wind chill values as low as -22. Blustery, with a north wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Wednesday: Scattered flurries. Mostly cloudy and cold, with a high near 8. North wind 10 to 15 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around -6.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy and cold, with a high near 10.

Thursday Night: Scattered flurries. Mostly cloudy, with a low around -2.

Friday: A 30 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 13.

Friday Night: A 40 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 5.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 21.

Friday: High, 23; Low 2
Saturday: High, 18; Low -8
Sunday: High, 31; Low -5

Precip: Friday Trace
 Saturday None
 Sunday None
 Month: None
 Year: 0.30 inches
 Normal: 0.93 inches
 (K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
 Tuesday 7:48 a.m. 6:08 p.m.
 Moon: waxing, 29 percent
 Wednesday 7:47 a.m. 6:09 p.m.
 Moon: waxing, 39 percent
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

New jail project remains stalled

From "STALLED," Page 1

that he would like to see cost estimates on a two-story addition to the courthouse on the site where the road and bridge department is now.

Baughn warned commissioners that the public is going to get tired of waiting for the project to develop.

"I think we're kind of behind the ball on it," he said.

Steele said he had received

an oral offer of 10 acres of free land, but it would require the county to build a road between Franklin Ave. and Country Club Drive. Steele was unsure how much that would cost, but commissioners have been having trouble finding land to build a new jail.

Commissioner Byron Sowers asked whether the county had spare acreage at the landfill, but Steele said they should find a location with city sewer services.

The commissioners have not yet formally decided whether the new facility should include just a jail, a combination of jail and court offices, or a jail-and-administrative complex that would take the place of the current courthouse.

Baughn said he would like to see the issue on the November ballot this year but isn't sure it can be ready that fast. It might be ready in time for the August 2015 ballot, he said.

Baughn also mentioned that the current Law Enforcement Center's furnaces are now in "dire need" of replacement. Pouring money into the current building would not be wise, he said, unless the building is to be used for other offices after the new jail is built.

"Urgency is needed," he concluded.

Increase sought for state insurance fees

From "FEES," Page 1

one more example of this governor's attempt to fill the holes in the Kansas budget created by his reckless and irresponsible income tax cuts," said Sen. Laura Kelly, D-Topeka.

Previous administrations also have used the fee sweeps to fill budget holes. Brownback's predecessor, Democrat Mark Parkinson, was sued by former House Speaker Mike O'Neal in 2010 over diversions his administration used. The lawsuit, which claims some industries were essentially

double-taxed, remains in litigation after the Kansas Court of Appeals reinstated it last September.

Brownback's spokeswoman, Sara Belfry, said the insurance department has the necessary cash flow to operate.

"The budget office is working closely with them, and as the actual money comes in over the next few months, we will make adjustments if required," Belfry said.

The department's fees on insurance companies are capped at \$25,000. A proposed bill would lift that ceiling and tie the assessment fee to the agency's budget. It would

specify that the total assessments could not exceed 125 percent of the total budget for the insurance company regulation program.

Insurance companies paid an estimated \$440 million in premium taxes into the state treasury over the last three years.

Anshutz also said that because Kansas Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger isn't running for re-election in November, the legislative change would give more flexibility to the department's next administration to deal with depleted funds.

Bill would ban community broadband

WICHITA (AP) - Community broadband service would be banned under a bill that will come before a Kansas Senate committee Tuesday.

The *Wichita Eagle* (bit.ly/1fByK2r) reports that a lobbyist for the cable TV industry introduced the bill, which would prohibit cities and counties from building public broadband networks and providing Internet service to their businesses and citizens.

Commerce Committee chairwoman Julia Lynn, an Olathe Republican, said she doesn't think it's fair for government to compete with private enterprise for broadband customers because municipalities don't have to pay property or franchise

taxes. Lynn said she doesn't oppose government stepping in when private-sector broadband service is nonexistent or substandard.

"It ought to be up to the town to decide if they want the local city hall to take care of it," she told the newspaper. However, she added, "I think that would only happen in very rare instances where there's no service."

Although the bill contains an exemption for "unserved" communities, nowhere in Kansas meets the bill's definition. According to the bill, an area is deemed served if nine out of 10 residents can get satellite Internet, which is available anywhere

in the 48 contiguous United States that has a view of the southern sky. Satellite, however, is generally slower and more expensive than cable or telephone broadband.

Democratic committee member Tom Holland of Baldwin City said several small towns in his district are considering setting up their own networks or partnering with smaller providers because "they've had a heck of a time trying to provide high-speed Internet to their constituents. This (bill) would just about shut that down."

Officials in the southeast Kansas city of Chanute, population 9,100, say they're the primary target of the proposed legislation. As part of its public utility

system, the city runs an ultra-high-speed broadband network that now serves schools, city buildings, the town hospital, banks and other key businesses.

On Nov. 23, the City Commission voted to work toward "fiber to home," which would extend access to all residents and businesses within about a three-mile radius around the city, said Larry Gates, Chanute utilities director.

"This bill is an attack on competition, an attack on municipal government," Gates said. "It takes away our local control and local decision making. It will hurt our efforts in economic development," he said.

Lawmakers seek to exit Affordable Care

TOPEKA (AP) - Some conservative Kansas lawmakers are pushing to sever the state from the authority of the Affordable Care Act.

Rep. Brett Hildabrand, a Shawnee Republican, introduced a bill in the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs this past week to make Kansas a member of the Health Care Compact, which is a group of states asking Congress to give them independence from the federal health care law.

Eight states, including Missouri and Oklahoma, have approved plans to join the compact, *The Wichita Eagle* (bit.ly/1cDEN2) reported.

Hildabrand said he got the idea from an email conversation with Sen. Mary Pilcher-Cook, a Shawnee Republican, and Republi-

can Secretary of State Kris Kobach.

Pilcher-Cook, chairwoman of the Senate Public Health and Welfare committee, conducted meetings last week about the ACA's impact on small businesses.

A Houston-based organization, Competitive Governance Action, designed the legislation. Craig Ellis, a spokesman for the group, said the organization doesn't disclose its donor list and doesn't accept donations from the health care industry.

A similar bill was passed by the Kansas House in 2012, but it never made it through the Senate. Hildabrand said he didn't have any contact with the organization before introducing the bill.

Member states would have the ability to "suspend by legislation the operation of all

federal laws, rules, regulations, and orders regarding health care," according to the bill.

That means member states would be allowed to set their own rules and regulations, Ellis said. If Vermont wanted to adopt a single-payer health care system, for instance, it could. By the same token, if Kansas wanted to pursue a business-based solution, it could do that, as well.

"That's the beauty of it. They get to determine," Ellis said.

He said states are better suited than Washington to make that determination for their residents. Under the plan, states would still receive the funds allocated for the ACA but could decide for themselves how to use them.

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS



Wednesday Evening February 5, 2014

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Middle	Suburg.	Mod Fam	Super Fun	Nashville		Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Nightline	
KBSL/CBS	Criminal Minds	Criminal Minds	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	Local	Late Show Letterman	Ferguson			
KSNK/NBC	How to Raise	Law & Order: SVU	Chicago PD		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	J. Fallon			
KSAS/FOX	American Idol				Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Wahlburg	Wahlburg	Mayne	Duck D.	Duck D.
AMC	Pulp Fiction						Scarface			
ANIM	Beaver	Beaver	Treehouse		Treehouse Masters		Beaver	Beaver	Treehouse	
BRAVO	Top Chef		Top Chef		Top Chef		Happens	Top Chef		Top Chef
CMT	The Dukes of Hazzard		The Dukes of Hazzard		Party Down South		The Dukes of Hazzard		Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Live		AC 360 Later		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Live	
COMEDY	Work.	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	Work.	Broad Cit	Daily	Colbert	At Midnig	Work.
DISC	Survivorman		Survivorman		Lone Target		Survivorman		Lone Target	
DISN	A Bug's Life				Jessie	Liv-Mad.	ANT Farm	Austin	Color-Friendsh.	
E!	RichKids	RichKids	Kardashian		The Soup	The Soup	Chelsea	E! News		Chelsea
ESPN	NBA Basketball				NBA Basketball					
ESPN2	College Basketball		College Basketball		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Olbermann	
FAM	Melissa	Daddy	Miss Congeniality		The 700 Club		Daddy	Daddy		
FOOD	Restaurant: Im.	Buy This	Buy This		Restaurant: Im.		Diners	Diners	Buy This	Buy This
FX	Underworld				Underworld		Colombiana			
HGTV	Property Brothers	Buying and Selling			Hunters	Hunt Intl	Property Brothers		Buying and Selling	

AmericanProfile // CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN SPIRIT //

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
HIST	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers		Appalachian Outlaws		American Pickers			
LIFE	The Cheating Pact				A Sister's Nightmare		The Cheating Pact			
MTV	Teen Mom 2		The Real World		The Real World: Ex-plosion		The Real World: Ex-plosion			
NICK	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Friends	Friends	Friends	
SCI	Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters		Opposite Worlds		Ghost Hunters		Opposite Worlds	
SPIKE	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Jail	Jail
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Men-Work	Big Bang	Conan		Men-Work	Conan
TCM	Best Yrs-Lives				The Razor's Edge					
TLC	Hoard-Buried		Hoard-Buried		My 600-Lb. Life		Hoard-Buried		My 600-Lb. Life	
TNT	Castle		Castle		Castle		Hawaii Five-0		The Mentalist	
TOON	Dragons	Regular	King/Hill	Cleveland	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen
TRAV	Bizarre Foods		Dangerous Grounds		Border Ri	Border Ri	Airport 2	Airport 2	Dangerous Grounds	
TV LAND	Gilligan	Gilligan	Raymond	Raymond	The Exes		The King of Queens		Toy Hntr	Backroad
USA	Law & Order: SVU	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Psych	
VH1	Love & Hip Hop	Mod & Hip Hop	Finding the Funk		Single Ladies		How I Met		How I Met	
WGN	Funniest Home Videos	Alien Resurrection			How I Met	How I Met	How I Met			

Band onstage in Sharon Springs

James Bertolin and the Stanleytones, a bluegrass band, will perform at 3 p.m. (Central Time) Sunday at the Sharon Springs High School auditorium.

The Stanleytones, formed in 1999, are named after brothers Ralph and Carter Stanley who played together until Carter's death in 1964. In addition to leader James Bertolin, the group now includes bluegrass musicians Clarke Wright, Jeremy Kimball, Ron Dropcho, Dave Pullins and Paul Sink.

The group describes itself as a classic bluegrass band reminiscent of bluegrass bands of the 1950s and '60s.

The concert, sponsored by the Western Plains Arts Association, was rescheduled from Sunday, Feb. 2 to avoid conflicts with the Super Bowl.



James Bertolin and the Stanleytones

High Plains Art Club

The High Plains Art Club met Jan. 14 at the United Methodist Church with 14 members present. Marj Brown presented a program about Norman Rockwell.

President Marlene Carpenter conducted the meeting. Following reports, membership renewal to the Thomas County Historical Society was discussed and approved.

The club thanked Brown for coordinating the Norman Rockwell presentation Jan. 9 at the Pioneer Memorial Library, and Carpenter and Ruthie Hughes for providing refreshments.

Marlene Carpenter was asked to arrange a program about another

artist soon at the library. Volunteers for refreshments are Margaret Denneler, Alice Wolf and Carpenter.

Members went to lunch, and returned to refreshments provided by Marian Boyd.

The next meeting will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the church. An afternoon workshop on "Zentangle" and pencil drawing will be presented by Ruthie Hughes.

The public is welcome to attend and learn how to create something new.

— Alice Wolf, Secretary

Aspartame safe for most

A recent study by European experts has found the artificial sweetener aspartame safe for normal use, an article published in December says, and that should be good news for many who are trying to lose weight or watch calorie intake.

Many low-calorie foods, diet beverages and even chewing gum contain the ingredient, which consumers can also buy in bulk to use for baking or adding sweetness to their morning oatmeal or coffee.

Aspartame, which was approved as a safe food ingredient by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration more than 30 years ago, has served as a popular alternative to sugar, but it has also caused some concern about possible effects on health over time.

A report published in December by the European Food Safety Authority covers an extensive re-evaluation of aspartame as a food additive. The agency's panel on food additives and nutrient sources added to food concluded that aspartame and its breakdown products are safe for the general population to consume at a level previously established, that is, 40 to 50 milligrams (mg) per kilogram (kg) of body weight per day.

That safe level applies to everyone, including infants, children, adults and pregnant women, said Mary Meck Higgins, a registered dietitian and K-State Research and Extension human nutrition specialist. Those who have a rare medical condition called phenylketonuria, or PKU, however, still should not consume aspartame.

"The label of a food product containing aspartame says, 'Not for people with PKU,'" Higgins said. "That's because people with this health problem should restrict all foods that have phenylalanine in them, including aspartame."

Aspartame is a white powder that is made up of two amino acids, Higgins said, phenylalanine and aspartic acid. Aspartame is sold under various brand names, including Equal and NutraSweet. It is 200 times sweeter than sugar, so just a little bit of that white powder is going to make food very sweet.

Putting it into perspective
Because a little bit of aspartame goes a long way, most people don't come close to reaching the maximum safe level, she said.

"All of the food additives in the United States are regulated by the FDA, which sets its aspartame standard at 50 mg/kg of body weight per day," Higgins said. "The Europeans set their standard at 40 mg/kg of body weight per day. This is the amount that people can consume on a daily basis during their whole life without any appreciable risk to health."

The European experts estimated that people who take in

the highest level of aspartame consume about 36 mg/kg of body weight per day, which is still under the safe level.

As an example, taking the 40 mg/kg of body weight per day guideline, Higgins said someone who weighs 200 pounds could consume 3,600 mg of aspartame per day. To put that into perspective, consider the food that contains the highest level of aspartame — diet soda. A 12-ounce can of diet soda has about 180 mg of aspartame, depending on the brand.

"If you were 200 pounds, and you drank 20 12-ounce cans of diet soda a day, that would be the maximum you could have for that safe level," Higgins said. "A 50-pound child who drank five 12-ounce diet sodas or three 20-ounce bottles would be at that maximum safe level for a day."

Most people don't consume that amount every day for their whole life, she added.

About the report

"Aspartame has repeatedly been found to be safe for a long time, but it keeps getting a lot of public interest," Higgins said. "The safety of aspartame and all food additives are reviewed regularly. The 2013 report from Europe confirmed many earlier findings."

Higgins said the European panel started the review in May 2011 and included a risk assessment, literature review, examination of animal and human studies related to aspartame, analysis of published and unpublished data, and a close look at aspartame and its breakdown products.

"They looked to see if there was evidence that aspartame caused damage to genes or that it induced cancer and found no evidence for that," Higgins said. "They also concluded that aspartame does not harm the brain, the nervous system or affect behavior or brain function in children and adults. Similarly, there was no risk to the developing fetus in pregnant women."

For the full report, go to www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/doc/3496.pdf.

Corrections

A photo caption for "Kids rock out to radio tunes," on Page 1 of the Friday, Jan. 31, *Colby Free Press*, had Braden Schritter's name incorrect. This was an error in information provided to the *Free Press*.

☆☆☆☆

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Nominate older worker for Kansas ceremony

The Kansas Department of Commerce and the Older Worker Task Force will hold the annual Older Worker Awards ceremony at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, April 24, at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library. The Department is now accepting nominations for the awards.

This event honors older workers who continue to play crucial roles in the Kansas workforce and economy, as well as their employers. Honorees will include older workers who are employed in both public and private sector jobs, and businesses and companies that regularly employ workers age 55 and older.

Nominations are accepted for three award categories:

- Outstanding Older Worker: An older worker who demonstrates outstanding qualities of leader-

ship, dedication and commitment. Nominations are open to the general public. Nominees must be 55 years or older, residents of Kansas and working at least 20 hours a week in paid employment. Previous winners are not eligible.

- Oldest Worker: Awarded on the basis of age of those working for pay. Previous winners are not eligible.

- Employer of the Older Worker Award: A business that promotes, recruits, retains and develops experienced workers, and provides a positive and friendly work environment for older workers.

Nominations are due Monday, March 31. Forms are available at KansasCommerce.com/OlderWorkers. For information contact Susan Weidenbach at (785) 296-7842 or sweidenbach@kansas-commerce.com.

Woman reappointed

Gov. Sam Brownback has reappointed Kimberly Dandel, a physician assistant practicing in Wallace County, to a three-year term on the Kansas Physician Assistant Council, which advises the state Board of Healing Arts on licensing matters.

Dandel earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State University and a master's degree as a physician assistant from Wichita State. She works at Greeley County Health Services.

"I am grateful for Kansans like these who volunteer their time and talents to continue making Kansas a great state," said the governor.

Brownback said his office is always looking for qualified, interested Kansans to serve the state on commissions and boards in their areas of expertise. Anyone interested in serving on a commission or board should go to governor.ks.gov/serving-kansans/office-of-appointments.

Grants awarded for tourism

The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism has awarded Attraction Development Grants to six Kansas organizations, including one in Oakley.

Oakley Area Tourism will receive \$4,320 for construction of an electronic kiosk at the Oakley Travel Information Center. The agency raised \$6,481 in cash contributions for the project cost.

The grants, from the department's Attraction Development Grant Program, will be matched by a total of \$659,571 from the recipients.

The program assists in developing and marketing experiences that encourage travelers to visit

Kansas, the department said. It pays for up to 40 percent of a project, with the community or business paying the rest. The money comes from the Economic Development Initiatives Fund, derived from state lottery proceeds.

For questions, contact Peter Szabo, at (785) 296-8951 or Pete.Szabo@travelks.com.

Deaths

Robert Carney

Robert Carney, 61, Colby, died today, Feb. 3, 2014, at the Hays Medical Center. Services are

pending with the Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel, 462-7979.

Colby Rotary Club

Marla Bauman and Heather Rietcheck of Saint Francis Community Services talked about the need for foster care when the Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday with 33 members and guests at Colby Community College.

President Marilyn Unger reported that books on the Rotary Four-Way Test have been presented to Family Center for Health Care and Citizens Medical Center. The books, which emphasize the value of truthfulness, fairness, goodwill and partnerships, were donated in memory of club member Tama Unger.

Gene Rothfuss introduced Bauman, a recruiter for foster-care homes, and Rietcheck, a foster-care worker.

Saint Francis, a nonprofit child welfare provider, covers foster care for the state in 75 counties in

western Kansas. The organization says its mission is to be an instrument of healing in spirit, mind and body for children, youths and families so they may live responsibly and productively with purpose and hope.

Bauman said that 2,692 children receive services from Saint Francis, and Thomas County has 16. Currently, Saint Francis has two licensed foster care homes here, Bauman said, but needs six more.

Bauman said her experience as a foster parent was worthwhile and rewarding. She hopes to establish a group of ambassadors to make contacts or referrals for foster homes.

Brian Staats won Roto-Lotto. The club meets each Tuesday in Room 106 of the college student union.

Gardener tunes up for another season

When it became sufficiently clear that it was time to make up my mind about whether or not to embark upon another year of writing stuff about gardening, or permanently retire from such foolishness because of my advanced years, I chose the former.

The decision wasn't as easy as you might think. The idea of just sitting around on my duff, watching television and reading books and papers was quite tempting. But in reality, my love of writing, particularly about a timely subject like gardening, was the deciding factor.

I have to say I surprised myself a bit by my decision. If you have read this blog in past years, you are surely aware that I am nothing more than a highly experienced, common sense, plain backyard dirt gardener who knows nothing about the finer points of plant breeding or infinite soil structures, or even of the vitamin content of kale and kohlrabi.

But in this case, the consideration of over seven decades of experience, in some people's eyes, may outweigh any other considerations on the table. If you do something long enough, you may have sufficient grounds for believability, as opposed to someone new to the game.

And then there is the conundrum of old age, a state of existence that nearly everyone, sooner or later, will hopefully enjoy. In my case, the state is so late that I probably won't plant much of a garden this year due to various stages of stenosis and rototiller disrepair.



Kay Melia

• The Gardener

Therein lies the main reason for continuing my effort of putting words on paper. If I can't get out there and capably perform with rake and hoe in hand, then I will continue to take out my frenzy on newspaper editors and other friends who enjoy the healthful goodness of fresh food, as well as giving a bit of their own.

I have spent the winter months reading a couple dozen garden catalogs from cover to cover, learning what the seed companies have declared to be the very finest of the things they would love to share with you and me. I have thoroughly re-read the finer points of the contents of my Master Gardener's handbook that was prepared for me several years ago by the people who really know what they are talking about.

And I have thoroughly enjoyed partaking of the contents of many jars and frozen packets of last year's garden production, as well as the stored potatoes, onions, and carrots.

And, I have successfully grown and enjoyed a gorgeous amaryllis plant through the holiday season. Its beauty and very existence has sharpened my desire to get started on another season of sharing my thoughts with you.

Your response is always appreciated!

Got news? Tell us! Call 462-3963

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Other Viewpoints

Role of judiciary: stay clear of politics

The checks and balances provided by the three branches of government have served our state and nation well. The natural tension among the executive, legislative and judicial branches serves to keep the power of any single branch from gaining too much control.

That tension is particularly noticeable in Kansas right now – with both the legislative and executive branches targeting the judiciary – and it's important that it not be allowed to boil over to the detriment of the state.

Gov. Sam Brownback and a number of legislative leaders have made no secret of their frustration with the state's highest courts, the way the judges are appointed and the decisions they have made concerning the state's financial support of public schools. In his State of the State Address, Brownback took some veiled but specific shots at the state's judiciary and the role it has played in the school-funding fight. Rather than being litigated in the courts, he said, school funding "is the people's business, done by the people's house."

"Too many decisions," he said, "are made by unaccountable, opaque institutions," an apparent reference to the state's appointed judiciary.

So are the courts really "unaccountable" and "opaque"? Judges in all of the state courts are accountable to Kansas voters, who have the opportunity to either re-elect them or decide whether to retain them at regular intervals. And the courts are hardly opaque. Most of their proceedings are public, and testimony and decisions are painstakingly documented.

In the same section of his address, Brownback also quoted from the Kansas Constitution: "All political power is inherent in the people." That's true, but "political power," which rules the executive and legislative branches, represents the power of the majority. That's why it's so important to protect the state's judiciary from the vagaries of political power.

The job of the governor and Legislature is to respond to the political will of the people, the majority of voters who elected them. By contrast, the job of the courts often is to protect the rights of the minority and, always, to protect the state's core principles as they are expressed in the Constitution – not bow to changing political winds or elected leaders.

In his State of the Judiciary speech last week, Chief Justice Lawton Nuss provided a strong defense of the state's judiciary and the need to give it enough money, but he also offered credit where it was due, including to the Kansas House for approving much-needed raises for court personnel.

"The lines of communication are open," Nuss said.

Sen. Jeff King, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, responded to what he characterized as an "olive branch" from Nuss with a letter asking the chief justice to support efficiency proposals for the courts and a plan to further raise court fees to pay the bills. Nuss specifically questioned the advisability of higher fees in his address, but at least, as he said, "The lines of communication are open."

It's important for the three branches of government to work together, but it's important to remember that the courts serve a different purpose and different master than the other two. The governor and Legislature, with the help of voters, can change the laws or even amend the Kansas Constitution, but once that work is done, it's up to the courts to make sure the intent and principles of those laws are upheld.

— Lawrence Journal-World, via the Associated Press

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Income loss hurts small guys more

Smart, educated, ignorant: So read the headline for Thomas Sowell's contribution to the editorial page in a recent *Salina Journal*.

He was describing those he thought more liberal and less conservative than himself. I thought that headline perfectly described Mr. Sowell.

I don't like calling anyone ignorant, but if someone calls me ignorant, I have no problem pointing out evidence of their own lack of full disclosure of their knowledge. That doesn't mean they are ignorant; it simply points out their brilliance in being able to obfuscate the facts. The lack of ignorance does not guarantee honesty and truth.

This writer seems quite adept at taking out of context those bits of data that support his ideas. The fact that some of the top 1 percent lost income is quite alarming. What he didn't take into consideration, most likely, is that the top 1 percent did not lose.

Facts seem to point out that the top 10 percent of the 1 percent gained more than the losers in that group lost. Even if the top 1 percent all together lost money, they didn't lose percentage-wise as much as the middle to lower income groups lost. And, even if they did, it didn't jeopardize their ability to provide the basic material food and shelter that is required for decent existence.

I don't have access to detailed stats of our economic ups and downs by category. Nor do



Ken Poland

• Ken's World

I have time to study those details to pick and choose what I want to use. (I don't make my living from doing those things or from writing editorials.)

For instance, using "income brackets" for analysis is not empirical evidence of wealth distribution. Those brackets are established after exclusion of certain income sources. And it is quite well known that those in the lower brackets don't have the benefit of excluded income like the higher-bracket folks do. The average fellow taking home a paycheck doesn't have any wiggle room for evading taxes.

Are the statistics wrong when they indicate that over 50 percent of the population makes less than \$100,000 and less than 10 percent make more than a million? I can't come up with all the fancy figures and percentages that Sowell did, but it doesn't take a genius to figure out that losing 20 pounds isn't nearly as debilitating for an overweight person as for one who is already underweight.

That analysis can be used to compare multi-

national corporations and small family-owned corporations, or even in comparing large farms with small farms. A 15,000 acre farm losing 20 percent isn't as apt to lose it all as the 2,000 acre farm is.

There is no room to wiggle for the little guy. He can't lay off help and usually doesn't have the cushion of cash or resources for recovery. The big farmer can probably cut family living expenses without sacrificing as much as the little fellow will. The wealthy family can cut out a few luxuries, while the poor have few luxuries to cut.

Removing a sack of potato chips or sack of candy from the grocery cart won't save the farm. The big farmer may not be able to buy another quarter of land this year, or may have to cut short their time at their winter resort. Who is hurting the most?

Survival of the fittest is a fact of life. And the fittest don't need government help or protection to sustain their mortal existence. The less fit and weakest may well need some compassion and help.

Ken Poland describes himself as a semi-retired farmer living north of Gem, a Christian, affiliated with American Baptist Churches, and a radical believer in separation of church and state. Contact him at rcwinc@cheerful.com.

Human trafficking fight focus on victims

The fight against human trafficking is one of the great human rights causes of our time.

Traffickers target individuals who are poor, vulnerable, living in unsafe situations or looking for a better life. Prosecutors have shown that someone can be enslaved without chains and that traffickers often go beyond physical abuse, using psychological abuse that exploit human vulnerabilities to maintain control over victims and prevent them from escaping.

This modern-day form of slavery can occur in plain sight, often involving subtle methods of coercion in the form of false promises, isolation, surveillance, threats of deportation or arrest or economic dependence.

That is why the U.S. Attorney's Human Trafficking Working Group in Kansas is striving to promote collaboration among state and local law enforcement, those who aid trafficking victims and federal agencies. Our goals are to bring human trafficking crimes to light and to justice – and to stand up for the rights and interests of victims.

Contrary to some misconceptions, human trafficking crimes do not require any smuggling or movement of the victim. Federal law defines human trafficking as the act of compelling or coercing a person's labor, services or

Other Opinions

• Barry Grissom
U.S. Attorney

commercial sex acts. The federal law is rooted in the prohibition against slavery and involuntary servitude guaranteed by the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Sex-trafficked women and girls are the victims of human trafficking we most often see in Kansas. In one case we successfully prosecuted in the Kansas City area, a defendant was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison after pleading guilty to sex trafficking. In his plea, he admitted that, when a woman who worked for him as a prostitute attempted to run away, he beat her into unconsciousness.

He admitted he forced one woman to have sex with as many as 11 men in one day. He boasted on his Facebook page that it would take him only 10 minutes to turn a woman into a prostitute. His goal, he declared, was to have

so many women working for him as prostitutes that he could fill the entire front page of the escort section of an adult Web site.

Our human trafficking working group is dedicated to prosecuting human trafficking cases, providing victim services and helping to train law enforcement and community members to identify and rescue victims. Working with the Department of Justice, our goals are to help victims recover and rebuild their lives and to move from being victims to becoming survivors. The Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime and Bureau of Justice Assistance are leading efforts nationally to train law enforcement communities to identify, rescue and provide comprehensive services to these people.

As U.S. Attorney for the District of Kansas, I view the fight against human trafficking as part of our nation's long struggle for fairness and freedom. I want to commend the many dedicated public servants – and their partners at schools and nonprofit agencies – for the work they are doing to stand up for the rights and interests of the victims.

Barry Grissom is the United States Attorney for the District of Kansas.

Where to write, call

U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, 109 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 224-4774
roberts.senate.gov/public/

U.S. Rep. Tim Huelskamp, 126 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. (202) 225-2715 or Fax (202) 225-5124. Web site: huelskamp.house.gov

State Sen. Ralph Ostmeier, State Capitol Building, 300 SW 10th St., Room 136-E., Topeka, Kan. 66612,

(785) 296-7399 Ralph.Ostmeier@senate.ks.gov

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

State Rep. Don Hineman, (118th District) State Capitol Building, 300 SW 10th St., Room 50-S, Topeka, Kan., 66612, (785) 296-7636 don.hineman@house.ks.gov

Mallard Fillmore

• Bruce Tinsley



On the Beat

COLBY POLICE

Jan. 22

1:40 a.m. – Caller reported a dog at large. Unable to locate.
 9:20 a.m. – Criminal use of financial card, report filed.
 9:31 a.m. – Caller reported criminal damage.
 11:58 a.m. – Driving while suspended report filed on traffic stop.
 12:07 p.m. – Welfare check.
 12:25 p.m. – Subject came to station with found marijuana. Report filed

Jan. 24

12:10 a.m. – Security check at the airport.
 1:40 a.m. – Caller reported loud talking. Spoke with subjects.
 3:14 a.m. – Caller reported subjects still being loud. Subjects left residence.
 8:48 a.m. – Alarm: arrest made.
 10:25 a.m. – Caller reported vehicle parked on private property last night.
 11:10 a.m. – Dog found, taken to Colby Animal Clinic.
 11:32 a.m. – Criminal use of financial card.

11:43 a.m. – Took subject from Law Enforcement Center to residence.
 11:52 a.m. – Subject reported lost tag. Entered in National Crime Information Center.
 1:16 p.m. – Helped motorist.
 1:23 p.m. – Accident.
 2:59 p.m. – Walk through at Community Building.
 4:10 p.m. – Dog at large caught, turned over to Colby Animal Clinic.
 5:42 p.m. – Walk through at Colby Community Building.
 7:44 p.m. – Cat refusing to get out of roadway OK, chased from roadway.
 9:48 p.m. – Caller reported tire slashed on pickup. Report filed.
 10:29 p.m. – Clerk called about subject in pickup knocking shopping carts into vehicles in parking lot. Report filed.
 11:28 p.m. – Caller reported fight. Report filed.
 11:28 p.m. – Driving under the influence report filed on traffic

stop.
Jan. 25
 12:32 a.m. – Caller reported loud banging. No one around.
 1:18 a.m. – Caller reported drug paraphernalia.
 2:01 a.m. – Driving under the influence report filed for traffic stop.
 10:59 a.m. – Subject brought cell phone to station. Owner was located.
 12:07 p.m. – Caller reported hit and run.
 1:01 p.m. – Accident.
 2:44 p.m. – Caller reported theft: items missing.
 5:28 p.m. – Clerk at Love's reported injury accident.
 6:23 p.m. – Caller reported door on pickup open for over an hour. Spoke to owner; all OK.
 6:26 p.m. – Caller reported item lying in roadway. It was from vehicle being towed; turned over to wrecker driver.
 7:10 p.m. – Caller reported possible text harassment. Report filed.
 7:45 p.m. – Report filed for dog

at large; turned over to owner
 10:13 p.m. – Caller reported vehicle broke down. Provided information, asked subject to move it into the high school parking lot.
 10:51 p.m. – Walk through at Wal-Mart.
THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF
Jan. 22
 9:59 a.m. – Child in need of care report filed.
 9:59 a.m. – Animal cruelty report filed.
Jan. 24
 6:05 a.m. – Caller reported subject sleeping on couch. Subject gone upon arrival.
 8:48 a.m. – Alarm from Court Service office. Arrest made.
 8:48 a.m. – Report filed for probation violation on James D. Hickert.
 9:53 a.m. – Booked Hickert.
 1:11 p.m. – Booked Ian Michael Chaffee.
 2:03 p.m. – Provided information on car seats.

4:13 p.m. – Helped Highway Patrol on traffic stop in Sherman County.
 4:51 p.m. – Caller reported possible abandoned trailer partially on roadway in the 3300 block of County Rd. B. It blew a tire; got it moved into ditch; all OK.
 8:40 p.m. – Caller reported two vehicles seen speeding in parking lot at 460 U.S. 83 approximately 30 minutes earlier. Not found.
Jan. 25
 1:36 a.m. – Narcotics violation report filed on drug smell at Living Center Northeast at the college.
 2:09 a.m. – Driving under the influence report filed on traffic stop in the 100 block of N. Franklin.
 8:15 a.m. – Caller reported damage to property on N. Franklin. Report filed.
 12:18 p.m. – Caller reported mailbox knocked over on County Rd. B, Oakley. Report filed.
 12:46 p.m. – Brought prisoner from Sherman County to Colby.

4:28 p.m. – Caller reported barking dogs in kennel at residence in the 500 block of Main, Brewster. Spoke to owner; all OK.
 9:34 p.m. – Caller reported cattle on roadway in the 2200 block of County Rd. 36. Owner contacted.
 11:19 p.m. – Took prisoner to Larned State Hospital.

Public Notice

On January 21, 2014 a red cow weighing around 1150 lbs was found in the 300 block of county road 11 south of Levant KS. The cow has a purple ear tag with the number 81 on it. There is a brand of an arrow pointing to the head on the right hip. The cow was taken to the Oakley Livestock Commission Inc. in Oakley KS.
 If the cow is not claimed by February 11 2014 it will be sold pursuant to K.S.A. 47-236- K.S.A.47-239 at the Livestock Auction on February 12 2014.
 If you have any questions, contact the Thomas County Sheriff's Office at (785)460-4570.
 (Published in the Colby Free Press on Friday, Jan. 31, Monday, Feb. 3, 2014)

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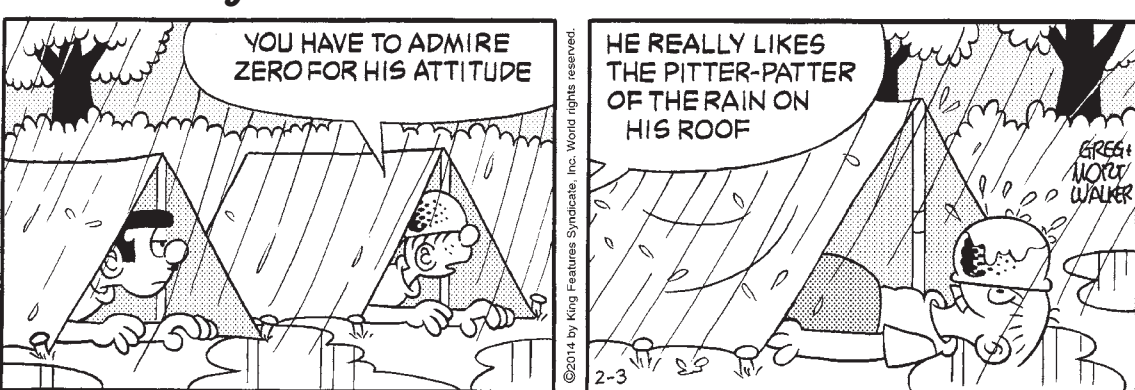
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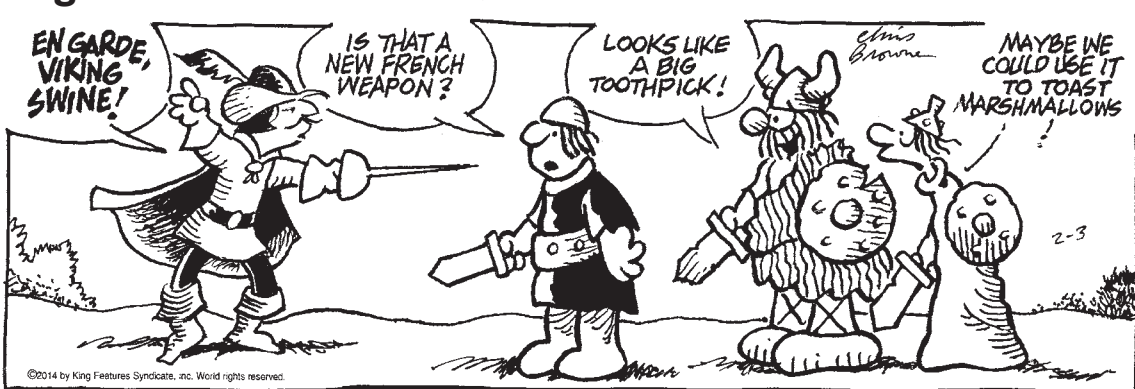
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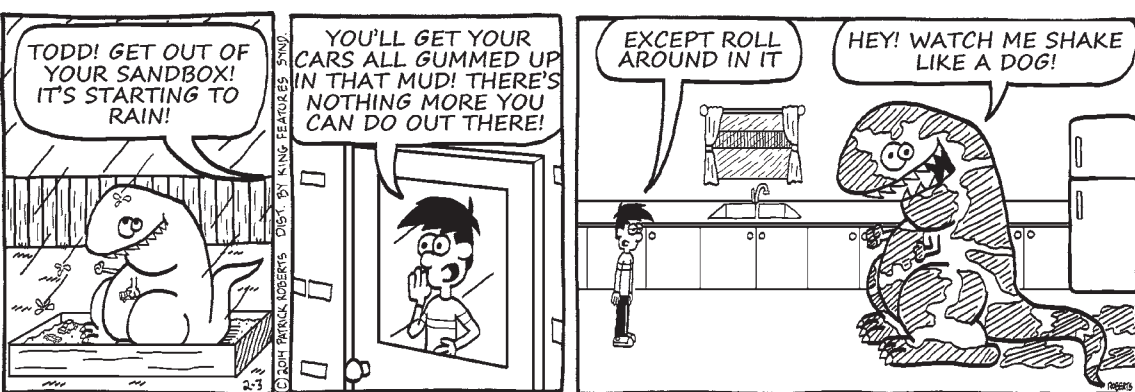
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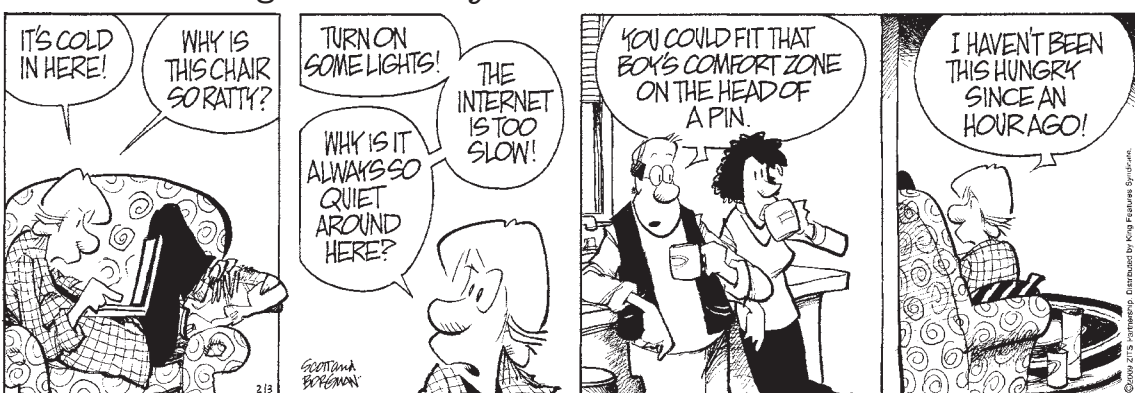
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Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Treasure hunt seems natural

Hunting for treasures seems to be an inborn trait. Perhaps it's from the need of the caveman to search, find food and store some for later use.

For centuries, the very rich surrounded themselves with expensive art and artifacts to impress each other and "the peasants." Today, many people enjoy collecting a variety of things, like costume jewelry, bottles, tools, prints, pottery, 1950s furniture, advertising and sports and political items.

Sometimes the best information about collections comes from the clubs and publications devoted to the subject. One subcategory of advertising we recently noticed are talcum powder tins, since lawsuits related to talcum powder have been in the news recently.

Talc is a mineral. It absorbs moisture, and in powdered form it has been used for centuries to keep skin dry. Some natural talc contains asbestos, which can be dangerous to health, so since the 1970s the talcum powder sold in stores has been processed to be asbestos-free.

Collectors like old talcum powder tins because of their clever designs made to attract buyers. Tins were decorated with images of babies, flowers, nursery-rhyme figures and clever graphics. Egyptian talcum powder made by Palmolive was in a tin that looks like an Egyptian column. Mennen's early tins feature a seated baby that we are told was actually the brand owner's child. A 1964 can of Beatles "Margo of Mayfair" talc has a drawing of the four Beatles.

Look for tins by Watkins, Colgate, Johnson, Caswell-Massey and other major brands, and also brands from other countries or long-gone companies. Prices range from \$10 to about \$150 for most tins offered online, but the rarest and most beautiful may cost as much as \$800.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 10 9 7
♥ Q 10 9 8 4 2
♦ Q
♣ K 3

WEST
♠ 8
♥ A K 3
♦ K J 10 7 5 4
♣ Q 5 2

EAST
♠ Q J 6 3 2
♥ 7 6 5
♦ 9 6 2
♣ 8 6

SOUTH
♠ K 5 4
♥ J
♦ A 8 3
♣ A J 10 9 7 4

The bidding:
South 1♣ West 1♦ North 2♥ East Pass
3♣ Pass 3♥ Pass
3 NT Pass
Opening lead — ?

Famous Hand

It would be much easier to play perfectly if you could see all four hands. As it is, though, you get to see only 13 cards during the bidding period, and only 26 cards during the play period. Despite this limitation, however, a player can achieve perfection more often than one would expect.

Consider this deal played in the Canada-New Zealand match at the 1978 world championship. When New Zealand sat North-South, the bidding went as shown.

Looking at all four hands, it can be seen that West's most effective opening lead against three notrump is the king of diamonds! If he leads any other diamond, South will make at least three notrump by establishing his clubs.

Furthermore, even if West finds the king-of-diamonds lead, South can counter by winning the king with the ace, leading the jack of clubs and playing low from dummy after West follows low. Nine tricks are there for the taking -- if you can see around corners.

What actually happened, you ask? Well, the fact is that West, Joe Silver, did lead the king of diamonds and wound up defeating the contract four tricks! He reasoned that if declarer had the A-Q of diamonds, his king lead would do no harm, while if declarer had the ace without the queen, the king lead might catch the singleton queen.

As we have seen, South could still have made the contract by guessing which way to take the club finesse. But in practice, after taking the third diamond with the ace, South led the jack of clubs and went up with the king after West followed low. He then returned a club, finessed the nine and finished with only five tricks.

Obviously, only one player at the table was wearing X-ray glasses!

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 2/03

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.

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

Cryptoquip

JGOS YGXTAUOX YGCOR UOO
JNA DGCXADT RFX N AFRD
QXCSH, C DGC SH GO NUJNTA
GNQ CNYFYFN YFUN.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE MARKET CUSTOMERS ARE SO KEEN ON BUYING FRENCH CHEESE THAT THEY'LL MAKE A BRIE LINE FOR

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals H

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Icelandic saga
5 Cow's comment
8 Desire
12 Jump
13 Annoy
14 Tide type
15 Apportion (out)
16 Write illegibly
18 Intelligence
20 Stir up
21 Hairstyle
23 Noah's boat
24 "The Game of Moral Dilemmas"
28 Pleasing
31 Raw rock
32 Brief fight
34 Sister
35 Couch
37 1988 Bill Murray movie

DOWN
17 A
1 "Desire Under the —"
2 Consider
3 Information
4 Insight
5 Cold War
6 Tolkien creature
7 Gumbo need
8 Still in the womb
9 Scolding sternly
10 Guys' mates
11 Duel tool
12 A
13 Gershwin brother
14 Sur- passes
15 Retrieve
16 "Help!"
17 —
18 -Magnon
19 Source of a second opinion
20 Sieve
21 Conclude
22 "My bad"
23 Fly
24 Bitter oranges
25 Still, in verse
26 Venomous vipers
27 Reverberate
28 Impale
29 Tittle
30 —
31 impasse
32 Maintain
33 Eggs

Saturday's answer 2-3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13			14				
15				16			17				
18				19			20				
				21			22				
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			57		

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

Please help! If you are taking or have ever taken any college math course, I need your help! Capella University doctoral student Michael E. Quist is looking for former or current college mathematics students to participate in a voluntary research project. Your participation in focus groups (where a small group will discuss ways they learn) and/or interviews (where individuals will describe how they learn) will help us establish best approaches and practices for college students learning mathematics, and will help us develop better programs in the future. It's only a few hours, and will be a big help! The research supervisor is Capella's Dr. Mark Larson. Anyone who is taking or has taken college math is welcome to participate. Please contact Michael at (785) 460-0376 or mqquist@hsc.colby.org if you're willing to participate. Thanks!
---1/29---2/12---

Plum Creek Ltd. - Colby Winter Clearance in Progress - Save 40%! Saturday hours 10 to 3.
---1/27---2/7---

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

Help Wanted

Farm Bureau Financial Services is seeking a Field Claim Representative to investigate, evaluate and negotiate casualty claims in the Northwest KS territory. The ideal candidate will reside in/near Colby, KS. Candidate must have a college degree or equivalent experience; experience in auto body and mechanical repair preferred. For further information and to apply online, please visit www.fblcareers.com
---1/31---2/13---

Jill's Helping Hand is hiring a part-time worker in Colby to start approximately 10 hours per week. Duties would be light housekeeping for elderly clients in Colby. Please call Jill at 785-622-4254 for more details and application.
---1/30---2/12---

CMA part-time positions and PRN shift available at Fairview Estates for our growing Assisted Living Facility. Competitive wages, AFLAC, and good working environment. Apply in person. Ask for Gary at 1630 Sewell Ave., Colby 785-462-2154 EOE.
---1/29---2/3---

Looking for High School or College Student to work part time. Flexible hours, no nights or Sundays. 785-460-3244 Leave message.
---1/27---2/6---

Electrician with 3 years experience or journeyman's license needed for service technician, pump and pivot irrigation work. Apply at Hitchcock, Inc. of Goodland or call 785-899-5628 for more information.
---1/22---2/17---

Pump Rig Operator
50K & Benefits
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Western Sprinklers, Inc.,
1100 S. Range Ave,
Colby, KS.
Drug testing required.

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Spiritual Care Coordinator Wanted: Hospice Services seeking Spiritual Care Coordinator to join Hospice team in providing care for persons with life-limiting illnesses and their families in northwest and north-central Kansas. Position requires person with denomination endorsement or equivalent along with communication, documentation and organizational skills. Travel within service area involved and reimbursed. Job open immediately. Mail Resume to: Hospice Services, Inc., PO Box 116, Phillipsburg KS 67661, fax to 785-543-5688 or contact Hospice Services at 800-315-5122. EOE. Resumes accepted until February 12, 2014.
---1/24---2/6---

Make a Career Call and "Taste The Success" Sales Positions - Frito-Lay, Inc. the world's snack food leader, has an immediate opening at our Colby area. Responsibilities include selling and merchandising our complete line of products to existing and new accounts. This position does require travel. Candidates must possess the following: Relevant Sales Experience (3 years of Grocery or DSD Sales) Clean Driving Record, Weekend Availability, HS Diploma or Equivalent Preferred. Frito-Lay offers a competitive compensation and benefits package that includes stock options. Interested candidates must apply at www.fritelayemployment.com EOE M/F/D/V.
---1/24---2/6---

Drivers needed for local deliveries. Class A or B CDL with or the ability to obtain Hazmat and Tanker endorsements. Clean MVR and must pass drug screen and DOT physical. Home every night Apply in person at Rosen's Inc, 60 Stephens drive, Colby or call 785-460-1330 for more info.
---1/22---2/10---

Cheyenne County Hospital Environmental Services Full-time housekeeping and linen services assistant needed to perform a variety of general cleaning tasks to maintain patient rooms, offices, and hallways. Monday through Friday with weekend rotation required. Other responsibilities include operating mechanical floor cleaners, setting up chairs and tables for special events, distributing emergency supplies as needed. Please pick up an application at the front office or contact: Human Resources, 785-332-2104 Ext. 116, 210 West First, St. Francis, KS 67756.
---1/22---2/10---


Tubbs & Sons Ford has 2 positions open. 1 full time Lube Technician pays up to \$14.00 per hour. Also have 1 full time Service Technician position open. Pay commensurate with skill level. Must have clean driving record. Benefits include paid vacation & profit sharing 401K.
Contact Chris Kraft at 785-460-6746; 1-800-369-3673 or fordcars@st-tel.net.

 Please Recycle

Help Wanted

Management Opportunity: Colby 24/7 Travel Store is currently accepting applications for a Assistant Manager and part-time or full-time cashiers. Compensation includes base wage plus incentives totaling up to 30K, plus benefits including BCBS health and life insurance, 401K, and paid vacation. Apply online at www.24-7-stores.com or apply in person at Colby 24/7 Travel Store, 1980 S. Range.
---1/8---2/3---

Great Western Tire of Colby, Inc., 1170 S. Country Club Drive, is now accepting applications for all shop positions. Positions included, but not limited to, lube oil & tire, truck tire, service call, and alignment technicians. 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.
---1/8---TFN---

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---

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.
---2/3---2/14---

Storage for Rent

Storage rentals 10x25. Discount for multiple months. Call 785-443-3261.
---1/24---2/20---

Apartments for Rent

Very nice 1 bedroom furnished basement apartment with washer/dryer, utilities, cable and internet included. Perfect for college student. Call Janene at 785 443 2010.
---1/29---2/3---

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Apartments for Rent

2 room efficiency apartment includes utilities. No pets. Call 785-443-3261.
---1/24---2/20---

Houses for Sale

For sale or trade. 3 bedroom home in Brewster, 106 Nebraska. \$39,000 OBO. Contact Kenny at 719-740-1072.
---1/30---3/19---

Misc. for Sale

Image 10.0 treadmill C.P.T. Speed program, gently used \$200. 785-460-1864
---1/30---2/5---

(3)30" mahogany pre-hung doors, used, 2-hinged left, 1-hinged right. 1-48" total bi-fold doors. 1-32" total bi-fold doors. All standard 6"8". All stained mahogany. Trim included if wanted. All used in good condition 785-462-3465.
---1/29---2/3---

Crushed concrete and asphalt millings. Call Scott Eberle, Eberle Construction, Oakley at 785-672-0310.
---1/17---2/6---

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---


Pasture Wanted

Need grass to rent for cow calf pairs. L.J. Heier Colby 785-443-2824.
---1/17---2/13---

Vehicles for Sale

2003 Jeep Wrangler Sahara hard top, excellent condition. For more information call 785-443-0624 or check it out at nextechclassifieds.com/listings/view/716595/
---1/29---2/3---

1993 Ford Aerostar Van, new tires, nice body, runs good, \$950. Call 785-462-6527.
---1/29---2/3---


Colby Community College is accepting applications for a part-time **Security Officer** to work evenings and weekends (less than 20 hours per week). Hours will vary. Duties include safeguarding the campus, residence halls and other campus facilities. Mature individual with the ability to work as part of a team assisting a diverse population of students and employees in a confidential manner is required. Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to multi-task are essential. Criminal justice background is desirable. To apply send letter, resume and all postsecondary transcripts by February 12, 2014 to Colby Community College, Attn: Lisa Failla, 1255 S. Range Ave., Colby, KS 67701. Materials may also be emailed to lisa_failla@colbycc.edu. CCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to diversifying its work force and encourages applications from women, members of minority groups, individuals with disabilities and veterans.

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---

Recreation Vehicle

1954 15' Sea King boat. Has 5 1/2 hp Johnson motor. Also included a minkota trolling motor. Run good last time I had it out. No leaks. For more information call 785-443-0624 or check it out at nextechclassifieds.com/listings/view/581707/
---1/29---2/3---

Services

Mane Appearance & Design now offering massages (Would make a great Valentine's gift). Stop in or call 785-443-5693!
---2/3---2/14---

I specialize and analyze the situation surrounding the environment. Pines, Deciduous, Evergreens, Shelterbelts, Fruit Trees Cleanup, Removal, Nurseryman, gardening, Landscaping, Shrubs and Yard care and Snow Removal. Dave's Tree Service. 785-443-0994
---2/3---2/28---

Tree Trimming & Removal Call Kerry @ Infinite Connections, bucket truck, stump grinder, insured and free estimates. Family owned and operated. 785-626-4261.
---1/31---7/17---

There's hope for your family member to continue living in their home, every need met. Licensed, excellent Ref. Would love to be a part of your families care plan. Colby and surrounding area. Please call Bev 785-267-7122 or Lorraine 785-443-5717.
---1/29---2/10---

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---

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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---

Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE THOMAS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

To all qualified electors residing within the boundaries of the Thomas County Conservation District notice is hereby given that pursuant to K.S.A. 2-1907, as amended on the 12th day of February, 2014, at 12:00 p.m., an annual meeting of the Thomas County Conservation District will be held at the Colby Community Building, Colby, KS

The meeting agenda shall include the following business items:

ONE: The supervisors of the Thomas County Conservation District shall make full and due report of their activities and financial affairs since the last meeting.

TWO: They shall conduct an election by secret ballot of qualified electors, there present, of two supervisors to serve a term of three (3) years from the date of said meeting. The term of Jon Starns and the term vacated by Ed Geihlsler are expiring.

All in the county of Thomas in the State of Kansas.

/s/ Shea Baird, Chairman
Thomas County Conservation District

Attest:
/s/ Debra Potter, District Manager

Published in the Colby Free Press on Monday, January 27, February 3, 2014

For recycling information in Thomas County
Call
785-426-7482

Public Notice

ANNUAL REPORT OF MORGAN TOWNSHIP THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS

The undersigned treasurer and trustee of Morgan Township, submit the following report for the year ending December 31, 2013.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund*	Cash Balance Jan. 1 **	Total Receipts	Total Expenditures	Cash Balance Dec. 31	Unpaid Bills Dec. 31
General	157,887.91	10,110.39	25,098.40	142,899.90	
Road Fund	136,879.54	57,310.71	95,159.22	99,031.03	
Weed Fund	3,200.03	4,235.84	12,436.25	(5,000.38)	

* Detailed fund pages are available at the county clerk's office.
** Includes all money the township has including checking account, savings, and investments.

I certify that this financial report is a correct summary of all money received and expended as well as all unpaid bills for the township during the year ending December 31, 2013.

Date: 1-28-2014

Township Treasurer

(Published in the Colby Free Press on Monday, February 3, 2014)

The Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center is advertising a vacancy for a Foreign Language Teacher for the 2014-2015 school year. **Qualifications:** Must possess or be eligible to receive Kansas Teacher Certification. Training, education, experience, references, and interview results are some of the qualifications, which are considered for each candidate. For position details contact: Dan Thornton, Executive Director at 785-672-3125 extension 110. Applications are available at www.nkesc.org. or call 785-672-3125. **Application Deadline Until Filled.** *NKESC is an Equal Opportunity Employer*

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APPLY TODAY! www.foleyeq.com EOE

The City of COLBY HELP WANTED

The City of Colby and Colby Aquatic Park are accepting applications for Assistant Park Manager for the 2014 summer season. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age. CPR and First Aid training not required but would be preferred. Applications may be obtained at City Hall or the Colby Community Building. Applications and requests for consideration must be received at the Rec Office at 285 East 5th Street by Wednesday, February 5th. Application Review will begin Thursday, February 6th. Please contact Dane Olofson at the Rec Department (460.4440) for more information. EOE.


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Super Seahawks leave Broncos in a stupor

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Waiting to get their hands on the Lombardi Trophy, the Seattle Seahawks were surrounded by security guards in orange jackets. It was the first time anyone in that color stopped them all night.

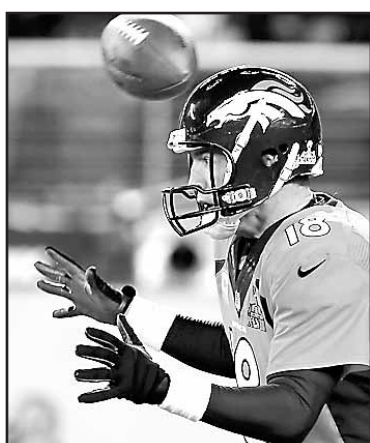
The Seahawks stayed true to their mantra to make each day a championship day. They made Super Bowl Sunday the best day of all with one of the greatest performances in an NFL title game -- sparked by a defense that ranks among the best ever.

The Seahawks won their first Super Bowl crown by punishing Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos 43-8. That masterful defense, the NFL's stingiest, never let the five-time MVP get going, disarming the highest-scoring offense in league history.

"The only way we could say we were the best defense was to take down the best offense," linebacker Bobby Wagner said.

Seattle (16-3) was too quick, too physical and just too good for Denver. What was hyped as a classic matchup between an unstoppable offense and a miserly defense turned into a rout.

Punctuating Seattle's dominance was a 69-yard interception return touchdown by linebacker Malcolm Smith to make it 22-0, and Percy Harvin's sensational



Despite virtually no wind, this opening snap sailed like a duck over Denver quarterback Peyton Manning's head and turned into a safety for the fastest opening Super Bowl score.

87-yard kickoff return to open the second half.

"I always imagined myself making great plays," said Smith, the game's MVP. "Never thought about being the MVP."

When the Seahawks, up by 29 points, forced a Denver punt early in the third quarter, the 12th Man -- and there were legions of them in MetLife Stadium -- began chanting "L-O-B, L-O-B."

As in Legion of Boom, the Seahawks' hard-hitting secondary, part of a young team with an aver-

age age of 26 years, 138 days.

"This is an amazing team. Took us four years to get to this point, but they never have taken a step sideways," coach Pete Carroll said. "These guys would not take anything but winning this ballgame."

The loss by the Broncos again raised questions about Manning's ability to win the biggest games. He is 11-12 in the postseason, 1-2 in Super Bowls. After the game, he brushed off questions about his legacy.

"Certainly to finish this way is very disappointing. It's not an easy pill to swallow," said Manning, who threw for a record 55 touchdowns in 2013, two years after missing an entire season because of neck surgeries. "I don't know if you ever really get over it."

Seattle forced four turnovers; Denver had 26 all season.

All-Pro cornerback Richard Sherman left with a high ankle sprain in the fourth quarter. He celebrated on crutches.

"I hope we etched our names in the history books," Sherman said.

Wilson, who has an NFL-record 28 wins in his first two pro seasons, including playoffs, had a 23-yard TD pass to Jermaine Kearse late in the third quarter to make it 36-0.



Seattle's Percy Harvin broke any remaining Denver Bronco spirit when he ran away with this 87-yard kickoff return to start the second half of Sunday night's Super Bowl in East Rutherford, N.J.

Wilson also hit Doug Baldwin for a 10-yard score in the final period in what had become one of the most lopsided Super Bowls. For the fifth time in six meetings

between the NFL's No. 1 offense and defense, the D dominated.

Manning trudged to the sideline, a look of disgust on his face, Denver's reputation as an unstop-

pable force erased.

The Broncos did not even record a first down until just nine minutes remained before halftime and they already trailed 15-0.

Question makes MVP feel insulted

NEW YORK (AP) — The Denver Broncos had four turnovers and managed just one score against the mighty Seattle Seahawks defense in the Super Bowl. But don't tell Peyton Manning that his team's performance Sunday was embarrassing.

"It's not embarrassing at all. I would never use that word," Manning said after the game. "The word 'embarrassing' is an insulting word, to tell you the truth."

Manning completed 34 of 49 passes for 280 yards and a touchdown pass to Demaryius Thomas, but he couldn't find a route over the Seahawks' "Legion of Boom" secondary and also threw two interceptions. The Seahawks pounded the Broncos 43-8.

Manning's total quarterback rating of 24.4 was his lowest of the season and the worst in a Super Bowl since Rex Grossman's 7.1 in 2006.

Even Super blowout inspires a Top 10

If you think Denver Broncos fans look dazed this morning, consider how *Free Press* scribbler R.B. Headley feels about his pre-season Super Bowl pick officially coming true.

"I've never picked a season right in about four decades. I'm taking Chiefs and my Minnesota Yike-ings! for next year right now while the magic lasts." Rarely-rarely Brilliant proclaimed. "Joe Namath can come back to flip the coin in his fur jacket, and aggravate the ref by flipping it too soon. That was fun, to flip your thumb at authority."

While there may have been no more than 10 minutes of truly competitive football Sunday night, it can't stop Rancid Beef from making 10 other quick Super Bowl observations.

1. Best post-game Super Bowl photo? Dejected Peyton Manning on bench, talking into phone with caption "come get me, mom." I thought images of team president John Elway looking down could have also read "Wow, looks like the 80s down there. Did Dan Reeves sneak in to coach the team?"

2. Worst Broncos Super Bowl loss ever? Nothing matches that 55-10 San Francisco massacre upon Denver in 1990, when Joe Montana threw five touchdowns.

3. Embarrassing? Manning had a right to suggest being insulted by that question. Embarrassing is arriving at a middle school basketball game to take photos, then seeing your camera's battery door open with no battery.

4. Embarrassing is re-stepping your path with a flashlight to find that battery, grumbling some not great words and returning to the office -- where you find that battery still on its charger. Oops.

Bottom line: the Seahawks are just better than any other NFL team.

4. My top five NFL teams to close the season: 1. Seahawks, 2.

49ers, 3. Broncos, 4. Saints, 5. Patriots. NFC had a vastly stronger top half than AFC, where next best teams were Colts, Bengals and almost forgot about the Chiefs.

5. Take that, commissioner Roger Goodell! Despite all his sad attempts to make football more about offense and less about hitting, defenses still rule in the biggest games. I don't believe we'll ever see a 48-45 Super Bowl or even 45-42. Then again, I'll still cheer for my Minnesota Yikes! next year, which makes me wonder how many times dad dropped me on my head.

6. I must be getting younger because few Super Bowl ads kept my attention for 60 seconds.

That Audi automobile ad featuring a chihuahua with one huge doberman's head made me laugh, but it's being called one of the night's worst.

7. I am getting old, because I know absolutely nothing about halftime performer/current pop star Bruno Mars.

8. I had to google the spelling of Bruno's name, after I first typed Bruno Marx. I'm depending on the Internet, about as reliable as Manning under pass pressure.

9. Let the Peyton bashing begin. I've been a big Manning fan since his earliest Indianapolis Colts days. But sorry, Sunday showed again he's not an all-time top five NFL quarterback.

The greatest quarterbacks could move and create plays, like Elway or Montana. Let's be honest, Peyton has not handled Super Bowl pressure as well as little brother Eli -- who still has twice as many championship rings.

I have to rank Montana, Elway, Tom Brady ahead of Manning just among current quarterbacks with Brett Favre very close. And before all the offense-helping rule changes, I'd even consider classics like Roger Staubach or Kenny "The Snake" Stabler.

10. I feel badly for all my Broncos fans and acquaintances spanning across four states. Yet Sunday's outcome means Manning will be back, so Denver remains a legitimate threat.



Endowment Foundation executive director Nick Wells, left, presented the \$500 Firestone Memorial Scholarship check to Colby Community College freshman McKenna Ortner Wednesday evening in the Community Building. Rich Epp, right, represented the Firestone family at this presentation between games of the Trojans' basketball doubleheader against Pratt Community College.

Colby guard earns scholarship

By Debbie Schwanke
Colby Community College

Colby Community College freshman McKenna Ortner was recently selected to receive the 2014 Jim Firestone Memorial Scholarship worth \$500.

Ortner, who is a Colby High graduate, is a member of the Trojan basketball team.

Jim and Betty Firestone were long-time residents of Colby and familiar faces at all Colby Community College athletic events. They owned and operated a hardware store located in downtown Colby for many years.

In addition, Jim was an on-air personality and account representative for KLBY-TV.

He and Rich Epp did a live

morning news update and covered many area sporting events.

Jim died in 2006 and Betty moved to the Wichita area to be near their children.

The Firestones were a host family for many Lady Trojan basketball players.

The scholarship is awarded each year to a member of the women's team.

Cloud keeps Trojans winless in Jayhawk

The Colby Community College women keep making progress, but are still searching for that first Jayhawk West win after Cloud County prevailed 70-57 Saturday evening in Concordia.

Colby (2-21 overall, 0-7 league) battled Pratt College to a halftime tie Wednesday night.

On Saturday, the Trojans were even better as they took a six-

point lead over Cloud County entering that midway break.

However, the Thunderbirds (13-9 overall, 4-3 league) quickly recovered to break their three-game losing streak.

"We got away from who we are as a team," Colby coach Antowin Edwards said. "We're not a fast-break team at all costs, we're a fast-break team when it's there."

But we started forcing fast breaks in that second half. We need to run our offense and get good shots."

Colby's all-freshman team did feature 15 points from guard Deja Cato while backcourt partners McKenna Ortner (nine points) and Tori Biddle (eight) combined for another 17.

Amanda Evans also reached double figures with 10 points.

Ariel Hutchinson added five and Loren Evans tallied two points.

Later, the Trojan men's team dropped a tough 84-78 contest with Cloud County. They also slipped to 0-7 in league and 9-13 overall.

"We have to be hungry. We have to man up and do what we need to get wins," coach Rusty Grafel said. "It's not easy in this league."

Golden girls leave no doubts in big win

By Judy Rogers
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs had no trouble handling Quinter in a home game at Rexford Tuesday evening.

"We were ready to play when we stepped on the floor," senior McKayla Lobato said.

The girls from Golden Plains grabbed a 10-4 lead by the end of the first quarter, kept pressing hard and saw different Bulldogs score during a 20-2 second period.

As the coaches rotated girls from the bench, the Bulldogs (9-3 record overall) continued to hold their extensive lead with 14 points in the third and 10 in the fourth to finish the game with a 54-18 win.

Senior Jordan Christensen's 16 points led the Bulldogs while Lobato tallied 10 and Maddy Walz

added eight. Others scoring points for Golden Plains were senior Hailee Spresser (four), Kami Miller (four), Kynndra Rush (four), Gabrielle Schiltz (two), Ana Bermudez (two), Morgan Ritter (two)

and Rachael Ritter (two).

"I was really proud of the younger girls for stepping up their game when coach put them in," Lobato concluded.

The Lady Bulldogs continue

team to take a 16-6 lead.

The Golden Plains Bulldogs continued to feel their way and get readjusted to the floor in the second as Quinter extended their lead to 29-15 by the half.

The hometown boys added another seven in the third, but allowed Quinter to increase their total by 18.

The Golden Plains boys didn't give up and finished the game giving it all they had, but the Quinter

boys claimed the 59-30 win.

"We didn't always play as a team at the beginning of the game," Dawson Spresser concluded. "But we worked together better in the second half."

Posting up points for Golden Plains were Kade Wessel (seven), Koi Wessel (five), Austin Rivera (four), Domico Luna (four), Spresser (three), Cole Ziegelmeier (three), Jesus Aragon (two) and Julio Blanco (two).

Quinter wins battle of Bulldogs

By Judy Rogers
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains High junior varsity boys basketball team battled the Quinter Bulldogs on Tuesday in Rexford.

This was the first game for the JV boys in over two weeks.

"It was good to get back on the floor," freshman Nick Brown said.

They were a little rusty in the first quarter allowing the Quinter

team to take a 16-6 lead.

The Golden Plains Bulldogs continued to feel their way and get readjusted to the floor in the second as Quinter extended their lead to 29-15 by the half.

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The Golden Plains boys didn't give up and finished the game giving it all they had, but the Quinter