

Bin Laden remains a threat to world peace

Like a cobra rising to strike out of the grass, but just out of reach, Osama bin Laden pops up again, issuing a video challenge to the West on the anniversary of his attack on the World Trade Center.

The viper of misguided Islam, hiding in the mountains of Pakistan and just out of reach of U.S. troops, praised the heartless killers he sent to rain terror on New York and Washington as martyrs to his cause.

As usual, he urges young men to take up the banner of jihad and sacrifice their lives, but makes no suggestion he'd go himself. Such a pity.

Bin Laden may go down in history as one of the most misguided and monstrous figures of our time. His quest for world domination and his vision of a world by the sword forced to accept Islam goes against all that is Holy — in any version of The Book.

The West cannot claim purity here. Over the centuries, far too much blood has been shed in God's name. Christians have slain natives, heretics, nonbelievers, Muslims and each other in the name of their God.

But the world needs to move beyond that, and most of us in the West have. Today, Protestants and Catholics work together in Ireland. The church has renounced persecution and declared that Jews do not have to convert to see God.

Bin Laden represents a tiny minority in the Islamic world. His vision of victory includes world domination. His website urges the United States to submit to its fate and accept Islam.

He and his allies would institute a harsh rule that no more typifies the average Muslim's belief than the Irish Republican Army or the Ku Klux Klan typify Christianity.

Millions of Muslims around the world want only to live in peace and enjoy the prosperity modern times and Western thinking have brought. Most believe we are all children of Abraham and followers of the great western religions are all People of the Book, whatever version they read.

There is no reason we should not all live in peace and worship as we please, other than the demented thoughts of a few radicals. History will judge them harshly.

As for Bin Laden today, he is a prop, a shadow of his former self. They stick him up before the camera, beard dyed, makeup applied, and he talks to his followers, taunting America.

We should blow him to Kingdom Come, and probably would except for the trouble it would cause our allies in Pakistan.

In the end, it probably makes little difference whether we kill Bin Laden or he simply fades away. Among the radical fringe, he'll assume the status of a saint either way, a figure leading a revolution of true believers.

While we cannot afford to ignore his threat, because this wasp does sting, there's little chance he and his kind will prevail. The world cannot allow it, and history suggests such movements eventually fade, always to be replaced by another threat to life and liberty.

The history of man shows a long upward climb to a higher civilization, but the road often has its dips and turns. Bin Laden's movement is but one of those.

Whether it passes in a decade or two or, like the Dark Ages, takes a couple of centuries, may depend on the response of the civilized world. We're supposedly part of that.

— Steve Haynes

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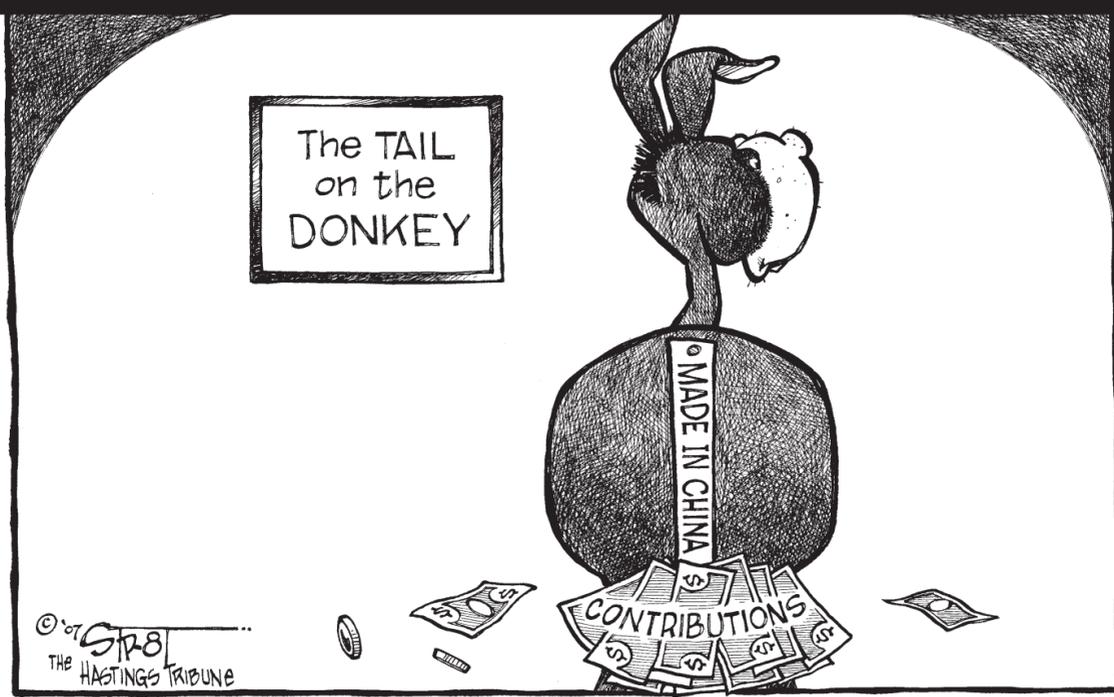
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Does Fort Hays State need a new name?

I see where again a name change controversy is brewing on the campus of Fort Hays State University. This is not to mean it will take on a new name. It is only being mentioned, but a lot of folks on and off campus are choosing up sides.

My first experience with a name change for the university came during the tenure of Dr. Gerald W. Tomanek, a friend and president of Fort Hays State, who wanted more than anything to see his college become a university. Well it did in April of 1977. Sometime later, while Dr. Tomanek was on a tour of northwest Kansas and addressed a gathering in Goodland where I served as editor of that community's daily newspaper, I suggested the name be changed to maybe the University of Western Kansas, to better reflect the area from which it draws the vast majority of its students. He didn't dismiss the suggestion, nor did he endorse it.

However, many alumni in that area had a suggestion of their own: for the editor to leave it alone. They saw no need to change the name of something that has been going by Fort Hays State for a hundred years. Well, that was stretching it because Fort Hays State, up to then, was known by several other names.

Research of historic Hays and Fort Hays State websites contributes this: "It was founded in 1902 as the Western Branch of Kansas State Normal School which is now known as Emporia State University. It was originally located on the grounds of historic Fort Hays, a frontier military outpost that was closed in 1889.

"The university served the early settlers' needs for educational facilities in the new region. The first building closer to Hays was completed in 1904, at which time the university moved to its present

Good Evening Norton
Tom Dreiling



location. The modern campus is still located on a portion of the former military reservation from the fort."

A few years ago, while serving as publisher of *The Colby Free Press*, I again stirred the pot when the words "name change" resurfaced down in Hays, America. My suggestion was much like my first, the University of Western Kansas. However, nothing became of the second round of a possible rebaptism for the university, so I walked away from any further dialogue on the subject.

Now, here we are just a few years later with talk of a name change resurfacing. And the University of Western Kansas seems to be the name most mentioned, although President Edward Hammond said in a story last week in *The Hays Daily News* by reporter Micah Mertes, that there are at least two or three other names that need to be considered.

Am I sticking with University of Western Kansas? No. Not this time. Things have changed, the university has expanded far beyond western Kansas and the Virtual College has to fit in there somewhere. The university, that now boasts of an enrollment of 9,500 (thanks to its Virtual College), will need a really catchy name to pull it all together.

How about, Fort Hays State Univer-

sity? Hey, I went there, too!

-td-

I am not about to mention his name. But he's in hot water. It will be interesting to see how this all washes out. While I'm waiting for that to happen, I'll simply pour me another glass of orange juice.

-td-

I need to take a time out to wish Raymond and Janet Renken of rural Bertrand, Neb., a good, relaxing weekend. They are new to our reading audience.

-td-

There was this mechanic who worked out of his home and had a dog named Mace. Mace had a bad habit of eating all the grass on the mechanic's lawn, so the he had to keep Mace inside. Unfortunately, the grass eventually became overgrown.

One day the mechanic, while walking to the house to see how Mace was, dropped his wrench in the tall grass. He couldn't find it for the life of him so he decided to call it a day.

That night, Mace escaped through a door the mechanic forgot to completely close, and ate all the grass in the backyard. The next morning the mechanic went outside and, low and behold, saw his wrench sparkling in the sunlight.

Realizing what had happened, he looked up to the heavens and sang out loudly....

"A grazing Mace, how sweet the sound that saved a wrench for me!"

OK, you are free to boo!

-td-

Have a good evening. And maybe at church on Sunday, we'll all be singing "Amazing Grace," minus the mechanic, the dog and the wrench.

When it comes to names, whatever works

Back Home
Nancy Hagman



The hubby is a Junior. It says Junior on his birth certificate. I don't particularly care for the name but he doesn't mind. His dad passed on some time ago. According to Emily Post, when the first Eugene dies the second gets promoted from Junior to Eugene, but that would be like getting a leopard to change its spots at this juncture. Although his mother told me not long ago that she had decided he ought to be called Gene. Recently I noticed she introduced him as Gene, after all these years it just seemed odd.

Before we were married and lived around his family and friends I could call him Gene. But that just did not work when his dad was around. When we moved to the Lenora area he was known as Gene to some and Junior to others.

It was worked out for the best that my family adapted to calling him Junior especially when my sister married a "Gene." Funny thing, his first name was Raymond but he went by his second name.

My brother and a cousin both married women named "Gail." What a random thing. There really aren't very many

Brandyberrys and these two guys both found Gails! At least they don't live close to each other, cutting down on mix-ups except at family reunion time.

Two cousins, who are sisters, that I see very infrequently both married Larrys. That sure makes it easy, I only don't have to stammer and stutter around for a name or even remember which man goes with which. cousin, I just say "Hello Larry." They probably felt the same way about my sister and I both marrying Genes.

Speaking of Larry, do you recall the television show "Dallas?" Larry Hagman played J.R. Ewing. A couple of confused souls started calling the hubby Larry, as in "where is Larry this morning?" That

confused me!

The hubby is a good sport. He professes to not care what he is called as long as it isn't something bad.

However it poses a problem when he meets someone new. He was due to meet the latest boyfriend (BF) deemed worthy of introduction over the weekend. I told him in advance; when we meet this young man tell him how you wish to be addressed. The reason being there was one very long term BF who never knew what to call him. So he would always say to the daughter "your dad" or to me "your husband."

It was awkward and I thought we ought to get started on the right track. For some reason the girls think the BF's find their Dad intimidating, so I queried, "Do you want to be Gene or Junior? Or maybe Mr. Hagman?"

He replied, "I want to be called SIR! As in Yes, Sir and No, Sir!" Okay, maybe that's why he seems intimidating!

When the moment came he didn't clarify how he wanted to be addressed at all. By the way, the BF's name is Leo. He goes by Craig! Works for me!

Thumbs Up . . .

To 'the little cheerleaders.' Way to go! (e-mail)

To Leslie "Les" Schievelbein, for your 33 years of service at the Norton Elevator. Now Ag Valley Co-Op, Les has no plans for retiring. We just wanted to thank him for his hard work and dedication! (e-

mail)

To the coaches wanting baseball to become part of the sports program at Norton, stick with it, it will eventually happen. (by telephone)

To Bryce Marble, on your big win at

the Hays High cross country invitational. (by telephone)

(To submit a name or names, e-mail tom@d@nwkans.com, call 877-3361 or 877-6908, fax 877-3732, mail to 215 S. Kansas Ave., Norton 67654 or drop by the office. Thanks for your continuing input. -td)