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Editorial

By Jon A. Brake

Former City of Manhattan Park and Recreation Superintendent Ivan Wilkinson pleaded "No Contest" to four counts in District Court.

Wilkinson had been charged with two felony and two misdemeanors. The charges stem from money missing from the Park and Recreation Department and using a City computer to "receive, record or forward bets", in other words gambling.

Wilkinson will be sentenced in March. Wilkinson and his family have and will pay a heavy price for something that should not have happened.

For years the City of Manhattan refused to implement normal safeguards. The City Manager was told many times by the Finance Department and by the City Auditor that a system needed to be put in place that would prevent theft. How could anyone in authority put off such an important process for years and years? Why pay good money to an auditor if you are not going to heed the advice?

And what about the police department? The Riley County Police Department's \$12 million Budget is funded 80% by the City of Manhattan. Talk about a conflict of interest.

If you think the RCPD is above conflict of interest, look at these facts:

1. The City Manager and the Riley County Police Department Director held a joint news conference to announce, "They had a problem." The news conference was held when only two cub reporters would be in the room.

2. Although the problem may have been going on for years and at many different levels, the RCPD only placed one camera in one room and concluded the investigation when a suspect was recorded. A more complete investigation would have taken more time and all areas of the department investigated.

3. The RCPD reported at one time that tens-of-thousands of dollars could be missing. (Inside the police department figures of hundred-of-thousands were being used.) Shortly after the report, City officials down played the amount by announcing that they had concluded an internal audit and the amount was much lower.

The RCPD only investigated three years of receipts and the City's internal investigation looked at two years. Why?

The police department investigated the last three years because of the statute of limitations. They were only allowed to press charges for three years.

Why did the City respond with their audit? They investigated two years not three; of course the numbers are different. And with different numbers comes confusion. The public would not know whom to believe.

And that could have been the goal. Announce the problem, dispute the findings, and the problem will go away.

The facts are simple.

The City knew for many years that the system being used by the Parks and Recreation Department was open to theft. They refused to implement even the simplest of procedures to insure money was not being taken. In fact the procedures were stopped by the City Manager.

The police department is too involved financially with the City to do the investigation. The Kansas Bureau of Investigation should have conducted a six-to-eight month investigation into all areas of the money chain in the Parks and Recreation Department.

And the City Commission? They should have thrown away their rubber stamp and cleaned house.



The Ice Man Cometh. (Photo by Julie Samuelson of the Western Times in Sharon Springs)

Sunflower CASA Project Receives Jeweler's Grant

The Sunflower CASA Project was recently awarded a grant from Jewelers for Children (JFC), the leading charity of the U.S. jewelry industry. The grant will be used to expand volunteer-based advocacy services for abused and neglected children in Riley County. In 2006, 111 CASA volunteer advocates served 159 children in Riley and Clay Counties.

"We are excited to award local program grants that support advocacy to change the lives of abused and neglected children around the country," says David Rocha, the Executive Director of Jewelers for Children Executive Director. "It is indeed a privilege to recognize the Sunflower CASA Project for its dedication and service to help change

the lives of vulnerable children in their community."

Since 2003, JFC has funded advocacy services for abused and neglected children in over 300 communities nationwide. More than 75 local programs will receive funds this year from a \$1,000,000 national grant by Jewelers for Children, administered by the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association.

The National CASA Association provides leadership to more than 900 state and local organizations that champion the best interests of abused and neglected children. Across the country, more than 53,000 highly trained CASA volunteers serve as powerful advocates for these children, one child at a time, within the

child welfare system.

"Thousands of our nation's abused and neglected children have received critical advocacy services as a result of National CASA's multi-year partnership with Jewelers for Children," says Michael Piraino, National CASA Association CEO. "We are thrilled so many communities will benefit this year from the generosity and commitment of the jewelry industry."

More volunteer advocates are needed to serve abused and neglected children in Riley County. For more information, contact Jayme Morris-Hardeman, Executive Director, at 785-537-6367 or sunflowercasa@interkan.net or visit <http://casa.manhattankans.org>.

Winter Storm Causes Outages

Thousands of western Kansans greeted the New Year without electricity after being hit with a severe winter storm. Starting on Dec. 28, a massive ice storm coupled with high winds caused a substantial amount of damage to several Kansas electric cooperatives. Nine distribution cooperatives lost approximately 10,000 poles, and Sunflower Electric, a generation and transmission cooperative, had 21 steel transmission towers that were damaged or destroyed.

At the peak of the storm, there were more than 46,000 outages within the service areas of CMS, Lane-Scott, Midwest Energy, Pioneer, Prairie Land, Rolling Hills, Victory, Western, and Wheatland electric cooperatives. As of Jan. 2, 2007, nearly 24,000 meters were still without service. Even though the snow and freezing rain have ceased, up to four inches of ice remains on the power lines in some areas, which continues to wreak havoc on the electric cooperatives' infrastructure.

In the areas that were hit hardest, county emergency management staff has established community shelters for the members who are without electricity. It is estimated that it could be weeks before service is restored to all members across the system.

The electric cooperatives continue to work around-the-clock to both identify the damage to their systems and to restore service to their members. In addition to the local line crews, an army of cooperative and private contractor linemen has arrived to assist in the repair efforts.

"Across the state, electric cooperatives are helping each other to restore power," said Larry Detwiler, Kansas Electric Cooperatives director of loss control, safety, and compliance. "In icy conditions, tree limbs can break and damage power lines, leading to outages."

Over and above the destruction to the distribution systems, Sunflower's Holcomb Generation Plant suffered when a sudden loss of load from storm-damaged high voltage lines tripped the coal-fired plant off line. The outage caused a large piece of slag to fall inside the boiler causing damage.

Because of the storm, Governor Kathleen Sebelius declared a state of disaster emergency on Dec. 30 for 39 counties in western Kansas. This declaration ensures that resources are made available to those counties severely affected by heavy snow and ice.

"Our linemen will keep working for as long as necessary to complete this job, because we know how much our cooperative members depend on electric power," said Detwiler.

The Kansas National Guard was mobilized on Dec. 31 to search for stranded motorists after the storm closed stretches of more than a dozen highways. The Kansas Highway Patrol contributed an airplane to aid the search efforts. The only weather-related death reported was that of a 48-year-old man who was found dead in a rural home in Wallace County, which received up to 36 inches of snow during the storm.

Cooperative members without power are encouraged to call their local electric cooperatives to report the outage. Members are also encouraged to use extreme caution if using a portable generator to supply electricity during a power outage.

"If used improperly, portable generators can be fatal to you and to the linemen who are restoring power to your home," explained Detwiler. "Connecting a portable generator to the main electrical supply for your house requires the services of a qualified, licensed electrician. Before connecting the generator to your household circuit, notify your electric cooperative."

That's The Brakes

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi calls illegal aliens "undocumented workers".

That would mean that Drug Dealers will soon be called Unlicensed Pharmacist.

Jon A. Brake
Manhattan Free Press

University Studies Trauma On Military Couples

Jaimee Keister

Research Article
Kansas State University

The Trauma Research Education and Consultation at Kansas State University is bringing a focus to relationships by studying the effects of trauma on military couples.

Briana Nelson Goff, the associate professor of the School of Family Studies and Human Services has been in charge of TRECK research since it was established in 1998.

Nelson Goff's interest in trauma sparked as a graduate student at Kansas State University, she said. She said she interned at Veteran's Affairs in Topeka. Nelson Goff explained that this was her first experience dealing with individuals coming in for treatment.

The 2006 TRECK Newsletter described "the purpose of TRECK as a research study that seeks to obtain an empirical understanding of the systemic effects of traumatic events on adult interpersonal relationships."

"The TRECK research not only focuses on the soldier, but the partner as well. The individual symptoms of one partner do affect their marriage," Nelson Goff said.

The TRECK team members include graduate and undergraduate students in the School of Family Studies and Human Services and related programs at Kansas State University according to the newsletter. The newsletter stated that the majority of students involved in the TRECK research program are in the marriage and family therapy graduate program.

Currently working with the TRECK research program are 14 members, Nelson Goff said. The TRECK members consist of one paid graduate assistant, one paid under-

graduate assistant and the rest are volunteers who usually work through an independent study course to receive credit, said Nelson Goff.

Lizette Vargas, a senior undergraduate researcher said she started working with TRECK in June of 2005. Vargas has always been interested in trauma and when she heard about TRECK she became involved right away, she said.

"I believe it is important because there are many stereotypes about soldiers and their families. This research shows that they are human and our results may one day influence how the Army treats their soldiers as well as their families," said Vargas.

The current research project called the Primary and Secondary Post-Traumatic Stress in Military Couples has three phases, Nelson Goff said. Phase one of the project began in June of 2002; and there was no funding provided, she said.

This Phase analyzed 10 couples through surveys and interviews. The couples and students were all volunteers, said Nelson Goff.

Phase two of the project was funded by the SRO Grant of the College of Human Ecology along with a K-State Small Research Grant, Nelson Goff said. The funding helped to pay the couples who participated and a graduate assistant, she said.

Nelson Goff explained, that phase two included 50 military couples from Fort Riley and Fort Leavenworth. This phase examined how the soldiers' recent deployment to Iraq had impacted them, their partners and their relationship, Nelson Goff said.

The study looked at when they were gone and since they had returned home, she said. The same process was used as in Phase one with surveys and

interviewing, Nelson Goff explained.

Phase three was started in early 2006, Nelson Goff said. The goal of Phase three is to find individuals who did not participate in the first two phases, she said.

This phase is web-based and focusing on female soldiers, National

Guard and Kansas Army Reserve Soldiers, Nelson Goff said.

The TRECK research recently applied for a Recognition Grant for \$25,000 from the Kansas Health Foundation, said Nelson Goff.

The results of the TRECK Research project have found that spouse trauma

experience is a factor in relationships, Nelson Goff said.

"The trauma symptoms of soldiers do impact the relationship satisfaction between the spouses," said Nelson Goff.



School's Out...

Workers demolished the Flush Catholic Grade School Friday. The school has not operated for several years and the space will be used for church parking. (Westmoreland Recorder Photo)

Kansas Profile - Now That's Rural - Brian Kuntz - Brian's Wookwords

By Ron Wilson, director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University.

Let's go to a national competition for artists in Branson, Missouri.

Two things are remarkable about this competition: One is that the first place winner in the adult division and the grand champion of the junior division both came from the same family. The second remarkable fact is that this artwork isn't done with a painter's brush or sculptor's chisel, it is done in wood with a scroll saw.

This is a national scroll saw contest, and the winners come from a rural Kansas family with remarkable woodcrafting skills.

Brian Kuntz comes from a truly

rural family. Brian is a teacher by trade, as is his wife Trina. He is an industrial arts teacher and she is a reading specialist. Trina is originally from the southwest

Kansas town of Spearville, population 817 people. That's rural - but stay tuned.

Brian and Trina studied education at Fort Hays State University.

After graduation, they accepted positions with the school system in the south central Kansas town of Dexter, population 358 people.

That's rural too - but stay tuned.

Brian grew up in northwest Kansas. He is originally from the Gove County town of Park, Kansas, population 148 people. Now, that's rural.

Coming from such small towns

gave Brian and Trina an appreciation for the benefits of small town life. They sought a school system in a small town setting for them to raise a family. They were also attracted to the flexible schedule of the school system in Dexter, which is one of those communities that offers a four-day school week.

In other words, they put in four extra-long days of work each week and then have the fifth weekday off.

That flexibility worked well for Brian's interests in woodworking. At his school, Brian teaches a variety of industrial arts subjects, including wood shop, welding, construction, and computer drafting.

His practical experience comes from work in construction and roofing.

Brian is very capable with his hands and tools, and he enjoys carving attractive designs with his scroll saw. Since 1996, Brian has been doing carvings for fun and for stress relief after school, and then he started making them as Christmas gifts for family and friends. The response was so great that he decided to sell them.

In 2005, he started marketing his original, detailed, handmade artwork in wood, specializing in wildlife designs. Using his scroll saw, Brian creates remarkably intricate designs of fish, deer, pheasant, elk, wolves and many more. Some are done from natural cross sections of a tree and include clocks or different color backgrounds.

Brian did a design of a humming-

bird at a rose which is fantastic. It uses intarsia, which is a special type of wood inlay using the natural colors of the wood.

Brian also does country and western designs, along with artwork using religious themes. He sells at craft shows and festivals and does a lot of custom work. His motto is, "Scrolled to your desire. If you can think it, I can probably cut it." His work is a great fit for the outdoorsman. One of his items is a hat and coat rack with the hooks made from shotgun shells.

So what about sales? Brian's sales are primarily in the four state region, but his creations have also gone as far away as Albuquerque and New Jersey.

In the summer of 2006, the Kuntz

family traveled to Branson to participate in this national scroll saw contest. That included Brian and Trina and their children, Courtney and Kyle. Daughter Courtney, who is only 9, won the junior division and Brian won the adult division.

For more information, contact Brian at 620-876-5845.

It's time to leave Branson, where this remarkable family from rural Kansas claimed first place in both the adult and junior divisions of this national competition. We commend Brian Kuntz for making a difference with his creative skills and for Trina, Courtney and Kyle for being part of this wonderful

OBITUARIES

Eulalia A. "Tootie" Fair

Eulalia A. "Tootie" Fair, 80, Manhattan, KS passed away Wednesday, January 3, 2007 in the Mercy Regional Health Center, Manhattan.

She was born September 15, 1926 at Wabunsee, KS, the daughter of Harry Garland and Anna Black Garland. She grew up in the Zeandale community where she attended the local schools and was a graduate of the St. George, KS High School.

She was united in marriage to James G. Fair on July 26, 1945 at Manhattan. He preceded her in death

on June 21, 1993.

Mrs. Fair was a lifelong resident of the Manhattan area. She was a homemaker and was devoted to helping her husband in the family business, Central Mechanical Construction Company, for many years.

She was a member of the St. Thomas More Catholic Church, the Manhattan Country Club, and K-State's Presidents and Ahearn Clubs. She was an avid golfer being a Past Ladies Champion at the Stagg Hill Golf Club. She loved K-State football, playing cards and traveling.

In addition to her husband, she was

preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, Melvin, Everett and Dale Garland; and two sisters, Clarice Colson and LaVerne Carr.

Survivors include two sons, Dennis G. Fair, and his wife, Deborah, and Mont J. Fair, and his wife, Marsha, all of Manhattan; five grandchildren, Todd Fair, James David Fair, and his wife, MaryAnne, Lindsey Fair, Bridget Fair and Benjamin Fair; and two great grandchildren, Elizabeth and Nicholas Fair.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, January 6, 2007 in the St. Thomas More Catholic

Church, Manhattan with Father Don Zimmerman as celebrant. Burial will follow in the St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery, in the Elbo community, east of Manhattan.

A Parish Vigil service will be at 6:30 p.m., Friday, January 5, 2006 in the Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home, Manhattan followed by a family visitation at 7:00 p.m.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Building Fund of the St. Thomas More Catholic Church and left in care of the funeral home.

Online condolences can be sent to www.irvinparkview.com.

Sunshine In The Forecast For The Columbian Theatre

If the overcast winter weather is beginning to get to you then buy a ticket now for "The Sunshine Boys."

With the help of executive producer, Wamego Telecommunications Company, Neil Simon's award winning hit "The Sunshine Boys" will be showing in February at The Columbian Theatre. "The Sunshine Boys" debuted on Broadway in 1972 winning the Tony award for Best Play and was revived to great success in 1997. It was also made into a movie in 1975, starring George Burns and Walter Matthau, which received multiple award nominations and George Burns won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor.

"The Sunshine Boys" is a show-

case of drama and comedy that come from a long-standing, but broken relationship between two vaudeville performers.

Willy Clark and Al Lewis had a good thing going, but slowly their relationship began to fall apart and ultimately led to the two comedic greats separating when Lewis retired against Clark's wishes. Eleven years later Clark's nephew, a talent agent, offers them an opportunity to reunite for a television special that forces them to face the issues plaguing their relationship. Pitfalls in friendship, work and life come to a head as the audience watches with laughter and anticipation.

Tim Akers, artistic director, has

reunited Rix Shanline and Ed Goff as the two leads to bring "The Sunshine Boys" to life at The Columbian Theatre.

Both gentlemen starred in The Columbian Theatre's 2005 presentation of "Camping with Henry and Tom." Rix Shanline, according to the "Topeka Capital-Journal" is an actor who can "superbly play a curmudgeon," will be appearing as Willy Clark. Ed Goff, who played the comedic Pellinore in "Camelot" and the "Topeka Capital-Journal" reviewed his performance as "an absolute hoot," will be appearing as Al Lewis.

"The Sunshine Boys" will begin its run at The Columbian Theatre in

Wamego on Feb. 9 and continue through Feb. 25. Show times are scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and at 2:00 p.m. on Sundays. A dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. for the evening shows and at 12:30 p.m. for the

Sunday shows. Tickets for the play are \$9 for children and \$18 for adults.

Tickets for dinner and a show are \$19.75 for children and \$35.25 for adults.

Please call The Columbian Theatre ticket office at 800-899-1893 or purchase tickets online and view upcoming events at www.columbiantheatre.com.

Martin Luther King Jr. Observances At Kansas State

Martin Luther King Jr. will once again have a presence at Kansas State University, where he delivered a speech - his last on a college campus -- nearly four decades ago.

K-State will dedicate a bust of King at noon Friday, Jan. 19, outside the southeast corner of Ahearn Field House as the culmination of the university's Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Week, Jan. 14-19. Adding a special poignancy to the event is that the last university speech King gave before his assassination in April 1968 was at the field house. On Jan. 19, 1968, King presented "The Future of Integration" as part of the University Convocation Lecture Series.

The bronze sculpture of King, designed by K-State alumnus Richard Bergen, Salina, will sit atop a black African granite base on a pedestal with the names of various donors.

The day's celebration also will include the honorary naming of 17th Street, which runs by Ahearn Field House, as Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Drive. The site of the bust eventually will be encompassed by the Coretta Scott King Garden of Engagement, to be designed by members of K-State's National Organization of Minority Architecture Students.

Myra Gordon, K-State's associate provost for diversity and dual career development, said the observance week continues to grow each year.

"We will be celebrating a set of historical events with the dedication of 17th Street as Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Drive and the installation of the bust," Gordon said. "It's just really amazing to be part of what's going to occur during this week in Manhattan, Kan."

That K-State was the site of King's last speech on a college campus is a bitter-sweet distinction, Gordon said.

"It is so terribly sad that we have lost this man and the way we lost him," she said. "I remember the day of his assassination as if it were yesterday. But if some university has to be last university, then we have been blessed that it is K-State. We're the university that heard and documented where Dr. King's thinking was within four months of his passing."

The theme for this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Week at K-State is "Marching Toward A Just Society." Activities include:

* Weeklong -- College of Engineering Martin Luther King poster presentation, atrium complex in Rathbone and Fiedler halls.

* Saturday, Jan. 13 -- Martin Luther King community celebration, Manhattan High School East Campus. Includes music, speakers, presentations and a candlelight walk to First United Methodist

Church, 612 Poyntz Ave., 6:30 p.m.

* Monday, Jan. 15 -- Prayer breakfast and buffet, 8 a.m., Clarion Hotel, 530 Richards Drive. Cost is \$9 per person. Clyde Howard, Human Rights Commission and K-State director of affirmative action, will speak.

* Monday, Jan. 15 -- Martin Luther King Jr. Day activities, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Manhattan Town Center. Day includes music, speakers, community service projects and presentations.

* Tuesday, Jan. 16 -- "Diversity: Addressing the Needs of Our People," 12:30-2 p.m., Flint Hills Room, K-State Student Union. Presented by Carl T. Butler, national Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences public relations chair and program manager for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 1890 program. Sponsored by Cargill Inc. and the K-State College of Agriculture diversity programs office.

* Tuesday, Jan. 16 -- Interfaith dialogue, "King, Gandhi, Ikeda -- A Legacy of Building on Peace," noon, K and S ballrooms in the Union. Sponsored by the K-State Committee on Religion, K-State Martin Luther King Jr. Committee, K-State Women's Center, Campaign for Nonviolence, K-State office of student life and Soka Gakkai International-USA.

* Tuesday, Jan. 16 -- Commerce Bank Award presentations and reception, 3:30-5 p.m., Blumont Room, Union.

* Tuesday, Jan. 16 -- "Building Peace," presented by Phyllis Goodson, 7 p.m., K and S ballrooms, Union.

* Jan. 16-18 -- Showing of the film, "King, Gandhi and Ikeda -- A Legacy of Building Peace," noon, 4 and 7 p.m., K and S ballrooms, Union.

* Wednesday, Jan. 17 -- Martin Luther King noontime lounge, noon to 1 p.m., designated locations at K-State colleges. Includes King readings and discussions.

* Wednesday, Jan. 17 -- "Four Little Girls," 7 p.m. at Forum Hall, Union. The Spike Lee film recounts the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala. Sponsored by the Union Programming Council.

* Thursday, Jan. 18 -- Martin Luther King Observance Week luncheon, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Union ballroom. Dr. Debbye Turner, a veterinarian and Miss America 1990, will speak. Cost is \$10 per person; make reservations at 785-532-6276 by Friday, Jan. 12. Sponsored by Black Student Union, Student Government Association diversity programming committee and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

* Thursday, Jan. 18 -- Martin Luther King candlelight vigil, featuring "The Untold Story of Emmet Louis Till," 7:30 p.m., K-State Alumni Center ballroom. The documentary film unravels the brutal

murder of a 14-year-old African-American boy. Director Keith Beauchamp will speak. Sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. and Student Government Association diversity programming committee.

* Friday, Jan. 19 -- "A Street Fit for a King," 10:30 a.m., Long's Park, 17th and Yuma streets. Dedication of 17th Street as Martin Luther King Memorial Drive. Remarks by Bruce Snead, Manhattan mayor.

* Friday, Jan. 19 -- Memorial march form Long's Park to Ahearn Field House, 11 a.m. Progresses from 17th and Colorado streets to the east side of Ahearn. A hot chocolate social sponsored

by leadership studies and programs will follow.

* Friday, Jan. 19 -- Martin Luther King bust dedication and installation ceremony, noon, Ahearn Field House. Remarks by Dan Lykins, Kansas Board of Regents, as well as Gordon and others.

* Friday, Jan. 19 -- "Naming Streets for Martin Luther King Jr.: A new Geography of Memory in America," 3:30 p.m., Forum Hall, Union. Presented by Derek Alderman, professor of geography, East Carolina University. Sponsored by Gamma Theta Upsilon geography honor society and the K-State geography department.

Professor Earns Award

Lorena Passarelli's commitment to mentoring and serving as a role model to minority students at Kansas State University has earned the assistant professor of biology the 2007 Commerce Bank Presidential Faculty and Staff Award for Distinguished Services to Historically Underrepresented Students.

Passarelli will be recognized at an awards reception at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16, in the Blumont Room at the K-State Student Union.

Recipients of the Commerce Bank Presidential Award for Distinguished Services to Historically Underrepresented Students are chosen from a pool of nominees by a 15-member committee of K-State faculty, staff members and student organization presidents. The award comes with a \$2,500 prize.

"I wish to emphasize that the service and impact she makes are not part of her job description or her assigned effort distribution," wrote Brian Spooner, university distinguished professor of biology and director of K-State's Division of Biology, in his nomination letter for Passarelli.

Spooner credits Passarelli for her efforts to make minorities and women part of her research team of postdoctoral, graduate and undergraduate students by emphasizing the importance of structure, responsibility, professionalism and caring to -- and for -- her students.

"As a successful minority woman scientist, she recognizes the importance of positive role models and the key role of faculty mentors in the success of these students," Spooner wrote.

Erica Cain, senior in microbiology, Wamego, has conducted research with Passarelli since her sophomore year. In a nomination letter, Cain emphasized Passarelli's commitment to the students working in her lab.

"Dr. Passarelli's door is always open for questions, whether it is about research, classes, future plans or proofreading help," Cain wrote.

"Dr. Passarelli opened my eyes to the fact that there are so many opportunities available to me if I just look and work hard. The fact that I am even applying to graduate school can be attributed to the mentorship of Dr. Passarelli."

Passarelli's research focuses on manipulating viruses as a way to biologically control insect pests. She has received the Haymaker and Stamey teaching awards and was selected by the Biology Graduate Student Association for its first Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award.

Passarelli also is an undergraduate research mentor for the Terry C. Johnson Center for Basic Cancer Research Undergraduate Research Awards Program, the K-State Developing Scholars Program, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Research Scholars Program, the K-State McNair Scholars Program and the Kansas IDEA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence Undergraduate Research Program. She is a mentor in both the Latino Institute Program and the American Society for Microbiology Undergraduate Research Program.

Passarelli earned her doctorate in genetics in 1993 from the University of Georgia.

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1870

Tuesday, March 29
Call from Denison & S. Whitney. Engaged George Kingsburg at & 10 pr month. Called on Woodman. S.R. Elliott, Taylor &c. & returned to Junction. Still chilly & wet. Check of \$2415. to S. Treas. Geo. Graham/Easton. Snowy morning! A hum-bug!

Wednesday, March 30
Damp & chilly. Wrote letters &

sold lands. L.D. Barrows. Wheat went to Burlington. Rev. Turner—pass down the Road! Wrote R.L. Harford. Sent check of \$250. to State Treas. Samuel Chester. Whitney & W.I. Houghamant arrived.

Thursday, March 31
Land buyers coming in! Getting appraisals along fast as possible. Whitney & Houghamant. Started out on viewing Government Lands!

Friday, April 1, 1870

To work as busy as ever in Land business, with some work personal. Papers &c.

Saturday, April 2
Busy day! Land business! Cloudy, &c.

Sunday, April 3
A.M. Sermon by Rev. Smith, M.E. Church. Balance of day at home reading! &c. Prof. Hougham's child sick! Talk with Br. Denison.

Monday, April 4, 1870
Settled with J. Denison. Had Mr. Parish take up trees. Saw Col. Campbell. Due from him 9 1/2 Bu. Wheat. Ferguson \$75 ? lot. Adams & Elliott Retd. to Junction. Land buyer, &c. Pd Stewart \$1000. Plenty of work

Tuesday, April 5
Attended to correspondence & land Sales! Emigrants Coming in. Eve—Went to Council Grove. Retd at 10 1/2. To bed at 11. P.M. Rev. Turner ret'd, pleased. Sent K.V.N. Bank \$1000.

Wednesday, April 6
Sent Adams & Elliot \$164.08,

State Scrip, Gen. W. Shriver 73.46. Paid O.B. Gunn 77.64. Sent D.M. Adams \$288.33. Col. Goss arrived, visit with him. Col Stevens, O. Gunn, Paid R.S. Stevens \$1000.00. Beautiful morning. S. Co.

Thursday, April 7, 1870
Nice rain last night. Messrs. Mausfield & Co. Went down the Road to Woodson & Greenwood Co. to look land for a Colony. Busy as bees! Talk with Goss—Serious. Up late.

Friday, April 8
Talk with Col. Stevens! & Goss. Sold some land. Col. Stevens & Goss went down the road. Dr. Denison came up. Whitney & Houghamant returned. WHO—stands with me.

Saturday, April 9
J.D. left, also Whitney & Houghamant. Maj. Bond arrived from New York. S.V. Lee. Called at Gemeny's. Henry walked home. Went to Manhattan at 11 P.M. Beautiful spring day.

Sunday, April 10, 1870
Home all day—tired & sleepy!

Read usual religious papers, &c. Called on Prof. Mudge & Prof. Hougham. Eve—a bare wash from head to foot, Shampooing, ears & all.

Monday, April 11
Set out Blk berries & Raspberries. 8 grape to W.E.G. & 80 to to J. Denison, Mr. Boylan &c. &c. Thinning out Vines & Shrubs. Returned to Junction at 5 P.M. Wrote letters &c. From H.M.B—

Tuesday, April 12
The warmest day of the Season, 78°. Capt. Hurd & Col. Barker in with Reports! Paid them \$202.50 & \$120., W.H. Andrews \$108. Appraisal of State lands completed, except 2 sections.

Wednesday, April 13, 1870
Went to Manhattan & home. Dined, ret'd to town. Sold lot & returned to Junction. Read & wrote letters &c. Major Bond. Warm day.

Thursday, April 14
Miscellaneous Land business. Talk with Major Bond, &c. Commenced Report to State Treasurer. Warm in the morning. Cool in the P.m. Sent check to K.V. N. Bank.

Friday, April 15
Sent report to Treasurer, Cash \$3,728.50. Made out Report to Auditor. Major Bond interviews various Departments. Cool day. Judge Devreaux.

Saturday, April 16, 1870
Selling land, &c. Cold day! Dangerous to Peach blossoms! Miscellaneous items & general looking over of papers, &c. Eve—Started for home but cars 3 hours late & returned & went to bed.

Sunday, April 17
Lovely morning. Wrote some. H.M.B. Went to M.E. Church, A.M. P.M., Episcopal. Sermons by Revs. Lloyd & Reynolds. Read papers & wrote Mother. L. Parsons on Higbie.

Monday, April 18
Usual Land business. Stevens, Maj. Bond, & O.B. Gunn left for Missouri. Busy as bees in Law Department. Hobbs from Norway, me.

Tuesday, April 19, 1870
Went to Manhattan, Called on Elliott. Saw Davis &c. Hotel going ahead finely! Also Church. Col. Campbell. Home—went into trimming fruit trees & mulching business. Trees not all kilt. Visit from

Lee, Denison, wives & Mrs. Pomeroy, Elliott, Baker.

Wednesday, April 20
In garden, H Houghan, gen'l ploughing. Met Regents. College Lands, &c. Ellen took me to Depot & I went to Junction. Pleasant weather. Col. Wheat on Excursion to Humboldt. Wrote letters, H.B. Heusen, Gen. J.W. Davidson; Law Circulars.

Thursday, April 21
Fine morning W—ret'd. Wrote to C. Allyn & sent 4 pieces Scrip \$500. each No. 7 963, 964, 965, 966, Dates Mch 8, 1870. Wrote it Heaven &c, &c. Warm.

Friday, April 22, 1870
Looked over list of Lots in Manhattan. Mr. Steven Myrick arrived. Land Sales dull! Had H.S. Denison mark 3 Maps with College Grounds.

Saturday, April 23
Miscellaneous work. Talk with George W. Martin, on land. Home Saturday night.

Sunday, April 24
A.M. Sermon by Elder Gale. Mr. Denison called. A good bath.

Monday, April 25, 1870
Made Several Deeds & worked in garden. Saw Elliott & Taylor. Returned to Junction. Wrote letters &c.

Tuesday, April 26
Went to Americus. Saw Randall. Fine Showers; Lots & Lands discussed. Retd to Junction at 9.25 P.M.

Wednesday, April 27
Miscellaneous work 6 P.M. Went to Burlington, arrived at 11 P.M. Put up at Bramley House. Damp, cool & windy. Tired.. Capt. Hurd & Goss now at Junction.

Thursday, April 28, 1870
Talk with Kent & looking at lots & Water Power. Met Lynde & Stevens & Randolph. Ret'd to Junction & helped along 2 large Emigrants families ! Patent for G.C. Ferguson. Goss & [My—?].

Friday, April 29
Have felt rather languid this day. Wrote to L. Porun. Conversation with Stevens, &c. Read the papers &c. Took a walk Eve—with Henry.

Saturday, April 30
Arranged to go home but business with Col. Stevens prevented.

Manhattan Courthouse Turns 100

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — Nearly 100 years have passed since the Riley County Courthouse was built.

Construction began in 1904, and the final existing cornerstone was set in place in 1906. The building was completed by J.B. Betts of Topeka, along with local builder Clarence Johnson, in 1907. Architects J.C. Holland and Frank C. Squires designed the classic Richardsonian Romanesque style building.

In honor of the courthouse's centennial, a commemorative stamp cancellation was made available at the Manhattan post office. In addition, the Riley County Historical Society and Museum have a commemorative envelope and antique postcard featuring the courthouse. "It is the symbol of Riley County government," Cheryl Collins, of the Riley County Historical Society, said of the courthouse. "It's been the seat of Riley County justice throughout this entire 100-year period. It intersects with everyone's life to a greater or lesser extent."

Collins said the stamp cancellation is available for the next 30 days at

the Manhattan post office, or by mailing in and asking for the courthouse to stamp the mail.

The origins of the courthouse are in some ways linked to the construction of the original city hall, which was built in 1903. It was during the late 19th century when the first jail and many of Riley County's offices were situated along Poyntz Avenue, following the establishment of the county seat in 1857. After city hall was built in the first years of the 20th century, county residents authorized a tax to pay for a new courthouse. The land where the courthouse was built was given to the county by Mrs. Adelia Higinbotham.

The courthouse cost \$42,189 to build, but the courthouse tower clock was not included in that price; that piece of the structure came later after a committee raise funds for the clock. It was eventually purchased from the E. Howard Clock Company of Boston for \$1,169.

Over the years, the clock fell into disrepair and eventually stopped running. In 1980, a group raised money for a clock restoration, according to David Seay, owner of Regulator

Time Co., who maintains the clock.

"There were parts broken and missing," Seay said. Today, David and his son Donovan share the responsibility of winding the massive clock each week to assure it continues to ring on time.

Over time, Seay said, his business expanded, and he now restores other large clocks across the country. Seay's is one of many stories of life-changing events at the century-old building.

According to the Riley County Historical Society, there were so many marriages performed at the courthouse that a judge actually moved into the building in 1918 so that he could be available at all hours. One of the people married there was Hall of Fame baseball pitcher Grover Cleveland Alexander.

In addition to the standard courthouse offices, the building has also housed the Grand Army of the Republic, County Commissioner of the Poor, the Riley County Red Cross and Emergency Relief, the Rural Resettlement Administration, the Farm Security Administration, the Farms Home Administration, the

Welfare Department, the Health Department, the Civil Defense Office, and the State Parole office.

Many of the building's original features remain intact today, although it has undergone maintenance and renovation numerous times over the years. The most recent renovation was in 1985-86 when all county offices except for the court offices were removed from the building. That move reflected growth and development in Riley County, one of several times the county has had to accommodate growth, while keeping the courthouse's historic value.

"The County Commission has looked at and continues to look at office needs," Collins said.

County staffers have said more space is needed at the courthouse, but expansion would be a challenge. There also are maintenance problems that should be addressed, including additional repairs to the tower clock.

"The clock is a priority," Collins said. "We could possibly do a fundraiser to do repairs."

Thousands Remain Without Power After Winter Storm

By CARL MANNING
Associated Press Writer

Western Kansas residents waited for the return of electrical power Wednesday, and many worried about the fate of thousands of head of cattle trying to survive after a winter storm that covered the area in snow and ice.

Cattle is big business in Kansas, especially in the counties socked with last week's storm that dropped up to 3 feet of snow, with 15-foot drifts and left ice 5 or 6 inches thick around limbs and power lines. Kansas ranks No. 2 behind Texas with 6.65 million cattle on ranches and in feedlots.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, who declared a disaster emergency for 44 counties, toured the area Wednesday from the air and on the ground. While going through storm-damaged areas in Colby, Ulysses and Satanta, Sebelius said, "The size of this storm has brought more damage to this area than we've seen in years."

Spokeswoman Nicole Corcoran said the governor planned to ask for federal disaster assistance.

"It could take weeks before things get to normal. The power outages have been significant, and they have had a tremendous impact on residents in western Kansas," said Sharon Watson, Kansas National Guard spokeswoman.

About 60,000 people were without electrical power at the peak of the storm, largely because 9,700 utility poles were toppled by the storm that blew into Kansas on Thursday and intensified Friday. Watson didn't have an estimate Wednesday of how many people remained without power, but it was slowly being restored by utility crews.

The storm also had led to the deaths of cattle, as animals either froze to death or asphyxiated as snow became packed in their nostrils.

Kansas Livestock Association spokeswoman Scarlett Hagins said it was too early to tell what the long-term impact will be.

"We have no idea how widespread it is. We haven't heard a lot of reports of animals being lost," Hagins said. "Most of the reports we're getting are from the southwest part of the state."

Haskell County Commissioner Gene Ochs said dead cattle were piling up in feedlots in his far southwestern Kansas county.

"I don't know what we are going to do,

how we are going to dispose of them," Ochs said.

One Haskell County feedlot owner told The Associated Press on Wednesday he had lost 450 cattle out of the 155,000 he has on feed preparing for slaughter and 20 dairy cattle out of his herd of 7,500.

Still, Roy Brown, co-owner of Cattle Empire near Satanta, said his losses were not as bad as he thought they would be given the severity of the storm, and he noted his insurance would cover his losses, which he estimated at about \$350,000. In a 1997 storm, he said, he lost 2,500 head out of the 130,000 he had on feed.

Since Sunday, some 100 Guard troops have been pressed into service, including some who started hauling hay Wednesday to the fields on flatbed trucks in Wallace County on the Colorado border. Watson said helicopters could be pressed into service and additional counties may be added to the hay distribution list.

The storm affected water service in many areas because lack of power shut down many municipal water plants and well pumps in rural communities. Watson said stores in some counties were running short of bottled water and Guard troops could bring in water if necessary.

"They will be fine once they get their power back on and the pumps start working again," Watson said.

The Guard sent large portable generators to help restore power at water and sewage treatment plants in the communities of Utica, Winona, Gove, Grainfield, Quinter, Collyer, Alma and Park and generators for shelters in Gove and Collyer. Once power is restored, the generators will be taken to other communities.

Utility crews working to restore power were sometimes helped by local residents.

Earl Steffens, general manager of Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative in Dighton, said about 30 farmers used their tractors to help pull the utility's bucket and digger trucks through the mud and snow. The storm toppled more than a thousand of the cooperative's power poles.

All 3,000 of the co-op's customers in seven western Kansas counties lost power for three days. By Wednesday, power had been restored to 300 to 400

customers.

"This is the worst storm we've ever had," Steffens said.

Aquila Inc. was working Wednesday to restore power to 1,600 of the 20,000 customers left without power.

Midwest Energy had slashed its number of customers without power to 1,500, from a high of 6,000.

"We're hoping to cut that in half by the end of the day," said spokesman Bob Helm.

Sunflower Electric Power Corp.,

revised its peak outage numbers upward Wednesday to 36,030 from 22,000.

Spokesman Steve Miller estimated 17,300 customers remained without service Wednesday, but cautioned that the numbers are only estimates and change "by the minute." He said thawing ice falling off overhead lines could increase the number of outages during the day.

"Nobody is going to rest until every soul has gotten electricity in their homes," Miller said.

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Thoughts From The Prairie

The American Tradition

Welcome to 2007! I'm anxious to learn what I can from 2006 then put it in the history books, the unabridged version. For Jenny and me, 2006 was a refining and a defining year. Prior to June 12th, the last date to file for the Kansas House campaign, we were content to enjoy the beautiful Flint Hills from our deck and spend our summers in the cool Northwest with our grandchildren. We had talked about getting involved in the political world with about the same reality as going for a spin in the Voyager spacecraft!

The refining came learning to accept not winning the election. For me, the defining part came from learning more about who I am. I have no claim to notoriety, or brilliance, and I am certainly no icon of virtue, having paid my dues as a prodigal. But, when the smoke cleared, I realized I am a Traditionalist with a passionate love for our Country and believe it is to our advantage to continue on the course set by our founders.

I studied in public school from the unabridged history books and records of the founding fathers. One of those founders of American democracy was Thomas Hooker, 1586-1647, Colonist. He was a



Dick Miller

Puritan minister who came to America because of religious persecution in England. He was the chief founder of the city of Hartford, Connecticut, and was one of the drafters of the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, adopted in 1639 by which Connecticut was governed for many years. This document is considered the first written constitution, and a direct ancestor of the U.S. Constitution. Thomas Hooker died in an epidemic in 1647.

My ancestors were also among those who came to America for the freedom to worship God and who helped to establish the framework of this great nation. In one of the ancestral lines was John Hart, a New Jersey farmer, a Presbyterian, and a true patriot. He was a member of the 2nd Continental Congress and signer of the Declaration of Independence.

George Washington and his army camped on his farm. When Washington moved out in June 1778, some records indicate Hart joined the Army as a private and served during the Battle of Monmouth. He became ill and died shortly thereafter.

These early patriots purchased our freedom at a great price and personal sacrifice. Can I do no less than they that our children and grandchildren have the same freedom to worship God in their own way and to pursue their chosen vocations in a free enterprise system?

America is a good nation even with her imperfections and Americans are a good and generous people. But we are now engaged in two wars, both of which threaten to destroy or radically change our traditional culture. One of these wars involves external forces that have declared their intent to destroy our culture by killing all of us. The other war involves internal forces seeking to radically change our tradition of freedom for private and public worship to a secular society with no vestige of God. The progress of these secular forces is evident in the attempt to diminish the sanctity of life and traditional marriage and the removal of visible signs of our Godly heritage from the public square. A number of books published in 2006 also attempt to diminish the Traditional heritage of America by declaring that America is "secular and endangered by radical religion." Why are the Secularists so determined to alter history and our traditional culture? Could it be that their own religious zeal demands it? Stay tuned, there is more to come!

lunar holiday, you know Knight recently set an all-time NCAA record for most victories surpassing Dean Smith.

Knight has long had close ties to K-State, particularly coach Jack Hartman. And during a visit to Ahearn Fieldhouse during the 1980's it said that he described Wildcats' fans as the best in college basketball. He was also a key resource for K-State in bringing Bob Huggins to Manhattan.

For all those reasons it would be a classy act by K-State fans to recognize Coach Knight with a loud and boisterous ovation when he first takes the floor Monday evening. (Reserve the booing for his first rant at the officials.)

Over Easy

By Robert Strawn
Contributing Writer

Monday night Coach Bob Knight brings his Texas Tech basketball team to open conference play against our K-State Wildcats. The game will



Bob Strawn
bob.strawn@gat.com

be televised nationally on ESPN. Unless you have been away on a

Ann Coulter

The Democratic Party: A Vast Sleeper Cell

Fortunately for liberals, the Iraqis executed Saddam Hussein the exact same week that former President Ford died, so it didn't seem strange that Nancy Pelosi's flag was at half-staff. Also, Saddam's death made it less of a snub when Harry Reid skipped Ford's funeral.

The passing of Gerald Ford should remind Americans that Democrats are always lying in wait, ready to force a humiliating defeat on America.

More troops, fewer troops, different troops, "redeployment" -- all the Democrats' peculiar little talking points are just a way of sounding busy. Who are they kidding? Democrats want to cut and run as fast as possible from Iraq, betraying the Iraqis who supported us and rewarding our enemies -- exactly as they did to the South Vietnamese under Ford.

Liberals spent the Vietnam War rooting for the enemy and clamoring for America's defeat, a tradition they have brought back for the Iraq war.

They insisted on calling the Soviet-backed Vietcong "the National Liberation Front of Vietnam," just as they call Islamic fascists killing Americans in Iraq "insurgents." Ho Chi Minh was hailed as a "Jeffersonian Democrat," just as Michael Moore compares the Islamic fascists in Iraq to the Minute Men.

During the Vietnam War, New York Times scion Arthur "Pinch" Sulzberger told his father that if an American soldier ran into a North Vietnamese soldier, he would prefer for the American to get shot. "It's the other guy's country," he explained.

Now, as publisher of the Times, Pinch does all he can to help the enemy currently shooting at American soldiers.

After a half-dozen years of Democrat presidents creating a looming disaster in Vietnam -- with Kennedy ordering the assassination of our own ally in the middle of the war and Johnson ham-handedly choosing bombing targets from the



Ann Coulter

Oval Office -- in 1969, Nixon became president and the world was safe again.

Nixon began a phased withdrawal of American ground troops, while protecting the South Vietnamese by increasing the bombings of the North, mining North Vietnamese harbors and attacking North Vietnamese military supplies in Cambodia -- all actions hysterically denounced by American liberals, eager for the communists to defeat America.

Despite the massive anti-war protests staged by the Worst Generation, their takeovers of university buildings and their bombings of federal property to protest the bombing of North Vietnamese property, Nixon's Vietnam policy was apparently popular with normal Americans. In 1972, he won re-election against "peace" candidate George McGovern in a 49-state landslide.

In January 1973, the United States signed the Paris Peace accords, which would have ended the war with honor. In order to achieve a ceasefire, Nixon jammed lousy terms down South Vietnam's throat, such as allowing Vietcong troops to remain in the South. But in return, we promised South Vietnam that we would resume bombing missions and provide military aid if the North attacked.

It would have worked, but the Democrats were desperate for America to lose. They invented "Watergate," the corpus delicti of which wouldn't have merited three column-inches during the Clinton years, and hounded Nixon out of office. (How's Sandy Berger weathering that tough wrist-slap?)

Three months after Nixon was gone,

we got the Watergate Congress and with it, the new Democratic Party. In lieu of the old Democratic Party, which lost wars out of incompetence and naivete, the new Democratic Party would lose wars on purpose.

Just one month after the Watergate Congress was elected, North Vietnam attacked the South.

Even milquetoast, pro-abortion, detente-loving Gerald R. Ford knew America had to defend South Vietnam or America's word would be worth nothing. As Ford said, "American unwillingness to provide adequate assistance to allies fighting for their lives could seriously affect our credibility throughout the world as an ally." He pleaded repeatedly with the Democratic Congress simply to authorize aid to South Vietnam -- no troops, just money.

But the Democrats turned their backs on South Vietnam, betrayed an ally and trashed America's word. Within a month of Ford's last appeal to Congress to help South Vietnam, Saigon fell.

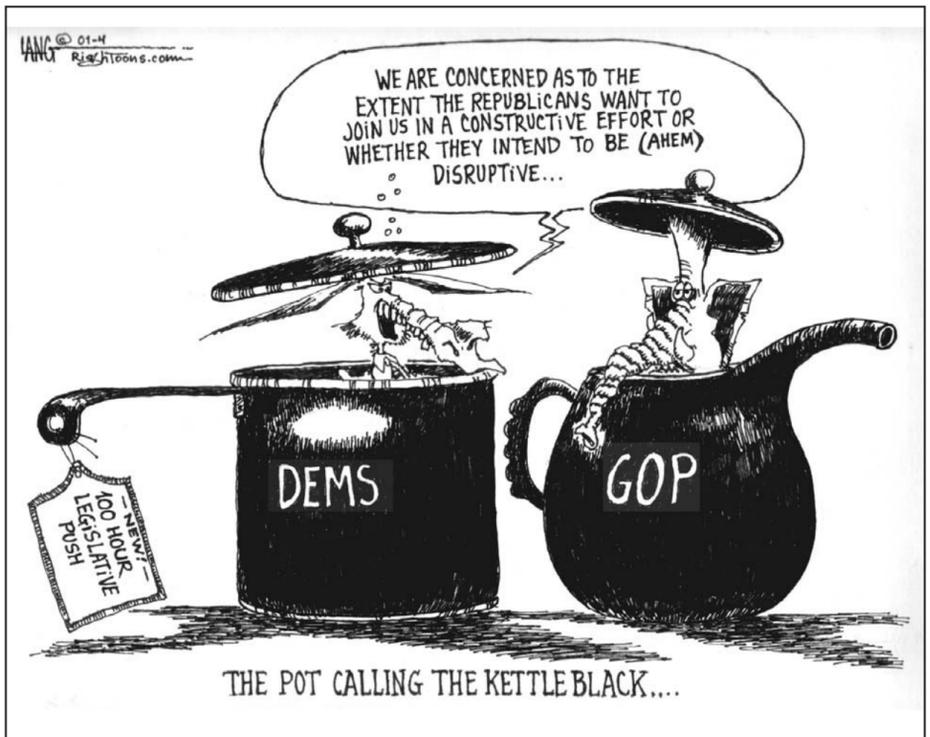
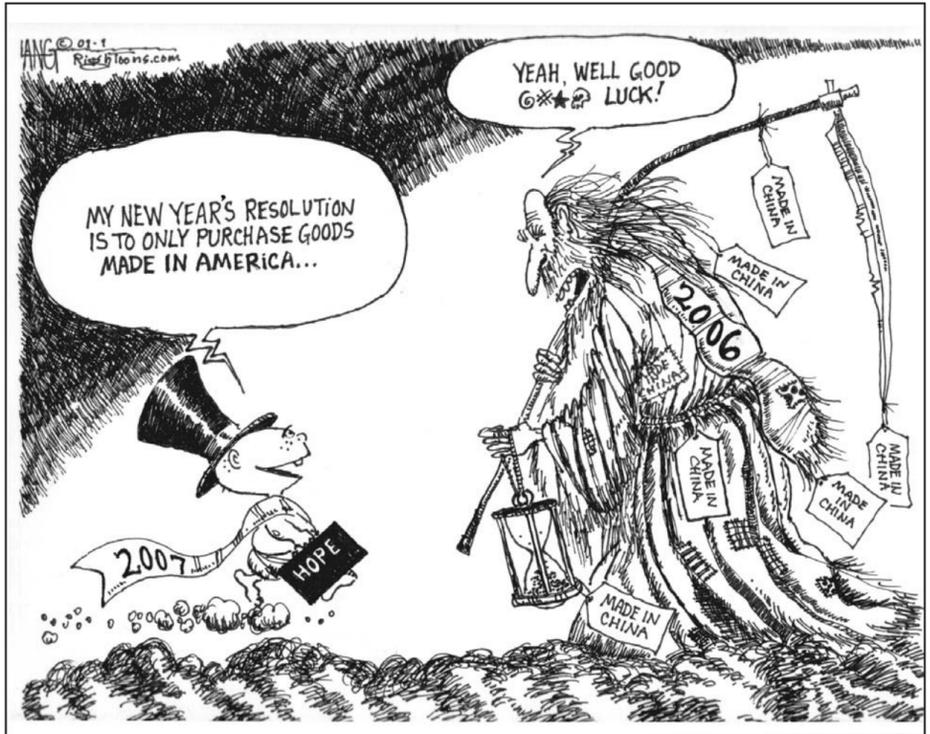
The entire world watched as American personnel desperately scrambled into helicopters from embassy rooftops in Saigon while beating back our own allies, to whom we could offer no means of escape. It was the most demeaning image of America ever witnessed, until Britney Spears came along.

Southeast Asia was promptly consumed in a maelstrom of violence that seems to occur whenever these "Jeffersonian Democrats" come to power. Communist totalitarians swept through Laos, Cambodia and all of Vietnam. They staged gruesome massacres so vast that none other than Sen. George McGovern called for military intervention to stop a "clear case of genocide" in Cambodia.

Five years after that, Islamic lunatics in Iran felt no compunction about storming the embassy of what was once the greatest superpower on Earth and taking American citizens hostage for 14 months. To this day, al-Qaida boosts the flagging morale of its jihadists by reminding them of America's humiliating retreat from Vietnam.

In addition to being wrong about Ford's pardon of Nixon, liberals were wrong about a few other things from that era. Democrats haven't admitted error in rejecting Ford's pleas on behalf of South Vietnam because there are still dangerous foreigners trying to kill Americans. Nixon is safely interred in the ground, but the enemies of America continue to need the Democrats' help.

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"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

- Thomas Jefferson, 1787



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KSU To Retire Jerseys Of Blackman, Knostman

Kansas State Director of Athletics Tim Weiser announced Wednesday that the Wildcats will retire the jerseys of basketball greats Rolando Blackman and Dick Knostman in a halftime ceremony during the Colorado game on Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007.

"We are excited to announce the selection of Rolando Blackman and Dick Knostman for jersey retirement at Kansas State," said Weiser. "These two individuals have played a tremendous role in the development of our men's program. They represent much more than just victories and NCAA Tournament appearance for Kansas State. They have each enjoyed very successful careers beyond the basketball court and have for many years served as great ambassadors for this university."

In addition to the retirement ceremonies at the Colorado game, scheduled for 5 p.m. at Bramlage Coliseum, the two men will be honored at a public luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 10, at the K-State Alumni Center. Tickets to the luncheon can be purchased for \$15 by calling the K-State Athletic Ticket Office at 785.532.7606.

The duo becomes the third class of jersey retirements at Kansas State following those of Bob Boozer, Ernie Barrett and Jack Parr in February 2005 and Mike Evans, Lon Kruger and Chuckie Williams in February 2006. The criteria for determining the honor includes statistical achievement, conference and national records, honors received (i.e.,



Rolando Blackman (left) and Dick Knostman will be honored by Kansas State.

all-conference, All-America, Academic All-America, etc.), character and sportsmanship.

Blackman was a member of K-State's All-Century Basketball Team announced on March 1, 2003, while Blackman (1995) and Knostman (2003) are both members of the K-State Sports Hall of Fame.

One of just two players to earn first team All-America honors in consecutive seasons, Blackman was a four-year letterman for head coach Jack Hartman from 1977-81. He guided the Wildcats to an 80-41 (.661) record, including two postseason appearances and the 1980 Big Eight tournament championship.

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Blackman is one of just three players (joining fellow retirees Mike Evans

and Lon Kruger) in Kansas State history to be named Big Eight Conference Player of the Year (1980). He is also just one of three players to earn first team all-conference honors three times (joining Bob Boozer and Mike Evans) in the program's history. In addition, Blackman was named the Big Eight Conference Defensive Player of the Year on three occasions (1978, 1979, 1980).

The school's second all-time leading scorer with 1,844 points, Blackman was the last Wildcat to be selected as a first team All-American when he was named to the Helms Foundation, The Sporting News, Converse Yearbook and John R. Wooden Award All-American squads as a senior in 1981. He was also cho-

sen as a first team All-American by the Helms Foundation and The Sporting News as a junior.

Blackman still ranks among the top 10 in 13 season and/or career statistical categories in school history, including tops in career double-digit scoring (100) and second in career field goals made (755) and career points (1,844). He also ranks in the career top 5 in assists (314; 3rd), games started (116, 3rd), games played (121; 4th) and free throws attempted (466; 5th). For his career, Blackman averaged 15.2 points on 51.7 percent shooting with 5.0 rebounds and 2.6 assists in 121 games.

One of five Wildcats to be selected in the first round of the NBA draft, Blackman was originally drafted by

the Dallas Mavericks with the ninth overall selection in 1981. He went on to play 13 seasons in the NBA - 11 with the Mavericks and two with the New York Knicks. The four-time NBA All-Star played with Dallas from 1981-92 and is still the team's all-time leading scorer with 16,643 points. Blackman still appears in the top 10 in 18 different statistical categories in Mavericks' history, including records in field goals (6,487) and field goal attempts (13,061), free throws made and attempted (3,501-4,166) and starts (781). He also owns a multitude of franchise regular season, playoff and rookie records, including consecutive games without fouling out (865). Blackman had his number 22 retired on March 11, 2000.

Blackman is currently in his ninth season overall with the Mavericks' organization, including his first as the team's director of basketball development. He spent the 2005-06 season as an assistant coach to reigning NBA Coach of the Year Avery Johnson and helped the Mavericks to its first NBA Finals appearance, where they lost in six games to the Miami Heat. The squad tied for the best record in franchise history with a 60-22 overall mark. Prior to his stint as an assistant coach, Blackman spent five seasons as the player development coach and two seasons as the program's director. He also served as an assistant coach for the German National team, where he helped lead them to a bronze medal at the 2002 World Basketball Championships in Indianapolis.

Twice selected an All-American, Dick Knostman was a three-year letterman for head coach Jack Gardner from 1950-53. He helped guide the Wildcats to a 61-13 (.824) record, including three consecutive final top-10 finishes and a runner-up finish at the 1951 NCAA Final Four.

The 6-foot-6 native of nearby Wamego, Kan., Knostman is one of just 12 players in Kansas State history to be named a first team All-American. He earned this recognition from the Helms Foundation, Look magazine and the Newspaper Enterprises Association as a senior in 1953 after averaging 22.7 points in helping the Wildcats to a 17-4 overall record and a final ranking of No. 9 in the UPI and No. 12 in the AP polls. Knostman was also recognized

as a second team All-American by The Associated Press, United Press International, Colliers and International News Service.

Knostman first earned All-America accolades as a junior when he led Kansas State to a 19-5 overall record and a final ranking of No. 3 in the AP and No. 6 in the UPI polls. He averaged 16.3 points in 24 games en route to collecting second team All-American honors from the Converse Yearbook and third team accolades from The Associated Press. He was also twice selected first team All-Big Seven.

Knostman averaged 7.5 points in 29 games as a sophomore in 1950-51 in helping Kansas State advance to their first and only NCAA Championship game, where the Wildcats lost to Kentucky.

Despite having played over 50 years ago, Knostman still ranks among the top 5 in 17 single-game, season and/or career statistical categories in school history, including tops in most free throws attempted in a game (26 vs. Oklahoma on Feb. 14, 1953). He also ranks in the top 5 in several career categories, including second in free throws attempted (541), third in free throws made (349) and fifth in rebounding (774) and rebounding average (10.5 rpg.). Knostman also places second in single-season scoring average (22.7 ppg.; 1953) and third in rebounding average (13.3 rpg.; 1952). He is one of just 19 players in school history to top 1,000 points, while he ranks 13th on the all-time scoring list with 1,083 points and 14th in career scoring average (14.6 ppg.). Knostman remains one of the few Wildcats to average a double-double for his career with 14.6 points and 10.5 rebounds in 74 games.

Knostman became the second Kansas State player ever drafted in 1953 when he was selected by the Syracuse Nationals with their second pick. He averaged 2.6 points and 3.4 rebounds in his lone season with the Nationals in 1953-54.

Joining the numbers of Boozer (30), Barrett (22), Evans (12), Kruger (12), Parr (33) and Williams (10) to hang from the rafters in Bramlage Coliseum are Blackman's No. 25 and Knostman's No. 33. Of note, each of these numbers will remain active for future student-athletes to wear.

Wildcats Drop Dual With Musketeers

CINCINNATI, Ohio - Kansas State was unable to make Bob Huggins' return to Cincinnati a victorious one as the Wildcats dropped a 76-66 decision to Xavier at US Bank Arena Wednesday night.

David Hoskins scored 17 points before fouling out with 4:44 to play and Lance Harris added nine points to lead Kansas State (10-4), which had its six-game winning streak snapped.

The Wildcats also got eight points

each from Cartier Martin, Bill Walker and Blake Young, but a 12-for-22 effort at the free throw line and 19 turnovers proved to be too much to overcome.

Stanley Burrell led all scorers with 23 points, including hitting 10-of-10 at the charity stripe, and Justin Doellman chipped in with 15 points for Xavier (10-4), which scored all of its final 32 points either in the paint or at the free-throw line.

Kansas State got out to a hot start

in the first half and led 22-18 with just over eight minutes to go after back-to-back layups by Walker.

The Wildcats, however, missed their next four shots from the field and turned the ball over five times over then next five minutes as Xavier used a 14-0 run to build a 32-22 lead.

K-State settled down late in the period and had a chance to slice the Musketeers' lead to five just before the break. But Martin was unable to convert two free throws following a Xavier technical foul and Walker missed a pair of charity tosses just 25 second before intermission, sending the Wildcats to the locker room down 39-30.

A layup by Hoskins to open the second-half scoring sliced Xavier's

lead to seven, but the Musketeers responded with an 11-3 run to take a 52-35 lead with 14:35 remaining.

A 9-2 spurt pulled Kansas State within 10 at 68-58 with 5:39 to go, however the Wildcats were only able to manage a lone layup by Walker over the next four minutes as Xavier pushed its lead back to 16 points before K-State score the final six points of the game to provide the final outcome.

Kansas State opens Big 12 Conference play on Saturday, Jan. 6, at No. 11 Texas A&M. Tip time is scheduled for 7 p.m. (CST) from Reed Arena in College Station with the game being televised by ESPN+Plus.



David Hoskins had 17 points.

Jayhawks Women Rally Against Iowa State Falls Short

AMES, Iowa - The University of Kansas (5-8, 0-1 Big 12) rallied from an eight-point halftime deficit only to drop its Big 12 Conference opening game to Iowa State (13-1, 1-0 Big 12), 61-50, Wednesday night at Hilton Coliseum in Ames, Iowa.

In the first half, both teams traded scoreless droughts of over five minutes. Kansas held the Cyclones without a point for 5:30 to close the score to a 9-8 ISU lead with 11 minutes remaining. The Jayhawks then went cold and didn't score a bucket until Sharita Smith's jumper with 5:51 remaining but cut the Cyclones

lead to 17-10. Iowa State would eventually take a 22-14 advantage into halftime. The Jayhawks took their first lead of the game on a Kelly Kohn lay-up with 9:08 remaining in the contest. Kohn's bucket capped a 26-16 Kansas run to start the second half.

Kohn finished with a team-high 12 points while senior Shaquana Mosley tallied 10. Senior Sharita Smith added a season-best seven points and 27 minutes. Junior Taylor McIntosh grabbed 12 rebounds, including five on the offensive glass.

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Kansas State Falls To No. 8 Oklahoma

NORMAN, Okla. - Marlies Gipson scored 14 points and Ashley Sweat added 11, but a tough shooting night doomed the Wildcats as Kansas State suffered a 78-58 loss at No. 8 Oklahoma Wednesday.

Kimberly Dietz chipped in with nine points and Kansas State (12-2, 0-1 Big 12) got six points from Claire Coggins, but the duo combined to shoot just 5-for-28 from the field, as the Wildcats connected on just 28.6 percent of their attempts from the floor.

But when the Wildcats were hitting, they were doing so from 3-point range. K-State canned 12-of-24 from beyond the arc, including three each by Sweat and Dietz, to keep things close before having their nine-game winning streak snapped.

In the end Oklahoma's twin sisters Courtney and Ashley Paris proved to be too much as the duo combined for 30 points and 36 rebounds to pace the Sooners (11-1, 1-0 Big 12).

Still, K-State's defense did not make things easy for Oklahoma's All-American center Courtney Paris, who struggled from the floor. She made only 9-of-21 shots, but still

wound up with 18 points and 19 rebounds for her 40th straight double-double.

Ashley Paris had 12 points and 17 rebounds for her first double-double of the season, and Chelsi Welch added 12 points as the Sooners won their 20th conference game in a row.

Kansas State trimmed Oklahoma's 16-point halftime lead to 46-36 on the second 3-pointer by Kimberly Dietz in an 8-2 Wildcats run early in the second half. But Oklahoma answered with five straight points, and then pushed the lead to 65-45 with a 12-3 run that included eight points from the Paris twins.

The two combined to out rebound Kansas State 36-35, and Oklahoma had a 22-rebound edge overall.

Kansas State sustained an early 10-0 Sooners run by hitting five of their first 11 shots from 3-point range. But after Sweat connected on back-to-back 3-pointers, Courtney Paris converted on an offensive rebound to start a 12-0 burst for Oklahoma.

By the time Welch sank a 3-pointer to finish the run, the Sooners were up 33-18 and the game was never in doubt after that.



Ashley Sweat picked up 11 points.

Wildcats Host KSU Invitational This Weekend

Kansas State track and field will be full steam ahead this weekend, as the Wildcats begin 17 consecutive weeks of competition with the KSU Invitational on Jan. 5-6 in Ahearn Field House. This will be the final home meet for the Wildcats until the KSU Open on Feb. 15.

Last Time Out K-State secured two automatic qualifying marks and eight event titles during the KSU All-Comers meet on Dec. 9. Senior Kaylene Wagner and sophomore Scott Sellers captured high jump titles with NCAA automatic performances, while sophomore Loren Groves won the women's weight throw with an NCAA provisional mark and a new career-best of 64-02.50.

Other event winners from Saturday were: senior Candice Mills in the long jump, senior Monique Coleman in the 60-meter dash, sophomore Lauren Fisher in the 400-meter dash, junior Morgan Bonds in

the 1,000-meter run and senior Joe Moore in the 3,000-meter run. Coleman and Moore set KSU All-Comers meet records with times of 7.53 and 8:38.61, respectively. Fisher won her first event as a Wildcat, after transferring in from Southern University.

During the Carol Robinson Winter Pentathlon on Dec. 8, junior Marianne Schlachter won the women's pentathlon with 3,482 points. On the men's side, sophomore Adam Fretwell finished third with 3,746 points.

Wagner Wows'em in Debut After an entire season on the sidelines, senior Kaylene Wagner made an immediate impact in her first meet as a Wildcat. The product of Goleta, Calif., and a transfer from Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo won the women's high jump during the KSU All-Comers meet on Dec. 9 with an NCAA Indoor Championship automatic qualifying height of 6-00.50.

To put this height in perspective, K-State had not seen a female surpass six feet in the event since Morgan High cleared 6-00.75 during the KSU-KU-MU Triangular on Jan. 24, 2004.

Scott Sellers quickly eliminated any doubt of a return trip to the NCAA Indoor Championships with an automatic qualifying height of 7-04.25 during the KSU All-Comers meet on Dec. 9. The effort tied his career-best from the 2006 Big 12 Indoor Championships.

Sellers earned All-American honors in his first NCAA Indoor Championships, finishing ninth in the high jump with a clearance of 7-02.50. The Katy, Texas native was the first male freshman to earn All-American honors in the Rovelto era and the first since Kenny Harrison in 1985.

Groves in the Groove Sophomore Loren Groves is ahead of schedule from a season ago. The

Scott, City, Mo., native carded an NCAA Indoor Championship provisional distance and new personal-best in the weight throw with a mark of 64-02.50. She has surpassed 60 feet in eight of her nine career weight throw performances.

In 2006, Groves notched her first provisional mark and previous career-best of 63-11.50 on Jan. 28 during the Wildcat Invitational.

Give it to Me Straight, Schlachter Junior Marianne Schlachter picked up where she left off in 2006, by winning the Carol Robinson Winter Pentathlon on Dec. 8. The product of Albruck, Germany notched a career-high point total of 3,482, as she tallied discipline wins in the high jump (5-06.00), long jump (18-00.50) and the 800-meter run (2:30.96).

Her previous career-high in the event was 3,403 points during the 2005 edition of the Carol Robinson.

Sports Potpourri

By Mac Stevenson

Against seemingly impossible odds, the Kansas City Chiefs made the NFL playoffs.

Denver lost at home to San Francisco in OT—in the most dramatic manner possible for Chiefs fans—to cinch the berth for KC.

KC plays at Indianapolis this Saturday. This is an intriguing matchup for KC; the Colts' defense has been highly vulnerable against the run and this plays right into KC's hands.

Coach Herman Edwards is going to run KC's great tailback back, Larry Johnson, until the Colts prove they can stop him. If the Chiefs can move it on the ground, it will keep Colts QB Peyton Manning and his high-octane offense on the bench.

No one expects the Chiefs to win, but no one expected them to be there either.

The gloss is off Kansas State's 2006 football team. K-State's huge win over defending national champion Texas was eclipsed by the last two games, a 39-20 defeat at Kansas and the 37-10 shellacking at the hands of Rutgers.

First year coach Ron Prince lost more than the last two games; he lost the supposed in-state recruiting edge he'd gained over KU.

Freshman QB Josh Freeman had some great moments, but he finished the season with two horrendous games. Whether or not Freeman will be an outstanding college QB remains to be seen.

In fairness to Freeman, he didn't get much help from his offensive line against Rutgers. Freeman spent most of the night trying to escape the Scarlet Knights' pass rush.

K-State's biggest weakness was exposed by Rutgers: The Wildcats are mediocre on the offensive and defensive lines. Prince said it best after the game, "They dominated the game between the lines, they dominated the game on the sidelines, and in every way."

Prince returns 16 starters for the 2007 season. But the performance of those players during K-State's last two games created more questions than it answered.

The honeymoon is over for K-State's rookie coach and it's clear that the Wildcats have a long, long way to go before they are in a class with Bill Snyder's best teams.

Kansas State has a rugged Big 12 basketball opener (Sat., Jan. 6) against Texas A&M in College Station. The Aggies, under Coach Billy Gillispie, have become a force in Big 12 play.

The Wildcats face Coach Bob Knight's Texas Tech team the following Monday (Jan. 8) in Manhattan. The game against the Red Raiders will be nationally televised on ESPN; that's another benefit of having Bob Huggins as head coach.

If K-State can win one of these two games, it will be an excellent start in the Big 12 race.

Kansas State showed steady improvement in the first month and



Mac Stevenson

a half of the season; the first two conference games will tell whether or not the Cats are continuing to get better. Freshman phenom Bill Walker (6-6, 220) has had two weeks to practice and become better acquainted with Huggins' offense and defense. And freshman center Jason Bennett (7-3, 270) has to step forward and give K-State quality minutes in the pivot.

When the students return to K-State, it will be fun to see the wild support the Wildcats receive in Bramlage Coliseum. It should rival the building-shaking days in Ahearn during the 1950s and 60s.

KU's basketball team plays their next two games on national television: Kansas faces South Carolina on the road this Sunday (Jan. 7) at 3:30 p.m. on CBS and then on Jan. 10 the Jayhawks begin conference play on ESPN2 against Oklahoma State in Allen Fieldhouse.

Kansas isn't quite there. The outside shooting has been streaky and freshman center Darrell Arthur (6-9, 230) has hit a bump in the road.

But Julian Wright, Brandon Rush, and Mario Chalmers have been coming strong and center Sasha Kaun's injuries are healed. Russell Robinson is starting to shoot better and his defense and ball handling have been excellent. And freshman point guard Sherron Collins (5-11, 210) is starting to make big plays.

Last year, KU defeated O-State (64-49) in Stillwater; that was one of KU's best games of the season. Both teams are playing about the same personnel as last season, but Kansas rates an edge with their talented freshmen, Arthur and Collins.

Seven of O-State's eight top scorers return; however, the ball handling of guards James On Curry (6-3, 190) and Byron Eaton (5-11, 215) has been a problem. KU's perimeter pressure by the guards will be difficult for the Cowboys to handle.

Following the Rhode Island game, Coach Self summed up the Jayhawks to date: "I love our talent, but I just wish we had the mindset to jump all over people." When Kansas decides to do that, they are going to be tough to beat.

K-State Women's Basketball 13-3

Nov 05 Emporia State (Exhibition)	59 - 64 (L)
Nov 10 Wisconsin-Green Bay	72-67 (W)
Nov 13 Creighton	94 - 79 (W)
Nov 17 Wyoming	68 - 62 (W) OT
UNLV Lady Rebel Shootout	
Nov 24 vs. Wisconsin	53 - 56 (L)
Nov 25 vs. Elon	75 - 34 (W)
Commerce Bank Wildcat Classic	
Dec 01 Idaho vs. Alcorn State	81 - 62 (W)
Dec 01 Mississippi Valley	77 - 18 (W)
Dec 02 Alcorn State	81 - 41 (W)
Dec 05 Louisiana Tech	64 - 61 (W)
Dec 09 UMKC	64 - 56 (W)
Dec 15 Santa Clara	76 - 52 (W)
Dec 17 Weber State	59 - 54 (W)
FIU Sun & Fun Classic	
Dec 29 vs. Rice	83 - 54 (W)
Dec 30 at FIU	59 - 52 (W)
Jan 03 Oklahoma	58 - 78 (L)

K-State Men's Basketball 10-4

Nov 04 Washburn (Exhibition)	94 - 90 (W) 3OT
Nov 11 William & Mary	70 - 60 (W)
Nov 15 Rutgers	55 - 41 (W)
Nov 18 Tennessee Tech	101 - 79 (W)
Nov 21 New Mexico	54 - 78 (L)
Nov 25 Coppin State	68 - 57 (W)
Nov 29 California	48 - 78 (L)
Dec 02 Colorado State	83 - 84 (L)
Dec 05 Cleveland State	93 - 60 (W)
Dec 09 North Dakota State	83 - 81 (W)
Findley Toyota Las Vegas Holiday Classic	
Dec 17 Kennesaw (Ga.) State	82 - 54 (W)
Dec 19 Maryland-Eastern Shore	79 - 58 (W)
Dec 22 USC at Las Vegas, Nev.	68 - 55 (W)
Dec 23 New Mexico at Las Vegas	72 - 56 (W)
Jan 03 Xavier at Cincinnati	66 - 76 (L)

Big 12 Men's Basketball

	Big 12	All Games
Oklahoma State	0-0	14-1
Kansas	0-0	12-2
Texas A&M	0-0	12-2
Missouri	0-0	11-2
Baylor	0-0	10-3
Nebraska	0-0	10-3
Texas	0-0	10-3
Texas Tech	0-0	11-4
Kansas State	0-0	10-4
Oklahoma	0-0	8-4
Iowa State	0-0	9-5
Colorado	0-0	4-6

Big 12 Women's Basketball

	Big 12	All Games
Baylor	1-0	14-1
Iowa State	1-0	13-1
Oklahoma	1-0	11-1
Nebraska	1-0	13-2
Colorado	1-0	7-6
Oklahoma State	0-0	12-1
Texas A&M	0-0	10-2
Kansas State	0-1	12-2
Missouri	0-1	12-2
Texas	0-1	10-4
Texas Tech	0-1	9-6
Kansas	0-1	5-8

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Bob Huggins talks to the New Year Eve crowd in Hugginsville. (© 2006 Jason Borden)



General Ham talks to the crowd. (© 2006 Jason Borden)

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Who Should Go To College?

University Mulls Admissions Changes

By JOHN MILBURN
Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — When Kansas toughened its higher education admissions requirements six years ago, some worried the changes would curb access to college by forcing out otherwise talented students because they didn't make the grade.

Six years later, higher education officials say the new standards at the six state universities are working, but that the time is right to consider some changes to ensure that not only the book-smart are getting into college.

"A kid who has pretty good test scores and a good grade point average but can't tie his shoes isn't going to make it at KU," said University of Kansas Provost Richard Lariviere, who adds that officials there are developing a proposal to add writing and other measures to assess a student's readiness. Another proposal would allow the university to gauge a student's emotional readiness for college.

In 2001, Kansas began requiring students under age 21 to meet one of three standards to gain college admission: a score of 21 or better on the ACT college exam, rank in the top third of their graduating class or have a 2.0 grade-point average on a pre-college curriculum.

Kansas was the last state in the nation to adopt such standards after years of opposition from legislators and others concerned about restricting access to higher education.

The standards forced high schools to refine their curricula, offering more pre-college courses, such as advanced math, English, chemistry and physics. Students also must take a course in computer technology.

Colleges saved some resources by dropping remedial math and English courses, reasoning that those who lack adequate grades could polish those skills at community colleges, then apply after their freshman year or after they complete a two-year associate's degree.

Not all students enter high school knowing they are heading to college.

Lucas Maddy, a Kansas State University senior from Norton, didn't decide on college until his junior year. But after checking with counselors, he discovered he already had taken most of the pre-college courses required, though Maddy would have been admitted because of his class rank and ACT score.

"The benefit for Kansas is the universities know what kind of student they are getting from the Kansas population," Maddy said. "They are comparing apples to apples."

In the past five years, the regents have allowed universities to discontinue remedial math and English courses, saving resources. Those who lack adequate math or English grades still can go to a community college to develop those skills, then apply after their freshman year or after they complete a two-year associate's degree program at a community college.

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Rutgers Runs For Bowl Victory

HOUSTON, Texas - Kansas State hung with No. 16 Rutgers for 30 minutes, but the Scarlet Knights scored 20 unanswered points in the second half to hand the Wildcats a 37-10 loss in the inaugural Texas Bowl before 52,210 fans at Reliant Stadium.

Rutgers, which just missed out on a BCS Bowl berth, was as good as advertised and kept K-State off balance all night long.

Ray Rice, the Texas Bowl MVP, rushed for 170 yards and a touchdown and Tim Brown caught two TD passes, for the Scarlet Knights (11-2), who claimed their first bowl victory in 137 seasons of intercollegiate football.

Brown's two TD catches came in the opening period and staked Rutgers to a quick 14-0 lead.

Kansas State (7-6) answered with a 44-yard field goal by Jeff Snodgrass — his 17th of the season — and a 76-yard punt return for a touchdown by Yamon Figurs that was the longest in K-State bowl history to close the gap to 14-10 midway through the second quarter.

But Jeremy Ito connected on a 37-

yard field goal to close the half and linebacker Quintero Frierson returned an interception 27 yards for a touchdown on the first play from scrimmage of the second half to put Rutgers comfortably ahead 24-10.

Rice sprinted 46-yards for his lone touchdown of the game on the Scarlet Knights' next possession before Ito closed out the scoring with a pair of fourth-quarter field goals to provide the final margin.

The Scarlet Knights' seventh-ranked defense proved to be too much and held Kansas State at bay all game long. The Wildcats mustered just 162 yards of total offense for its second fewest yards in a bowl game.

Freshman quarterback Josh Freeman finished the game 10-for-21 passing for 124 yards with two interceptions and also lost a fumble.

Junior wide receiver Jordy Nelson led the Wildcat receivers, hauling in four receptions for 81 yards.

On defense, senior linebacker Brandon Archer led all players with nine total tackles to finish his career with 268 stops for the 17th-most in school history.



Kansas State Quarterback Josh Freeman (1) drops back to pass.

Post Game Comments

Kansas State Head Coach Ron Prince

Opening statement...

"First of all, I want to tip my hat and give congratulations and credit to coach Schiano and his team. We knew exactly the caliber of this team. We knew the kind of talent, not only with the players, but with the coaches that they have. It's a team that just got their 11th win. They were the story of college football for most of the year. I think that the building effort on the Rutgers campus is significant. I think you can see very clearly that they were a difficult team for us to handle. I'm very pleased with our seniors and very pleased with our team to make it to the postseason. This is obviously not the way we wanted to conclude the season, particularly for these seniors. I thought that as far as the play on the field, they dominated the game between the lines; they dominated the game on the sidelines in every way. We knew we were going to have to do some things in the kicking game to try to create some field position and get some scores, that's the way we've had to do things all year.

"Our defense, we knew it was going to have to try to create some turnovers. We were unable to do that. We knew that (RB) Ray Rice was formidable. We tried to limit as much of his ability to run the football and have (QB Mike) Teel make an effort to win the game with his arm, he was able to do that and they were able to run the football. Our defensive effort did not really measure up to what we were hoping for in addition to not having turnovers."

"Offensively, it's been a work in progress all year. Really, the players have continued to battle and try to put things together, but today you could see that we faced too much on defense. We made too many unforced errors and most of those errors were contributed by pressure that Rutgers can give you on defense. They do a terrific job. Coach Schiano with his hand in the defense, you can see that they are spectacular.

"We were very poor. I am responsible for that effort and that is obviously not something I am happy about. But overall I thought that Rutgers was the better team tonight. It was a good growth experience for us this year, but not obviously the way we wanted the season to end, particularly for these seniors who have meant so much to us."

On the first play of the second half...

"What happened was, there was a very critical third down before the

Cont. B2



Coach Ron Prince and the Wildcats take the field.

**Photos By
Shari Brown and
Jon Brake**

The Free Press is the only newspaper in Kansas with photographers at all K-State home and away games.



K-State fans look forward the the game.



Joah Freeman looks down field.



Ian Campbell goes for a hit.

Comments Continued from B1

Kansas State Head Coach Ron Prince Continued from B1

On the first play of the second half...

“What happened was, there was a very critical third down before the end of the half. We were going to get the ball to start the second half. I’m sure their coach was aware of that. He had the ball down there. If he could score it there, he would take it to a two-point score and instead we were able to make a nice play. Really, that defensive play right there was a critical play for us. To have it 17-10, to go into the half with the opportunity to come out and tie the game at the start of the second half and obviously the worst thing that could happen would be a turnover for a touchdown and that’s what occurred. It’s one of those things where it’s an execution thing. There are a couple factors involved there and ultimately it didn’t work. It was miserable in the fact that it turned into a turnover that was a touchdown and that was a big play in the second half. Usually when we’ve had those kinds of plays, we’ve responded with something in the kicking game or defensively with some kind of turnover of our own, and we never got that tonight. Credit Rutgers completely for that. As much as we ran into quite a juggernaut tonight, you could see why they were a team that I felt legitimately had a chance to compete for a national title. You can see why. But to turn the ball over in that fashion really didn’t do anything to help us. We could have maintained our position in the game if we would have just been able to punt in that situation and play field position like we had in the first half. It didn’t work out that way and therefore we were behind and we were digging...”

On the play of QB Josh Freeman... “I think what happens in some of these games is you start to, when people have time to prepare for you and you’re a young player and you’re a young coach and they have time to prepare for you and you are trying to improve on things and build on what you’re doing, then people have time to take the depth of their experience and adjust and try to take certain things away. Obviously the pressure on the quarterback was a factor tonight. I think that quarterback played in a big stage tonight with a big name opponent, we’ve done that before, its our fifth ranked team, its not as though we haven’t played against a good defense before, but this defense had a real good plan, a nice plan to figure out how they were going to pressure this particular quarterback. My hat is off to them. (QB) Josh (Freeman) has a bright future and he’s done a lot of beautiful things for us, wonderful things this year. The thing that I keep stressing to him is that as a true freshman to be able to get your team into the postseason and to go play a team that legitimately had a chance for the national championship twice this year, you have to learn from those things and keep stacking those things away in your memory bank. He’s going to have his day. We’re going to make sure that we put the kind of team around Josh and build the kind of team that can play in these kinds of games and do well. I’m not trying to look too much forward, I want to really take the time to thank those seniors that made this season what it was. It’s obviously hard as a competitor to lose and lose

in this fashion, but we’ll start on the 2007 team here very shortly. But for the 2006 team this is not the way we wanted to end it. But as far as the body of work that got us to this point, I’m very proud of that.”

On the play of Rutgers’ offensive line and RB Ray Rice... “I think I tried to do a good job of trying to explain before the game how I felt about those guys. Three of those players I recruited myself when I was at Virginia and I know what there talent is all about. If you have to take a look at Michigan and Rutgers, you have to say they have the two best offensive lines in football. They are dominant, they are big. They are terrific in pass protection and they can run well. They run in open lanes and they have power so that their runner can run. Most of the time their runner was unimpeded as he approached the line of scrimmage full speed, and so any time you can have that kind of thing, where there are no zero or negative plays in the running game, you have to attribute that to the coaching of their staff. Kyle Flood is a terrific offensively line coach; Joe Susan, their tight ends coach, they do a magnificent job. They have a very good coordinating staff and I think they have built their team in a way they can run the ball and stop the run. You can see tonight that (QB Mike) Teel can pass it and they can defend the pass. I think they have the complete package and they’re terrific on special teams.”

On playing tough teams again... “One of the things we talked about tonight is I want them to have a real appreciation for exactly how hard and how fragile and how precious it is to win, and I think they do. And how the body of work in the offseason and everything that goes into it. This was a season in which getting to the postseason was a new experience for our players. We had our players stand up, in our very first meeting, we had our players stand up who had actually played in a bowl game before and I think we had four or five players stand up. This is a team that had never been in this situation before. I tried to prepare them for this. We hoped that our experience throughout the year playing this type of opponent would help us. We faced a team that is strong, tough, smart and focused, and obviously the result you can see. Our players have to understand that this is the kind of team that we are going to be put together to play again in the future. We’re going to always have this kind of competition within our own conference. When we get into the postseason, it’s our obligation to play and win these games.”

On what he wants his team to take from this game... “One of the things I want our players to understand very clearly is just how hard it is to win. And the body of work we’re 7-6, that’s who we are, we’re 7-6. We had a chance to play an extra game. We had a chance to prepare. But we have an obligation to play well. That is really what I want our players to understand. We had games this year where we played well. What we’re learning as we go through the phases of putting a team together is how to handle winning and how deal with the pressure of trying to become perfect eventually, so you can go on one of those runs where we can win 10, 11, 12 games. And I think that that is where our growth will need to occur. Learn

how to be able to put not just two, three, four wins together in a row, but go deep into the season, six, eight, ten and then eventually 12 wins. There is pressure and there is stress that comes from that, from all the outside people, it comes from the inside where you want to do well and there is that pressure to do well. I think coach Schiano and his staff have obviously demonstrated that they have their team on that path.”

On Rutgers RB Ray Rice... “We’ve seen some really good backs and I think Ray Rice is one of the best in the country. The kid is number two in rushing the football and he plays behind a terrific line and he’s very difficult to tackle. A lot of players in the secondary and at the linebacker position had a very difficult time tackling him. He has the ability to go all the way and I think that makes him a complete player. I am familiar with that player on a personal level and I think he’s got great ability and he’s got great intangibles as well. I think that the sky is the limit for Ray Rice.”

Freshman QB Josh Freeman His reaction to how the game went... “We knew Rutgers was a good team and they were going to bring what they had, and we didn’t respond to it. You have to tip your hat to them, because they played a great game, and we didn’t. I think they were really hungry because they felt like they got left out of a BCS game, and they were out there to prove something tonight, and we weren’t able to respond.”

On why they weren’t able to make an adjustment in the second half... “We just couldn’t into rhythm, once again you have to give a hand to Rutgers – they played a good game.”

On the interception that opened the second half... “They play was there, I just slipped. But I’m not going to make excuses – the ball didn’t go where I wanted to it go. It was a little low, and the linebacker made a great play.”

On ending the season with a loss... “It’s never fun to lose. We wanted to put our seniors out on a lot better note. And I want to apologize to our fans, because they came out to support us, but we didn’t have their back.”

Junior RB James Johnson On the Rutgers defense... “They had a fast defense. They were good, they just got the job done.”

On whether the interception at the beginning of the third quarter changed the game... “No, I don’t think so. That one play didn’t cause us to lose the game. I just think we weren’t focused, we have to go in the offseason and get ready for next year.”

On whether he saw this coming in preparing for Rutgers... “No, we always thought we had a chance to win this game. We never thought it would be like this. They were very fast. They are like Texas’ defense. We saw everything they did in practice but they just came and got the job done.”

On whether this will take a while to get over... “No, we can’t live in the past, we just have to move on and have a great offseason. We’re ready to get back to the drawing board and do what we have to do.”

Senior PK Jeff Snodgrass On the how good the Scarlet Knights played... “They’re as good as anybody else we’ve played. I’m not going to say they’re that much better than any team, it comes down to our performance and we didn’t play the way we wanted to.”

On how disappointing the loss is... “It is more for the seniors. You always want to go out with a win. A loss is still a loss. But there’s something about being a senior that hits you later, so I can’t worry about it much right now.”

On the positives this year... “We took those in stride, and we took the time to enjoy them, and then we moved on. We can’t relive the good things that happen in the past, we want to enjoy the good things that are in the future. We didn’t show up to play this game like we wanted to, but we can’t take it back.”

Freshman CB Joshua Moore Overall perception of the way Rutgers played... “They have a great team and came well prepared in all phases of the game. But in some respect we didn’t play as well as we could have. The defense didn’t do what they were supposed to do. We just have to have a better game next time.”

On the momentum changing in the second half... “When they intercepted us all the momentum swung to their side at that point, and they played well from then on.”

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Boise State Drops Oklahoma In Overtime

By ANDREW BAGNATO
AP Sports Writer

GLENDAL, Ariz. (AP) — Boise State proved it belonged in the BCS.

After tying it with 7 seconds to go in regulation, the No. 9 Broncos stunned No. 7 Oklahoma 43-42 in overtime Monday night, winning on Ian Johnson's 2-point conversion run after receiver Vinny Perretta threw a fourth-down touchdown pass to Derek Schouman.

"I think we went out and proved the nation wrong," said Boise State safety Marty Tadman, who had two interceptions, one of which he returned 27 yards for a touchdown. "I'm tired of people doubting us."

There were plenty of doubters when the Sooners took a 42-35 lead on Adrian Peterson's 25-yard run on the first possession of overtime.

But the Broncos weren't through. On the decisive play, Broncos quarterback Jared Zabransky looked at three wide receivers to his right, then handed the ball behind his back to Johnson, who raced untouched into the end zone.

That play was almost as amazing as the one that tied the game.

After falling behind 35-28, the Broncos tied it with a stunning 50-yard touchdown play on fourth-and-18 with 7 seconds to play. Zabransky hit Drisan James at Oklahoma's 35, and James pitched the ball to Jerard Rabb, who raced into the end zone.

"It would have been easy to give up on us with a minute left, but we had a lot of magic left," Zabransky said.

Boise State is one of two unbeaten teams. The other is top-ranked Ohio State, which will play No. 2 Florida for the BCS national championship on the same field Jan. 8.

Afterward, the Broncos made a case that they should have been given a shot at the Buckeyes.

"We went 13-0 and beat everyone on our schedule," Zabransky said. "We deserve a chance at the national title."

In one of the more dramatic finish-

es in BCS history, the Sooners (11-3) and the Broncos (13-0) combined for 22 points in the final 86 seconds of regulation.

Johnson carried 23 times for 101 yards and a touchdown. Zabransky completed 19 of 29 passes for 262 yards and three touchdowns, and he threw an interception. Drisan James caught three passes for 96 yards and two touchdowns.

Oklahoma's Paul Thompson threw a career-high three interceptions. He completed 19 of 32 passes for 233 yards and two touchdowns. In what might have been his last college game, Peterson ran for 77 yards and two touchdowns.

The wild finish came after Boise State dominated the first 40 minutes, making it clear that the Western Athletic Conference champion deserved a BCS berth.

Oklahoma didn't go quietly. The Sooners spotted the Broncos an 18-point lead midway through the third quarter, then rallied to take a 35-28 lead on cornerback Marcus Walker's interception return with 1:02 remaining.

That came one play after the Sooners tied it at 28. They Sooners cut it to 28-26 on a 5-yard pass from Paul Thompson to Quentin Chaney with 1:26 to play. After penalties on their first two 2-point conversion tries, the Sooners converted when Thompson hit Jaquain Iglesias.

Thompson completed five passes for 59 yards on the tying drive and also ran for 8 yards.

The Broncos stunned the Sooners with two quick touchdowns to take a 14-0 lead midway through the first quarter.

The first came on a 49-yard touchdown pass from Zabransky to James, a Phoenix product. Zabransky froze the defense with a play-fake to Johnson, then fired to James, who was all alone 10 yards behind cornerback Marcus Walker.

On the next series, defensive end Mike T. Williams sacked Sooners quarterback Paul Thompson, who

fumbled. Williams recovered at Oklahoma's 9.

Two plays later, Johnson scored from 2 yards out to give the Broncos a 14-0 lead with 7:28 left in the first quarter.

The Sooners responded on their next possession, driving 82 yards in 14 plays for a touchdown. Thompson hit Manuel Johnson with an 8-yard pass to cut Boise State's lead in half.

Oklahoma drove to Boise State's 33 on its next possession. Iglesias broke open at the goal line, but Thompson's pass was short, and Boise State safety Marty Tadman intercepted in the end zone.

Oklahoma made it 14-10 on Garrett Hartley's 31-yard field goal with 5:38 to go in the first half.

Late in the first half, Zabransky and James connected again to give the Broncos a 21-10 lead. With 47 seconds to go, Zabransky side-stepped a pass rusher and fired to James in the right flat. James shook off a tackle by linebacker Zach Latimer, then sprinted down the sideline and into the end zone.

A few moments later, the Broncos ran into the tunnel waving their helmets to thousands of orange-clad fans who flocked to the Phoenix area for the biggest game in school history.

The Broncos took a 28-10 lead on Tadman's 27-yard interception return for a touchdown midway through the third quarter.

The Broncos seemed to be in command when they stopped Oklahoma on the next series. But Boise State receiver Aiona Key inadvertently touched a punt, and the Sooners recovered at Boise State's 11. Two plays later, Peterson scored on an 8-yard run to cut the Broncos' lead to 28-17.

Leading 28-20 midway through the fourth quarter, Boise State was driving when Oklahoma linebacker Rufus Alexander stripped Johnson and Curtis Lofton recovered at the Sooners 29.



Daniel Gonzalez(83) Provides Double Duty Protection for Tim Reyer's punt

Bowl Trip Was Exciting Despite Outcome

By Shari Brown

December 28th 2006. Texas Bowl vs # 16 Rutgers. It seemed like the perfect opportunity to show the nation that this seasons' defeat over fourth ranked Texas was not a fluke and the loss at the hands of the Kansas Jayhawks was.

But a 31-10 loss the Scarlet Knights did not send the message that the Cats wanted to deliver. The Kansas State Wildcats came to play football, but it didn't really appear to happen until the middle of the second quarter. Rutgers jumped out to a 14-0 lead with a pair of first quar-

ter passes from Mike Teel to Tim Brown. Typical of the resilient Wildcats though they were not about to quit and go home. A Wildcat drive stalled and a Rutgers penalty moved Jeff Snodgrass to the 44 where he soundly drove it home. The Wildcats were able to contain Rutgers on the next possession forcing Rutgers to punt. Yamon Figurs promptly returned the ball 76 yards for the only Wildcat touchdown of the game. At 17-10 the momentum seemed to be swinging toward the Cats. The first play from scrimmage of the third quarter was a Josh Freeman interception returned for a touchdown by Rutgers Quint Frierson. The extra point brought the score to 24-10. Four and out on the next series would force a Tim Reyer punt. Rutgers Ray Rice responded with two runs of 22 and 46 yards to score again for the Knights. Final stats for the game point to the greatest areas of weakness for the Cats as they acquired only 6 first downs for the game compared to Rutgers 21. KSU gamered only 131 yards passing to Rutgers 268 and 31 yards rushing compared to Rutgers 211. Kansas State met and was defeated by a very sound Rutgers team that except for a final season triple overtime loss to West Virginia might have been playing in a BSC Bowl.

As per the norm Kansas State brought out a plethora of fans to the Houston Area and a good time was had by all. Rutgers also faired well with its travelling fanbase despite the long trip from New Jersey and the Houston Stadium was densely populated on the lower two levels. Field conditions left something to be desired though as both teams slipped and slid on the natural grass field. Perhaps this could have been better controlled since it only takes 15 minutes to close the dome overhead.



Josh Freeman(1) remains calm under pressure

Oklahoma State Bounces Back Over Alabama

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) — Oklahoma State's Independence Bowl win over Alabama — and the way the Cowboys prevailed — will pay dividends far beyond giving OSU a winning record for the 2006 football season, coach Mike Gundy said.

In a season defined by missed close calls — four games went down to the final play, with the Cowboys losing all four — Oklahoma State finally won one in dramatic fashion on Thursday against Alabama in Shreveport, La.

The Cowboys blew a 14-point fourth quarter lead and allowed the Crimson Tide to tie the game before Jason Ricks kicked a 27-yard field goal with 8.9 seconds left to lift Oklahoma State to a 34-31 win. The win gave Oklahoma State a 7-6 record, after it struggled to a 4-7 finish in 2005, Gundy's first season.

What is more important, Gundy said, it proved to the Cowboys that they can beat a tradition-rich Southeastern Conference foe. Oklahoma State will open the 2007 season on the road against another such team, Georgia.

"For us to play Alabama and the game to finish the way it did, we couldn't have written a better script for our opener next year," Gundy said. The Independence Bowl "ended up being tighter than what it should have been, but ultimately we found a way to finish, which may be better for the kids in the long run."

The Cowboys started this season quickly, rolling past overmatched foes Missouri State (52-10), Arkansas State (35-7) and Florida Atlantic (48-8).

But two disconcerting losses followed — 34-25 at Houston, in a game marred by a botched call by a Conference USA replay official that led to a momentum-turning Houston touchdown, and 31-27 at Kansas State, when the Cowboys blew a 10-point fourth quarter lead and allowed the Wildcats to score two touchdowns in the last 3:04. Oklahoma State quarterback Bobby Reid threw an interception in the end zone as time expired.

The Cowboys rebounded with a 42-32 win at Kansas, then overcame an injury to Reid and had then-No. 23 Texas A&M on the ropes before allowing the Aggies a tying touchdown with :03 left. In overtime, Texas A&M blocked an extra-point attempt by Ricks, the difference in its 34-33 win.

Again, the Cowboys bounced back, this time with their biggest win of the season, 41-29 over then-No. 20 Nebraska. They weren't competitive the next week in a 36-10 loss at Texas, but posted their highest point total in 23 years in a 66-24 rout of Baylor, a win that made the Cowboys bowl-eligible.

Losses to Texas Tech (30-24) and Oklahoma (27-21) ended the regular season. Both went down to the final play, with the Cowboys throwing incomplete into the end zone.

"Obviously everybody knows we could have been 9-3 or 10-2 (during the regular season), but sometimes it doesn't work out that way," senior offensive lineman Kurt Seifried said.

But Gundy said the Cowboys made significant strides, and, except for the senior-laden defensive line, won't lose too many players heading into 2007.

"We're definitely a better football team," he said. "There's a lot of excitement among Oklahoma State people. We've got a lot of young players coming back who made a lot of big plays this year. I don't think you forget the close games but you learn lessons and try to figure out why those things happened."

Reid blossomed as a sophomore, passing for 2,266 yards and 24 touchdowns against 11 interceptions and rushing for 500 yards and five

touchdowns. He finished second on the school's single-season total offense list.

The Cowboys had three other backs surpass the 500-yard rushing mark: Dantrell Savage (820 yards, eight touchdowns), Keith Toston (631 yards, six touchdowns) and Mike Hamilton (546 yards, four touchdowns).

Top receiver Adarius Bowman, who caught 60 passes for 1,181 yards and 12 touchdowns, is expected to return, although the Cowboys must replace his counterpart, D'Juan Woods, who finished his career third on the school's all-time lists for receptions and receiving yards with 163 and 2,751, respectively, behind Hart Lee Dykes and his brother, Rashaun Woods.

Oklahoma State and Boise State are the only two teams in NCAA Division I to average more than 200 yards passing and 200 yards rushing per game this season.

Six of the Cowboys' top seven tacklers also will return. The team's top two tacklers were freshmen — safety Andre Sexton with 79 and linebacker Patrick Lavine with 70.

"As far as where this team could go, I think the seniors set a pretty good standard," senior defensive end Darnell Smith said. "I think that the young guys coming up know that they could be a lot better than a 6-6 team."

Gundy said a bowl win will give the Cowboys momentum heading into the offseason.

"That allows our coaching staff to push them hard in the offseason," Gundy said. "Most games are won in January through July in offseason conditioning. We're able to tell players that hard works pays off. The guys know that if they pay the price they will have success."

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Nebraska Succumbs To Auburn In Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — Once again, Auburn was giving up drive-killing sacks, struggling to run the ball and producing scant yardage.

The 10th-ranked Tigers managed a feeble 46 first-half yards and had to rely on big plays from special teams and defense for a 17-14 victory over No. 22 Nebraska in the Cotton Bowl on Monday.

It was hardly the offensive explosion they were hoping for with quarterback Brandon Cox, tailback Kenny Irons and receiver Courtney Taylor back in good health.

"It's just what you call sloppy football," Taylor said. "We didn't play our best game, but at the same time we got the job done. That's what we've been doing all year long. That's the key thing, to come out with the victory."

The Tigers (11-2) are better at racking up wins than big yardage. They had just 178 total yards against the Cornhuskers (9-5), their fourth time being held to less than 215 yards this season.

Their two touchdowns came on drives totaling 23 yards in the first half, following Nebraska's botched fourth-down attempt and an interception by Karibi Dede.

"We got off to a slow start, but that's kind of been the story all year," Cox said. "We've been a second-half team all year."

The Tigers fared better in the second half but were hardly prolific.

Auburn finally managed to get some yards and first downs, but the only resulting points came on John Vaughn's 42-yard field goal midway through the third quarter.

"Offensively, we just never got consistent but we did run time off the clock in the second half to give our defense a little break," coach Tommy Tuberville said. "When it's all said and done, this team won as a group all year long."

Irons couldn't come up with any big plays despite finally having a healthy ankle. He managed just 72 yards on 24 carries and fumbled to end a promising drive to start the third quarter. Cox passed for just 111 yards and a touchdown and lost a fumble near midfield in the fourth quarter. The defense bailed Auburn out with another stop.

A 21-yard catch by Taylor and freshman Ben Tate's 21-yard run were the only things that qualified as big plays from the Tigers' offense.

Offensive coordinator Al Borges

could live with the humble stats since his team won.

"This team, although painful to watch at times as a coach, has a tremendous belief in their ability to win games," Borges said. "As long as they don't shoot themselves in the foot to a point where they just knock themselves completely out like we did against Georgia or like we did against Arkansas, we'll find a way to win the game."

Fullback Carl Stewart accounted for both touchdowns, a 9-yard catch and a 1-yard run.

For the second straight game, the offense fared best in capitalizing on mistakes by the opposing team. Dede's interception and 52-yard return set up Stewart's TD catch.

The Tigers took over at the Cornhuskers 14 on their next series after a botched reverse exchange on the fake punt.

Against Alabama, two of Auburn's three touchdowns were set up by fumbles.

"It's not always the way I like to play football," Borges said. "I'd rather light the scoreboard up and all that. But I'll take it. I'll take 11 wins, however you can get 11 wins."

Texas A&M Falters Against The Bears

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Unlike two years ago, the California Golden Bears played like they wanted to be in the Holiday Bowl.

Marshawn Lynch ran for 111 yards and two touchdowns, and the No. 20 Golden Bears' defense played impressively in a 45-10 win over No. 21 Texas A&M on Thursday night. Nate Longshore threw for a touchdown and ran for another, and Lynch's backup, Justin Forsett, ran for 124 yards and one score.

Cal (10-3) put an emphatic final touch to its second 10-win season in three years. The Golden Bears had lost to Arizona and Southern California in disheartening fashion before beating rival Stanford and then the Aggies (9-4).

In 2004, Cal was in position to end its long Rose Bowl drought but was leapfrogged in the final Bowl Championship Series standings by Texas. Although the fourth-ranked Golden Bears claimed not to be bothered by the snub, they couldn't even hang with No. 23 Texas Tech in the Holiday Bowl and were humiliated 45-31.

This trip to San Diego turned out a

lot better.

Lynch, the Pac-10 offensive player of the year, scored on a 2-yard run in the second quarter to give Cal a 14-7 lead. While Longshore lined up at wide receiver, Lynch was in the shotgun formation, took the snap and bulled into the end zone.

Lynch scored on a 1-yard run in the third, leaping over the line and fumbling as he came down in the end zone. The Aggies recovered and referee John O'Neill signaled first down for Texas A&M, then said the play was being reviewed. Replay official Jim Augustyn ruled that Lynch had possession when he broke the plane of the end zone, making it 21-10 Cal.

While the Golden Bears moved up and down the field, their defense came up big, too.

Jorvorskie Lane, Texas A&M's 274-pound tailback, wasn't much of a factor after tying a 79-year-old school record with 19 rushing touchdowns this year. He was held to 36 yards and no touchdowns on seven carries.

Longshore scored on a 1-yard keeper to tie the game at 7 in the first

quarter, eight plays after Texas A&M's Stephen McGee threw a 19-yard TD pass to Chad Schroeder.

Longshore also threw a 4-yard touchdown pass to Lavelle Hawkins late in the third quarter. He finished 19-of-24 for 235 yards.

Texas A&M gambled a few times too many. After Bryce Reed gained 7 yards on a fake punt in the first quarter, the drive bogged down and the Aggies went for it on fourth-and-8 from the Cal 32. McGee was sacked by Nu'u Tafisi.

Lynch scored his first TD five plays later.

His second touchdown was set up when Texas A&M's Justin Brantly shanked a punt out of bounds for no gain at the Aggies' 41. Lynch scored four plays later.

The Aggies failed to convert on another fourth-down play in the fourth quarter.

Cal's Eddie Young intercepted Aggies backup quarterback Ty Branyon with 2:25 left, setting up a 3-yard score by freshman tailback Bryan Schutte.



James Johnson in the backfield at the Texas Bowl

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Justin McKinney puts the final stop on Ray Rice of Rutgers

Tech Shocks Minnesota In Overtime Win

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — With his team facing a huge deficit, Texas Tech coach Mike Leach saw a chance for a momentous win.

The Red Raiders spotted Minnesota a 31-point, third-quarter lead, then rallied for a stunning 44-41 overtime victory in the Insight Bowl on Friday night, the largest comeback in Division I-A bowl history.

The victory provided a pulsating blueprint for Tech as it heads into next season.

Asked what the victory might do for Tech's program, Leach replied, "Virtually impossible for me to say but certainly excited to have it, and I think we can draw on it in the future. I think that anybody on this team that doesn't believe it's worth the investment to play all 60 minutes, I think it's a clear message for them."

"I think as a program we need to draw on it and never forget it," Leach said.

Unforgettable would be a good

way to describe this victory, which beat the NCAA's previous bowl record comeback by a single point. Marshall rallied from a 30-point deficit to beat East Carolina 64-61 in overtime in the 2001 GMAC Bowl.

Tech (8-6) appeared finished after Minnesota (6-7) took a 38-7 lead with 7:47 to go in the third quarter. But the Red Raiders mounted a furious comeback, scoring 31 unanswered points in less than 20 minutes.

Alex Trlica's 52-yard field goal as regulation expired sent the game into overtime.

"Couldn't stop them," Minnesota coach Glen Mason said. "What can you say? We knew going into the game we were going to have our hands full."

"Needless to say, that game was a game of two different halves," he said.

Joel Monroe kicked a 32-yard field goal to put Minnesota up 41-38 in overtime, but Shannon Woods scored on a 3-yard run to win it for Tech.

That sparked a wild celebration for the Red Raiders, who mobbed each other while the shocked Gophers trudged to the locker room.

"Everyone felt like, 'Hey, we're going to win,'" said Tech quarterback Graham Harrell, who was selected the bowl's most valuable player after throwing for 445 yards and two touchdowns. "If you believe, good things can happen."

Tech's comeback began with 4:58 to go in the third quarter, when Harrell hit Phoenix native Joel Filani for a 43-yard score to cut the lead to 38-14. That started an avalanche that buried Minnesota in the first meeting of the schools.

"We're an offense that can score in a hurry, and everyone knows that," Harrell said.

Trailing 38-35 with no timeouts, the Red Raiders took over at their own 11 with 1:06 remaining. Eight plays later, Trlica tied it.

Woods rushed for 109 yards and three touchdowns and Filani caught nine passes for 144 yards.

For Minnesota, Amir Pinnix ran for 179 yards, Bryan Cupito threw for 263 yards and three touchdowns and tight end Jack Simmons caught seven passes for 134 yards.

Minnesota set a school bowl scoring record, and Cupito, a senior, tied Asad Abdul-Khaliq's career record of 55 touchdown passes. The records were little consolation in the end.

"We just broke down," Minnesota linebacker Mike Sherels said. "You just kind of got the feeling that we were back on our heels and playing

not to lose instead of playing to win."

That's not how the Gophers opened the game. They jumped ahead 7-0 after Leach went for it on fourth-and-1 at his own 45 on the opening series. Harrell was stopped on a sneak, and six plays later Cupito found Simmons for a 2-yard touchdown with 9:27 to go in the first quarter.

Four minutes later, Minnesota made it 14-0 after Sherels intercepted Harrell at Tech's 37. Another Harrell turnover killed a Tech scoring drive. He fumbled on a sack by Willie VanDeSteege, and Steve Davis recovered at the Golden Gophers' 13. Minnesota marched 87 yards — its longest scoring drive of the year — to take a 21-0 lead on Justin Valentine's 1-yard plunge on the first play of the second quarter.

Tech had a chance to slice the deficit when cornerback Antonio Huffman picked off Cupito's pass at the Minnesota 20. But Pinnix jarred the ball loose, and it bounced into the end zone, where the Gophers recovered for a touchdown.

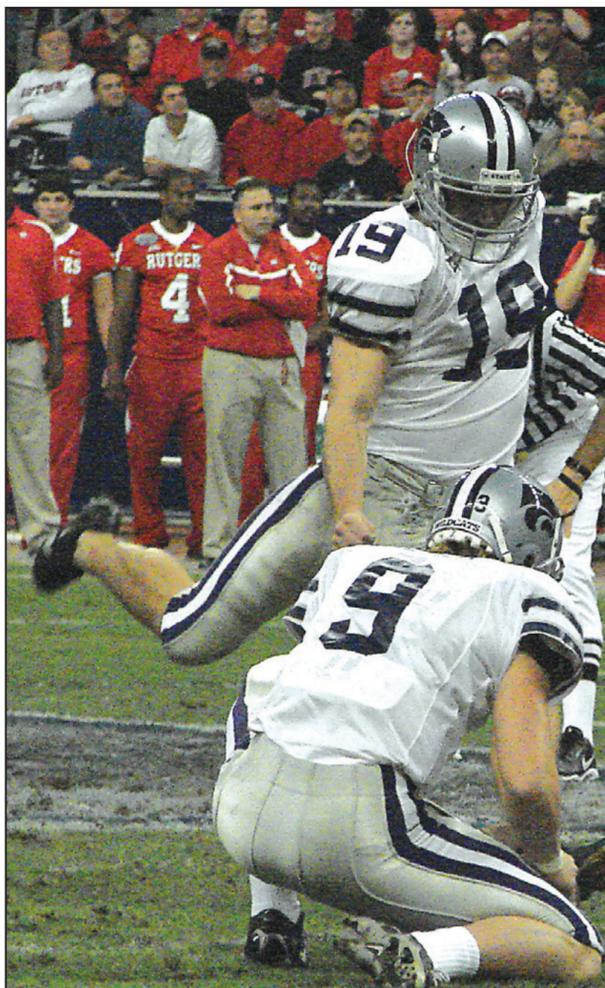
After Tech's Shannon Woods scored from 1 yard out to make it 28-7, the Gophers answered with an 81-yard drive that ended in a 3-yard touchdown pass from Cupito to Logan Payne in the final minute of the first half.

Minnesota looked as if it ended any Tech hopes for a comeback by opening the third quarter with a 16-play, 78-yard drive that consumed 7:13. Monroe's 20-yard field goal gave the Gophers a 38-7 lead.

"Everything was going our way," Mason said. But it turned out to be a mirage. Afterward, interviewers told Leach that his team had indeed made history. His locker room rhetoric had turned into a record. "Didn't realize it until the end, but I knew it was kind of a big one," Leach said. "Quite honestly, despite that, I would have liked to have spotted them less points in order to come back from behind to win this thing."



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Josh Freeman(1) prepares to hand off to James Johnson(8) during the Texas Bowl

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Yamon Figs goes for the reception



Justin McKinney(22) wraps up Rutgers Ray Rice(27)

Texas Rallies To Beat Iowa In Alamo Bowl

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Texas fans swarmed to the Alamo Bowl expecting an easy victory over Iowa. They ended up sweating out a close one behind another gritty performance by Colt McCoy.

The Longhorns' quarterback threw two touchdown passes to tie a single-season record for freshmen and Texas rallied to beat Iowa 26-24 on Saturday in the Alamo Bowl.

McCoy had been cleared to play just a week earlier after suffering a severely pinched nerve in his neck in each of Texas' last two games — both losses. He also ran 8 yards on fourth down to set up a 2-yard scoring run by Selvin Young early in the fourth quarter that proved to be the game winner.

McCoy, a redshirt freshman, finished 26-for-40 for 308 yards. His 29 touchdown passes this season tied the NCAA freshman record set by Nevada's David Neill in 1998.

"I was just glad to be back," McCoy said. "I had my confidence back."

Texas (10-3), the 2005 national champion, won at least 10 games for the sixth straight season and avoided its first three-game losing streak since 1999.

Drew Tate passed for 274 yards and two touchdowns, both to Andy Brodell, for the Hawkeyes (6-7), who lost six of their last seven games.

The Longhorns were heavy favorites in front of an Alamo Bowl record crowd of 65,875 that was mostly a sea of burnt-orange. Texas fans had an easy 70-mile drive from Austin.

But Iowa stunned them by taking a 14-0 lead in the first quarter and retaking it at 21-20 with 1:08 left in the third when Brodell scored his second touchdown on a 23-yard reception.

Brodell had six catches for 159 yards.

McCoy, who looked shaky early, gave Texas its first lead — 20-14 — with a 72-yard sideline strike to tailback Jamaal Charles in the third.

After Young's touchdown with just

under 11 minutes left, Iowa pulled within 26-24 two when Kyle Schlicher kicked a 38-yard field goal. The Hawkeyes then forced a punt and had the ball near midfield.

The Hawkeyes got tripped up by their own trickery. Texas safety Marcus Griffin tackled Dominique Douglas for a 9-yard loss on a wide-receiver pass and the Hawkeyes were forced to punt three plays later.

Texas won its third straight bowl game and became the first team to win the Alamo Bowl after trailing at halftime.

Longhorns fans so disappointed in not making a third consecutive Bowl Championship Series game, will remember this one for McCoy's game effort.

Knocked down several times by Iowa's blitz-heavy pass rush, McCoy wasn't sharp at the start. He under-threw several receivers and looked tentative to run and risk another injury. The Longhorns didn't have another scholarship quarterback available if he got hurt.

Tate was just the opposite, passing for 184 yards in the first half. He played high school football in Baytown, just outside of Houston, and his final college game was his first back in his home state.

Iowa stunned the "home" crowd by scoring touchdowns on its first two possessions. Albert Young set up the first with a 26-yard run then scored on the next play on the opening drive.

After forcing a Texas punt, the Hawkeyes struck again on one play. Brodell took a short pass, faked out Texas cornerback Aaron Ross, the Thorpe Award winner, and outraced the Longhorns down the sideline for a 63-yard score.

Ross made up for it with an interception in the end zone and Texas drove to its first touchdown when McCoy floated a perfect pass to Limas Sweed for a 20-yard TD just before halftime to make it 14-10.

"That was huge. It turned things around for us," McCoy said of the interception. "Nobody gave up."

Missouri Tigers Lose To Oregon State Following Late Lead

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Missouri knows exactly how South Carolina felt last year.

Last December, the Tigers exited their season with a feeling of euphoria after Brad Smith led the biggest comeback in school history. Down 21 points, Missouri rallied to beat the Gamecocks 38-31 in the Independence Bowl.

On Friday, the Tigers experienced heartache and disbelief after No. 24 Oregon State, given the opportunity to consider its options after Missouri coach Gary Pinkel called a timeout to dispute the Beavers' go-ahead touchdown with 22.7 seconds to go, went for the 2-point conversion that meant the difference in a 39-38 Sun Bowl victory.

The Tigers needed an extended cooling-off period to digest what had happened to their seemingly insurmountable 14-point lead with 12 minutes to go.

"We had a good year and unfortunately we didn't finish it the way we wanted to," Pinkel said. "We really wanted this bad. I wanted it real bad for our seniors."

In Tony Temple's case, he also lost the game's MVP award and the Sun Bowl rushing record. Temple rushed for a career-high 194 yards on 20 carries and two touchdowns, and his 65-yard scoring run was one of seven

plays of more than 29 yards for an explosive and inventive offense that generated 561 yards.

"We did a lot of good things out there, a lot of positive things," Pinkel said.

Missouri averaged 8.4 yards per play, a Sun Bowl record. Tight end Chase Coffman threw a touchdown pass off a lateral and running backs took direct snaps.

Temple had 198 yards, one more than the record set in 1977 by LSU's Charles Alexander, before losing 4 yards on his final carry. Oregon State's Matt Moore, who threw four touchdown passes and ran for a fifth, grabbed the MVP hardware instead.

"Obviously it's disappointing," Temple said. "Sometimes things don't work out your way. We did all we could do."

Not quite. Three touchdowns in the space of about one quarter appeared to put the game under wraps with a 38-24 lead, but Missouri mustered little on its next two possessions. The Tigers' defense put up little resistance while Oregon State needed only 3:14 to score its last two touchdowns.

Two key plays down the stretch: On third-and-9 from the Oregon State 33, near field goal range, Chase Daniel was sacked for a 9-yard loss and Missouri punted the next play.

Missouri had to punt again from midfield on its next possession, and Adam Crossett angled the ball to a corner of the field, but Sammie Stroughter eluded the coverage with a 39-yard return to the Oregon State 46 to jump-start the Beavers' winning drive.

"I'm just extremely disappointed in how we played in the fourth quarter," Pinkel said. "We've got to do the things necessary to win, and we didn't. We've got to make more plays and we've got to coach better."

The net result: another late-season setback for a program that had been riding an historic high. Missouri started 6-0 for the first time since 1973 and was 7-1 for the first time since 1969.

Pinkel has taken the Tigers to bowls three of the last four years and earned a nice upgrade this year in the Sun Bowl, which has a \$1.9 million payout to participating teams compared with \$1.1 million for the Independence.

Better competition in Big 12 play contributed to the late-season troubles, demonstrating that there's still work to do before Missouri is ready to compete for the conference championship.

The Tigers' offense appears to be in good shape, considering most of the skill position players will return.

Tight end Martin Rucker may opt for the NFL draft a year early but that's probably Missouri's strongest position with Coffman, a sophomore who also caught a touchdown pass Friday, an emerging star.

They'll have to replace two players on the line, including all-conference guard Joel Clinger. The only other senior starter was wide receiver Brad Ekwerekwu, and that position appears deep with former highly-touted recruit Jeremy Maclin rehabbing from a knee injury and freshman Danario Alexander catching 11 of his 15 passes in the last four games, including a 74-yard scoring grab in the Sun Bowl.

There will be more turnover on defense, which had six senior starters for the finale and lost its best pass rusher when end Brian Smith broke his hip against Kansas State in the eighth game of the season. All-conference linebacker Marcus Bacon led the team in tackles.

Next year's non-conference schedule might be more challenging, with Missouri beginning a four-year, neutral-site series against Illinois in the opener. Two weeks later the Tigers will play Western Michigan, which is 8-4 heading into the inaugural International Bowl on Jan. 6.