

Cotton Bowl Special



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Kansas State Tight End Andre McDonald takes a pass and picks up yardage. (Photo by Ben Brake)

Arkansas Defeats Kansas State In Cotton Bowl 29-16

2012 Cotton Bowl Website

It wasn't pretty, but a potent offense and tenacious defensive play gave Arkansas a 29-16 victory over Kansas State in the 76th AT&T Cotton Bowl Classic on Friday night.

"I'm very proud of our football team. It was a hard-fought contest. Kansas State did a great job. They're a good football team. They played tough on defense," said Arkansas head coach Bobby Petrino. "I think the difference in the game was how well we played on defense and the field position we were able to give our offense. We didn't take advantage of it all the time, but it was a big part of the game."

Despite the lack of offensive fireworks early on, All-SEC

quarterback Tyler Wilson was efficient in the pocket, passing for 216 yards and two touchdowns. The second was a 9-yarder to Kobi Hamilton with four minutes in the third quarter after Kansas State (10-3) scored 16 straight points.

However, it was the defense — led by senior defensive end Jake Bequette — that ultimately propelled the Razorbacks (11-2) to a school record tying 11th victory. The unit harassed Kansas State quarterback Collin Klein all night and sacked the Big-12 All Purpose Player of the Year six times.

"We had a good plan. Coach (Paul) Haynes and our defensive staff did a really nice job on the plan," Petrino said. "Our players came out and

executed it well. I thought we played very, very fast. Our defensive front controlled the line of scrimmage."

Joe Adams gave Arkansas a commanding 10-0 lead early in the second quarter with his fourth punt return for a touchdown this season. The Razorbacks scored a non-offensive touchdown in six out of their last seven games this year.

"It was another one of those where you just go, Wow! It was a great punt. He hit the ball really hard," Petrino said. "You could see when he made the catch he had in mind what he was going to do. We got some blocks. I thought our guys did a nice job on blocks. Joe showed great acceleration

and made another spectacular play for us."

The Cotton Bowl was the only non-BCS game with both teams in the top 15 of the Bowl Championship Series standings. It was also the only bowl featuring the SEC vs. the Big 12, but it was apparent which conference flexed their muscles.

Kansas State failed to match its school record 11th win and has now lost its last four bowl games.

"We got off to an awfully bad start and really couldn't overcome the damage that we did, and most of it was pretty obvious," said Kansas State head coach Bill Snyder. "We had four dropped balls, we had two turnovers, we had four

penalties all in the first half that dramatically hurt us. We weren't ready to play."

After a 45-yard touchdown strike from Wilson to Jarius Wright that put Arkansas up 19-0, Raphael Guidry blocked the extra point and Nigel Malone returned it 98 yards for two points. It was the first blocked extra point in Cotton Bowl history.

Klein continued the momentum with a 3-yard touchdown pass to tight end Andre McDonald just before half-time. But the offensive sputtered in the second half, and the Wildcats failed to score in the fourth quarter.

"We didn't do the things, as coach said earlier. We had our chances and weren't able to,

you know, finish the job and execute on the field," Klein said. "Again, we just came up short and didn't get it done as a unit."

Klein only mustered 41 yards on the ground but scored on a 6-yard touchdown run that got the Wildcats to 19-16. That tied the single-season FBS record for most rushing touchdowns by a quarterback.

Jerico Nelson helped Arkansas cap off a dominant defensive performance by picking off Klein in the game's final minute.

The Razorbacks are now 4-0 in Cowboys Stadium. Arkansas also improved their overall Cotton Bowl record to 4-7-1 after losing in its last two appearances.

Walter Frank Gatsche, III



Walter Frank Gatsche, III of McAlester, OK died Friday, January 6, 2012 at his home at the age of 48.

Walter was born August 12, 1963 at Ft. Leavenworth, KS to Walter F. Gatsche, Jr. and Sachiko Kazumoto Gatsche. He graduated from Manhattan

High School with the Class of 1981. He obtained his Eagle Scout from Troop 74 in Manhattan. He worked with his father as a bondsman and owned and operated a pizzeria in the Aggieville district of Manhattan, KS during his college years at Kansas State University. He graduated from KSU with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering. In 1994, he moved to McAlester and worked as an engineer at the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, most recently in the environmental department. He was a wonderful and loving stepfather and step grandfather. He was a genuinely kind and generous person to his family and friends and will be deeply missed.

He is survived by Linda Steckline of the home; step mother, Carol Gatsche of Manhattan, KS; sister, Florence Gatsche of Junction City, KS; brother, Joe Cousins and wife, Keiko of East Lansing, MI; step daughter, Sarah Brundige of McAlester; step son Chris Brundige of McAlester; step grandchildren, Loki and Aldous Brundige and Piper Thomas; nephews, Micah, Riku, James and Chris; great nieces, Mabel and Effie James; one step brother; two step sisters and numerous nieces, nephews and other family and a host of friends.

Walter was preceded in death by his parents, Walter, Jr. and Sachiko Gatsche and brother, Joe Gatsche.

The family will receive friends during a visitation from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 12, 2012, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, Manhattan, KS.

Funeral Services will be held 10:00 a.m. Friday, January 13, 2012, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Chapel with Reverend Joyce Allen officiating. Interment will follow in the Sunrise Cemetery in Manhattan.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorials have been established for the Boy Scouts of America and for the K.S.U. Foundation- Walter

F. Gatsche, III Memorial Fund. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

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Ruth Elizabeth Romig Swart



Ruth Elizabeth Romig Swart, age 93, of Manhattan, Kansas, died Thursday morning, January 5, 2012, at the Meadowlark Hills-Lyle House in Manhattan.

She was born on June 20, 1918, in the Swamp Angel community near St. George, Kansas, the daughter of Drury Burton and Mary Elizabeth (Haley) Walker. Her family moved by train, with their belongings in a boxcar, from Illinois to Missouri and then to South Dakota, homesteading on the prairie prior to moving

to the Swamp Angel area to allow the older children to attend Kansas State Agricultural College.

Ruth graduated from St. George High School and attended Kansas State Agricultural College prior to her marriage to James E. "Jim" Romig on December 7, 1940 in Topeka, Kansas. Her husband Jim owned and operated a service station in Manhattan where Ruth was the bookkeeper. She also worked full time for the Veterinary Medicine School at Kansas State, becoming an administrative assistant in charge of budgeting, until her retirement.

Ruth enjoyed quilting and needlework and was a member of the Konza Quilters. She did beautiful work until her arthritis made her quit. An avid reader her love for books was enthusiastically passed onto her children. Many family get-togethers included time spent discussing and swapping books. Ruth also enjoyed traveling and traveled extensively in her 70's and 80's including

several visits to Germany, a Safari in Kenya where she rode an elephant, a trip to Egypt with a camel ride and a cruise on the Nile. She also went on an Alaskan cruise and cruised the Mediterranean, celebrating her 80th birthday in Athens, Greece, on a balcony overlooking the Parthenon.

In addition to her membership with the Konza Quilters she also was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the American Legion, and the Friends of Sunset Zoo.

Her husband Jim preceded her in death on December 4, 1977. On December 19, 1981, she was united in marriage to Robert D. "Bob" Swart, and he preceded her in death on May 9, 1992.

Ruth is survived by her three children: William James Romig (Beth), Virginia Beach, VA; Thomas Joseph Romig (Pam), Topeka, KS; and Margaret Ann Janulis (Alexander), Manhattan, KS. Also surviving are her step daughter: Bonieta Bailey (Harold), Manhattan, KS, seven grandchildren, six

great grandchildren and numerous step grand and great grandchildren. Also locally, she is survived by her niece, Dorothy Luffburrow, and nephew, Robert Summers.

She was also preceded in death by her siblings: Irene Stovall, Arthur Walker, Eugene Walker, Ida Walker Summers, Mildred Kelly and Catherine Venard.

Memorial services will be held at 4:00 p.m. Saturday, January 14, 2012, at the Meadowlark Hills Community Room, 2121 Meadowlark Road in Manhattan. Private inurnment of the remains will be held at a later date in the Sunset Cemetery in Manhattan.

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

Memorials have been established for the Manhattan Public Library and for the Friends of Sunset Zoo. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Sandra Snoko

Sandra Snoko, 66, of Manhattan, passed away at 9:30am, Friday, January 6th, 2012 at the Via Christi Village in Manhattan.

Sandra Peters was born in Omaha, NE on November 9, 1945, a daughter of the late Mary Helen (Holmquist) and Robert Louis Peters. She was a graduate of Oakland High School, Oakland, NE in 1964 and received a bachelors degree in education from Kearney State College, Kearney, NE. Sandra lived in

Humboldt, NE for 15 years before moving to Kansas. Sandra was a member of the PEO, First Christian Church in Manhattan and a former member of the Nebraska Educational Assoc. She taught in Nebraska during the 1970's and later in Manhattan, where she worked for the Manhattan school district with the after school programs at the Amanda Arnold Grade School.

Sandra is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth Drake, and husband Damon, of Emporia; a

son, Stephen Snoko, of Lincoln, NE; three grandchildren, Shannon R. and William J. Schadel and Samuel R. Drake, all of Emporia, and 1 step great granddaughter, Madison Drake of Eureka. Also is a sister Suzanne McMahon and husband Bill of Omaha; two brothers, Robert Peters and wife Barbara of Des Moines, IA, Patrick Peters and wife Kristie of Minneapolis, MN, and several neices and nephews.

At the family's request there

will be no visitation as cremation was chosen. A memorial service will be at 10:00am on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at the First Christian Church, 115 Courthouse Plaza, Manhattan.

Family request donations to the donor's choice. To send an email condolence visit www.irvinparkview.com. Services conducted by Irvin Parkview Funeral Home & Cremation, Manhattan.

Edward L. Polley



Edward L. Polley, 91, of Manhattan died January 3, at Mercy Regional Medical Center with his loved ones by his side.

He was born on Dec. 25, 1920 in Council Bluffs, Iowa, the son of Amos and Signa (Sampson) Polley. He was preceded in death by 4 brothers, Dick, Delman, Amos and Albert.

Ed proudly served in the U.S. Army in World War II and was stationed at Thule Air Base in Greenland.

He worked in greenhouses in early life, and later worked

with heavy equipment in South Dakota and Kansas. He met and married Mildred Linhart in Lake Andes, South Dakota, and lived in Lawrence, Kansas where Edward worked on the Kansas Turnpike. He was later transferred to work on the Tuttle Creek Dam near Manhattan.

Ed maintained his interest in plants and in Lawrence he met a KU professor who raised orchids. Ed became fascinated with the orchids and eventually built a greenhouse in their backyard. That hobby grew to over 500 orchid plants.

In 1963, Ed and Mildred opened Polley Florist, a retail flower shop in Blue Hills Shopping Center, and later relocated to a building at 3rd and Humboldt.

The Polleys purchased an acreage near Manhattan where they raised three children; Barbara, Edward and Robert. He and the children took interest in the county 4-H programs, raising garden produce and animals for fair judging. Among their many projects, Robert (Bob) and his dad took special

interest in bee culture and kept several bee hives, as well as milk cows. Ed worked with his son "Eddie" with swine projects which captured champion awards, as well as cattle. He assisted Barbara with her horse projects and cattle. He helped teach all the children the value of work, time and money, and values.

After Edward and Mildred divorced, he later began working for Bayer Construction and continued until he retired.

Ed loved to hunt, the out of doors, and his pet German Shorthair dog.

Ed was a Charter Member of St. Thomas More Parish, a Life Member of the St. Thomas More Knights of Columbus 8488, and a Member of the Msgr. Luckey Assembly 0288. He enjoyed assisting at the monthly and Mother's Day breakfast events until his major health issues slowed him down.

Surviving are his children, Barbara Cunningham, Edward Polley, and Robert Polley; grandchildren Amanda Rogers, Shawn Warren, Madison Polley, and Tyler Farina; and 2

great-grandchildren Victoria and Isabelle Rogers.

Interment will be at later date at the Kansas Veteran's Cemetery at Ft. Riley.

Condolences may be left at Irvin Parkview Funeral Home or sent to St. Thomas More Church, 2900 Kimball Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502.

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Dixie Sowell

Dixie Sowell, age 72, of Beloit, Kansas, died January 5, 2012, at the Hilltop Lodge Nursing Home in Beloit.

She was born September 15, 1939, in Manhattan, Kansas, the daughter of Augusta Eugene and Menda Vell (Landers) Sowell.

Dixie had been a Beloit resi-

dent most of her adult life and had worked for Hilltop Lodge Nursing Home prior to becoming a resident.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two sisters, Patricia Area and Joyce Burns.

Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at

www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hilltop Lodge Activity Fund. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502, is handling arrangements.

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Free Press Second Front

News

MANHATTAN FREE PRESS - Thursday, January 12, 2012

3A

Total Debt Of Manhattan, Riley County and USD 383

Riley Count Debt:

GO Bonds: \$6,065,902
Total Debt:

Totals

\$7,283,662

Manhattan School District 383:

GO Bonds \$103,910,000
Total Debt:

\$103,910,000

City of Manhattan: GO Bonds: \$ 30,643,273

Total Debt:

\$266,000,000

Total Debt of Manhattan, Riley County and Manhattan School District 383:

\$377,193,662

City of Manhattan's GO Bonds

Fitch Ratings assigns an 'AA+' rating to the following Manhattan, Kansas (the city) general obligation (GO) bonds:

—\$10.5 million GO bonds, series 2011-A; and

—\$2.9 million GO refunding bonds, series 2011-B.

The GO bonds are scheduled for competitive sale Nov. 15, 2011. Proceeds will be used for various capital improvements and to advance refund series 2002-B, 2003-A, and 2003-D bonds.

In addition, Fitch affirms the following ratings:

—\$86.7 million outstanding GO bonds at 'AA+';

—\$16.9 million sales tax special obligation revenue (STAR) bonds, series 2009-1 at 'AA-';

—\$33.2 million taxable sales tax special obligation revenue (STAR) bonds, series 2009-2 at 'AA-';

—\$21.2 million senior lien special obligation revenue (TIF) bonds, series 2009A at 'AA-';

—\$5.6 million transportation development district sales tax revenue bonds (TDD), series 2010 at 'AA-'.

Part of the Key Ratings Drivers: (City Ratings were down graded last year...Editor)

ELEVATED DEBT BURDEN: The city's direct debt burden is elevated and a meaningful portion of debt service relies upon a small number of retailers to support the general fund's contingent obligations.

CONTINGENT OBLIGATIONS ADD UNCERTAINTY: The city's financial position could be stressed if the contingent obligations are not self-supporting and, in turn, trigger the city's commitment to annually appropriate the necessary funds to subsidize the obligations.

The city's 2011-2016 capital improvement plan totals \$237 million of which the city plans to bond out for \$63 million. Additionally, the city has over \$38 million in short-term notes due through 2015 issued for capital improvements that are expected to be refinanced into long-term GO debt when due. Manhattan's long-term liabilities related to employment benefits are modest. Most employees are in modestly-funded state-sponsored pension plans, and the city annually funds its full actuarially required contribution (ARC). The city allows retirees to participate in its healthcare plan at 102% of the stated premium. The combined pension ARC and other post employment benefit pay-as-you-go contribution equaled a nominal 2.9% of general fund expenditures.

Senators Press For Rainy Day Savings

By Gene Meyer
Kansas Reporter

TOPEKA — Kansas taxpayers could vote as early as November on a proposed constitutional amendment that would require the state to stash some savings for fiscal emergencies.

A group of 28 Republican and Democrat state senators said they will propose the amendment when the 2012 Kansas Legislature convenes Monday.

"We need a budget stabilization fund so that our state is equipped to deal with the impact of another national recession without jeopardizing critical services, like our schools, law enforcement and our highway system," said state Sen. John Vratil, R-Leawood, the Senate's vice president.

Kansas is one of three states with no formal budget stabilization or rainy day fund. But the others — Colorado and Montana — have alternative funding sources, the national bipartisan association said.

In Montana, for instance, those resources include a \$450 million state surplus achieved through tightly controlled state spending, a 30-year-old coal trust fund that holds \$800 million in severance tax collections and about \$100 million annually in timberland, grazing and other revenue on 5 million acres of state-owned land, said Gov. Brian Schweitzer, a Democrat who added that Montana is better off than many.

Kansas' projected surpluses, in comparison, are expected to be about \$318 million this year and \$389 million in 2013, the state Legislative Research Department estimates.

The 28 Kansas senators pledging to support the rainy day fund comprise more than the two-thirds majority required to pass a proposed state constitutional amendment. The measure also must pass the 125-member Kansas House by a two-thirds majority and, to take effect, must be approved by a majority of voters in a statewide election.

Kansas has emergency reserve legislation on the books, requiring lawmakers to set aside 7.5 percent of the state's general fund budget —

about \$6.5 billion this year — for emergencies.

But when state tax revenue began falling because of the Great Recession, "governors and legislators both simply ignored (the law) in order to balance the state budget," said state Sen. Vicki Schmidt, R-Topeka, the Senate's assistant majority leader.

The co-sponsors, which include all of the Senate's eight Democratic members and 20 of its 32 Republicans, said they hope bipartisan support will be strong enough to pass such an amendment, Schmidt said.

Vratil and state Sen. Laura Kelly, D-Topeka, the Senate's assistant minority leader, sponsored a broadly similar amendment in 2010. The measure passed both houses of the Legislature but fell apart in last-minute negotiations before that session ended.

Details of the proposed current amendment remained sketchy Friday. Some of the broad outlines that co-sponsors have agreed to include:

Requiring legislators to set aside one-fourth of 1 percent of the state's general fund revenue for emergencies.

Allowing money to be withdrawn from the fund only if approved by a two-thirds super majority in the House and Senate.

Relaxing that restriction and allowing legislators to return money to the general fund, if rainy day funds grow to more than 5 percent of the state's budget.

State Sen. Ray Merrick, R-Stilwell, one of the 13 state senators who declined to co-sponsor the proposed amendment, was the Kansas House Majority Leader when the 2010 proposed amendment failed.

"I think we need a rainy day fund, but I think zero-based budgeting or something like that would be a better choice," Merrick said.

Zero-based budgeting allows state agencies or other budget supplicants to start from scratch when requesting their next round of funding, instead of adjusting their requests from what has been appropriated. The approach is favored by many businesses and fiscal conservatives, and Merrick counts himself among them.

Kansas Legislators Fell The Calm Before Taxes, Funding

By Gene Meyer
Kansas Reporter

TOPEKA — Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback offered a new glimpse at his still undisclosed state budget plan Monday as lawmakers formally convened the 2012 Legislature.

Brownback announced a plan to provide \$20.5 million in new funding for career and technical education in the state's elementary and high schools. The announcement came during a news conference shortly before the Kansas House and Senate were ceremonially gavelled into session at 2 p.m.

The plan would be paid for partly with funding from the Kansas Board of Regents and the Kansas State Department of Education's proposed budgets. The training is intended to reverse a decline in the number of Kansas school students who enroll in and graduate from post high school courses in career fields such as welding, auto and aircraft mechanics, information technology and health care.

The number of students enrolling in those programs across the state has dropped from about 74,000 in 2008 to 55,000 in 2011, Brownback said. The number of students who complete the courses and receive certification in their respective fields has dropped even further — from about 14,000 in 2008 to fewer than 9,300 last year.

"It's a bad trend line that we

want to turn around," Brownback said.

The governor's plan includes money to help with student tuition and to promote students' interest in trade and technical courses. Brownback said he would reveal more detail as part of his state budget plan, which he will propose Wednesday.

Kansas lawmakers in both parties during the past few years have backed strengthening technical education. State Sen. Steve Abrams, R-Arkansas City, who is a past president of the Kansas State Board of Education, tried unsuccessfully to win extra money for such efforts in the 2011 Legislature.

Before Brownback spoke Monday morning, State Rep. Ann Mah, D-Topeka, said she also planned to seek more money for career and technical education in 2012, as an investment in Kansas' economy.

Mars Inc., one of the world's largest candy makers, chose last June to build a factory in Topeka, in part because that city offered training programs for workers, along with other incentives, Mah said.

Boeing Co. announced last month it was closing its Wichita defense plant, bringing an end to the jobs of some 2,100 workers. Some of those jobs are going to Oklahoma, which has strong technical education programs, she said.

"Companies are moving

where the training is," Mah said.

The technical training package is only a small piece of an economic and strategic plan that Brownback, a Republican, has promised to unveil during his formal State of the State address to Kansas legislators Wednesday.

Some bigger pieces include: Tax reform

Brownback vows to outline in his speech plans for what he has promised will be a "flatter, fairer and simpler," state tax code, which, he says, will help speed economic recovery in Kansas.

"Our tax rates are too high," Brownback said in an interview last month. He said the rates need to be reduced both to slow the migration of Kansans to states with lower rates and to help Kansas compete more successfully toward developing and attracting new business.

The governor's plan will be one of at least three proposals for a new bipartisan tax study commission composed of legislators and business leaders. The commission, formed by state Senate President Steve Morris, R-Hugoton, plans to examine proposed tax plans more closely than the Legislature's tax committees might during a busy session.

Income taxes, on which many of those plans are expected to focus, account for some 46 percent of the state's about \$6.3 billion general fund

revenues.

"We want and need the expertise, advice and ideas of these community leaders," Morris said.

Kansas state Sen. Tom Holland, D-Baldwin City, is the highest ranking Democrat on both the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee and the Morris study commission. He said Monday the commission meeting would help to address another issue.

"We're very concerned that few of the proposals that are out there have had any public input," Holland said at a Lawrence Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting Monday.

School finance
The Brownback administration last month announced a plan for what it is calling the most significant change in state school funding formulas in at least two decades.

The plan would raise basic state aid for kindergarten through high school students to \$4,492 per pupil — from \$3,780 — and also would do away with complex adjustments in the current funding law that provides extra money for schools in low-income districts or those with unusually high transportation costs. The plan also gives districts more flexibility to raise local property taxes to help cover additional costs, if local voters approve those tax increases.

School districts in areas with high property values, such as

the Kansas City suburbs, generally applaud that idea, although skeptics such as state Sen. Marci Francisco, D-Lawrence, are concerned about stifling school spending.

"We worry that it will make it look like the state is spending more money, but the dollars will be the same," Francisco said.

KPERS
Kansas legislators must decide how to fix a funding shortfall of at least \$8.3 billion in the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System, or KPERS, the state retirement plan for teachers and state and local government workers. Other estimates, which are based on lower investment returns than KPERS officially uses, put the shortfall in the \$20 billion or higher range.

The shortfall does not threaten pensions of state workers or retirees, but if left unchanged would require state taxpayers to more than double their share of the contributions to meet obligations to future workers.

A special KPERS Study Commission, created by the 2011 Legislature, recommends 2012 lawmakers convert the plan — now a traditional pension covering about one in 10 Kansas workers — to something more like the 401(k) retirement savings plans offered by private businesses. Unlike the private 401(k)s, the revised KPERS plan, which

Letters to Tom: Snow Job

This year we have been blessed (so far) with a mild winter here in Manhattan, Kansas. Nice enough to play golf? But all good things come to an end, and I'm sure that before too long we will suffer mind-numbing cold, snow, and ice. It's comforting to know that this week our city government is wrestling (proactively of course) with the issue of snow removal.

Our city code requires the owners or occupants of a lot abutting a sidewalk used by the general public to keep the sidewalk free from snow and ice accumulation. The owner/occupant must remove the accumulated snow or ice within 36 hours of the cessation of the storm. If the owner/occupant fails to do this, the city can either issue a citation (a ticket with fine) or abate the violation (the city clears the sidewalk - the owner/occupant pays). The problem with the current rule is that it gives the owner/occupant up to 60 days to abate the problem before the city goes in and cleans the darn sidewalk and bills them. So let's see, if we get a big snow storm on February 1st, and one of our less-responsible friends and neighbors neglects to follow the rules, it's possible that the city won't be able to remove the snow/ice until April 1st. I wasn't a science major in college, but I think there's a good chance it might melt by then.



Mike Kryschal

Anyway, if the amendment is passed, the city will be able to take action to clear the sidewalk much more quickly. The clock will start 36 hours after the end of the storm. At that time a citizen can report violators to the Code Services Department (except on weekends when the RCPD provides enforcement). The Code Services Department will then talk to the offender and try to get it resolved. If the scofflaw doesn't voluntarily clean their walk they may get a ticket or the city may send in workers to do it for them (at a price). In practical terms this means that even if all administrative measures are taken as quickly as envisioned by the city code, it would take approximately one week for a sidewalk to get cleared for use by the general public. If this is what they mean by keeping sidewalks free of ice and snow then their

code is meaningless.

This is certainly an improvement over the old rules that basically relied on solar power to solve the problem but it fails to address the issue of providing the citizens of Manhattan with safe streets and sidewalks. First of all, in Manhattan, clearing snow and ice from sidewalks used by the general public is at best sporadic and usually non-existent. If you don't believe me, the next time it snows take a drive on any street in Manhattan and see how many owners/occupants actually shovel their sidewalks. Sidewalks that run along areas that are not directly adjacent to homes -- for example the sidewalks on Kimball Avenue between Vanesta and Candlewood Drives are never cleared. Secondly, the idea that owner/occupants have 36 hours after the last snowflake falls to clear their sidewalks is absurd. I guess those who use the sidewalks in the day and a half between the cessation of the storm and the beginning of code enforcement are on their own. Thirdly, the Code Services Department and the RCPD probably do not have the resources to enforce these rules in anything like a consistent or uniform manner. They probably have to rely on citizens to report violations and each violation requires hours, if not days to process and resolve. I give the city credit for addressing the issue, but the

solutions that are offered don't really resolve the issue of safety.

Ensuring that sidewalks are free from ice and snow accumulation is a shared responsibility of government and private citizens. Government can do it all, but the price of this intervention in terms of money and freedom is dear. The fact that so many property owners and residents are negligent is a sad commentary on our civil society. It's also an indicator of the failure of our political class to provide leadership. Too many politicians equate leadership to buying votes by distributing goodies to their constituents and helping them avoid responsibility for their own actions. The city needs to reach consensus on a standard and then have the will to enforce it. That's leadership.

Mike Kryschal, Colonel (Retired), United States Army, has a Bachelor's Degree from John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio and a Master's Degree in International Relations from Boston University. He served in the United States Army from 1972 to 1999. He was a platoon leader in the 25th Infantry Division, company commander in the 82d Airborne Division, battalion commander in the 1st Infantry Division, and brigade commander in the 2nd Infantry Division. He served in the 1st Infantry Division in Desert Storm. Since retirement, Mike

has been an adjunct professor of history, political science, and leadership. He lives in Manhattan, Kansas with his wife, Karen and their Siberian Huskies.

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Bergman Elementary School "Recess for ALL"

Saturday, January 14th Bergman Elementary will host our Second Annual Garage Sale Fundraiser. The Sale will begin at 7 am in the Bergman Cafeteria. This is a wonderful place to get gently used clothing for the children that grow so quickly. Not only will we have great merchandise, but we will also have Goodies in our Bake Sale. Funds raised at this garage sale will go to the "Recess for All" Bergman Playground Improvement Fund.

Elementary, we take pride in the fact that children from all walks of life and physical abilities grace the halls of our school together, as one school family. Children learn that not all children look the same or have the same physical abilities. This will help our children build the future without the biases that most people must overcome as they age.

However, by being the host site for the children of USD 383 that are severely and multiply handicapped, Bergman Elementary is challenged when it comes to the playgrounds.

Able-bodied children are able to play on the current playground, while children that have stability issues or are wheelchair bound must watch from afar or play separately on the asphalt pad. This is the reason for the "Recess for All" project.

"Recess for All" playground improvements will allow all Bergman students and faculty to utilize the playgrounds at

Frank V. Bergman Elementary. Ultimately the improvements will protect the health and well-being of the entire school family! The "Bergman Elementary Recess for All" playground improvements will provide a solid play surface to end this challenge and also add handicap accessible equipment to make the playground for students of all abilities.

Manhattan FREE Parks & Rec/Rotary Skate Day

Manhattan, Kansas -- The Manhattan Parks and Recreation Department and the city's two Rotary Clubs, the Manhattan Rotary noon club and the Manhattan Konza Rotary morning club, have partnered for the third year running for a FREE SKATE DAY for area kids. City Parks & Rec employees and Rotary volunteers will host the free skate

day on Monday, January 16, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. at the Jon and Ruth Ann Wefald Pavilion and GTM Family Center Ice Rink in City Park.

Rotary volunteers donate funds yearly to buy new skates for use at the rink and co-host the event. During the day volunteers check out skates and serve free hot chocolate to skaters and family members.

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Free Press Big 12 Sports

Kansas State Drops Thriller To Baylor 75-73

MANHATTAN, Kan. — A career-high 30 points for Rodney McGruder was not enough for Kansas State to overcome sloppy play, as the Wildcats dropped a close decision to No. 4 Baylor, 75-73.

The Wildcats (12-3, 1-2) defense set the tone early in the first half as they forced Baylor (16-0, 3-0) into eight early turnovers. A 15-4 run by the Wildcats saw the home team take a 21-11 lead early, but the Bears turned the tide and used a 16-4 run to grab its first lead since the 17:12 mark. Both teams would trade baskets near the end of the half but it was the Wildcats who used a 6-0 to end the half and take a 33-31 half-time lead.

The second half saw both teams use scoring runs to trade jabs throughout the entire period. An 8-0 run capped off by an

A.J. Walton layup saw Baylor go up 50-46 with 13:12 left in the game. Both teams would continue to trade points until an Angel Rodriguez 3-pointer gave the Wildcats a 68-67 advantage with 5:05 left in the game. Three straight K-State freethrows extended the lead to 71-67, but Baylor used a game winning 8-2 run to finish strong.

Baylor used a stingy defense to grab 13 steals and force 20 Wildcat turnovers. The Bears had four players in double digit scoring with Perry Jones III pouring in 17. Pierre Jackson added a double-double with 10 points and 11 assists.

The Wildcats travel to Norman, Okla., on Saturday as they face the Oklahoma Sooners. The game is set for a 12:30 p.m. tip and can be seen on the Big 12 Network.



Willie the Wildcat and the fans were ready for the start of the Baylor game Tuesday night. (Photo by Ben Brake)

Wildcats Improve To 2-0 With Win At KU 63-57

LAWRENCE, Kan. - Kansas State registered its sixth 2-0 start to Big 12 play on Saturday night with a hard fought 63-57 win at Kansas. The Wildcats have now won three straight in the series and 20 of the last 22 against the Jayhawks.

Kansas State (11-3, 2-0 Big 12) was led by Brittany Chambers with game-highs of 23 points and eight rebounds. The junior guard recorded her second 20-point effort of the week by shooting 7-of-13 from the field including 5-of-7 from beyond the arc. Chambers also recorded four assists and a

steal. Joining Chambers in double figures were the frontcourt duo of Jalana Childs and Branshea Brown. Childs tallied 15 points including 11 in the second half. Brown registered 12 points including a pair of late baskets in the second half.

Kansas (12-2, 1-1) was led by Carolyn Davis with 19 points, while Monica Engelman added 13.

K-State was able to establish an early six-point lead, 16-10, as Chambers knocked down her second 3-pointer of the half from the top of the key. Kansas

chipped into the Wildcats' lead with a 9-0 run and secured a 19-16 advantage with 7:55 to play. K-State ended the rally, as Chantay Caron connected on a high-arching three to even the score at 19 with 7:27 remaining.

With Kansas holding a 23-21 lead, Ashia Woods cut to the rim and converted an old fashioned three-point play to give K-State a 24-23 advantage with 4:27 to play. The Jayhawks ended the first stanza on a 9-4 run to hold a 32-28 lead at the break.

Kansas State came out of the

halftime locker room with an 8-0 run to capture a 36-32 lead following Chambers' third 3-pointer of the game with 17:41 to play. Childs added a quick four to start the rally for the Wildcats.

K-State continued to hold the lead, as Chambers connected on her fourth 3-point field goal of the game with 15:11 to play. An aggressive drive by Dickey and a pair of free throws from Branshea Brown kept K-State in front, 43-38 with 11:54 remaining.

Both went cold from the field for the next four minutes,

as the defensive pressure turned up a notch on both ends. During the stretch, K-State connected on four free throws, while the Jayhawks made three as the Wildcats held a 47-41 lead with 7:49 to play.

After Kansas' Aishah Sutherland registered consecutive baskets to tie the game at 47 with 5:04 to play, a Chambers three followed by a Brown jumper pushed K-State back in front 52-47 to force a Jayhawks' timeout with 3:33 to play.

K-State rebuilt its advantage and received an emotional lift

as Brown recorded an uncontested layup and a deep jumper from the top of the key. Immediately after Brown's jumper, Chambers stole the ball and was fouled and converted the two free throws to give K-State a 60-53 lead with 45.9 left.

Kansas State shot .447 from the field for the night and held Kansas, who entered the game leading the country in field goal percentage, to a .370 field goal percentage. The Wildcats also outrebounded the Jayhawks, 34-27.

K-State Wildcats Upset Aggies Again 71-69

The last time Kansas State faced the Texas A&M Aggies the Wildcats handed them their second-to-last loss before going on to eventually win the NCAA Championship. On Wednesday night, the Wildcats handed the Aggies their first loss in Big 12 Conference play getting the upset over the No. 9/8 Aggies in overtime, 71-69, to open league play on the right foot. K-State has now won five straight Big 12 openers.

Brittany Chambers found her stroke in the second half after only scoring two points in the first half to tally 21 on the night and lead the way to the victory. Three other Wildcats joined her

in double digits with Tasha Dickey scoring 17 and shooting a perfect 6-of-6 on the night and 3-of-3 at the free-throw line. K-State was without Dickey's hot shooting and stifling defense in overtime, however, as she fouled out with 1:41 remaining in regulation.

Jalana Childs posted 16 points and pulled down four rebounds in the winning effort, but perhaps most key to the victory was Mariah White's 12 points and a career-high 11 assists for her first career double-double. White did not even take a shot in the first half but managed to find seams to the basket and score on backdoor

screens against the Aggies. White also made the most important basket on the night driving to the basket and hitting a layup with 1.6 seconds remaining to win the game.

Texas A&M (9-3, 0-1 Big 12) had three players reach double digits in scoring led by Tyra White with 17. Sydney Carter added 16 in the loss, and Kelsey Bone had a double-double with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

K-State (10-3, 1-0) climbed back into the game, after trailing 34-25 at the half, with a 15-5 run to begin the second half. Chambers scored six points during the rally and White reg-

istered an old fashioned three-point play on a fast break layup and free throw with 14:56 to play to bring K-State to within one, 39-38. A pair of White free throws with 14:20 to play gave K-State its first lead, 40-39, since the 14:45 mark of the first half.

The teams traded baskets and the lead after Dickey gave K-State a 43-41 lead on a 3-pointer with 13:00 to play. Texas A&M was able to secure a five-point lead, 54-49, on an 8-2 run forcing a K-State timeout with 4:05 remaining.

K-State cut into the Aggies' lead with a 6-0 run to trail 56-55 with 2:07 to play. Chambers

registered consecutive layups, including a fast break layup following a steal and full court pass from White.

Childs registered a pair of layups in the closing moments of regulation, including the game-tying effort with eight seconds remaining to knot the score at 61 and send the game to overtime.

In overtime, K-State was a perfect four-of-four from the field, as Chambers recorded a layup nine seconds into the extra frame and a deep three to give the Wildcats a 66-63 edge with 4:06 to play.

After Texas A&M's Bone tied the game at 69 with 2:00

remaining, the team's turned stagnant on their offensive possessions. On K-State's final offensive possession, White used a screen from Childs to drive to the basket and muscle past her defender for the game-winning layup.

Texas A&M out-rebounded K-State 41-30, but the Wildcats were able to overcome that differential by shooting 54.0 percent on the night (27-of-50) while the Aggies shot 41.8 percent (28-of-67). K-State was a perfect 4-of-4 from the field during overtime.

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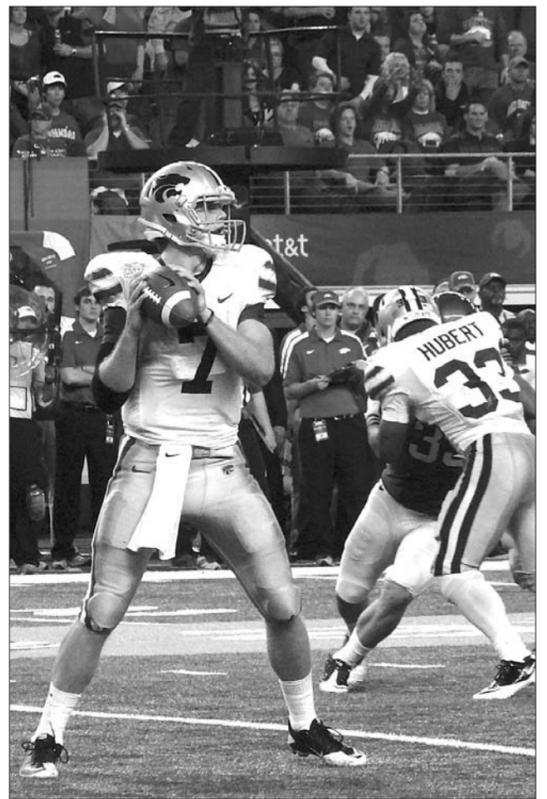
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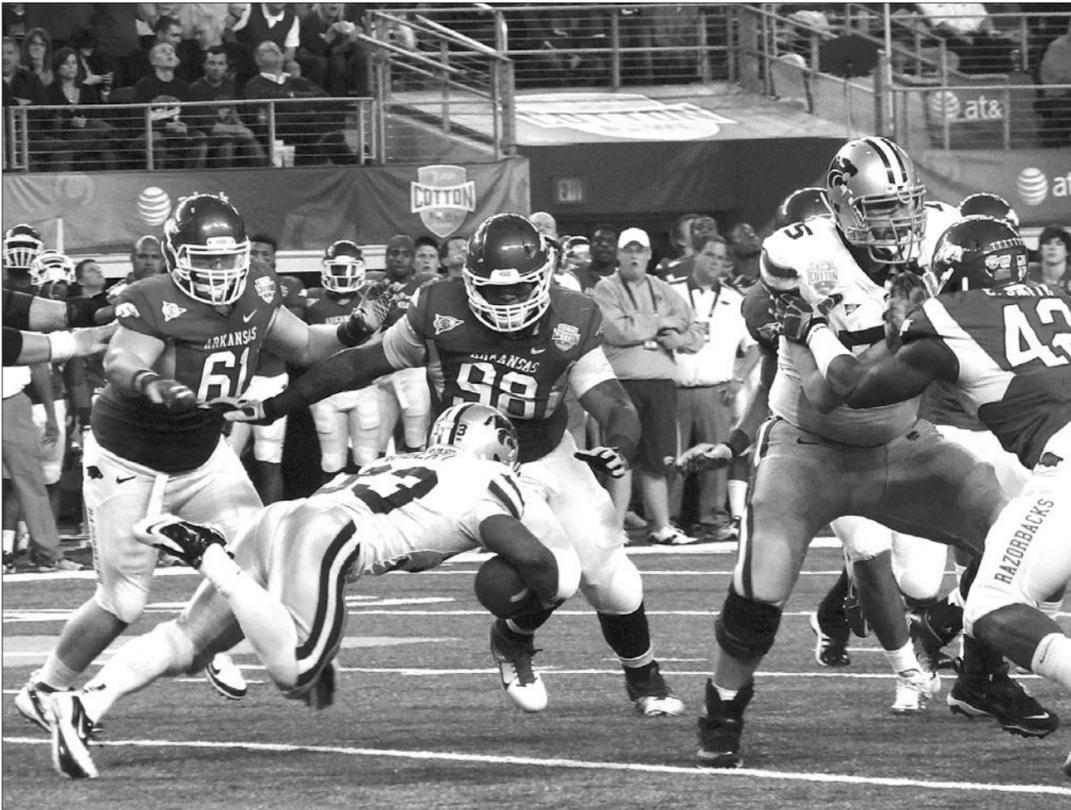
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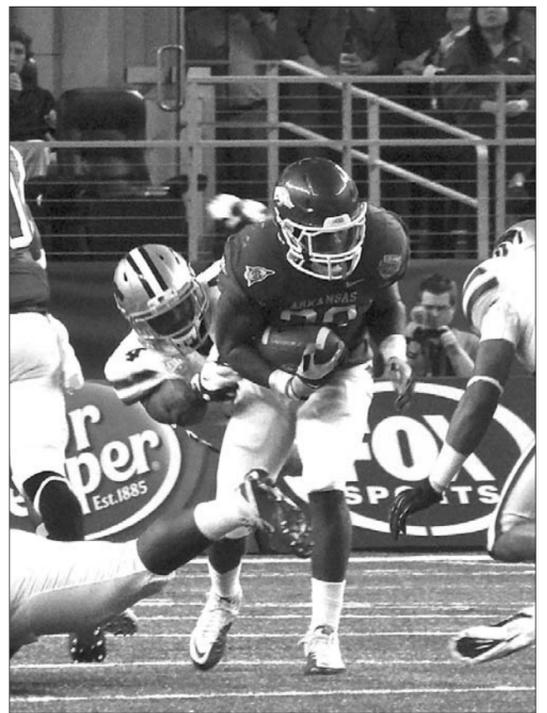
Kansas State Corner Back David Garrett (27) makes one of his 10 tackles during the game.



Quarterback Cullin Klein sets for a pass.



K-State Running Back John Hubert falls before getting hit again.



Vai Lutui hits the runner from behind.

Photos by Jon A. Brake



Kansas State Nose Tackle Ray Kibble (95) gets to the runner.



Andre McDonald (18) a Tight End gets the touchdown for Kansas State.

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Free Press Big 12 Sports

Manhattan Free Press

Thursday, January 12, 2012 - Page 7a



Sheldon Smith goes high to get a pass and then is hit for a short gain.



Tysyn Hartman makes a good tackle.



Quarterback Cullin Klein gets hit for a loss in the second half.



No, Running Back John Hubert (33) is not setting down on the job, he just picked up some good yardage.

Photos by Ben Brake



Kansas State Coach Bill Snyder, AP Big 12 coach of the year.



Allen Chapman, Corner Back will stop them anyway he can.

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Sports Second Front



Kansas State Quarterback Collin Klein lost a little blood in the game, just like every game this year.



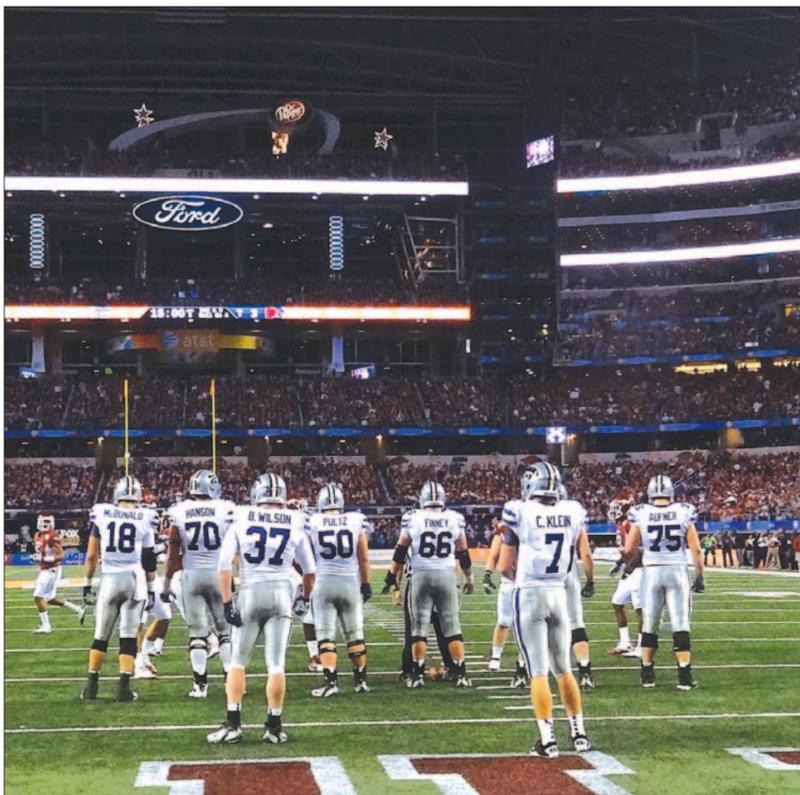
Running Back John Hubert (33) gets hit after going up the middle.



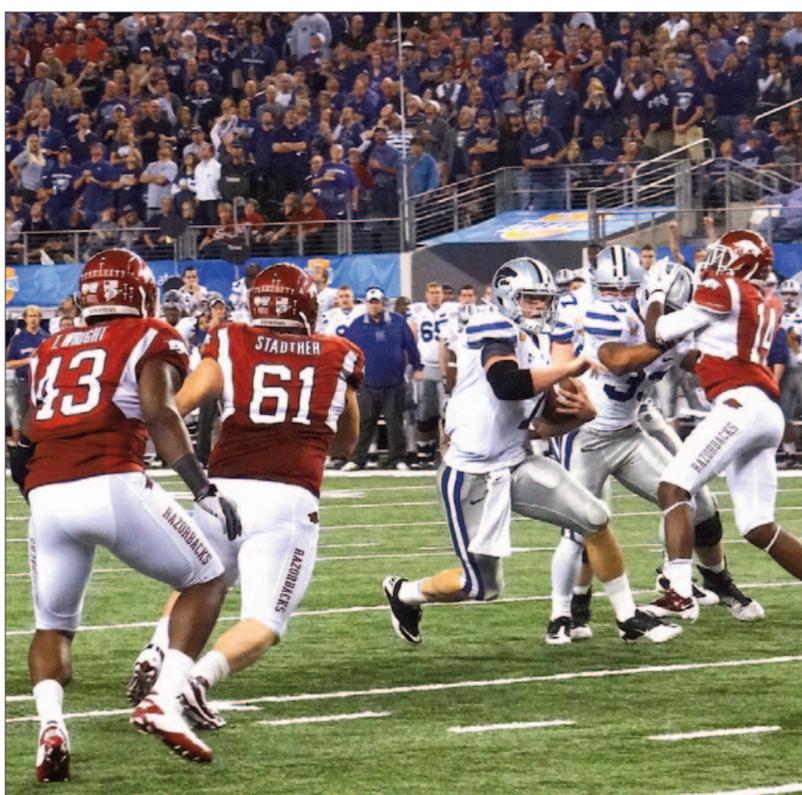
Defensive Tackle Raphael Guidry (94) block the extra point and K-State scored two points on the play.



The K-State players are shown on the Mitsubishi cluster board runs from the 20-yard line to the 20-yard line - measuring 160 feet in length and 72 feet in height - making it the largest 1080i High Definition video board installation in the world.

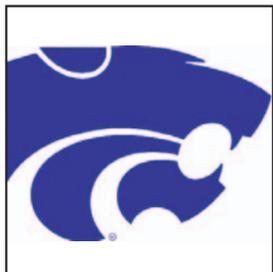


Kansas State Offense looks to start a drive from the four-yard line.



On this play Kansas State Quarterback Collin Klein ties the Big-12 record for rushing TD and the National record for rushing TD by a quarterback.

Photos by Jon A. Brake, Ben Brake and Tonya Ricklefs



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