



Manhattan Free Press

Vol. 18 Number 32

Thursday, January 7, 2010



The City will pay \$13.4 million for this development and give it to the developer.

Why?

Editorial
By Jon A. Brake

Your property taxes are going up by two mills this year. The City Commission voted 4-1 Tuesday night to fund a new Conference Center in the Downtown South Redevelopment Area.

But don't get up set, the City of Manhattan is (only) going to pay \$896,000 principle and interest for the next 15-years to pay off the bonds. Oh, and in 6-years they will give the Conference Center to the hotel company HCW.

That is right. The City is going to sell \$9.5 million in bonds, pay back \$13.4 million in principle and interest and before they get the bonds paid off they will give the property away.

This is the deal that the City made with Dial Realty to redevelop the Downtown Area. Dial received all of the property in the North Redevelopment Area and they were to be given the Conference Center worth \$9.5 million in the South.

Where is Dial? It seems the Redevelopment Company that was to take all of the Risk in Redeveloping Downtown Manhattan is all but out of the business.

Dial was to Redevelopment both the North and South area but now they are only doing a small retail area on Forth Street in the South Area. Yes, they own the North Development Area.

Oh, and about the property taxes going up by two mills, don't worry, city plans still show taxes will go up another 12-13 mills to pay for the redevelopment.

Some people fell that what the Free Press prints is not the truth, so here is a memo given to the Commissioners Tuesday night:

FROM: Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager

MEETING: January 5, 2010
SUBJECT: Conference Center – Issuing General Obligation Home Rule Economic Development Bonds

(Editor's Note: Voters have an opportunity to stop this bond if the put together a petition that requires a vote of the taxpayers. If you want information on a petition call the Free Press at 537-8953.)

PRESENTER: Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager

BACKGROUND

In October of 2009 the City Commission authorized City Administration and HCW to finalize an Economic Development Agreement to construct a 30,000 sq. ft. conference center within the South End Redevelopment. Since that time, the agreement has been executed, and the South Preliminary Rezoning of the area to a Planned Unit Development has been accomplished.

In our agreement the City has agreed to loan \$9.5 million to HCW for the design and construction of a conference center. \$4.5 million of the loan is forgivable, and \$5 million will be repaid over the 30 year term of the agreement. The City will receive \$100,000 annually for the first 29 years, with a balloon payment of \$2.1 million in year 30.

DISCUSSION

Given the nature of the project, the City is able to issue general obligation bonds for the purposes of economic development and the construction of the conference center. HCW anticipates presenting at the January 26th work session to the Commission with greater detail regarding the conference center and parking garage. Ultimately, the City Commission will consider and authorize the budget, design, and construction of both facilities.

FINANCING

In our current forecast sheets for financing the conference center, we have included \$1.5 million from the economic development fund to assist

with the financing. This amount is supported based on the number of new jobs the facility would produce and the economic impact the facility. *At a 15 year debt service schedule, the annual payments for the conference center total \$896,000. This will be reduced by \$100,000 annually per our agreement from HCW. It is forecasted currently to have the first annual debt service payment start in 2012, which would result in just under a 2 mill increase for the 2012 budget.* The City anticipates issuing temporary notes for the interim financing of the design and construction.

It should also be noted the City and Developer are obligated to come up with matching funds in order to leverage the State's investment in the South Project Area with STAR bonds. In order to leverage the \$50 million in State STAR bonds, the City and Developer are going to be held to a 54/46 split, resulting in a total investment of \$58 million.

ALTERNATIVE(S)

It appears the Commission has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand.

The Commission may:

1. Approve first reading of an ordinance issuing up to \$9.5 million in general obligation bonds for the purpose of constructing the Conference Center.
2. Deny the measure.
3. Modify or develop alternatives if other concerns or factors arise.
4. Table the request.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

City Administration recommends approving first reading of an ordinance issuing up to \$9.5 million for the construction of the conference center. This is consistent with the Economic Development Agreement between the City and HCW for the South End Redevelopment. Issuing this debt is a contingency within the agreement in order to construct the hotel, conference center and parking garage.

County's First Baby Of 2010 Is Born At Mercy

Mercy Regional Health Center welcomes the first baby of 2010 – Joseph Lee Cockrell.

Joseph Lee Cockrell was born at 3:23 p.m. on New Year's Day, giving him the distinction of being the very first baby born at Mercy Regional Health Center in 2010. Joseph was 7 lb. 11 oz. and 21" long.

Mercy would like to congratulate

late Joseph's parents, Brian and Kelli Cockrell, on their new bundle of joy.

Mercy Regional Health Center is located in Manhattan, Kan. The regional hospital employs close to 1,000 team members from the local and surrounding communities and supports a medical staff of more than 140 physicians.

Lawmakers Call For AG To Object To Health Bill

Four top lawmakers today called on the Kansas attorney general to join attorneys general from 13 other states in raising legal objections to provisions of the health care bill approved by the United States Senate on Christmas Eve.

Senate Majority Leader Derek Schmidt, R-Independence; House Majority Leader Ray Merrick, R-Stilwell; Senate Vice President John Vratil, R-Leawood; and House Speaker Pro Tem Arlen Siegfried, R-Olathe sent a letter to Attorney General Stephen N. Six asking him to join with 13 other state attorneys general who have raised constitutional objections to specific provisions in the Senate-passed health care bill. The 13 attorneys general have conveyed their concerns to U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-California, and U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nevada, and have advised that they intend to ask courts to invalidate the unconstitutional provisions unless they are removed from the bill before it is given final approval.

The Kansas lawmakers cited

the so-called "Nebraska compromise" in which the cost of expanded Medicaid eligibility in Nebraska is forever paid by taxpayers in other states, not in Nebraska. That provision was included to obtain the vote of Nebraska Senator Ben Nelson for the bill. They also raised concerns about the so-called "individual mandate" in the bill, which requires every American to purchase or otherwise obtain health insurance coverage.

The lawmakers said the time for the attorney general to act is now, not later, so that the legal analysis of the state attorneys could influence Congress's final deliberations on the bill.

"With luck and a little persuasion, perhaps a majority in Congress will come to its senses and conclude that our nation's health care can be reformed without disregarding the Constitution," they wrote. "But if they don't, then it will be up to you and to us to protect the Constitution we are sworn to uphold and to preserve the liberties of the Kansans we represent."

Fitzpatrick Exhibit To Open January 5th

K-State student and artist Connie Fitzpatrick presents "Apples and Such" January 5-21 in the William T. Kemper Art Gallery, K-State Student Union, first floor.

Sponsored by Union Program Council, Fitzpatrick's exhibit is a continuation of some exploring she has been doing to evolve her style. Influenced by many artists from the Hutchinson and Wichita areas, Fitzpatrick was introduced to the method of using a credit card as a painting tool a few summers ago and you will see that style in several pieces of her work.

"I knew that I wanted to be an

artist when I was very young. I had a lot of ideas about my future and often daydreamed about them. Creating art is something that I know I will do for the rest of my life. I believe that an individual who chooses to create art as a career knows that they were born to do so. It is something deeper than following your heart," Fitzpatrick said.

Gallery hours are Monday-Friday 8am-5pm. This event is free and open to the public. For more information and a complete list of all UPC activities, visit www.k-state.edu/UPC or call the UPC office at 785-532-6571.

Obituaries

Leonard Borg

Leonard Borg, age 93, of Manhattan, died December 31, 2009, at the Mercy Regional Health Center in Manhattan with his family at his side. Leonard died from a brief illness following a fall in his home on December 22nd.

He was born on September 7, 1916, to Gus and Anna (Anderson) Borg at their farm home southeast of Manhattan. He grew up in the Manhattan area and was a graduate of Randolph High School.

Leonard married Gloria Samuelson on June 13, 1943, in Manhattan. In 1944, they moved to Hastings, Nebraska where they both work at the Naval Ammunition Depot. In the fall of 1945 they returned to the Manhattan area to farm. Leonard farmed his entire lifetime and also worked for McCall Pattern Company from 1972 until 1982.

He was a member of the Blue Valley Memorial United Methodist

Church in Manhattan. His passion for farming overflowed into collecting antique farm machinery and gas engines, especially two-cylinder John Deere tractors that he used on his farm. Leonard also enjoyed time spent outdoors watching his livestock and wildlife, being able to identify many birds simply by their song. He also had many beloved pets during his lifetime. Leonard loved attending his granddaughters softball games and spending time with his family. He cherished his farm and family which gave him a never ending source of pride and joy. Leonard's family said he never met a stranger, and he had a keen sense of humor that he maintained until the very end. He was a devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather who will be missed more than words can express.

Preceding him in death were his precious wife, Gloria, on March 17, 2004, his brothers: Hjalmer, Eldred, Vincent, Norman and Gordon Borg and his sister: Astrid Lumb.

He is survived by one daughter,

Donna Smith and her husband Delbert, one granddaughter, Carmen Scott and her husband Jason, all of Manhattan and several nieces, nephews and many friends.

The family will receive friends during a visitation from 2:00 until 3:30 p.m. Sunday at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, January 4, 2010, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Chapel with Pastor Leslye Haller officiating. Interment will follow in the Pleasant Valley Cemetery near Manhattan.

On-line condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website located at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

A memorial has been established for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Robert Jackson

Robert W. "Bob" Jackson, age 86, died Tuesday December 29, 2009 at the Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community - Bramlage House in Manhattan, Kansas.

He was born February 5, 1923 in Salina, Kansas, the son of S. Willard and Florence Woody Jackson. He served in the Army from 1945 until 1947. Bob then attended Kansas State College and graduated in May of 1948 with a B.S. in Architectural Engineering. Mr. Jackson then taught structural design at Iowa State University and earned a M.S. in Economic History and Political Science.

In 1952 he moved his family to Kansas City and worked for several architectural firms as well as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. From 1957 until 1960 Jackson served as the Chief Hospital Architect of the seven-state Midwest Region for the U.S. Public Health Service.

Mr. Jackson started his own architectural firm, Robert W. Jackson Associates, in 1960 in Kansas City, Missouri. His practice specialized in all-private-room hospital architecture as well as design, consulting, and renovation of health care facilities. His many projects included Geary County Hospital in Junction City, Kansas and Osteopathic Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri.

He was an early and enthusiastic advocate of all-private-room hospitals. Bob wrote and published arti-

cles on hospital and mental health facility design for national hospital magazines and lectured at several universities and hospitals. He was a licensed Professional Engineer in Kansas and holds the National Council of Architectural Registration Board's Certificate.

Jackson retired in 1981 and became an adjunct faculty member of the University of Kansas departments of Architecture, Architectural Engineering and Graduate School of Engineering Management. He moved to Manhattan, Kansas in 1984 to be the interim active Director of Planning for Kansas State University. He then joined Kansas State's adjunct faculty and taught in the Departments of Architecture, Interior Architecture and Architecture Engineering.

Bob was a member of the Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, Rotary International, Kansas State and Iowa State Alumni Association. He was a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church, where he served on the Board of Deacons. He was a founding member of the National Society of Architectural Engineers and a member of the National Association for Hospital Planning. He was listed in Who's Who in the Midwest in 1967 and Who's Who in Finance and Industry in 1980. He was a former member of the governing board of the Riley County Seniors' Service Center and served on the board of the Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community.

On October 21, 1945 he was mar-

ried to Thelma Dahl. Mrs. Jackson survives of the home. During their 64 years of marriage the Lord blessed them with a wonderful family: Jane Jackson and her husband David Bonner of Lexington, Massachusetts, Robert Michael Jackson and his wife Nancy Crandall of Lakewood, Colorado, and Nancy Jackson Driscoll and her husband Brian of Encinitas, California. His grandchildren: Aaron Bonner-Jackson and his wife Kia Treier, Kate Bonner-Jackson, Reiley Driscoll Bender and her husband Scott, Courtney Driscoll, Connor Driscoll, Christopher Jackson and his wife Kelly Long Jackson, and Cody Jackson. He is also survived by his one sister, Vera Seeling, of Sun City West, Arizona.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister Helen Payton. Memorial Services for Mr. Jackson will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday January 9, 2010 at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, 1110 College Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas. Private Inurnment will take place at a later date at the Sunrise Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Trinity Presbyterian Church or to the Meadowlark Hills - Good Samaritan Fund and may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

On-line condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

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Lewis Brown

Lewis Bradford "Brad" Brown, 86, of Wamego, Kansas, died Thursday, December 31, 2009 at the Wamego City Hospital. He had been a resident of the community since 1985.

Lewis was born August 30, 1923 in Republic, Missouri, the son of Harry Lee and Lula Belle Bradford Brown. He attended local schools and graduated from High School in Sarcoxie, Missouri. Lewis served in the United States Army Air Corps dur-

ing WWII and Korea. He was a First Lieutenant and a B-25 bomber pilot.

Lewis was an electrical construction estimator for many years. He worked in Leavenworth, Topeka and Wamego. Lewis worked for Wamego Electric Company in 1985 until his retirement.

He married Marian Behee on March 11, 1978 in Las Vegas, Nevada. She preceded him in death on April 27, 2007.

Lewis is survived by his nephew, Larry Smith and his wife, Cheryllyn, of Hollywood, California; his great-

with 3 children: Kristi, Scott and Lynn.

She was a member of the United Methodist Church, Westmoreland, KS.

Marilyn loved singing, dancing, working in the yard and especially being with her family.

Survivors include her husband, Charles of the home; daughter: Kristi Roberts of Topeka, KS; sons: Scott Roberts of Westmoreland, KS and Lynn Roberts and his wife Jean of Manhattan, KS.; 3 grandchildren: Brandy Roberts of Anchorage, AK, Garen Stacy of Lawrence, KS and

niece, Stacey Lynn Smith, Hollywood; great-nephew, Todd Smith, Los Angeles; and very close dear friends, Gordon and Alice Stohs, Wamego. He was preceded in death by three sisters and a brother.

A private inurnment will be held at a later date. The family suggests memorial contributions to the Valley Vista Good Samaritan Center, and those may be sent in care of Campanella-Evans Mortuary. Online condolences may be made at www.campanellafuneral.com.

Cogen Stacy of Oklahoma; 1 great-grandson: Brennen Ha of Anchorage, AK; a sister: Wilma Creech of St. Petersburg, FL and a cousin Jo Vega, Junction City, KS.

Private graveside services will be held at a later date in the Westmoreland Cemetery, Westmoreland, KS. There will be no visitation.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Terry C. Johnson Center for Basic Cancer Research at KSU in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502.

Marilyn Roberts

Marilyn L. Roberts, age 72, died Tuesday January 5, 2009 at the Wamego City Hospital, Wamego, KS.

She was born on February 26, 1937 in Wamego, Kansas the daughter of Flora Pratt. Marilyn graduated from Wamego High School and worked at Kansas State University in the Biology department until her retirement.

Marilyn was united in marriage to Charles Roberts on June 24, 1956 in Wamego, KS. This union was blessed

Morris Named K-State First Vice President For Mommunications

A marketing and communications professional with experience in both the private sector and public higher education has been tapped to lead Kansas State University's communications and marketing efforts.

Jeffery B. Morris will return to his alma mater as vice president for communications and marketing. He is the first to hold that post and will begin work at K-State Feb. 1. Currently, Morris is chief communications officer for the University of Central Missouri, where he developed an award-winning integrated marketing strategy.

"I am very pleased to welcome Jeff Morris as our vice president for communications and marketing," said K-State President Kirk Schulz. "Jeff is a dynamic, credible leader with experience building brands for both private sector companies and the University of Central Missouri. I am confident he will be effective in bringing integrated marketing to K-State."

At K-State, Morris will supervise media relations and photo services, university publications, the Educational Communications Center, printing services and new units in marketing research and Web design. He will also work closely with licensing, continuing education, College of Agriculture communications, the K-State Alumni Association, Kansas State University Foundation and the K-

State at Salina public relations office.

In his current post at the University of Central Missouri, Morris led efforts to rename and reposition the university, serving as a key member of the name change team. He reorganized his office to support integrated brand strategy across all media platforms, eventually assimilating printing services, broadcasting services and Web services. He also led efforts to develop a unified social media strategy across campus units. The institutional branding campaign his team created won a national Gold Medal for best Institution-Wide Branding Program from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education -- CASE -- in 2007, the same year the university's licensing program was named No. 1 in the nation.

Before joining the University of Central Missouri in June 2003, Morris served as company president, executive vice president, senior vice president of sales and marketing and executive creative director for several advertising firms. In those posts he developed effective strategic marketing and communications plans for a wide range of Fortune 500 companies, medium-to-small companies and non-profit organizations.

He has expertise in branding, research, direct marketing, interactive marketing and public rela-

tions. He began his career with the Dodge City Daily Globe as a reporter and news editor. He also worked for Kansas Gas & Electric Company in Wichita as a communications specialist and publications editor.

Morris also is active in the community. He is current membership chair and chair elect of the Greater Warrensburg Area Chamber of Commerce. Additional activities include Habitat for Humanity mission team leader and volunteer on two international mission trips; Boy Scout leader; and youth sports coach for soccer and baseball.

Morris is a 1980 K-State graduate with a degree in journalism and mass communications. He earned a master's degree in marketing communications in 2000 from the University of Kansas. His wife, Cynthia, earned a degree in home economics from K-State in 1980.

Morris has two children, Meagan Dye of Lexington, Mo., and Andrew Morris of Manhattan. Meagan graduated from the University of Central Missouri in 2008 with a degree in criminal justice and is employed as a supervisor with the Lafayette County Sheriff's Department. Andrew represents the fourth generation of the family to graduate from K-State, earning a degree in English literature in 2009.

Brent Maner To Be Fulbright Scholar

A Kansas State University professor will spend most of the spring semester at a prestigious research center in Vienna as a Fulbright scholar.

K-State's Brent Maner, associate professor of history, will be a senior visiting fellow at the International Research Center for the Cultural Sciences in Vienna from March through June. The U.S. and Austrian governments are jointly funding his Fulbright grant.

"The center supports several scholars each semester from Austria and around the world. It holds a regular research colloquium, which I will participate in, and encourages fellows to establish connections to scholars in Vienna," Maner said. "I look forward to working with the

other scholars who will be at the center while I am there. The grant also provides housing for my four months in Vienna and a stipend -- this financial support is very important for international research."

Maner, who is on sabbatical leave from K-State for the 2009-2010 school year, spent much of fall 2009 working in Berlin and Frankfurt, Germany, on his research project, "Cities of Speculation: Cultural Representations of the Vienna, Berlin and Frankfurt Stock Exchanges from 1866 to 1933." He also will work on the project while in Vienna.

"I'll be working in the Austrian National Library and the library of the University of Vienna," Maner said. "These two institutions have great collections of newspapers and

books that covered the Vienna and other European stock markets in the late 19th and early 20th centuries."

Maner said the stock market expanded rapidly after 1870, which led to many "how to" books that explained how banks and the stock exchange worked.

"There also were many academic studies of the market and recommendations for reform. Like today, these discussions were most intense after downturns in the stock market," he said.

"I will be reading lots of newspapers from Frankfurt, Vienna and Berlin. All of these cities had daily papers that covered a wide range of topics, but they also had more focused papers that concentrated on social and economic questions," Maner said. "I'm particularly interested in these kinds of papers because they contain in-depth discussions of the stock exchange and market reform."

Maner also plans to read novels and impressionistic essays from the time period that featured bankers, brokers and stock market speculators in their story lines.

"It turns out that financial actors figured prominently in 19th-century literature -- authors viewed them both as new actors in the modern city and as shady figures who often used inside knowledge to make lots of money," he said.

He also said his Fulbright experience will be beneficial to K-State and the department of history.

"It is important for faculty to have these kinds of research experiences so that we can continue to train our graduate students and maintain a well-regarded program," he said. "I also think my experience can encourage K-State students -- especially history students -- to look for international experiences that would enhance their own academic interests."

Four Seasons And Wonder Workshop's "Take A Stand"

The Manhattan Arts Center is pleased to feature the exhibits "Four Seasons" and "Take A Stand: An Underground Railroad Children's Quilt," which is generously sponsored by Olivia Collins and Tony Jurich. The public is invited to attend an opening reception Friday, January 8 from 5 - 7 pm.

"Four Seasons" is the exhibit featuring the work of four women artists from Nebraska who share a 30 year relationship marked by the uniqueness of each woman. As diverse as the individuals and their work, they collectively and singly have created in many media regionally, nationally and internationally. Patsy Smith masters in water-based abstracts, Judy Greff in interpretive acrylic, Sammy Lynn is batik, padded fiber and Amy Sadle is printmaking.

In the front gallery is Wonder Workshop's "Take A Stand: An Underground Railroad Children's

Quilt." The exhibit features a "quilt" made up of drawings of the underground railroad drawn by local area children. This quilt has traveled to schools, and we are delighted to have it visit MAC.

The exhibits are free and open to the public Monday through Friday from 10 am to 5 pm and on Saturday from 1 pm to 4 pm. The Manhattan Arts Center is located at 1520 Poyntz Ave, is handicapped accessible, and parking is free.

For more information other events at the Manhattan Arts Center, visit its Web site at <http://www.manhattanarts.org>. The Manhattan Arts Center is funded in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency which believes that a great nation deserves great art. Additional funding comes from the City of Manhattan and MAC members and friends.

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Thoughts From The Prairie

Reunion of the Warriors

Sixty-Five years ago the warriors of the "Greatest Generation" dealt a fatal blow to the Nazi regime in the Battle of the Bulge, the last major counteroffensive of World War II. The ensuing battle, fought over an 80-mile front from Belgium to Luxembourg, began Dec. 16, 1944 and ended Jan. 25, 1945. With over 800,000 men committed and over 19,000 Americans killed, the Battle of the Bulge was the largest and bloodiest battle that American forces experienced in WW II.

A number of area veterans who were among those who fought in the bone chilling blizzard conditions are honoring the fallen and celebrating victory with a Battle of the Bulge 65th Anniversary Reunion. According to Jim Sharp, one of the Bulge warriors, "The Reunion is scheduled for Friday, January 15th from 12 Noon to 3 PM at the American Legion, 114 McCall Rd in Manhattan. All veterans who participated in the Battle of the Bulge, their families, friends, neighbors and anyone interested in honoring these veterans are invited. Attendees are encouraged to bring memorabilia and come prepared to share personal experiences about the Battle. We have invited representatives from Belgium and Luxembourg. Luxembourg Ambassador Senniger will be sending a representative, Honorary Consul General Robert Schaeffer. No word from Belgium yet."

Meal and registration cost is \$10.00, to be paid at the door. Please call the American Legion at 785-776-4556 and indicate the number in your party for meal planning. Steering Committee members are: Jim Sharp, 785-539-8582 and Dick Jepsen, 785-539-4816, Manhattan; Bill Stahl, 785-238-2364, Junction City.

After a great deal of coaxing, Jim Sharp shared some of his personal story. "I was a farm boy from White City in Morris County, KS. I took combat infantry training at Ft. McClellan, AL. I was located in the Bulge in the St. Vith, Malmedy, Honsfeld Belgium area. The Germans had



Dick Miller

broken through our lines just before we arrived as replacements for the dead and wounded. As we were being rushed to the front to help plug the bulge in our lines, a French engineer told us we better hurry as the Germans were winning the war!

"It was bitterly cold—the worst blizzard in 40 years. I thought I would freeze to death before I got shot. We did not dare get out of our foxholes, so we endured the cold in a hole in the ground. I still suffer from some frostbite and when it snows I have lingering thoughts about surviving that winter. I was a S/Sgt, squad and sometimes platoon leader depending on casualties and circumstances. I was with Company B, 18th Regiment, 1st Infantry Division during the Bulge. From there I was involved in the Remagen Rhine River Crossing and the Central Europe campaign. On VE Day, May 8, 1945, I was near Hitler's Hideout at Berchtesgarden. Then I was assigned to guard duty at the Nuremberg Four-Power War Crimes Trial for seven months. While there I guarded high ranking German officers and obtained autographs of Herman Goering and 10 other Nazi's on trial."

S/Sgt Sharp was wounded at Uslar, Germany. He earned three Battle Stars, a

See Thoughts on page 10

"Conscience of Kansas"

Presentation vs. Taste: Why Barack Obama is cooking up disaster in the War on Terror

There is little doubt that my pallet is not as refined as my liberal friends' and I have always found it hard to watch the gourmet shows where hours are spent meticulously preparing complex dishes that then cover about three inches of the plate. I guess you can say that while the crème de la crème is still waiting for their single mouthful of Lobster and Prawn Mornay, I will be finishing the last bites of a full plate of steak and potatoes. However, there is one very practical thing that can be learned from the fancy dishes tossed about from those exotic chefs of iron and that is the value of presentation. It is undoubtedly true that we eat first with our eyes. It is this use of presentation to the American people, our enemies, and our allies in the war on terror by the Barack Obama administration that I wished to discuss now.

Barack Obama, since becoming president, has gone on a quest to improve what he states is a negative world image of America. To do this he has ordered the closing of Guantanamo Bay despite not having a plan for where to relocate the prisoners of that facility. The President has also, without qualification, pronounced this country a land of torturers with its use of advanced interrogation techniques and now the administration poises itself to make 9-11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed the most well-known terrorist recruiter in the world by way of a lengthy public show trial.

While all this is taking place, the Obama administration solidifies a transition back

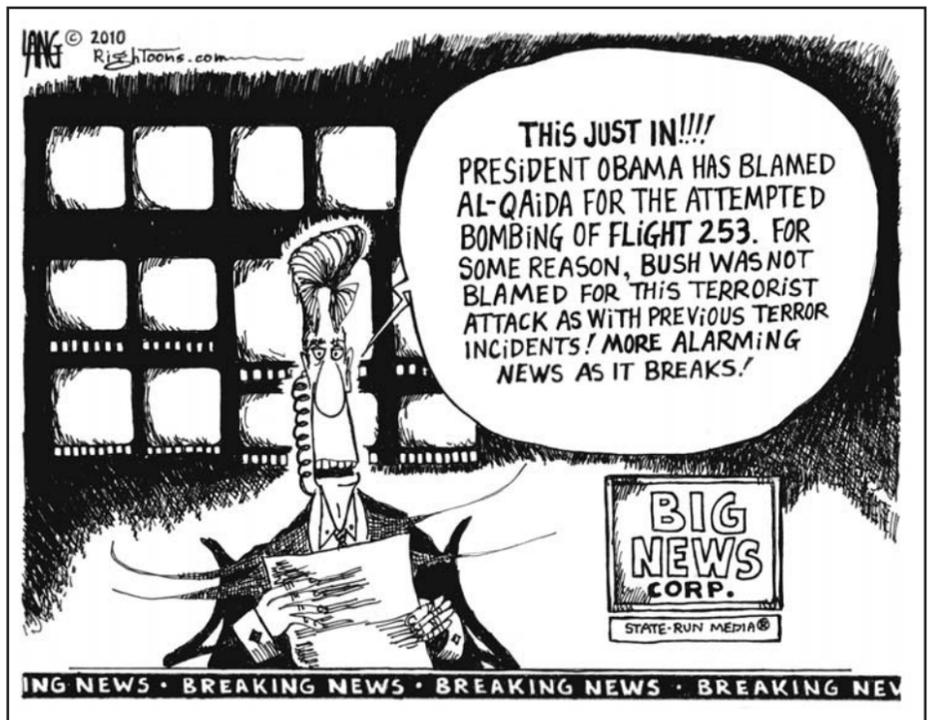
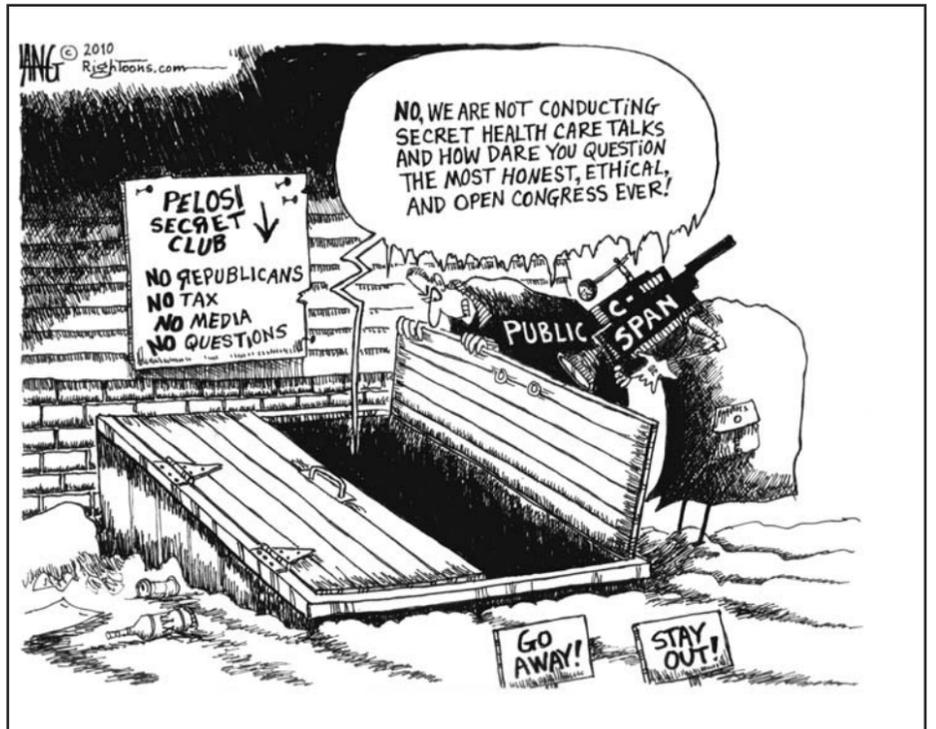


Paul A. Ibbetson

to the pre-9/11 reactive criminal justice style of opposition to terrorism. If we put the actions of Barack Obama in the war on terror on the plate of reality, how is he presenting America to those that want to kill us? Is there any doubt left in this great nation that Obama is inviting terrorists to our doorstep through these actions?

While American soldiers continue to fight abroad, Obama's months of indecision to send the requested troops to Afghanistan in combination with a public troop withdrawal date sends a clear message that this administration is not in the fight. The Homeland Secretary's attempt to change the word "terrorism" into "man-caused disasters" shows our enemies that we have less of a desire to get away from promoting the politics of fear to the world, and more that this administration operates within the politics of the frightened when

See Conscience on page 10



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- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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Men's Basketball - 2009-10 13-1

Schedule/Results Season

Date	Opponent	Opp Rank	Location	Time (CST)	Results	Media
Sun, Nov 08	Pittsburg State (Exh.)	-	Manhattan	3 p.m.	89 - 53 (W)	
Fri, Nov 13	Loyola Chicago	-	Manhattan	7 p.m.	92 - 54 (W)	
Sun, Nov 15	Western Illinois	-	Manhattan	3 p.m.	82 - 50 (W)	
O'Reilly Auto Parts Puerto Rico Tipoff						
Thu, Nov 19	Boston University	-	at San Juan, Puerto Rico	6:30 p.m.	80 - 70 (W)	
Fri, Nov 20	Ole Miss	-	at San Juan, Puerto Rico	7:30 p.m.	74 - 86 (L)	
Sun, Nov 22	Dayton 18/21	-	at San Juan, Puerto Rico	4:30 p.m.	83 - 75 (W)	
K-State Holiday Classic						
Sat, Nov 28	IUPUI	-	Kansas City, Mo. (Sprint Center)	3 p.m.	70 - 57 (W)	
Tue, Dec 01	Fort Hays State	-	Manhattan	7 p.m.	83 - 76 (W)	
Big 12 / Pac-10 Hardwood Series						
Sat, Dec 05	Washington State	-	Manhattan	8 p.m.	86 - 69 (W)	
Tue, Dec 08	Xavier	-	Manhattan	8 p.m.	71 - 56 (W)	
Sat, Dec 12	UNLV	-	at Las Vegas, Nev. (Orleans Arena)	6 p.m.	95 - 80 (W)	
Coors Classic						
Sat, Dec 19	Alabama	-	at Mobile, Ala. (Mitchell Center)	8 p.m.	87 - 74 (W)	
Mon, Dec 21	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	-	Manhattan	7 p.m.	90 - 76 (W)	
Tue, Dec 29	Cleveland State	-	Manhattan	7 p.m.	85 - 56 (W)	
Sun, Jan 03	South Dakota	-	Manhattan	12 p.m.	91 - 69 (W)	
Sat, Jan 09	Missouri *	-	at Columbia, Mo.	1 p.m.	ESPN2	
Tue, Jan 12	Texas A&M *	-	Manhattan	6 p.m.	ESPN2	
Sat, Jan 16	Colorado *	-	at Boulder, Colo.	3 p.m.	Big 12 Network	
Mon, Jan 18	Texas *	-	Manhattan	8 p.m.	ESPN	
Sat, Jan 23	Oklahoma State *	-	Manhattan	3 p.m.	Big 12 Network	
Tue, Jan 26	Baylor *	-	at Waco, Texas	7 p.m.	FOX Sports Kansas City	
Sat, Jan 30	Kansas *	-	Manhattan	6 p.m.	ESPN	
Tue, Feb 02	Nebraska *	-	at Lincoln, Neb.	7 p.m.	Big 12 Network	
Sat, Feb 06	Iowa State *	-	at Ames, Iowa	1 p.m.	ESPN2	
Sat, Feb 13	Colorado *	-	Manhattan	5 p.m.	Big 12 Network	
Wed, Feb 17	Nebraska *	-	Manhattan	6 p.m.	FOX Sports Kansas City	
Sat, Feb 20	Oklahoma *	-	at Norman, Okla.	5 p.m.	ESPNU	
Tue, Feb 23	Texas Tech *	-	at Lubbock, Texas	7 p.m.	Big 12 Network	
Sat, Feb 27	Missouri *	-	Manhattan	7 p.m.	ESPNU	
Wed, Mar 03	Kansas *	-	at Lawrence, Kan.	7 p.m.	Big 12 Network	
Sat, Mar 06	Iowa State *	-	Manhattan	5 p.m.	Big 12 Network	
Phillips 66 Big 12 Championship						
Wed, Mar 10	TBA	-	at Kansas City, Mo. (Sprint Center)	TBA		

* Conference Games



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Free Press Sports

MANHATTAN FREE PRESS - Thursday, January 7, 2010

6A

No. 10 Wildcats Run Win Streak to 10

MANHATTAN, Kan. -- Jacob Pullen's six three-point field goals and 23 total points paced Kansas State and Dominique Sutton chipped in a double-double as the 12th-ranked Wildcats won their 10th straight game with a convincing 91-69 victory Sunday over South Dakota at Bramlage Coliseum.

With the win, the Wildcats wrapped up the non-conference portion of their schedule at 13-1 and are off to their best start since the 1958-59 squad also began 13-1. The last time a K-State team won 10 games in a row was back in 1993-94. South Dakota dropped to 6-7 on the year with the loss.

Pullen led the Wildcats in scoring for the 10th time this season and reached the 20-point plateau for the sixth time in 2009-10. Five total Wildcats scored in double figures on Sunday as Curtis Kelly added 15

points, Denis Clemente and Sutton each had 14 and Jamar Samuels pitched in 13.

K-State shot 43.2-percent on the day, while South Dakota hit on 48.3-percent of its field goals. But, rebounding and forcing turnovers were the difference in the game as the Wildcats forced 23 turnovers on the afternoon and turned them into a whopping 40 points. K-State also out-rebounded South Dakota, 52-33, on the day and collected 29 offensive boards.

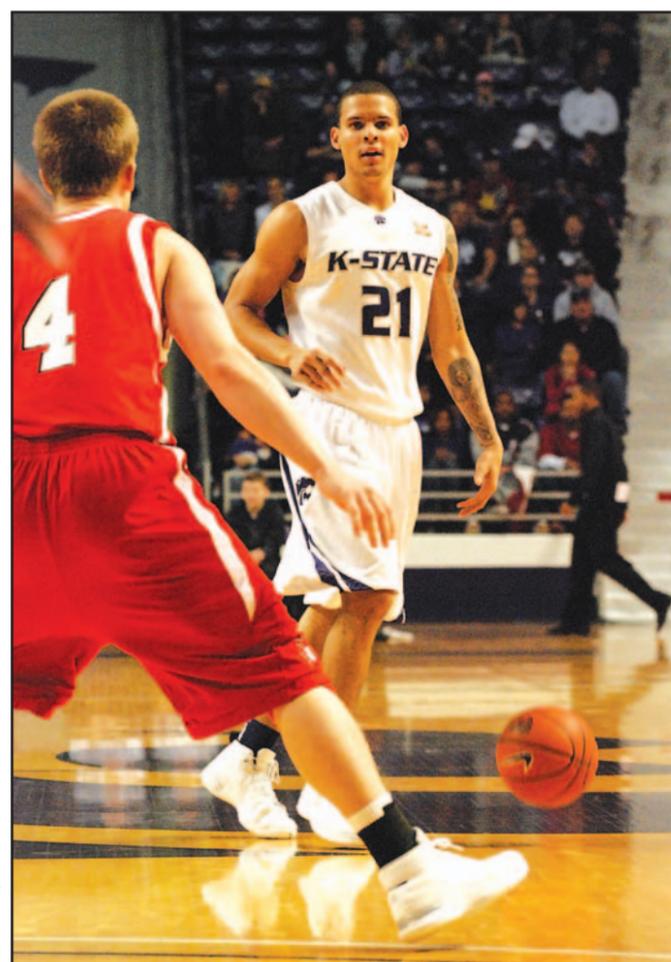
K-State opened the game on a 13-4 run and got nine of those points from Pullen and extended the lead to 11 at 19-8 on a Clemente runner in transition. The Wildcats extended their lead to as many as 25 at 51-26 in the first half after closing on an 18-2 run over the final five minutes.

Four Wildcats finished the first half in double figures as K-State out-

rebounded South Dakota, 26-15, over the first 20 minutes. Seventeen of those rebounds came on the offensive end, leading to 17 second-chance points.

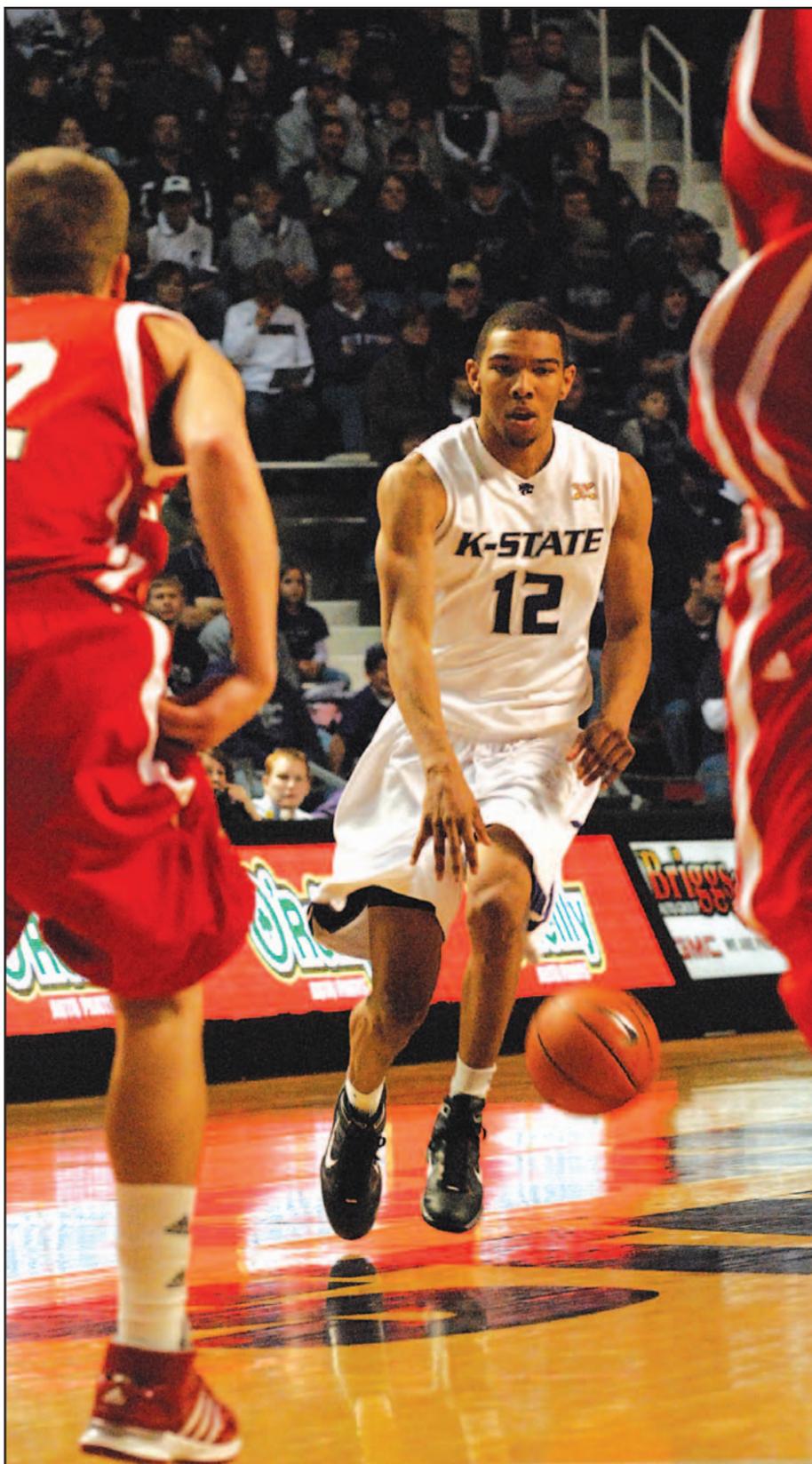
K-State came out firing from 3-point range in the second half, going 3-of-3 from behind the arc in the first three minutes of the half, quickly upping its lead to 34 points at the 17:42 mark. Pullen hit a 3-pointer at the 19:33 mark to move past Wildcat legend Lon Kruger for 15th on the K-State career scoring list. The Wildcats led from start to finish, with much of the Wildcat bench notching valuable minutes as K-State closed out the 22-point victory.

K-State will open Big 12 Conference play on Saturday when it visits Missouri for a 1 p.m. matchup. The contest will be televised nationally on ESPN2 and can be heard over radio on the K-State Sports Network.



(Photos by Ben Brake)

Guard Denis Clemente



Guard Nick Russell



Guard Rodney McGruder

Wildcats Run Past Bulldogs

KSU News Service

Ashley Sweat led a trio of Wildcats in double figures with 18 points as Kansas State won its third game in a row with a 78-59 win over Yale Saturday at Bramlage Coliseum. With the win, the Wildcats moved to 8-6 on the year, while Yale dropped to 4-7.

An 18-0 K-State run that spanned the final four minutes of the first half and the first three of the second half broke open a close contest and proved to be the difference on Saturday.

Sweat led the way for the Wildcats with her 18 points, while Brittany Chambers pitched in 16 points and Taelor Karr 15. Karr's 15 points came via a career-best five three-pointers on the afternoon as she was on fire from long range making 5-of-8 shots.

The Bulldogs held a 17-7 advantage early in the first half, but the Wildcats heated up from the field over the final five minutes to take a 34-28 lead at the break. Behind Sweat, who had 12 first-half points, the Wildcats closed the first half on a 9-0 run and scored 14 of the final 16 points in the first half.

Both teams shot 40-percent from the floor in the first half, while the Cats connected on 5-of-15 three-pointers during the first 20 minutes.

K-State picked up right where it left off in the first half by scoring the first nine points in the second half to take a 43-28 lead. Yale's 3-pointer at the 17:02 mark in the game snapped the 18-point run for the Wildcats.

The Bulldogs would get as



Guard Brittany Chambers

close as six at 53-47 but the Wildcats put the game away with a rain of 3-pointers to outscore Yale 25-12 over the last nine minutes of the contest. K-State made 12 shots from long distance in the contest to put the Bulldogs away including 7-of-11 in the second half.

K-State opens Big 12 Conference play next Saturday when it hosts rival Kansas. The game, which will be televised nationally by Fox Sports Net, will tip at 11 a.m.

Tickets remain available online at www.k-statesports.com or by calling the athletics ticket office at 1-800-221-CATS.

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K-State Women's Basketball - 8 - 6 2009-10 Schedule/Results Season

Date	Opponent	Location	Time (CST)	Results	Media
Tue, Nov 03	Fort Hays State (Ex)	Manhattan, Kan.	7 p.m.	81 - 68 (W)	
Mon, Nov 09	Pittsburg State (Ex)	Manhattan, Kan.	7 p.m.	89 - 61 (W)	
Sat, Nov 14	Indiana State	Manhattan, Kan.	5 p.m.	73 - 77 (L)	
Mon, Nov 16	Arkansas State	Manhattan, Kan.	7 p.m.	79 - 80 (L) OT	
Fri, Nov 20	Washington State	Manhattan, Kan.	7 p.m.	70 - 63 (W)	
Mon, Nov 23	Creighton	at Omaha, Neb.	7:05 p.m.	54 - 63 (L)	
Fri, Nov 27	BYU	at Provo, Utah	4:30 p.m. (CT)	65 - 62 (W)	
Wed, Dec 02	Arkansas	at Fayetteville, Ark.	7 p.m.	58 - 60 (L)	
Commerce Bank Wildcat Classic					
Fri, Dec 04	Missouri State vs. UTEP	at Manhattan, Kan.	4 p.m.		
Fri, Dec 04	Grambling State	Manhattan, Kan.	6 p.m.	64-60 (W)	
Sat, Dec 05	Consolation Game	at Manhattan, Kan.	1 p.m.		
Sat, Dec 05	Championship Game	at Manhattan, Kan.	3 p.m.	87-62 (W)	
Sun, Dec 13	Northwestern	Manhattan, Kan.	2 p.m.	50-53 (L)	
Duel in the Desert					
Sat, Dec 19	Hawaii	at Las Vegas, Nev.	9:30 p.m. (CT)	61-71 (L)	
Sun, Dec 20	VCU	at Las Vegas, Nev.	4:30 p.m./9:30 p.m.	73-67 (W)	
Mon, Dec 21	TBA	at Las Vegas, Nev.	TBA	59-55 (W)	
Tue, Dec 29	UC Davis	at Davis, Calif.	9 p.m. (CT)	73-59 (W)	
Sat, Jan 02	Yale	Manhattan, Kan.	2 p.m.	78-59 (W)	
Sat, Jan 09	Kansas *	Manhattan, Kan.	11 a.m.		FSN K-State Sports Network
Wed, Jan 13	Missouri *	at Columbia, Mo.	6 p.m.		K-State Sports Network
Sat, Jan 16	Oklahoma State *	at Stillwater, Okla.	7 p.m.		K-State Sports Network
Wed, Jan 20	Colorado *	Manhattan, Kan.	7 p.m.		FSN Kansas City
Sat, Jan 23	Nebraska *	at Lincoln, Neb.	11 a.m.		FSN K-State Sports Network
Sun, Jan 31	Iowa State *	Manhattan, Kan.	2 p.m.		K-State Sports Network
Wed, Feb 03	Baylor *	Manhattan, Kan.	7 p.m.		K-State Sports Network
Sun, Feb 07	Kansas *	at Lawrence, Kan.	1 p.m.		MetroSports K-State Sports Network
Wed, Feb 10	Missouri *	Manhattan, Kan.	7 p.m.		FSN Kansas City K-State Sports Network
Sat, Feb 13	Texas A&M *	at College Station, Texas	7 p.m.		K-State Sports Network
Wed, Feb 17	Texas *	at Austin, Texas	7 p.m.		K-State Sports Network
Sun, Feb 21	Oklahoma *	Manhattan, Kan.	2 p.m.		FSN K-State Sports Network
Wed, Feb 24	Texas Tech *	Manhattan, Kan.	7 p.m.		FSN Kansas City K-State Sports Network
Sat, Feb 27	Iowa State *	at Ames, Iowa	7 p.m.		K-State Sports Network
Wed, Mar 03	Colorado *	at Boulder, Colo.	8 p.m. (CT)		K-State Sports Network
Sat, Mar 06	Nebraska *	Manhattan, Kan.	12 p.m.		K-State Sports Network
2010 Phillips 66 Big 12 Championships					
Thu, Mar 11 -					
Sun, Mar 14	TBA	at Kansas City, Mo.	TBA		

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The Board of County Commissioners Minutes

The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building December 28, 2009 with the following members present: Mike Kearns, Vice Chair; Karen McCulloh, Member; and Cindy Kabriel sitting in for Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Alvan Johnson, Chair, was absent.

8:30 Public Comment & Business Meeting
Debbie Regester, Register of Deeds; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; and Joyce Mermis, KMAN, attended.

Shepek said \$85,000.00 will be transferred from the General Fund to the RCPD Fund this week.

McCulloh moved to approve "Resolution No. 122809-40, A Resolution appointing Riley County representatives to advisory boards" and sign letters of appointments for the following:

Kenneth Schweitzer
Comm Dist 2 3-year term
Appointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2012 Board of Zoning Appeals

Jason Haller
Comm Dist 1 4-year term
Appointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2013 Fair Board

Chuck Voelker
Comm Dist 2 4-year term
Appointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2013 Fair Board

Janet Kiser
Comm Dist 3 4-year term
Reappointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2013 Fair Board

Edna Williams
Comm Dist 1 3-year
Appointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2012

Museum Board of Trustees
Chuck Tannehill
Comm Dist 3 3-year
Appointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2012 Museum Board of Trustees

Kevin Larson
Comm Dist 2 3-year
Appointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2012
Museum Board of Trustees
Dr. Michaeline Chance-Reay

Comm Dist 2 1-year
Appointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2010 North Central-Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging

Sam Schmidt
Comm Dist 3 2-year
Appointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2011 North Central-Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging

Carroll Hess
Comm Dist 1 3-year
Reappointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2012 Pawnee Mental Health

Tom Finney
Comm Dist 2 3-year term
Reappointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2012 Riley County Council on Aging

Dr. Tom Taul
Comm Dist 3 3-year term
Reappointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2012 Riley County Planning Board

Julie Henton
Comm Dist 2 3-year term
Appointment January 1, 2010-December 31, 2012 Riley County Planning Board

Karen McCulloh
Comm Dist 3 2-year term
Reappointment February 1, 2010- January 31, 2012 Riley County-Manhattan Health Board

Dr. Matthew Floersch
Comm Dist 1 2-year term
Reappointment February 1, 2010- January 31, 2012 Riley County-Manhattan Health Board

Dr. Derek Mosier
Comm Dist 2 2-year term
Reappointment February 1, 2010- January 31, 2012 Riley County-Manhattan Health Board

Katie Thompson-Laswell
Comm Dist 1 2-year term
Reappointment February 1, 2010- January 31, 2012 Riley County-Manhattan Health Board

Brady Burton
Comm Dist 2 2-year term
Reappointment February 1, 2010- January 31, 2012 Riley County-Manhattan Health Board

Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.
McCulloh moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for the Richard T. Stultz Trust and the Barbara Ann Stultz Trust (177-35-0-40-03-011.00-0) for tax year 2009. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$869.30. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for Steven W. and Melanie S. Graber (175-15-0-00-00-002.04-0) for tax year 2009. This results in an increase in tax dollars of \$4,740.86. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for Fishgill Inc. (104-18-0-00-00-002.00-0) for tax year 2009. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$336.36. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for Elton W. and Vicki McDonald (089-29-0-00-00-002.00-0) for tax year 2009. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$74.20. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for Steven W. and Melanie S. Graber (175-15-0-00-00-001.08-0) for tax year 2009. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$4,362.92. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

The Board of County Commissioners signed Riley County Personnel Action Forms for the following:

Delores Grater, an Administrative Assistant II, in the Noxious Weed Department, for Separation from County Service, effective December 28, 2009.

Keirsten Cagle, a new hire, as a Records Assistant I, in the Register of Deeds' Office, at a grade F step 1, at \$13.13 per hour.

Brian Wurtz, a new hire, as a Public Works Operator II, in the Road and Bridge Department, at a grade I step 1, at \$15.20 per hour.

Kearns moved to sign a letter to Joshua Svaty with the Kansas Department of Agriculture regarding the commission's serious concern with the loss of local food service inspectors in Riley County. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

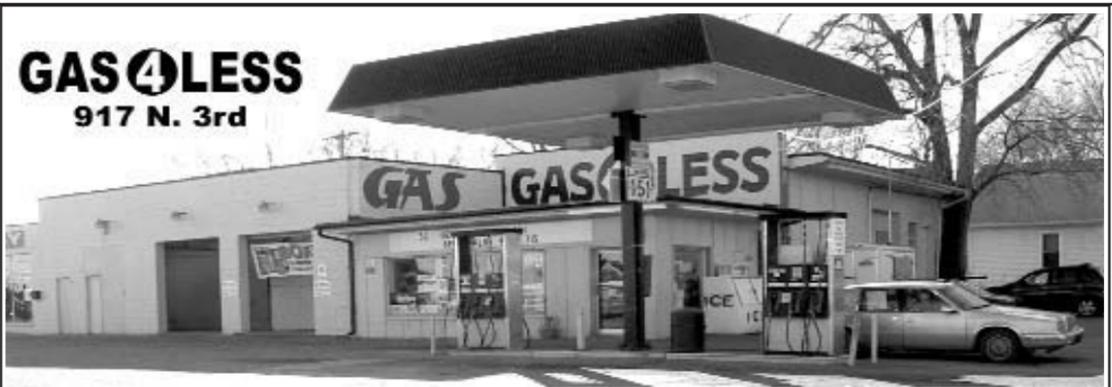
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Commission Minutes

McCulloh moved to approve the minutes of December 21, 2009 as presented. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

8:58 Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

Bruce McMillan, McMillan Architects, AIA; Joyce Mermis, KMAN; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Gary Grubbs, Riley County Police Department; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Hobson discussed Change Order Request #21 for the LEC expansion project.

McMillan discussed the removal of a wall and relocation of conduit.

Grubbs said there is concern for safety and liability if the wall is not removed. He also pointed out that due to the wall extending into the corridor two correctional officers could not pass it abreast of each other.

Kearns stated that in his experi-

ence that situation is unacceptable where a need by fast action by more than one individual is necessary and thus he could support the change order.

McCulloh moved for staff to proceed with Change Order Request #21 for the LEC expansion project. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

9:15 Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

Joyce Mermis, KMAN; Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works Director/Parks Director; Larry Couchman, EMS Director; Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director; Jerry Wofford, Manhattan Mercury; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Shepek discussed 2009 and 2010 non-funded CIP projects.

The commission requested Shepek to schedule a work session on the matter early in the year.

9:30 Press Conference

Jim and Marilyn Russell; Doug Russell; David and Sherrie Russell; Rod Cook; Jerry Wofford, Manhattan Mercury; Joyce Mermis, KMAN;

Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works Director/Parks Director; Doug Messer, Assistant Fire Chief; Larry Couchman, EMS Director; Jerry Wofford, Manhattan Mercury; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Meredith said the Road and Bridge crews have been out treating roads since Thursday.

Meredith presented pictures of the snowstorm.

P. Collins said on Saturday, December 19, 2009 the Riley County Fire District #1 held its annual firefighter recognition banquet at the Blue Hills Room in Manhattan. P. Collins said more than 130 volunteers and their family members attended the event.

The commissioners presented a plaque for 40-years of service to Jim Russell as a volunteer firefighter.

McCulloh said she attended a RPO meeting for Alvan Johnson, Riley

County's representative on the committee. McCulloh presented a Regional Planning Organization Meeting update.

10:10 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

Administrative Work Session
Joyce Mermis, KMAN; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Jerry Wofford, Manhattan Mercury; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

10:10 Kearns moved that the County Commission recess into executive session on pending litigation for the purpose of consultation with an attorney for the Commission which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 10:15 a.m. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

10:14 Kearns moved to go out of executive session. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

No binding action was taken during the executive session.

10:15 Holeman discussed the Aggieville Substation Lease for RCPD.

Holeman said Gwyn Riffel, landlord for the substation is willing to leave the lease amount the same as in the past 3-years. According to Holeman Mr. Riffel based his decision out of respect for the relationship of the parties and his belief a substation is needed in Aggieville.

Holeman discussed the renewal of Indigent Defense Panel Contracts for 2010.

Holeman said he would like to send letters to the six members indigent defense panel stating the Board has exercised its option to renew their contracts.

The commission agreed for Holeman to send letters to the indigent defense panel.

10:30 Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

Joyce Mermis, KMAN; Jerry Wofford, Manhattan Mercury; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

10:30 Kearns opened the Public Hearing for the 2009 Budget Amendment.

Shepek presented the 2009 budget amendment.

10:43 Kearns closed the public hearing.

McCulloh moved to approve the 2009 Budget Amendment. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

10:54 Craig Cox, Assistant County Counselor and Anne Smith, aTa Director

from page 9

Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

Cox discussed a draft Federal Transportation Administration Lease Agreement.

Smith said the FDA has asked aTa Bus to begin the rezoning process for the Riley County land aTa Bus will lease.

Kearns moved to sign an application for a conditional use permit for an aTa Bus facility. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

11:10 Dawn Shoffner, Assistant Director of Technology

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Robert Nall, Information Technology Director; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Shoffner presented the new design for Riley County's website.

McCulloh suggested working to incorporate the ability to pay on-line for services such as a water bill and other interactive transactions.

Nall said the content of the website is up to the department.

The commissioners said the website design looks fine, but suggested changing the cursive font.

Shoffner will contact CivicPlus to see if this change can be made.

11:38 McCulloh moved to adjourn. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

"Conscience of Kansas"

from page 4

it comes to facing radical Islamic terrorism. When U.S. Army Major Nidal Malik Hasan, you know, the guy whose business cards read "soldier of Allah," killed American soldiers on American soil, Barack Obama's first words were that we should not be quick to come to judgment. When Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the terrorist who attempted to blow up Northwest Flight 253 is caught, instead of screaming the war cry that Americans won't stand for this, the news is pro-saic with statements that the unfortunate happening was an isolated incident in combination with Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano's mild concern over the event and praise for post-event procedures.

The bottom line is that presentation matters, and Barack Obama would do well to embrace the Reagan philosophy of "Peace through Strength" before it is too late. To those who are put out over the idea of

having to hold their bowels one hour before airport landings or being made to parade in front of full-body scanners, projecting their little naked selves at the airport, all I can say is this, "you ain't seen nothing yet." As the Obama administration continues to present America as a country unable to hear, speak, or think about bringing the fight to the terrorists, frequent flyers should prepare themselves for future cavity searches with their names on them and much, much more.

The answer is as obvious as a poorly cooked Lobster and Prawn Mornay, well, more like a poorly cooked T-bone; this administration cannot handle the heat of the kitchen when it comes to fighting radical Islamic terrorists and those that aid them. While Obama twiddles and vacillates on the issue of fighting and destroying an enemy that is not going to stop, we, the American people, will be forced to eat every un-tasty dish in

the form of suffering the consequences of presenting a weak front in the war on terror.

Paul A. Ibbetson is a former Chief of Police of Cherryvale, Kansas, and member of the Montgomery County Drug Task Force. Paul received his Bachelor's and Master's degree in Criminal Justice at Wichita State University, and is currently completing his PhD. in sociology at Kansas State University. Paul is the author of the books *Living Under The Patriot Act: Educating A Society and Feeding Lions: Sharing The Conservative Philosophy In A Politically Hostile World*. Paul is also the radio host of the Kansas Broadcasting Association's 2008 and 2009 Entertainment Program of the Year, *Conscience of Kansas* airing on KSDB Manhattan 91.9 f.m. www.ibbetsonusa.com. For interviews or questions, please contact ibbetson91.9@gmail.com

Thoughts

from page 4

Bronze Star, the Combat Infantry Badge and other ribbons. He returned home in May 1946 and entered KSU in September on the GI Bill and earned a degree in Business in 1950 and worked for Kansas Farm Bureau as Information Systems Manager until he retired in 1986. He lives in Manhattan with his wife, the former Marilyn Mitchell. They have 3 children, all living in Kansas. Mr. Sharp is a part time farmer/cattlemen with farm and cattle interests in Morris County. He is also a researcher and writer of books such as "A Diary of a Combat Infantryman" and "Black Settlers on the Kaw Indian Reservation."

Dick Jepsen of Manhattan is another Battle of the Bulge warrior. "I am a native Kansan, born in Lincoln County, Kansas. My mother was a married, rural schoolteacher and they seldom stayed more than one year at each school, so we moved a lot.

"My poor eyesight prevented me from volunteering for the military. I was drafted in September 1943 at age 18, assigned to the 42nd Infantry Division and took basic training at Camp Gruber near Muskogee, OK. I volunteered for overseas service and landed in Scotland in May 1944. I was shipped to Normandy on July 4, 1944 and assigned to the 30th Infantry Division. We were in the forefront of several major battles. General Eisenhower asked the European Theater Army

historians to rate the divisions and the 30th was rated as the number one division in Europe-pretty good for a NC National Guard unit.

"I was a messenger for three months, then assigned to a heavy machine gun squad in October 1944. When the Battle of the Bulge started December 16th our unit headed for Malmedy, Belgium. We arrived about noon and fought off one of the major attacks and several smaller attacks made by Gen Pieper. One of our regiments wiped out the remainder at Stavelot and Stomont, Belgium, a few days later. This wiped out almost all the Nazi power on the north flank and the emphasis turned to stopping the Germans in the south and west. We fought German paratroopers from Malmedy to St. Vith over a period of 3-4 days. We were ordered to stop and let the 7th Armored Division take St. Vith in recognition of their heroic stand at St. Vith at the start of the German drive. Our unit then returned to the Ruhr River and continued leading the assault against Nazi forces, driving them back across the Rhine River and to the Elbe River by VE Day."

After the war, Mr. Jepsen graduated from KSU with a degree in Animal Science and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army from ROTC. With a combination of active duty, National Guard and Reserve duty, COL Jepsen retired in 1985 after four decades of military service. While in the military, he was

awarded five Combat Stars, three Bronze Stars, the Combat Infantry Badge and other awards.

Dick's primary civilian career was in Kansas State Extension Service and involved such tasks as the Rural Civil Defense Specialist and starting up the Rural Safety and Health Center. After his retirement from Extension Service in 1985, he began another career. Mr. Jepsen was elected a Riley County Commissioner in 1988 and served one term, choosing not to run for a second term. Instead, he organized the Kansas Veteran's Cemetery Alliance composed of veterans mainly from Manhattan and Junction City. The Committee worked with State Senator Lana Oleen to establish a statewide veteran's cemetery system and with US Senator Pat Roberts to get the veteran's cemetery built near the Manhattan airport. In 2000 he organized a fund raising effort to build a WW II Memorial at KSU. With the help of KSU officials and a group composed of statewide veterans we were successful in raising funds to complete the first phase of this Memorial in 2009.

COL Jenson is married to the former Wanda Geering of Lincoln County, KS. They reside in Manhattan and have four children.

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THE TIE STILL HOLDS -- Kirk Schulz, left, Kansas State University's recently inaugurated 13th president, tries out his new, official Kansas Forest Service cap as State Forester Larry Biles kicks off a 100th anniversary celebration. The KFS is the outcome of a forestry division instituted at K-State in 1909.

Century Mark for State Forest Service Shows Kansans' Abiding Love of Trees

For those who learned about Kansas through "The Wizard of Oz" or "Little House on the Prairie," a new state milestone could seem strange, even bewildering.

But, deep-rooted Kansans see nothing odd about it. This December, Kirk Schulz seemed at home with the idea, too, as he helped the Kansas Forest Service celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Shultz was part of the celebration because he recently became the 13th president of Kansas State University.

The forest service traces its history back to 1909, when Gov. Walter R. Stubbs created a forestry division at K-State (then called Kansas State Agricultural College). That tie remains.

"We're still understaffed and underfunded, much as we were in 1909," said State Forester Larry Biles. "Looking back, though, we have plenty of reason to be proud. Professional forestry has had a profound impact in the state. It's touched many thousands of peoples' lives and

improved both the livability and the sustainability of Kansas itself.

"If nothing else, think about all of the Kansas-grown Christmas trees that were available this year. Many of them started out as seedlings in our Conservation Tree Planting Program."

Until the Louisiana Purchase made Kansas a U.S. possession in 1803, its trees were mostly an unknown - except, that is, to roaming Indians and huge, nomadic buffalo herds.

In the decades after that, however, Kansas' forests - especially those near streams and rivers - came under enormous pressure.

Frontier Army posts, relocated Indian tribes, gold seekers, U.S. settlers and railroad crews all had a cumulative impact, said Larry Rutter, certified Kansas Tree Farmer and now forestry historian, retired from the Kansas Historical Society.

In the mid 1800s, violent disagreements about slavery joined the mix, turning parts of the territory into "Bleeding (burning) Kansas," he said. Other parts became the log-built Wild West of dime novel fame.

Believe It or Not

"History suggests, though, that Kansans were already becoming prudent - at least on the subject of trees," said Bob Atchison, KFS rural forestry coordinator. "If you compare what they were doing about trees then with what we remember as popular history now, the contrast can be pretty amazing."

For example, just two years after becoming a state, Kansas in 1863 founded what's arguably the oldest U.S. land-grant university. It would be a center for High Plains forestry research, teaching and Extension.

That was a year before Jim Mead opened a trading post in the site known now as Wichita, Kan. It was two years before the Chisholm Trail opened Kansas for marketing Texas longhorns. The Russian Mennonites who brought Turkey Red winter wheat to the state wouldn't arrive for another 11 years.

As those Mennonites were settling, however, Kansas was already leading the nation in filing claims under the Timber Culture Act (1873-1891). This law gave homesteaders title to a quarter-section of land if they'd agree to plant 10 acres of trees on it.

"The Timber Culture Act established more trees here than any program since. Many of those plantations still stand today," Atchison said.

"Also, at one time, almost every farm and weekly paper had a column

named 'Tree Topics' or 'Timber Tales.' Our settlers clearly had an abiding interest in forests, in trees."

Rutter added that the state itself established a Commissioner of Forestry office in 1887. Kansas was the fifth state in the nation to have that kind of agency.

"One of Kansas' first state foresters captured the essence of the period," the historian said. "In a 1926 book titled 'Trees in Kansas,' he wrote, 'Tree planting was a fetish in the early years of settlement.'"

Dust Bowl and Beyond

"With our move to K-State in 1909, professional forestry shifted from being governmental to being oriented toward science, education and service," said State Forester Biles. "Unfortunately, accomplishing some of Gov. Stubbs' ambitious goals for us in those areas took quite a while."

The end of the 1800s had given rise to a host of inventors. Their work-saving machines included several that allowed farmers to plant more acres without more labor, Biles said. After that, World War I brought record demand and prices because U.S. farmers had to feed nations overseas, as well as the United States.

"An astounding amount of forest and grassland fell under the plow," he said. "Then, more unfarmed land came into production as farmers tried to counter a post-war recession that got worse for years and years."

U.S. farmers set a production record in 1931, but the Great Depression was ensuring most buyers were too poor to care. Then, the rains

stopped. And, the Plains started setting heat records that still stand today.

As Dust Bowl farmers' suffering escalated, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proposed a solution - plant more than 200 million trees in a shelter belt from Canada to Abilene, Tex. His idea of using trees to break the wind's force and hold topsoil and water in place remain goals for the Kansas Forest Service today.

The service has adopted multifaceted approaches to provide "Care of Natural Resources and Service to People Through Forestry." Some have become familiar names: Smokey Bear ... Arbor Day Poster Contest ... Tree City USA ... Champion Trees of Kansas ... the Forest Stewardship Program ... the Kansas Forest Inventory record ... Firewise-Kansas ... the (firefighter) Red Card Qualification System.

The KFS also offers regular workshops and field days, plus professional plans and/or technical help for landowners, rural firefighters, arborists, timber/nut growers and processors, road planners, city tree boards, wildlife promoters, teachers, and anyone with property next to a stream or river. It helps connect Kansans to surplus firefighting equipment and government cost-share programs. It grows thousands of low-cost, Plains-tough tree and shrub seedlings yearly for Kansans' conservation plantings. Descriptions of such programs and lists of forestry-related resources are on the Web at

<http://www.kansasforests.org/>.



TOO HARD TO CROSS - Kansas has about 384,000 acres - the northern range -- of the oldest "old-growth" forest in the eastern United States. Called Cross Timbers, the woodland start beside southeast Kansas' Toronto Lake and ends in central Texas. Its trees can be twisted, short and gnarly, which may help explain their survival. It now includes recreations areas, but Washington Irving ("Legend of Sleepy Hollow") said trying to traverse Cross Timbers in 1832 was "like struggling through forests of cast iron."

-- Ancient Cross Timbers Consortium, University of Arkansas photo



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