



Manhattan Free Press

Vol. 19 Number 38

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Pullen, McGruder Named To Coaches' All Big 12 Team



Jacob Pullen (Photos by Ben Brake)

Senior Jacob Pullen became the school's first two-time All-Big 12 first team selection, while sophomore Rodney McGruder was chosen to the third team, as the league office announced its annual coaches' postseason awards on Sunday.

Pullen, along with Colorado's Alec Burks, were the league's only unanimous selections to the all-conference team, while he was the lone repeat choice on the first team from last season. He is the first Wildcat to repeat first team honors since Norris Coleman made it on the All-Big Eight team in 1986 and 1987. He is just the 17th player in school history to earn first team honors more than once in a career dating back to Missouri Valley Conference play in 1915. Pullen also earned first team accolades from several other media outlets, including the Kansas City Star and Yahoo! Sports. He was also selected to the six-man Coaches' All-Defensive Team for the second consecutive season. He was chosen the Defensive Player of the Year by Yahoo! Sports.

Just the school's second 2,000-point scorer, Pullen led the team in 11 categories, including scoring (19.6 ppg.), double-digit scoring games (26), 20-point games (15), free throws (152), assists (101), steals (46) and minutes played (32.3). He connected on 42.1 percent (166-of-394) from the field, including 37.6 percent (64-of-170) from 3-point range, to go with a 77.2 percent clip (152-of-197) from the free throw line. He was even better in Big 12 play, averaging a league-best 21.4 points on 41.6 percent (99-of-238) from the field, including 40.2 percent (39-of-97) from 3-point range, with 3.4 assists, 2.5 rebounds and 1.5 steals in 34.2 minutes per

game. He ranks in Top 5 of 17 career school records, including marks for games played (131), double-digit scoring games (102), 3-point field goals (289), 3-point field goals attempted (804) and steals (207).

McGruder, who led the team in 3-point field goals, earned all-league honors for the first time in his career after his selection to the third team. The only player to start all 31 games, he averaged 11.4 points on 45.1 percent shooting (124-of-275), including 41.5 percent (66-of-159) from 3-point range, to go with a team-best 6.2 rebounds and 1.5 assists in 30.5 minutes per game. He scored in double figures in 21 games, including three 20-point games. He was also named to the third team by the Kansas City Star and Yahoo! Sports.

League champion Kansas earned the Player (Marcus Morris) and Coach (Bill Self)

of the Year honors, while Texas' Dogus Balbay and Tristan Thompson were named the Defensive Player and Freshman of the Year winners. Missouri's Ricardo Ratliffe was the Newcomer of the Year and Baylor's Quincy Acy and Colorado's Levi Knutson tied for the league's Sixth Man Award.

K-State ended the regular season with a 22-9 overall record and a 10-6 mark in Big 12 play, which includes a tie for third place in the league standings and the No. 4 seed in next week's Phillips 66 Big 12 Championship at the Sprint Center. The Wildcats are one of only two teams to earn a bye in the league tournament for five consecutive seasons. They will play the winner of the contest between No. 5 seed Colorado (19-12) and No. 12 seed Iowa State (16-15) on Thursday at 2 p.m. CT.



Rodney McGruder

Bioscience Investigations Could Harm NBAF

By Rachel Whitten
KansasReporter

TOPEKA, Kan. — Accusations of mismanaged funds within the Kansas Bioscience Authority might compromise \$150 million from the federal government to build the new National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, legislative leadership said Friday.

Sen. Susan Wagle, a Republican from Wichita and chair of the Senate Commerce Committee is seeking a forensic audit into the Kansas Bioscience Authority on grounds President and CEO Tom Thornton inappropriately used agency resources for his own benefit. The accusations, brought by his former assistant Melissa Lynch, state that she was often directed to do personal errands for Thornton, and he would submit inaccurate expense reports to beef up his reimbursement.

"I frequently caught him in lies regarding where he was, what he was doing, who he was meeting with and why he wasn't in the office," according to Lynch's written testimony, of which Wagle read excerpts to committee members in a Friday hearing.

Some circumstances surrounding Lynch's departure from the state-funded Bioscience Authority remained unclear Friday. Thornton in his testimony said that Lynch "was terminated for cause," and offered to provide the committee further details in writing if members wanted. But Wagle said she had information that Lynch resigned from the authority "after giving two weeks notice."

Thornton conceded that Lynch performed some personal chores for him at his request, including using his personal checkbook to pay his lawn service and other bills. But he denied any attempts at double billing or any other abuse of taxpayer funds and told committee members that asking an assistant to help with such chores was neither unusual nor improper for executives in his position.

The Commerce Committee is preparing to approve a scope statement that would give guidelines to the Legislative

Post Audit Division in conducting the forensic audit into "whether the salary and bonus amounts paid to employees, the recent purchase of a building, and travel and other entertainment expenses are reasonable and in line," with the Bioscience Authority's purpose.

The questions surrounding Authority management practices come at nearly the same time that Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback, Senate President Steve Morris, Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley, House Speaker Mike O'Neal, and House Minority Leader Paul Davis traveled to Washington D.C. this week to lobby congressional appropriators there to approve the \$150 million President Barack Obama set aside to begin construction for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility in Manhattan, Kan.

The investigations into the Authority could compromise those efforts, said Hensley.

"I think Sen. Wagle is playing a dangerous game of high-stakes poker here, in bringing in here what she views as problems with the Kansas Bioscience Authority," Hensley said. "If we continue down this road we will jeopardize whether we are successful in getting the president's recommendations passed."

Meanwhile, Wagle believes the federal government will see the state as responsibly managing the way its agencies spend money.

"The federal government is much more comfortable with due diligence on oversight agencies," Wagle said. "They want to know our house and finances are in proper order."

The Kansas Bioscience Authority was established in 2004 by the Kansas Economic Growth Act, which designated \$581 million over 15 years to enhance research capacity while growing and supporting bioscience research and startups in Kansas.

Hensley said the negativity that comes out of the state surrounding the accusations is what alarms him.

"I don't mind having a post audit if that's the end result, but when this kind of news continues to be reported, I think it

jeopardizes the chances of completing the NBAF project," Hensley said. "We don't need people taking pot-shots here at home at what is truly a bi-partisan campaign that will be very good for the state of Kansas."

Senate President Steve Morris, a Republican from Hugoton, agreed the state needs to maintain a united front.

"Some of the unattributed comments and testimony that was being quoted in committee was not helpful to that cause," said Morris' spokesperson Patti Van Slyke. "Right now the KBA is performing very well and they would like to keep it that way while we continue to nail down funding for NBAF."

But Wagle said the investigation shouldn't affect the federal government's decision to allot the money to begin construction on the facility, which is set to open in 2014.

"I don't think the two work against each other," Wagle said. "There are enough questions out there, we need to investigate."

In 2005, Manhattan was plucked from a field of almost 30 proposed sites to replace the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Final approval has not yet been given for the new center, which will research animal diseases.

A study by the U.S. Government Accountability Office brought up concerns about building such a facility so close to agriculture and the nation's food supply. But House Speaker Mike O'Neal, a Republican from Hutchinson, said the studies into those issues have provided a valuable tool to use as the Manhattan facility is developed, and safety of the site is not disputed.

"A number of recommendations came out of that which were timely because the design will build in some of those recommendations, they were found to be helpful, certainly not a reason not to do it, but recommendations that will be incorporated into the design," O'Neal said.

Some information for this story was reported by Gene Meyer of KansasReporter.org

Amendment Would Remove 'Suitable' In Funding Law

By Rachel Whitten
KansasReporter

TOPEKA, Kan. — Kansas legislators considered a proposed one-paragraph change in the Kansas Constitution Thursday morning, that backers hope will ward off future school finance litigation filed against the state.

The Kansas House Education Committee is mulling over HCR 5010, which would change the state constitution to require the legislature to provide "equitable" state funding for schools instead of "suitable" funding, which is what is required now.

The difference lies in the idea that what is suitable funding is open to interpretation, especially by the courts. What is equitable seems clearer cut.

Because of the current wording of the law requiring the state to provide a "suitable" education, critics unhappy with school funding levels have brought suits against the state. In November, a group of more than 60 school districts called Schools for Fair Funding, sued the state for not providing what they believe to be enough

money to provide suitable education for Kansas children.

"We're not here today but for the cycle of litigation we've been in," said House Speaker Mike O'Neal, a Republican from Hutchinson who testified in favor of the proposed amendment to the Education Committee Thursday morning.

By changing the language of the constitution, the legislature would only be bound by its own definitions of equitable funding, which could vary each year if the amendment is approved, O'Neal said.

"Equitable distribution is having a school finance formula that takes the resources that the state has and distributes it in an equitable way based upon the uniqueness of the districts," O'Neal said. "Adequacy is something the legislature should determine on a year to year basis."

Opponents to the proposed amendment are concerned it would hold the legislature less accountable for the education funding it appropriates to schools, resulting in less money for schools and more reliance on local property taxes.

"We believe this proposal ... could ultimately result in either declining support for K-12 education or a return to education programs based on local wealth and taxes," said Mark Tallman with the Kansas Association of School Boards.

The Schools for Fair Funding suit is currently in its pretrial discovery stage, during which attorneys and the court prepare to schedule depositions and create a case management order that will set important dates such as the start of the trial, said John Robb, general counsel for the Schools for Fair Funding group.

State constitutional amendments must be passed by two-thirds of both the House and the Senate, and also approved by a majority of Kansas voters, to become effective. If those things happen, and voters approve a school funding amendment in the November 2012 general election, it would change the way the case is evaluated in the court, Robb said in an interview Thursday afternoon.



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Kansas' Budget Hole Gets \$1 Million Deeper

By Gene Meyer
KansasReporter

TOPEKA, Kan. - Kansas projected budget hole for 2012 got a million dollars deeper in February, some new statistics released by state legislative researchers suggest.

The Kansas Legislative Research Department reported that state general fund receipts from taxes and other sources from July 1 through the end of February totaled \$3.6 billion, up 13.5 percent from totals reported a year ago, but

\$370,000 short of totals that state officials projected for eight months of the current fiscal year.

Barring a surprise such as a bigger than expected upturn in seasonal tax collections between now and June 30, the latest numbers seem likely to increase the state's potential general fund deficits for fiscal 2012 to \$493 million, or \$1 million more than was estimated before the new numbers came out.

Kansas House and Senate

members currently are trying to negotiate spending cuts for the current 2011 fiscal year to build enough of a surplus by June 30

to help plug the expected year-later \$493 million gap. Negotiators say those talks have stalled over disagreements about how much money to spend for special education during the rest of the year.

The legislative researchers' latest report confirms preliminary numbers last week that although Kansas taxpayers since July 1 have paid nearly

\$21 million more in individual income taxes than were officially projected, those collections were offset below-projected payments of \$22 million in corporate income taxes, \$2.2 million in retail sales taxes and \$5 million in various other excise taxes.

The Kansas House Taxation Committee last week sent to the House floor a bill that would repeal a three-year 1 cent sales tax increase voted last year on which the missed projections are based.

However, because Kansas is strapped for cash and the tax is scheduled to go away in three years anyway, House leaders say they would rather spend effort on more permanent tax changes this session.

In addition to tax collections, interest payments collected since July 1 on government funds deposits reached \$14.2

million, which is \$1.8 million, or 14 percent, more than projected for the eight-month period, but \$2.2 million, or 14 percent, below year-earlier totals. Earnings from fees and other non-tax income collected, however, fell to \$36.9 million, 10 percent below projections and 5 percent below year-ago totals.

Census Data Begins a Long Redistricting Process

By Rachel Whitten
KansasReporter

TOPEKA, Kan. - Right after the Kansas Legislature finishes arguing over the state budget this spring, lawmakers will begin an even more potentially contentious project--redrawing the state's political boundaries.

Legislators will receive finalized census data from Secretary of State Kris Kobach in July, which will account for college students away from home and some military personnel. Meanwhile, the House Special Committee on

Redistricting and the Senate Select Committee on Apportionment will hold hearings and town hall meetings in local communities to get public input on the new districts.

Any part along the way, the process can get political said Reed Holwegner, with the Kansas Legislative Research Department. "Where those meetings are held even can have political ramifications, anywhere along the timeline there can be fault lines," he said.

By the start of the 2012 leg-

islative session, the work to nail down final districts will begin in earnest. After all the plans for U.S. Congressional districts, House districts, Senate districts, and State Board of Education districts are approved by both the House and Senate and signed by the governor, the new lines for the House and Senate districts will go to the Kansas Supreme Court for final approval.

The State Board of Education is not subject to judicial review, nor is U.S. Congressional districts.

However, U.S. Congressional district plans have been challenged in federal court by the state attorney general in the past, as was the case in 2002. The federal district court upheld the congressional lines in that case.

The census numbers indicate Kansas had a population shift from rural to urban portions of the state, which will impact the way district lines are redrawn for the 2012 general election.

Obituaries

Joe McNair

Joe Perkins McNair, age 89, of Manhattan, died March 3, 2011 at Mercy Regional Health Center in Manhattan.

He was born January 14, 1922, in McComb, Mississippi, the son of John and Reba (Harvey) McNair, and had been a 65 year resident of Manhattan.

Mr. McNair served in the United States Army during World War II in Europe as a Sergeant. He received the EAMETO, Good Conduct, Purple Heart and Bronze Star Medals. He was discharged from Fort Riley on May 31, 1949. He was a construction superintendent for many years

and worked the most for Green Construction.

He was a member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Carpenters Union local # 918, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1786 and American Legion Post # 17.

On December 6, 1947, in Manhattan, he was married to Norman Peters. Mrs. McNair survives of the home. Additional survivors include five children: Reba Holmes and her husband Verl of Colorado Springs, CO, John McNair and his wife Joanne of Lenexa, KS, Joe McNair and his wife Cara of Overland Park, KS, Jim McNair of Laguna Niguel, CA, and Eric McNair of Manhattan; seven grandchildren: Caroline,

Christopher and Jason Holmes, Catherine, John Jr., Joe III and John McNair; and one great-grandchildren: Micah Holmes.

He was preceded in death by his parents; step-mother, Ada; and one step-brother, Rudolf McNair.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 A.M. Friday, March 11th, at St. Luke's Lutheran Church with Pastor Jerry Radtke officiating. Interment will follow with full military honors in the Kansas Veterans' Cemetery at Fort Riley.

The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 8:00 P.M. Thursday at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home.

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

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

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Vernetta Shorter

Vernetta Shorter, age 47, of Ogden, Kansas, died Sunday March 6, at 2011 at the Mercy Regional Health Center, Manhattan, Kansas.

She was born on October 27, 1963 in Chicago, Illinois the daughter of Q.C. and Barbara (Ellis) Shorter.

Vernetta had a beautiful smile and a very loving heart that shined onto many people. She loved doing hair for people, crocheting and being with her Pomeranian dog: Cisco. Above all, Vernetta loved her grandbabies and all of her family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her brother: Timothy Shorter and a sister: Susie Cornelius Baggett.

Survivors include her son: Marzell Shorter and daughter-in-law: Danielle and her loving grandchildren: Trayonna, Traveyon, Damariyon and Aviyon Shorter of Chicago, Illinois; sisters: Doris Shorter of Manhattan, Kansas, Marilyn Shorter of Corpus Christi,

Texas and Deborah Shorter of Lawrence, Kansas; 3 brothers: Q.C Shorter of Topeka, Kansas, Kenneth Earl Shorter of Chicago, Illinois and Emanuel Shorter of Manhattan, Kansas. She is also survived by her wonderfully supporting nephew: Joseph Taylor of Ogden and over 200 nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and many many friends.

Funeral Services will be 11:00 a.m. Friday March 11, 2011 at the Bethany Union Church 1750 West 103rd, Chicago, Illinois.

Burial will be in the Restville Cemetery, Chicago, Illinois. Memorial contributions may be made to the Vernetta Shorter Memorial Fund and left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502 or the Hudson's Funeral Home 8747 South Commercial, Chicago, Illinois 60617.

Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at: www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

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Goodnow Diary

Diary of Isaac T. Goodnow for 1879.

Transcribed by the Riley County Historical Society from a copy of the original diary.

Isaac Goodnow's papers including his diaries are at the Kansas State Archives & Library in Topeka. Their website address is http://www.kshs.org/portal_state_archives_library

Note: Isaac Goodnow's handwriting is often hard to read. In the year following, the typewritten terms "P.C. & P.C.s to," refer to Postcard, & Postcards to. Brackets [] enclose missing punctuation or letters; (?) question marks indicate unsureness of written word/phrase.

Saturday, November 1, 1879

Tightened wire fence, A.M. P.M. went to town with Lizzie for Calls &c. Mudge on Evolution. Hiram got in Honduras seed & put things in order. Eve— read papers. Cold night.

Sunday, November 2, 1879

11 A.M. Sermon by Rev. J. Thompson, Bible Agent. Expected Frank but was disappointed. Eve— had to put apples down Cellar. Read papers.

Monday, November 3, 1879

Early Call from S. Whitney. Wrote Contract for Peck on Dearbon House. Cool & pleasant Morning. Call from Dr. Vail. Made out 8 Galls. Sorghum for 100 lb Flour., Williams finished trap door to Cistern, Dearbon House. Mended wire fence, Beach House. Wrote Eliza A. Reed.

Tuesday, November 4, 1879

Pleasant Morning. Tore down fence, Dearbon House. Fixed gates. Took women to town & voted county offices. Sold Lot 383 W 2. \$80. to Jane Paine. Advised Short to buy Lot 674 & 675 W6 (Elliott & Park's). Eve—read some. Hoarse still troubled with cough.

Wednesday, November 5, 1879

P.C. M. Weeks. Put in Panes of glass, Carriage room. Getting ready to leave for Denver, tomorrow. Fixed up gates, damaged by Viles, also pasture fences. Ellen, Hattie, Lizzie Called at Mr. Allen's on Maria.

Thursday, November 6, 1879

Wrote Ed Donaldson to take Colt out of pasture & put up fence. Told Mrs. Smith not to use any more Cistern water! Hiram at work on Cane House, bbls &c, &c. P.M. S.W. took me to the train for Denver, 4 O clock. Rode all night! Slept & rested well. All Strangers on the Cars.

Friday, November 7, 1879

Train 2 hrs. behind time. Engine had to be repaired. Dinner at Hugo. 3 P.M. 104 Miles from Denver, 533 from K. City. In Denver 6 1/2 P.M.; at H.L. Denison's 7 P.M. all well. Beautiful day & ride. To bed at 10 O clock. P.Card to Ellen.

Saturday, November 8, 1879

Cloudy & Coolish! Went down town. Read Some & visited. Judge Usher's Charge Judge Hallett to Jury, on K.P. Case - Verdict 3000. Snow a little. 20.

Sunday, November 9, 1879

11. Sermon by Rev. Cranston. P.M. Called at Gov. Evans but did not see him. Read papers &c. Eve— Sermon at Evans Memorial Church. Met Morrison, L. Com[*]r. D.P. RR.

Monday, November 10, 1879

Took the D.S.P.&P. R R. to Wiston, 107 Miles. Saw George at Webster, 69 miles. Pass from Col. Fisher, Horseshoe Bend, 3 of them to ascend to Kenosha Summit from N. Platt, South Park - beautiful. Put up at Grays Hotel. Cummings & Chafe. Eve— Visited t'he [Weird?] Institutions of a Mining town, gambling &c.

Tuesday, November 11, 1879

Left at 10-20 A.M. & returned to Denver. Saw G.D. on the way. Arrived at 6 P.M. Cars full. Beautiful day & the Platte Can[y]on Shown in its

glory! Grand of Grand! In Denver at 7 P.M. At H. Denison's 7-30. Tired! To bed at 9 P.M. good rest! 150 + 10.

Wednesday, November 12, 1879

Decided to rest! Went to top of tower; Fine view of City. Called on Mr. Morris, L[*]d. agent, D.P.Ry & got Passes to Boulder & Georgetown. P.M. Walked with H.L.D. to Argo & looked through Hill's Smelting works!

Thursday, November 13, 1879

C.C. RR to Boulder. Walked up Boulder Can[y]on 5 miles & rode back on load of lumber. Went up Steep hill by Water works & on to Up-turned Strata. Fine Views of City & off East. Returned to Golden & put up at Bacon's Avenue House. Wrote M.R. Bateman. To bed at 10 P.M. Slept in parlor. 1.00 + 55.

Friday, November 14, 1879

8 1/2 A.M. Narrow guage RR to Georgetown. Arrived 12 M. Climbed up East Fork of Clear Creek to Green Lake & returned at 3 P.M. & took R.R. for Denver, arriving at 8 P.M. Witnessing Some of the grandest Mountain Scenery in the World! Anderson on board from Morris Co.; bot RR Land M.K.T. Excursion satisfactory.

Saturday, November 15, 1879

Selected 1 Doz. S. Views, &c. 11-55 A.M. took the K.P. Ry for Manhattan. Beautiful day. Two Men from Leadville-Quinlan, &c. Friday, 2 men frozen in Musguets Pass. Cold Snow Storm! Friday Morning! Few passengers on train. Hugo at 4 1/2 P.M.; Dinner.

Sunday, November 16, 1879

Slept pretty well on Cars. Awoke near Brookville. Salina 7 1/4 A.M., Abilene 9 1/2 A.M. Breakfast. Manhattan at 12 M. Mrs. G. & H. at Church. All usually well. Heavy rain during my absence. Read letters & N. Papers.

Monday, November 17, 1879

Wrote H.D. Dickson. P.C. H.H. Potter, A. Smith, L.R. Elliott, R.H. Wood. Wrote E. Vicil. Hiram took me to town, after call from Dr. Stillman. Supper at Balderston's. Saw Crump, Mrs. Patterson, Young, Wilder, Sawyer. Put up at Adams House to leave in the Morning for Emporia.

Tuesday, November 18, 1879

Up at 4 1/4 A.M. Took K.P. train at 5 1/4 A.M. to J. City, thence M.K.&T to White City & Parkerville. Horseback ride to Peck's. Returned to Parkerville to dinner. Young Peck took me to White city to H.B. Weeks - Spent the night! Fremont & wife.

Wednesday, November 19, 1879

Took train at 6 3/4 A.M. to Emporia. Interview on Peck, DeMotte, Willard; Wrote DeMotte. Took train for Junction City at 7-5 P.M.; Arrived at 10 P.M. Put up at Pacific House. To bed at 11 P.M. Clear & cold.

Thursday, November 20, 1879

Up at 7 A.M. Walked 2 miles to N.C. Peck's, gave him Contract for Dearbon House. Rec[*]d. 2 M[*]ths rent, 12.50. He took me to Junction. Fixed Mortgage with Gemeny. 11. took Cars to Manhattan. Home to dinner. V.P. Wilson on train. H.S.D. took me home. Miss Stuart Sewing. Wrote C.J. Peck.

Friday, November 21, 1879

Fixed place for watering horses, Beach House. Dr. Vail Called. Emptied N.W. Corner bble for Beach House. Went town with Wood. Measured 35 Galls, Syrup- owe him 1 1/2 G. Brought home Bbl & Keg! Prof. B.F. Mudge fell dead at his door at 7 P.M.! Appoplexy! Great loss.

Saturday, November 22, 1879

Made out tax-list for non-residents. Raked in orchard-bur-grass. went to town with Ellen & Called at Prof. Mudge's afflicted family! Great loss! Dr. Marvin, Rev. Parker present. Sold C.E. Gould's lot 535W1 \$60. Left tax List with Blain. Eve.

Howard & Rollins Called. Read N.Y. Tribune.

Sunday, November 23, 1879

A.M. Sermon by Dr. Marvin. 2 1/2 P.M. Funeral Services by of Prof. B.F. Mudge. Remarks by Rev. Parker, Snow, Marvin, Lee. Very large attendance! I O of O Fellows. Dr. Marvin Went home with us & spent the night. Excellent visit.

Monday, November 24, 1879

Went with Dr. Marvin to Ag[*]l[*] College to prayers &c. & on to Bluemont: opening of a Mound Commenced by Mudge,- finished by Joseph Savage. Went to Manhattan, &c. Call from

Tuesday, November 25, 1879

Looked over tax-papers. Called on Mrs. Donaldson's. Cleared out Springs. Raked up grass-burrs in orchard for burning. Wrote Some After took Hattie to Adams House to leave early in the Morning for Emporia. 2.50, .80, .35 = 3.65, 1.00 Corset, 4.65.

Wednesday, November 26, 1879

P.C. J.A. Dean, W.H. Russell, E.A. Manning, W. Newhall, C. Parker, J. Sanders, P.D. Kenyon, W.P. Hyde, W.J. Houghanant. Wrote A.M. Sommers, C.J. Peck, Treas[*]r[*] Greenwood & Washington Cos. Looked over wood lot with H. S. Denison. With Ellen, Called at Young's, Mudge's & Seymour's. Eve— read papers. Rain in the night, Thunder.

Thursday, November 27, 1879

Thanksgiving Day. Went to Smith's & arranged water Bbl. Rode to the woods with Howard & gave him a job of cutting. Looked around Cornfield & put wall & gates. Read Some. Damp & Chilly! P.C. N. Goodrich.

Friday, November 28, 1879

Wrote H. Chandler, N.D. George, I.W. Dadmun, C. Banning, I.B. Bigelow, I.W. Fitch, A.F. Herrick, H.H. Hartwell, B. Pilsbury, J.M. Gould, C.L. Eastman, J.A. Brown, J.P. Magee, F.M. Patten, W.F. Mallaacun, C. Payne, J. Peterson, T.P. Richman & Fipley, J.H. Guglird, F. Furbed, G.D. Gale & sent tax-receipts. P.M. Called with Ellen at Griffin's & Solomon's & got 10 B. Wheat. Reception to Pres. Fairchild at College building.

Saturday, November 29, 1879

P.C. W.P. Hyde, 5.93. Went to town. Hiram threshed Cane Seed. Wrote H.D. Dixon.

Sunday, November 30, 1879

Cool & windy. Home all day. Read papers, &c. Wrote Hattie.

Monday, December 1, 1879

Set Several post at House & fixed up Stable at Dearbon House Talk with Viles. P.M. Went to train & Called at Dr. Phelps & Gills with Ellen. Got Samples of Syrup, &c. Warmer & pleasant.

Tuesday, December 2, 1879

Colder! Wrote A. Mitchell, J.B. Gould, L.A. Denslow. P.C. B.H. Weeks. Went to Dearbon House & Called on Viles. Put up gap in pasture wall. Burnt part of burgrass in pasture. Hiram put up Syrup. Wrote H.C. Pringle Draft. \$20.25 tax on NW 34-2-3.

Wednesday, December 3, 1879

Called early on Smith. Went to town; Saw Hacker, Pipher &

Elliott & Esq. on Lot 238 W2 \$90. Got Some Sand &c. P.M. took Ellen to W.F.M.'s & L.R. Elliott's. Brot up Bbl. Called on Lee & Miss Elliott at Winchip's Eve. N.G. Peck arrived with his Son & went in to the Dearbon House.

Thursday, December 4, 1879

Went with Peck & Son & Selected trees for hovel & Yard fence for Cattle & horses. Howard commenced Cutting wood; hauled in one load. Rainy P.M. & evening. Fixed woodhouse door-Lawn gate, Setting hens, & ditches in road. Hiram Filled bbl. Sorghum. Call from Solomon.

Friday, December 5, 1879

Wet Cloudy Morning & A.M. Fixed up Stove in Hiram's room. Look over assorted newspapers. Wood took away 29 Galls. Molasses. Home all day. Read papers in the Eve. Clear Starlight.

Saturday, December 6, 1879

Called on Peck & Smith. Saw Dr. Vail. Took to the Cars. 4 Bbls & Kegs Sorghum for Solomon & Br. G.C. Kenyon, E.S. Vail & H.L. Denison. Sent Bills of lading &c. Mrs. Prof. Hougham arrived! Wrote Hattie, H.L. Denison &c., J. Denison, G.C. Kenyon, E.S. Vail. P.C. H. Chandler, fixed gun!

Sunday, December 7, 1879

11 A.M. Sermon by Rev. Gill. Good. P.M. Read papers.

Monday, December 8, 1879

Wrote in the Morning & looked over papers. Went to the Cars & Saw Elliott & daughter leaving for N.H. Wrote Goss & sent Draft \$500. W.H. Daum, Draft \$10.04 tax S E 18-22-13. Called on Jerry Haines &c., Judge Brown. Eve— looked over titles to Manhattan Lots.

Tuesday, December 9, 1879

Piled over wood with [---?]. Helped Ellen wash flannels. Howard hauled Load of wood. Wet, misty day. Looked over titles on lots &c. Wrote G.W. Gue & F.M. Patten & sent Blank Deeds for Lots 448 & 449. W2.

Wednesday, December 10, 1879

Wrote to Ed Donaldson. Looked over papers. Call from S.W. Hiram threshing Cane Seed. Wrote W.E. Woodward, S.A. Dedrick. Made out Deed Lot 38.3 W2. Worked on tax-papers. Called on Gist & Smith. King hauled load wood on A/c of Reynolds.

Thursday, December 11, 1879

P.C. G. Denison. Looked over tax-papers & helped Ellen on beds, &c. Hiram threshing Cane Seed. Therm. 7 A.M. 40°. Very Cool air! yet Sunny. Went to town P.M.; left Ellen at Mr. Hougham's.

Friday, December 12, 1879

Went to Depot for Hattie, did not come. Called on Paine, Deibler, left Deeds \$233. due from Paine. Gave permission to plough block N. end Juliette Avenue. Worked at Dearbon House &c.

Saturday, December 13, 1879

Wrote F.G., A.M. Sommers, H.D. Dixon check 47.25. Went to train & brot up Hattie, Solomon & Jessie to dinner. Called at Bank. Fixed Clapboards, Dearbon House. Hiram finished threshing Cane Seed. Cold! Eve—read papers.

Sunday, December 14, 1879

Cold & raw air & Windy!

Home all day, reading, &c. Solomon left with Jessie for N.F. & Parsons, 4 P.M. train. Good bath in the evening.

Monday, December 15, 1879

Wrote H.L. Denison & Sent 50cts. Went to town.

Tuesday, December 16, 1879

Helped Hattie wash & Willie Whitney Unload hay. P.M. Worked on pump. Mrs. Vail decides to buy W[*]m's place, 2A. E.A. Reed & my Wood lot. Letter to C. Banning, R.F. Adams. Hiram Chopping.

Wednesday, December 17, 1879

Wrote H. Goodnow. Helped Prof. Lee Survey Wood lot West of Pasture, 8 Acres. Cold. work. Eve— Made Deed NE. 15-24-15. \$750, cash to Alfred Brown, Galesburg, Ill.

Thursday, December 18, 1879

Called on Prof. Lee, early P.M. Went to town with Hattie & made purchases. Eve. Called on Mrs. Vail & [aghew?] on Sale of W[*]ms. House, pasture & Wood lot. Mr. Foss & Son, of Auburn.

Friday, December 19, 1879

Wrote Ben Weeks, &c. Made out Bonds for Deed to Dr. & Mrs. Vail & Closed the Sale of W[*]ms. House & my pasture & wood lot. Wrote E.A. Reed, Frank Goodnow. P.C. J. Stratton. Eve— attend- ed Methodist Festival with Ellen, Hattie Mrs. Vail & Hettie, Hattie remained all night.

Saturday, December 20, 1879

Wrote R. Allyn & sent \$200. P.C. Mr. Hardy. \$29. lot. J.A. Dean. Hiram went after Hattie. Finished up papers for tax-paying & handed in to Treasurer. Wrote J. Kraft & Sent \$75. Draft on N.Y. Bot cloth for pants & got measured. Sold lot 233 W2 for \$90. cash. Called on Ed Donaldson. Griffin Called & got 4 G. Syrup. Cold. 7 A.M. 10°.

Sunday, December 21, 1879

11 A.M. Sermon by Rev. Gill. Ellen & Hattie Went to Church. Read papers &c. Cool day.

Monday, December 22, 1879

Wrote R.A. Allyn. J.M. Brown, C. Cloctske, C.H. Morgan. left on K.P. for Neosho Falls, with H.S. Denison. Put up at Pacific House. P.C. Judge Blain, H. Barnard.

Tuesday, December 23, 1879

Left at 5-45 A.M. & went to Neosho Falls. Called on Goss & dined. R.F. Adams, Covert &c. Returned to Emporia with

S. Whitney & Stopped with Frank. Very Cold. Lizzie not well.

Wednesday, December 24, 1879

Went to Parsons. Called at Mr. Wilson's Ben Weeks along. 2 1/2 P.M., took the train for Texas, Maxwell, Conductor. Lee Clarke cash on. 1st Nat[*]l. Parsons along ; Creighton as far as Chetopa.

Thursday, December 25, 1879

Arrived at Denison's 2 1/4 A.M. Stopped at Adams to Breakfast. Bird's view of town; left with [Counsellor?] Warner at 8 1/4 A.M. on return trip; Geo. Mullen aboard -a friend of Firestone's

Friday, December 26, 1879

Arrived at Sedalia 5 1/2 A.M. Met James Doyle, Conductor. Stopped at [Lichers?], Sears, Mitchell, Highlyman, Fairbanks. Warm. Jaynes Mitchell promises a pass, Creighton. Looked over the town. Returned to Parson Off. Started at 6 P.M. Wrote J.P. Magee. Beautiful day.

Saturday, December 27, 1879

Arrived at Parsons 1 1/2 A.M. Lodged at Lockwood House. Up at 8 A.M. Dined at Mr. Wilson's. Called on Abbott; Hawks &c. Left at 3 P.M. for J. City. Supper at DeMar's, N.F. President Welch & Prof. Davis on train. Pratt of Humboldt. Reached J.C. at 10-35 P.M.

Sunday, December 28, 1879

Up at 8 1/2 A.M. Took train for Manhattan at 11 A.M. Found Fox's barn on fire. Home at 1 1/2 P.M. Read papers &c. Quite mild & pleasant day.

Monday, December 29, 1879

Home all day. Calls. Write & read some & looked over papers. H.S. D. Went up Wild Cat to find Cane Seed & found Nothing.

Tuesday, December 30, 1879

Got ready & Went to Topeka. Put up at Adams House. Saw A.S. Johnson & got Pass, K. City. Dutton, G.C. [Bloumens?]. Cold & a Snow Storm.

Wednesday, December 31, 1879

Up at 5 A.M. 6 1/2 took train to K. City. Met Col. T.J. Anderson, Horton Day, &c. Took tea at Mr. Patterson's & with them to a Presbyterian Church gathering. Called on Smith, Gen[*]l. Supt. K.P. 7 got Pass. 11 P.M. took K.P. for Topeka. L.R. Elliott & Wife aboard. Wrote S.J. Gilmore.

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Mexico: Your Spring Break Death-stination

As eager colleges students from around the country prepare to leave school for spring break, many ask the question, where is the best place to go to have the most fun? For parents, the questions that are pondered and even discussed with their children as they prepare to leave are usually somewhat different. Many parents attempt and often stumble through those awkward conversations about the potential dangers of traveling abroad. Common parental concerns for their children on holiday cover the spectrum but often include conversations about avoiding the following: being arrested, impregnating or becoming impregnated by a new intoxicated friend whose name tends to escape recall, all the way down to the embarrassing impromptu left or right-checked tattoo. I think you know which cheeks I am talking about. Some of America's spring breaking youngsters will fail to heed their parents' well-intentioned advice and the ramifications will range from laughable spring break stories to parents getting late-night phone calls for the need of the family lawyer and a bail deposit. Even in these more unfortunate spring break scenarios, parents of American children expect their kids to return home, straighten-up, and get back to work or school.



Paul A. Ibbetson

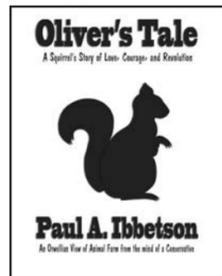
Americans are aware of the massive influx of illegal aliens through the U.S. southern border and since September 11, 2001, a growing number of Americans have been attempting, largely in vain, to force the government to secure the nation's porous southern border. To a greater extent the secure border argument has been surrounding the staggering economic cost to U.S. taxpayers from illegal immigration but Americans that live near, or have traveled to areas such as Ciudad Juarez, Tijuana, Nogales, Nuevo Laredo, Piedras Negras, Reynosa, Matamoros and Monterrey know those are places where Mexicans are slaughtered daily and where Americans can get caught in the crossfire. The U.S. Department of State reports that Americans have been trapped between firefights in areas such as Nayarit, Jalisco and Colima and have been unable to leave the area until hostilities have diminished. As reported by Lee Ferran of ABC News, the U.S. Embassy has recently been urging U.S. citizens to limit or avoid traveling in parts of Durango, Coahuila and Chihuahua. The Texas Department of Public Safety has echoed this sentiment for the simple reason that in those places, tourists' safety cannot be guaranteed.

The idea of an American citizen's child being abducted, raped, tortured, shot, beheaded or otherwise murdered for the most part still remains outside the typical parent's pre-vacation precautionary mindset. Unfortunately, an untimely death does potentially await traveling Americans on vacations such as spring break. What does that mean? It means that there is always of element of danger traveling as a tourist abroad. The American public still has fresh in their minds the case of 18-year-old Natalee Holloway, the young girl that went missing on May 30, 2005, during a chaperoned high school graduation trip in Aruba. Most viewers of this travel tragedy were likely to have been absorbed in the Holloway family drama, or the bizarre statements and actions of the suspect Joran van der Sloot. One of the important lessons almost lost within this national story was that all tourists when abroad are potential victims. The best that can be hoped for is that one maximizes the likelihood of survival with the same vigor that is put into plans for fun and entertainment. Then there is the subject of Mexico.

Despite the beauty and abundance of natural resources that exist for the tourist trade, traveling to Mexico is akin to playing Russian roulette with more bullet chambers full than empty. Here is an example: the State Department tells people that the Mexican military and police are currently fighting to control Mexican drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) and that they have set up many checkpoints within the country and that traveling Americans should comply with officials at these checkpoints. The State Department's website also explains that DTOs have also been known to wear military and police uniforms, have vehicles that resemble police cars and possess automatic weapons and grenades. These DTOs are said to be known to create false checkpoints, placing Americans at risk.

In 2009, the Houston Chronicle reported that over 200 Americans have been killed in Mexico since 2004. As Lise Olsen reported in the investigative piece, more non-military Americans died unnatural deaths in Mexico than in any other country from 2004 to 2009. The average was one dead American per week. If you turn on your television today you are bound to hear a Mexican official related in some way to the tourist trade assuring Americans they are safe at Mexico's tourist locations. However, in 2009 CNN reported that in the well-known Mexican vacation spot Cancun the tortured body of Mauro Enrique Tello Quiñonez, the area's top drug enforcement official, was found along with other dead bodies in the heavily visited tourist area. Over 100,000 American teens and young adults are reported to travel into Mexico yearly and they do so with a Mexican government that can neither control its criminal elements in the drug trade, nor safeguard tourists that are simply looking for some fun in the sun, and maybe a little bit more. American parents and their children alike should carefully contemplate whether or not taking holiday in Mexico is worth the heightened risk that it will surely offer this year's tourists.

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 degrees in Criminal Justice at Wichita State University, and is currently completing his Ph.D. in Sociology at Kansas State University. Paul is the author of several books including the 2010 release "Oliver's Tale: A Squirrel's Story of Love, Courage, and Revolution." Paul is also the radio host of the Kansas Broadcasting Association's 2008, 2009 and 2010 award-winning radio program, Conscience of Kansas airing on KSDB Manhattan 91.9 FM, www.ibbetsonusa.com. For interviews or questions, please contact him at ibbetson91.9@gmail.com.



Paul Ibbetson's new book is "Available at Amazon and the Manhattan Hastings Store."

Letters to Tom

By Mike Kryschal
Hail and Farewell

Allow me to introduce myself. I am a retired soldier (Colonel, United States Army). My wife (Karen) and I first lived in Manhattan in 1987 when I was assigned to the First Infantry Division at Fort Riley. We chose Manhattan as our forever home in 1999 when I retired from the Army after a second tour at Fort Riley. Since then I have pursued my passion for teaching and golf. When I learned that Dick and Jenny Miller's move to Oregon meant the end of his Thoughts From the Prairie column, I decided to step up and try to fill his shoes. Carrying on Dick's work is no small task. Thoughts From the Prairie has been a great source of news and conservative analysis. I want to thank Jon and Linda Brake for giving me the opportunity to join the team.



Mike Kryschal

and the Constitution. The pledge I took to support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America is the foundation of my conservatism. The Constitution establishes a government which enshrines the Unalienable Rights to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness, found in our Nation's other founding document the Declaration of Independence. I do not think that a conservative can pick and choose between these principles. Those who promote separate varieties (social, national security, fiscal) of conservatism at the expense of the others are, in my opinion, something other than conservative.

Letters to Tom will continue to provide a conservative perspective and analysis of local and state news. I will also comment on the national and international scene and throw in a few articles on national security and history.

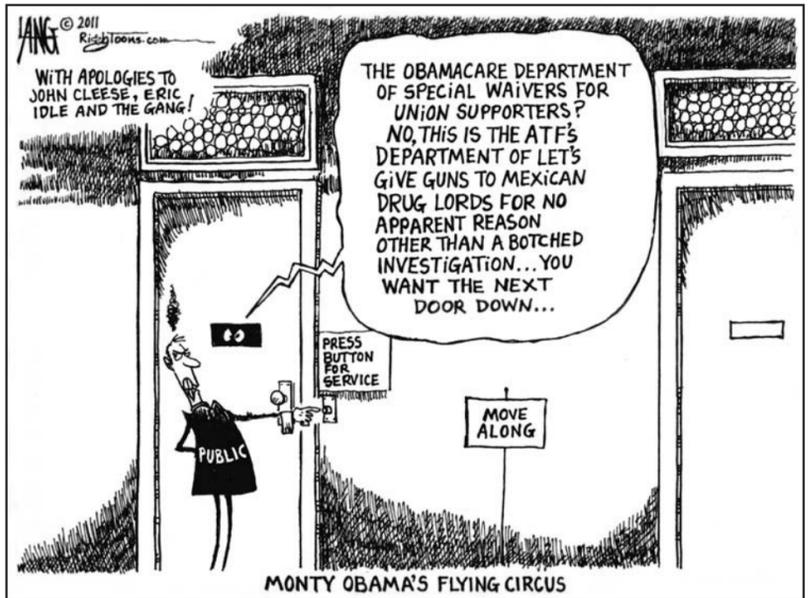
Election 2011
On April 5, 2011 the voters of Manhattan will elect three City Commissioners and four

Board Members to USD (Unified School District) 383.

Those elected to the City Commission will take office on April 19th, two weeks after the election. The Board Members will be seated in early July 2011.

In April 2009, less than 20% of registered voters turned out for Manhattan's Commission and Board elections. The result of that election was a City Commission that had a 3 to 2 liberal majority. Political scientists attribute low turn out in local and off-year elections to voter apathy and the false perception that local elections are unimportant. The fact is that the people we elect to the City Commission and Board of Education have the greatest impact on our daily lives of any of our elected representatives. They determine our taxes, local laws, and the operation of our city and its schools. Edmund Burke, a great conservative, wrote that, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." If you don't vote, you are doing nothing.

I have attended a number of the candidate forums. Next week I will share my thoughts on the candidates running USD 383.



PUBLISHED WEEKLY EVERY THURSDAY

Manhattan Free Press

Jon A. and Linda L. Brake, Publishers
Chris Taylor, Page Layout and Design

Web site: manhattanfreepress.com
Subscriptions: eFreePress subscriptions are Free

Street Address:
103 North 3rd Street -
Mailing Address:
Box 1191, Manhattan, Kansas, 66505
E-Mail:
jonbrake@kansas.net or freepress@kansas.net

785-537-8953

"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

Free Press Sports

MANHATTAN FREE PRESS - Thursday, March 10, 2011

Wildcats Win in Lawrence, 56-51

KSU Sports Information

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Jalana Childs led a trio of Wildcats in double figures with 16 points as Kansas State held on late to knock off rival Kansas Saturday night at Allen Fieldhouse, 56-51, in the regular season finale for both teams.

seed in next week's conference tournament, which includes a first-round bye.

The win also was Kansas State's eighth in its last 10 trips to Lawrence, while the Wildcats have now won 19 of the last 21 meetings in the series. Deb Patterson picked up

State's starting lineup following an injury in Wednesday's win over No. 5 Texas A&M, led all scorers in the contest, while Mariah White chipped in 14 and Taelor Karr added 12 points and eight rebounds.

Kansas (19-11, 6-10) took a 44-43 second-half lead with 6:45 remaining before the Wildcats took control of the contest with a 9-0 run. Following a three-point play from Karr, White and Childs each hit two free throws and a White jumper gave K-State a 52-44 advantage with 4:10 left.

With the Cats holding a 54-46 lead at the 1:55 mark, KU scored five straight to make it 54-51 before Karr's two free throws down the stretch sealed the win.

Carolyn Davis led Kansas with 15 points and 14 rebounds.

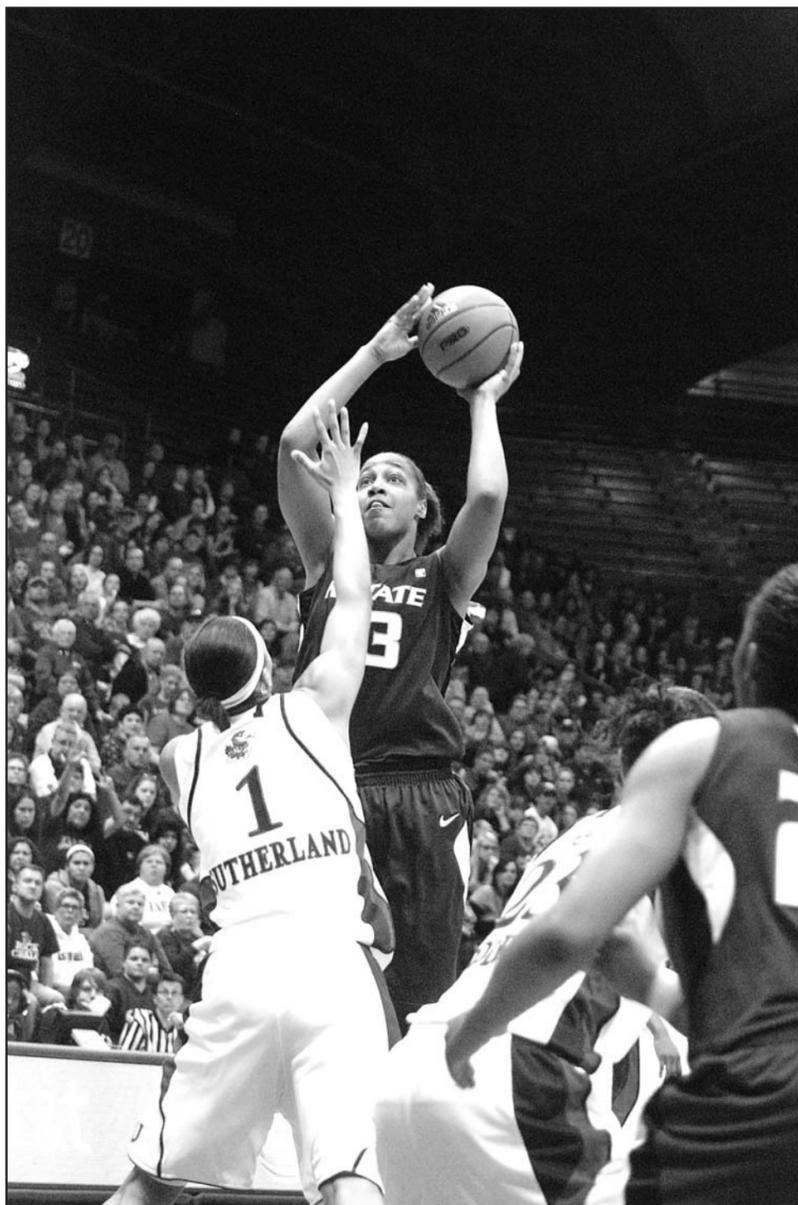
K-State held a two-point lead at the half, 26-24, but Kansas pieced together a 10-4 run in the opening stages of the second half to take a 34-30 lead with 15:08 remaining. The Wildcats regained the lead, 37-36, with 11:35 to play as Branshea Brown recorded three points and White carded a fast break layup.

A jump hook from Childs in the paint, followed by a Taelor Karr runner and a layup from White, forced Kansas into a timeout and propelled K-State out to a 43-37 advantage with 10:06 to play. Kansas regrouped in the timeout and tied the game at 43 on a pair of baskets from Diara Moore with 8:27 remaining.

Both teams came out in the opening half looking to push the tempo, with neither team taking control as the score was tied at 15 with 10:46 to play. The Wildcats were able to push out in front, 17-15, on a backdoor layup from White with 9:46 to play.

Following a Kansas put-back to tie the game, K-State went on a 5-0 run, highlighted by a three-point field goal from Karr in transition, to give the Wildcats a 22-17 lead with 7:08 remaining.

K-State was able to build a 24-18 advantage, but a three-and-a-half minute scoring drought allowed Kansas to come back to within two, 24-22, with 3:04 remaining. A running Karr jumper ended the



Jalana Childs (33) goes up against the KU defense and scored 16 points for the Wildcats.



K-State's Taelor Karr (12) takes a shot over KU's Monica Engelman (13).

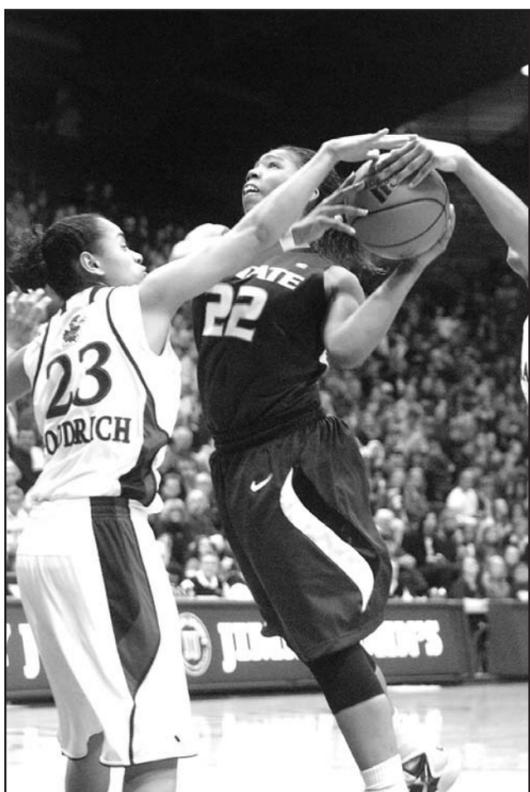
With the win, K-State (20-9, 10-6) finished the regular season in a tie for third place in the Big 12 standings with Oklahoma and will be the No. 4

her 299th career win as head coach of the Wildcats and will look for No. 300 on Wednesday in Kansas City.

Childs, returning to K-



K-State's Brittany Chambers (2) goes up after the ball.



K-State's Mariah White (22) goes up while fighting the Kansas defense and scored 14 points.

stretch and provided the Wildcats a 26-22 lead with 1:18 to play. A pair of late free throws brought the Jayhawks to within two at the break, 26-24.

The Wildcats shot 36.7 percent from the field in the opening half and 40 percent for the game. K-State's defense was solid in the game, holding Kansas to 35.1 percent shooting and forced the Jayhawks into 13 turnovers.

Kansas State will begin

action in the 2011 Phillips 66 Auditorium box office or Big 12 Championship at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday in Kansas City, Mo. Tickets can be purchased at the Municipal

Auditorium box office or through Ticketmaster by calling 800-745-3000 or by visiting www.ticketmaster.com.

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John Matta is a seasoned executive with 26 years of experience driving efficiencies, lowering costs, and improving quality of services. John and his wife, Karin, are 13-year residents of Manhattan. They have two daughters Tori (15) and Jodi (10).

A New Direction for Manhattan

Paid for by Matta for Manhattan City Commission—Steve Levin Treasurer

Photos by Tonya Ricklefs



Riley County Minutes

The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas February 24, 2011

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building February 24, 2011 with the following members present: Karen McCulloh, Chair; Alvan Johnson, Vice Chair; and Cindy Kabirol sitting in for Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Dave Lewis, Member, was absent attending a signing in Topeka.

8:30 Public Comment & Business Meeting

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; Amy King, Deeds Supervisor/Deputy; Debbie Register, Register of Deeds; Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works Director/Parks Director; and Yvonne Rameriz, KMAN, attended.

Hobson asked the commission to add at the end of the agenda discussion of shared leave policy.

Johnson moved to reject the following bids submitted for equipment rental of a track excavator for the Public Works Department due to the cost of rental being too high compared to purchase price.

COMPANY ONE YEAR PRICE 2 YEAR PRICE
Victor L. Phillips \$56,160.00 \$112,320.00
Topeka, KS
Foley Rental \$57,750.00
\$115,500.00
Manhattan, KS
Sellers Equipment, Inc. \$59,400.00
\$118,800.00
Salina, KS
McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

Hobson said the bids came in higher than they thought. Hobson said they could buy a new one for \$220,000.00 and would like approval to go out to bid for purchase of the track excavator.

Johnson moved to approve a Purchase Authorization for competitive sealed bid, for a 54,000 lb. track excavator to replace a 1996 John Deere 690 excavator for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$195,000.00 to be funded by the CIP Fund. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

Johnson moved to approve "Resolution No. 022411-03, A Resolution modifying the rates for water and sewer usage in the

University Park Sewer and Water Benefit District in Riley County, Kansas, and repealing resolutions in conflict therewith." McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

Johnson moved to approve "Resolution No. 022411-04, A Home Rule Resolution temporarily amending Resolution No. 092701-56, as it relates to beer sales by the Kaw Valley Rodeo Association during the 2011 Riley County Fair." McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

The following section included the signing of numerous Real Estate Tax Roll Corrections for the City of Manhattan.

Johnson moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for the Shirley Plumlee Trust in care of the Ogden Friendship House (251-12-0-10-08-008.00-0) for tax year 2010. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$2,178.06. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

No action was taken on the Plaza Reservation Request for Sunflower CASA Project, Inc. The request will be rescheduled on Monday's business meeting.

Johnson moved to approve the Plaza Reservation Request for a Flint Hills Tea Party for a political rally on April 16, 2011. This is a change in date from April 15th. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

Johnson moved to approve the payroll vouchers in the amount of \$202,655.98 and the following warrant vouchers for February 25, 2011:

2011 Budget
County General \$193,887.18
CDBG Housing 2,693.28
Teen Court Collected Fund 44.56
Riley Co Juvenile Service 6,234.86
Motor Vehicle Operations 4,753.40
21st Jud Dist Teen Court 982.57
Riley Co Adult Services 7,576.84
Capital Improvements Fund 128,619.60
Emergency 911 23.50
Solid Waste 5,548.23
County Building 4,208.83
Road & Bridge Cap Project 62,226.50
Resourceful KS Energy Grt 274,563.54
Riley Co Fire Dist #1 12,366.78
University Park W&S 75.00
Hunters Island Water Dist 1,815.88
Deep Creek Sewer 52.84

Moehlman Bottoms 932.37
Terra Heights Sinking 2,078.75
Konza Water Operations 3,418.50
TOTAL \$712,103.01
2010 Budget
County General \$ 6,110.09
Solid Waste 15,000.00
Riley Co Fire Dist #1 8,762.00
TOTAL \$29,872.09
McCulloh seconded. Carried 3-0.

Johnson moved to sign a Highway Use Permit for AT&T Kansas to place fiber optic cable along existing telephone poles in K-13 right of way and will cross Tuttle Cove Road just west of the intersection of Tuttle Cove Road and K-13 Highway. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

Johnson moved to approve the minutes of February 17, 2011 as amended. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

8:56 Debbie Register, Register of Deeds

Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Amy King, Deeds Supervisor/Deputy; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; and Yvonne Rameriz, KMAN, attended.

Register presented year to date revenue.

8:57 Rich Vargo attended the meeting.

Cindy Kabirol left the meeting.

Register presented a staff update.

9:15 Budget and Planning Committee - Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; and Yvonne Rameriz, KMAN, attended.

Shepek presented a CIP, county building, economic development, and 1/2 cent sales tax update.

9:30 Robert Nall, Information Technology Director

Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; and Yvonne Rameriz, KMAN, attended.

Nall presented a monthly Information Technology Department report.

Nall stated the Voice over IP System estimated prices are coming in within the \$250,000.00 budgeted in CIP.

9:50 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

•Administrative Work Session

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; and Yvonne Rameriz, KMAN, attended.

Holeman said SB40 on public building repairs due to an emergency is scheduled for a hearing.

Holeman said SB207 on credit card payments for county services has been pulled.

Holeman discussed HB2294 regarding giving counties authority in annexations pursued by cities.

Holeman discussed HB2107 regulating sexually oriented businesses.

Holeman discussed the Governor's proposed elimination of LEPP funding used by local health departments to fund sanitary code inspector positions.

Holeman discussed the REACH Committee's silent auction to raise funds for the local food pantries. Holeman said the Board is welcome to participate with the County Counselor's Office.

10:20 Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works/Parks Director

•Bid opening for a tandem axle dump truck

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; Shilo Heger, Tax & Accounting Supervisory/Deputy; Julie Winter, Officer Manager; and

Yvonne Rameriz, KMAN, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the following bids for a tandem axle dump truck.

Company	Bid #1	Bid #2	Bid #3	Bid #4
MHC Kenworth	2301 North Ohio Street	Salina, KS 67401	\$155,961.36	\$157,610.86
Kansas City Peterbilt	8915 Woodend Road	Kansas City, KS 66111	\$162,471.00	\$156,650.00
Roberts Truck Center	5549 Chuzy Drive	Park City, KS 67219	\$156,650.00	\$155,364.50
Kansas Truck Center	2552 N 9th Street	Salina, KS 67401	\$151,356.00	\$151,866.00
Kenworth of Omaha	7502 L Street	Omaha, NE 68127	\$161,578.00	\$158,469.00
Dodge City Kenworth	1301 Minneola Road	Dodge City, KS 67801	\$158,469.00	\$154,822.00
Kansas City Freightliner Sales, Inc.	7800 NE 38th Street	Kansas City, MO 64161	\$151,356.00	\$151,866.00
KCR International	Diamond	Bid A	7700 NE 38th Street	Kansas City, MO 64161
			\$148,906.00	\$148,906.00
			\$154,822.00	\$154,822.00

Johnson moved to refer the bids to staff for evaluation and recommendation. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

10:27 Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager; Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works Director/Parks Director; and Yvonne Rameriz, KMAN, attended.

Hobson said a new Public Works employee is having some medical issues and has been working intermittently and now will require surgery. Hobson said our shared leave policy requires employees to have been here one year in which this employee has not. Hobson said he is requesting an exception to this policy for this employee.

McCulloh said she would like to see a Commission Agenda Report (CAR) on the matter for other department heads input.

McCulloh said she doesn't like making exceptions for one employee.

Volanti said the policy does require one year of employment and prefers not to open up exceptions.

Holeman agreed a CAR on the subject would allow input from other department heads.

10:37 Johnson moved to adjourn. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

February 28, 2011

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building February 28, 2011 with the following members present: Karen McCulloh, Chair; Alvan Johnson, Vice Chair; Dave Lewis, Member; and Cindy Kabirol sitting in for Rich Vargo, County Clerk.

8:30 Public Comment & Business Meeting

Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works Director/Parks Director; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director; Brook Larson, CASA; and Paul Foltz, attended.

Larson presented a Plaza Reservation Request for Sunflower CASA Project, Inc. for Child Abuse Prevention Month Awareness.

McCulloh said the Board would prefer the display be posted for just one day.

Larson agreed.

Johnson moved to approve the Plaza Reservation Request for Sunflower CASA Project, Inc. for Child Abuse Prevention Month Awareness on April 1, 2011. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.

Meredith invited the Board to attend the Northeast Kansas County Highway Officials meeting in Wamego on March 30, 2011.

Lewis said he will try to attend.

Johnson moved to approve a Highway Use Permit for AT&T to place fiber optic cable from HH @ 671 Stadel Road north to Frontage Road, west to Crestline, up Crestline to cell tower on hill. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for Public Works/Parks Seasonal Laborers, in the Public Works Department, at a grade A.

Johnson moved to approve the following warrant vouchers for February 28, 2011:

2011 Budget
County General \$440,879.49
Teen Court Collected Fund 290.08
Juvenile Intake Case Mgr 164.91
Riley Co Juvenile Service 1,303.06
21st Jud Dist Teen Court 249.91
Riley Co Adult Services 2,293.08
Capital Improvements Fund 774.30
Emergency 911 4,040.60
Solid Waste 4,881.17
County Building 606.84
RCPD Levy/Op 13,095.51
Riley Co Fire Dist #1 11,499.07
University Park W&S 94.59
Hunters Island Water Dist 38.72
Deep Creek Sewer 15.84
Moehlman Bottoms 12.66
Terra Heights Sewer 37.40
Konza Water Operations 111.93
TOTAL \$480,389.16
2010 Budget
Solid Waste \$113,539.78
TOTAL \$113,539.78
2010 Budget
County General \$15,157.23

Solid Waste 92.16
Riley Co Fire Dist #1 10,548.45
Riley Co Fire Dist CapOut 91,039.00

TOTAL \$116,836.84

Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0. Johnson moved to approve an Agreement with Howie's Trash Service for Riley County Contract Trash Services in the amount of \$13,159.08. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.

Wedel said the State has authorized Riley County to sell tax credits obtained through the Kansas Historical Society from the installation of the new heating/cooling system on the Riley County Courthouse. Staff has developed the necessary documents to sell those credits and seeks Board of County Commissioners approval to proceed.

Lewis moved to authorize staff to proceed with sale of the tax credits using the documents as presented. Johnson seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve the minutes of February 24, 2011 as amended. Johnson seconded. Carried 3-0.

9:30 Press Conference

Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Allen Todd, Appraisal Analyst; Sgt. Doug Wood, Riley County Police Department; and Greg McHenry, Appraiser, attended.

Todd stated the 2010 local real estate market data shows the market is flat. Todd said the number of sales was comparable to 2009. Todd said the average sale price increased from \$180,000.00 - \$187,000.00 and median sale price increased from \$159,500.00 - \$161,500.00.

McHenry reported 24,000 change of value notices were mailed out February 18, 2011. McHenry stated property owners have until Monday, March 21, 2011 to schedule appeals. McHenry said preliminary valuation countywide increased 2.3%.

Wood stated they have been heavily patrolling an area around Aggieville, which they believe is having a positive impact. Wood discussed increased patrol to work during the "Fake St. Patty's Day" on Saturday, March 12, 2011.

Vargo said advance voting by mail begins March 16th.

Vargo said March 21st is the last day to register to vote in the April General Election.

Vargo said advance voting in person begins March 22nd at the County Election Office. Vargo said advance voting closes at 12:00 (noon) on April 4th.

See Minutes Page 7A



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Have You Read What the Free Press Said?

Minutes

Vargo said the City/School General Election will be held April 5th.

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

Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; and Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer, attended.

Holeman said HB2294 has passed the House and is headed to the Senate. The Board authorized Holeman to draft a support letter to the City of Manhattan.

Holeman discussed HB2072 to allow transparency on construction projects. Holeman stated the contractors association has asked if Riley County wants to support HB2072. Holeman said it does not appear to impact counties and suggested Riley County remain neutral on the bill.

Holeman said the SB40 hearing in the House will be Thursday, March 3, 2011.

Holeman discussed the removal of LEPP funding from the Governor's budget. Holeman suggested a health department representative attend the hearing on LEPP funding, March 4, 2011.

10:37 Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Hobson said the engineer's estimate is \$5 million for the ramps at the airport. Hobson said city and county staff will meet with KDOT to see how the City of Manhattan and Riley County can provide in-kind funding to reduce the financial burden.

Hobson discussed the Eureka Tributary expansion project.

Hobson stated the probable construction cost is \$45,000.00 for the Public Works' offices and staff move to the new shop site.

Johnson moved to proceed

with the bids for the construction of the Public Works' offices at the Public Works shops. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.

10:46 Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director

Doug Messer, Assistant Fire Chief; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; Brad Claussen; Ryan McDonald, President of Builders Association; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Mel Van Der Stelt; and Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

Wedel said the previous commission asked him to proceed with adoption of building codes for the unincorporated area of Riley County. The next step in that process was to create an implementation plan. Since we have a new commissioner, he wanted to make sure we were all together before proceeding further.

Wedel said the next step is to discuss the various options outlined in the implementation plan and to decide on the next step in the process.

Wedel said as outlined in the initial report, the number of residential permits issued annually will likely not completely support a full-time inspector position. Should it become necessary to move in that direction, this could result in additional personnel cost to the county.

Wedel said the big unknown is how we will do inspections. Wedel said if we proceed Riley County will have to be prepared to hire a full-time position to provide timely inspections. Wedel said the City of Manhattan is not able to assist Riley County with building code inspections.

McDonald said the Flint Hills Area Builder's Association (FABA) supports the adoption of the building codes for the unincorporated areas of Riley County. FABA's recommendation is for Riley County to adopt the 2006 International Residential Code (IRC) as amended and adopted by the City of Manhattan in 2007.

The following section detailed the steps needed to implement the building codes supported by the FABA.

McDonald said while FABA supports implementation of building codes in Riley County and strongly supports safe housing, FABA urges the commission to carefully weigh the costs and benefits of such a move and also to consider what level, if any, of governmental involvement is needed.

P. Collins said the small cities in Riley County are seeing the same dilemma. P. Collins said it can be the citizen doing private construction which can cause problems. P. Collins said Rural Fire does day care and business inspections, which a new inspector could provide.

Claussen discussed the time required to respond to inspections out in the county.

Claussen said a single family home inspection in the city costs approximately \$1,500.00. Claussen stated they do have a provision to allow homeowners to do work on their own homes without going through the licensing system, but homes are required to be inspected.

Wedel asked if the Board wants to proceed with implementing building codes. Wedel said he cannot say that there are a lot of instances which warrant a problem.

Wedel stated a fee with the number of new construction projects we see in Riley County may cover half the cost of a full-time position.

McCulloh stated with the impact of NBAF and growth in our community building codes would ensure confidence to residents when they purchase homes. Johnson and Lewis agreed.

Claussen said the City does get questions from Pottawatomie and Riley County citizens asking if the counties have building codes.

Claussen stated we are seeing

outside builders coming into town.

McCulloh stated her concern is buyer and seller protection.

McDonald said in most home purchase transactions home inspections are performed.

McDonald also cautioned against increased cost in home building.

The Board, by consensus, agreed to proceed with the adoption of county building codes implementation.

11:22 Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

Mel Van Der Stelt; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Hobson discussed replacing pavers and concrete on the Courthouse Plaza grounds. Hobson said it would cost approximately \$140,000.00 - \$250,000.00 to fix the pavers and concrete depending on the method.

The Board asked for a number of proposals to be presented as options to consider.

Hobson said the quote to update one of the LEC elevators has increased to \$32,000.00.

Hobson said there is approximately \$38,000.00 remaining in LEC funding.

Hobson presented pictures of a deteriorating bridge on McDowell Creek Road. Hobson said it would cost in excess of \$500,000.00 to replace. Hobson said the deck could be replaced and additional work would cost approximately \$250,000.00 - \$300,000.00 and last approximately 20-25 years. Hobson said the consultant recommended placing the bridge on an annual inspection program.

11:42 Johnson moved to adjourn after the Intergovernmental Luncheon. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.

12:00 Intergovernmental Luncheon at Holiday Inn at campus

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from page six

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Free Press Sports

MANHATTAN FREE PRESS - Thursday, March 10, 2011

Pullen leads Kansas State past Iowa State 67-55

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP)

With a few seconds to go in his last game in Bramlage Coliseum, Kansas State's Jacob Pullen knelt down and kissed the floor.

The sellout crowd, already at an emotional pitch at the end of a hard-fought 67-55 victory over Iowa State on Saturday, stood and roared.

"It was just spur of the moment," said the bearded sen-

ior guard, one of two players in Kansas State history to score 2,000 points.

With a few seconds left in his last game in Bramlage Coliseum, Kansas State's Jacob Pullen knelt down and kissed the floor.

"This was the last time I was going to play on that Power Cat. The last time there were going to be three referees, a crowd full of 15,000 people ... Frank ... it was the last time I

game for me."

Pullen was given a standing ovation when he and senior Curtis Kelly were introduced before the game, and again afterward when Martin presented him with a special game ball.

"I understood it was going to be an emotional game," said Pullen, who ranks in the top five in 17 school statistical categories. "But the closer the game got, you get to thinking about how fast it went by. A lot of my family was here. It was just an emotional game. But at the same time you've got to realize you've got a job to do and that you've got to win the game."

Pullen recovered from a slow start and scored 17 points as the Wildcats (22-9, 10-6) ended the regular season on a six-game winning streak. After starting the Big 12 season 1-4 and changing their offense, the Wildcats have won eight of nine. Their defense has also picked up, and they'll go into the Big 12 tournament next week the hottest team in the league.

"When we were losing games early in the year, I told you guys that we were defending pretty well but we just had to clean it up a little bit," said Martin. "Our guys continued to understand concepts better, and that takes time."

Diante Garrett, breaking the Iowa State record with his 127th game played, led the last-place Cyclones (16-15, 3-13) with 18 points and had five assists.

"I think we picked our defense up and we shaded Jacob Pullen, one of their best guys, really well," Garrett said. "I just tried to slow him down



K-State's Jacob Pullen (0) goes up around the Iowa defense and scored a career total 2054 points.

and rebound."

The victory secured the No. 4 seed in the Big 12 tournament, meaning the Wildcats will get one of four first-round byes. Will Spradling and Kelly each had 13 points. The Wildcats, who struggled from the foul line during their ragged stretch earlier in the season, hit 16 of 22.

Jake Anderson had nine points for Iowa State, which has lost 10 of its last 11 meetings with Kansas State.

"I thought Dante played terrific," Iowa State coach Fred Hoiberg said. "He did a very good job of getting into the paint and hitting shots. Our defense kept us in the game."

Early in the second half, Garrett stole a Pullen pass and drove in for a bucket to ignite a 6-0 run that gave the Cyclones their first lead of the game, 39-38, on Anderson's bucket.

But Pullen, just 1 for 7 from the floor at that point, drove in for a layup, and then Spradling was knocked to the floor by Bubba Palo on a 3-point attempt. He canned three foul shots and then, after a turnover by Iowa State's Melvin Ejim, Spradling hit a 3-pointer for a 46-39 lead with 12:22 left.

The Cyclones had a chance to cut the lead to two points, but Calvin Godfrey missed the front end of a 1-and-1. Jamar Samuels, fouled by Godfrey, then drained two from the foul line and put the Wildcats on top 57-51 with 3:14 left.

Devon Peterson swished a 10-foot jumper a moment later for Kansas State, and Pullen connected for 3, putting the Wildcats on top 62-51 with 1:36 to go.

The Cyclones, who came in leading the Big 12 with more than eight 3-pointers per game, were only 4 for 23 from behind the arc.

"We shot the ball very poorly on the road against a team as hot as Kansas State, and we still managed to have the lead in the second half for a brief moment," Iowa State's Scott Christopherson said. "But in the end we were not able to hit enough shots to win the game."

The Wildcats had eight blocks, including five by Jordan Henriquez-Roberts, the 7-foot sophomore who's made

noticeable improvement the past month. His 41 blocks are the most by a sophomore in school history. He also had seven rebounds and three steals.

"He continues to grow," Martin said. "He continues to protect the rim for us, and he is really in tune with what we are doing collectively."

Among the players Garrett had shared the games-played record with was Hoiberg, who finished last in the Big 12 his first year as Iowa State coach.



K-State's Jamar Samuels (32) makes a long reach for the ball against Iowa State.

With a few seconds left in his last game in Bramlage Coliseum, Kansas State's Jacob Pullen knelt down and kissed the floor.

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Photos by Ben Brake



K-State's Rodney McGruder (22) goes up for the block.

We're part of the community-just like you. Our goal is to help you with your financial needs of every size and give you the support you need to reach your financial goals-high yields, low rates and people that genuinely care about YOU.

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CREDIT UNION

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