



Manhattan Free Press

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Thursday, April 5, 2012

City Commission Gives Manager Fehr A 3.5% Pay Raise

They didn't talk about it but when the Manhattan City Commission approved the Concet Agenda they approved a 3.5% pay raise for City Manager Ron Fehr.

A Memo given to the Commission stated: "It is recommended that the base salary of the City Manager be increased by 3.5%. These adjustments will increase the current annual base salary of \$121,411.24, to a new annual base salary of \$125,660.63 for 2012. There are no other adjustments to the compensation package and all other terms of the agreement remain in place."

Fehr also gets 8% into the International City Management Association which works out to about \$10,000 per-year. The City will also pay into the Kansas Personnel Retirement System (KPRS) as required by law. Fehr will also get about \$580 per-month for auto allowance.

Here is a part of the Contract:

SECTION 5. SALARY AND BENEFITS

A. Employer agrees to pay Employee for his services rendered pursuant hereto an

annual base salary of One Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Six Hundred Sixty and 63/100 Dollars (\$125,660.63), payable in installments at the same time as other exempt employees of Employer are paid.

B. Employer agrees to provide an annual vacation benefit to Employee, computed pursuant to the personnel policies in effect and applicable for exempt City employees, and acknowledging his current level of service. Employer expects



City Manager Ron Fehr

Employee to be diligent in the use of granted vacation days each year; however, unused vacation may carry over to the following year pursuant to the personnel policies in effect and applicable for exempt City employees.

C. Employer agrees that medical (sick) leave, holiday and similar leave periods for Employee shall be the same as for other exempt employees of Employer.

D. Employer shall grant to Employee, and pay for medical, hospital, major medical, and all related health benefits allowed to exempt City employees by approved personnel policy.

E. Employer shall grant to Employee, Longevity Pay that is approved for existing City Employees at a rate of \$100 per year of service awarded every 5 years.

F. Employer shall review and consider adjustments to, Employee's salary at least annually. Employer may, based upon the performance of Employee, in achievement of goals and objectives, as assigned by Employer and accepted by Employee, increase Employee's salary, with the consent of Employee.

SECTION 6. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Employer shall review and evaluate the performance of the Employee at least annually.

Said review and evaluation shall be in accordance with specific criteria developed jointly by Employer and Employee and in accordance with any ordinance(s) of Employer.

SECTION 7. AUTOMOBILE

Employee's duties require travel within and outside the Manhattan city limits. For travel within the city limits of Manhattan, Kansas, as well as and the Riley, Pottawatomie, and Geary County, Kansas region, the Employee shall receive a vehicle allowance in the amount of Two Hundred and Ninety Dollars (\$290.00) per pay period. All City required travel outside the above region using Employee's personal vehicle will be reimbursed at the current City rate per mile.

SECTION 9. RETIREMENT

Employer agrees to execute all necessary agreements provided by the International City Management Association - Retirement Corporation (ICMA-RC) for Employee's continued participation in said ICMA-RC retirement plan and, in addition to the base salary paid by Employer to Employee, Employer agrees to pay an amount equal to eight percent (8.0%) per annum into ICMA-RC on Employee's behalf and to transfer ownership to succeeding employers upon Employee's resignation or discharge. Additionally, Employer will make such contributions in Employee's name into the Kansas Personnel Retirement System (KPRS) as required by law.

City, County At Odds Over Letter

By Jon A. Brake

Riley County Counselor Clancy Holeman has asked the Kansas Attorney General for an opinion on the County 1/2 cent sales tax, again.

Holeman asked the Attorney General in 2010 if the County "could lawfully return the ballot question to the voters earlier than required by the text of the 2002 ballot question." In his latest letter Holeman said: "Your 2010 opinion letter found that my client (Riley County Commission) could lawfully return the ballot question to the voter earlier than the general election of 2012."

The Manhattan City Commission meeting Tuesday night the Commission added Holeman's new request to the Attorney General to the Commission Agenda and proceeded to be displeased with the way Holeman asked the second question the letter.

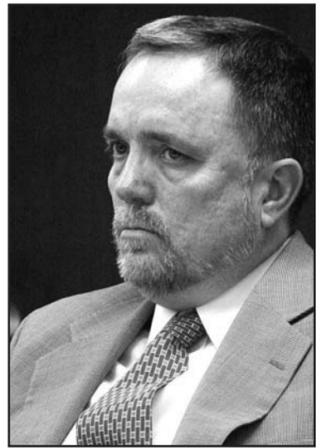
Holeman asked the Attorney General: "2. If Riley County must resubmit its 2002 ballot question to the voter in 2012, may it lawfully alter the 2002 question's language regarding the purposes for which the City of Manhattan may use its share of the proceeds?"

The City and Riley County are at odds over the renewal of the Sales Tax because they both want the money.

At Tuesday nights meeting the Commissioners asked the City Attorney Bill Frost to send a letter to the Attorney General giving the City's side of the story. Frost told the Commission that if the Attorney General sees the City and County do not agree on the issue he may not offer an opinion.

Most of the Commissioners want a new City wide sales tax. Here is what they said about it last week: "**2. Half-Cent City of Manhattan Sales Tax Pros:**

- Generates approximately \$800,000



Riley County Counselor Clancy Holeman

more annually than a half-cent County sales tax.

• The City could enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Riley County to maintain or increase the current level of funding to Riley County. The City would not dictate how Riley County utilizes its portion of proceeds.

• The City could complete economic development projects in the Pottawatomie County portion of Manhattan without requiring approval from the Riley County Commission."

It is just a fight over money, your money. In 2002 the question carried by the voters 6,786 yes to 6,706 no votes.

The City Commissioners feel that if the County puts a question to the voters at the same time as the City, both would be defeated.

(Editor's Note: The Counselor's office would not release a "Word Document" of his letter to the Free Press. Refusing for "Security Reasons" which is not in the Kansas Open Records Act.)

Riley County Remains Healthiest In Kansas

TOPEKA - Riley County has the healthiest residents in Kansas while a cluster of Southeast Kansas counties remain among the least healthy in the state, according to the third annual County Health Rankings, released today by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF).

The County Health Rankings, available at www.countyhealthrankings.org, rank the overall health of nearly every county in all 50 states, using a standard way to measure how healthy people are and how long they live. This year's Rankings include several new measures, such as the number of fast food restaurants in a county and levels of physical inactivity among residents. Graphs illustrating premature death trends over 10 years are new as well.

According to the 2012 Rankings, the five healthiest counties in Kansas, starting with most healthy, are Riley, which also was the highest ranking county in 2011, followed by Johnson, Doniphan, Ellis and Coffey. The five counties in the poorest health, starting with least healthy, are Woodson, Montgomery, Chautauqua, Wyandotte and Cherokee.

"In the last three years, the County Health Rankings have helped spur communities to action to improve the health of their residents," said Gianfranco Pezzino, M.D., M.P.H., Senior Fellow and Strategy Team Leader at the Kansas Health Institute.

1Riley (RL)	19Ellsworth (EW)	37Butler (BU)	55Osborne (OB)	73Morris (MR)	91Labette (LB)
2Johnson (JO)	20Finney (FI)	38Reno (RN)	56Norton (NT)	74Rooks (RO)	92Bourbon (BB)
3Doniphan (DP)	21Wabaunsee (WB)	39Seward (SW)	57Osage (OS)	75Saline (SA)	93Allen (AL)
4Ellis (EL)	22Leavenworth (LV)	40Rawlins (RA)	58Thomas (TH)	76Gray (GY)	94Greenwood (GW)
5Coffey (CF)	23Mitchell (MC)	41Rush (RH)	59Jewell (JW)	77Stafford (SF)	95Elk (EK)
6Pottawatomie (PT)	24Ford (FO)	42Decatur (DC)	60Ness (NS)	78Rice (RC)	96Cherokee (CK)
7Douglas (DG)	25Clay (CY)	43Anderson (AN)	61Logan (LG)	79Russell (RS)	97Wyandotte (WY)
8Ottawa (OT)	26Miami (MI)	44Gove (GO)	62Jackson (JA)	80Pawnee (PN)	98Chautauqua (CQ)
9Kingman (KM)	27Lyon (LY)	45Lane (LE)	63Harper (HP)	81Sumner (SU)	99Montgomery (MG)
10Sheridan (SD)	28Barber (BA)	46Atchison (AT)	64Barton (BT)	82Crawley (CL)	100Woodson (WO)
11McPherson (MP)	29Harvey (HV)	47Morton (MT)	65Shawnee (SN)	83Neosho (NO)	NRWallace (WA)
12Kearny (KE)	30Chase (CS)	48Republic (RP)	66Clark (CA)	84Sherman (SH)	NRWichita (WH)
13Stevens (SV)	31Scott (SC)	49Comanche (CM)	67Washington (WS)	85Linn (LN)	NRHodgeman (HG)
14Haskell (HS)	32Smith (SM)	50Edwards (ED)	68Hamilton (HM)	86Cloud (CD)	NRStanton (ST)
15Kiowa (KW)	33Nemaha (NM)	51Jefferson (JF)	69Trego (TR)	87Wilson (WL)	NRGreeley (GL)
16Marshall (MS)	34Meade (ME)	52Marion (MN)	0Pratt (PR)	88Crawford (CR)	
17Phillips (PL)	35Graham (GH)	53Franklin (FR)	71Grant (GT)	89Brown (BR)	
18Dickinson (DK)	36Lincoln (LC)	54Cheyenne (CN)	72Sedgwick (SG)	90Geary (GE)	

K-State Names Bruce Weber Basketball Coach

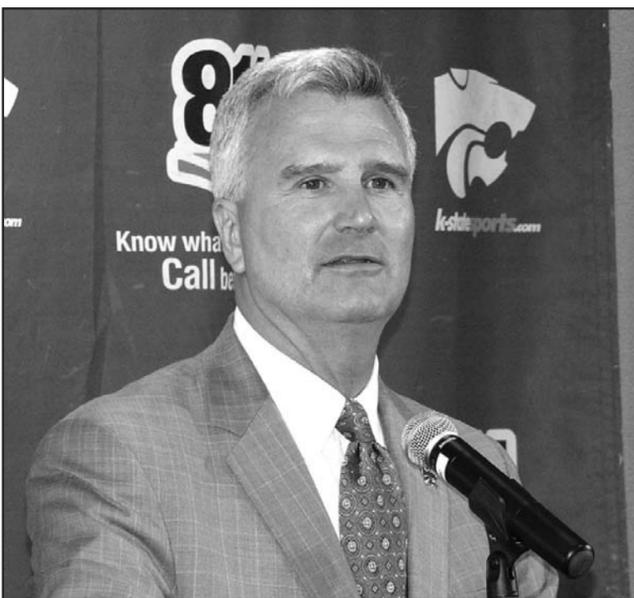
Kansas State University Sports Information

MANHATTAN, Kan. - Bruce Weber, one of the winningest active Division I coaches with over 300 career wins and eight NCAA Tournament appearances to his credit, has been named the 24th head men's basketball coach at Kansas State, Athletics Director John Currie announced Saturday.

Weber agreed to a 5-year contract, which was approved by the K-State Athletics, Inc., Board of Directors and President Kirk Schulz. Weber will be paid \$1.5 million in 2012-13 and will receive a \$100,000 base salary increase each year remaining on the contract (\$1.6 million in 2013-14, \$1.7 million in 2014-15, \$1.8 million in 2015-16 and \$1.9 million in 2016-17).

"I could not be more excited about the opportunity that has presented itself here at K-State," said Weber. "I'm happy to come to a place that has great tradition. When I've talked with people over the last couple of weeks, the main thing they emphasize to me - my mentors and peers - that I just don't take any job. So I'm very fortunate to take a job where there is already something built. Frank has created a positive culture, along with Bob Huggins. It makes it easier as a coach when you go to a place that has tradition. You understand you don't have to recreate, you don't have to re-energize and, obviously, there's some pretty good players here that have had success in both the Big 12 and even in the NCAA Tournament. This is a tremendous job for me."

Weber, 55, has compiled a 313-155 (.669) in his 14 seasons as a head coach, which includes stints at Southern Illinois (1998-2003) and Illinois (2003-11). His .669 winning



Bruce Weber is the new K-State basketball coach.

percentage ranks 28th among active Division I head coaches, while his 313 wins are the 11th-most by a head coach in his first 14 seasons in NCAA history. Weber's teams have participated in postseason play in 10 of his 14 seasons, including eight NCAA Tournament appearances. He has won 11 NCAA Tournament games, including trips to the Sweet 16 in 2002, 2004 and 2005, while his 2004-05 Illinois squad played North Carolina for the NCAA Championship.

Weber's teams have won a combined five conference regular season and tournament championships, including the 2002 and 2003 Missouri Valley Conference and 2004 and 2005

Big Ten Conference regular season titles. He has won 20 or more games in all but four of his 14 campaigns, including an Illinois school record 37 wins in 2004-05, and he has averaged 22.4 victories a season in his head coaching career.

"We couldn't be more pleased to welcome Bruce, Megan and the entire Weber family to our K-State family," said Currie. "Coach Weber exemplifies everything that we were looking for in our next coach, and I look forward to Nextcat Nation having the opportunity to get to know him and his family. Coach Weber's success as a head coach speaks for itself, which includes eight trips to the NCAA

Tournament and a national championship game appearance in 2005. But what impresses me even more about Coach Weber are his core values and belief in the advancement of his players not only on the court but also as model student-athletes and citizens. We said at the beginning of this process that we will focus our search on candidates whose personal values and integrity reflect those of our university and citizens of the state of Kansas and who appreciate the unique opportunity of being part of a strong basketball heritage, and we are confident that Bruce Weber is that person."

Weber has won numerous Coach of the Year honors in his career, including consensus National Coach of the Year accolades in 2005. Among the National Coach of the Year awards earned by Weber in 2005 were the Naismith Award, The Associated Press, Adolph F. Rupp Cup, U.S. Basketball Writers Association's Henry Iba Award, National Association of Basketball Coaches, Chevrolet/CBS, The Sporting News and Basketball Times. He was also selected as the 2003 Missouri Valley Conference and 2005 Big Ten Coach of the Year.

In all, Weber has 33 years of college coaching experience, which includes 19 seasons as an assistant coach for coaching legend Gene Keady, a native of Garden City, Kan., and 1958 Kansas State graduate. Weber spent his entire assistant coaching career with Keady, first at Western Kentucky (1979-80) and then Purdue (1981-98). The coaching duo helped the Hilltoppers to the Ohio Valley Conference regular season and tournament titles and a trip to NCAA Tournament in 1980 before moving to West Lafayette the following season. In Weber's 18 years at Purdue, the Boilermakers won six Big

Ten titles, played in 14 NCAA Tournaments and made three NIT appearances.

All told, he has been a part of more than 700 victories, 23 NCAA Tournament appearances and 12 conference championships in coaching stints at Western Kentucky, Purdue, Southern Illinois and Illinois.

"We are pleased to welcome Bruce Weber to the Kansas State family and are convinced he is the right person to take our men's basketball program to the next level," said Schulz. "Coach Weber has a superb record of accomplishment and his hiring demonstrates our commitment to continued success. John Currie did an excellent job with this search and deserves our thanks for his tremendous efforts as Athletic Director."

Weber arrives at Kansas State after a nine-year stint (2004-12) as the head coach at Illinois, where he posted a 210-101 (.675) overall record with six NCAA Tournament appearances, two Big Ten Championships and one Big Ten Conference Tournament title. Through his first eight seasons coaching the Fighting Illini, Illinois was the 15th winningest program in the nation. Seven times in his tenure with Illinois his teams reached the coveted 20-win mark. His 2010 team posted six wins over Top 25 opponents.

At Illinois, Weber coached four players who went on to be selected in the NBA Draft. Point Guard Deron Williams was selected No. 3 overall by the Utah Jazz, and Luther Head was picked No. 24 by the Houston Rockets to give Illinois two first round selections in the 2005 Draft. In 2006, Illinois had two players picked in the second round of the NBA Draft with James Augustine going No. 41 overall

See Weber page 6

The Sheraton Is Coming..



This fall or winter Clarion Hotel will become a Sheraton Hotel with the same K-State graduate owners. The City of Manhattan has received and are reviewing inside and outside remodeling plans. The hotel is located at 530 Richards Drive in Manhattan. For years this was the Holiday Inn.

Will Ks Plan Cut Taxes Or Just Shift Them?

By Gene Meyer
Kansas Reporter

TOPEKA — Gov. Sam Brownback and state lawmakers say they want to cut income taxes.

So what? tax mavens say. The state government will get its money.

Somewhere. Somehow. "True tax reform has to be a combination of reduced tax rates and spending reductions," said Richard Carlson, R-St. Marys, who is chairman of the House Taxation Committee.

Before a government can cut taxes, it must first cut spending. Good luck with that.

Government has to eat, experts say, so it can choose from a buffet of sales taxes and property taxes, for example, to compensate for any subsequent tax cuts.

Carlson favors the most aggressive tax-cut plan, which legislators will dig into when their three-week recess ends April 25. That plan calls for reducing state income tax rates whenever state tax revenue increases more than 3 percent annually, until the taxes are eliminated.

A competing Senate plan would cut, but not eliminate, state income taxes and offer bigger deductions to married people and heads of households. Each plan is based on a third that Brownback offered in January. That plan would cut many household and business taxes while sinking a raft of popular deductions for low- and middle-income taxpayers.

But without spending reductions, the aforementioned tax plans would transform this year's expected \$456 million tax fund reserve into budget deficits that could be as much

as \$829 million next year, according to estimates from the Kansas Legislative Research Department.

A "permanent funding crisis," House Minority Leader Paul Davis, D-Lawrence, called it.

That's one scenario. Here's another: Government would raise taxes, which, on its surface, would seem counter-intuitive, given the lawmakers' expressed zeal to cut taxes.

Historic precedent exists, said Will McBride, an economist at the Tax Foundation, a nonpartisan Washington, D.C., research organization that advocates lower taxes.

"Even if property tax rates aren't changed, lower income taxes eventually would help increase property values, which would cause total collections to increase," McBride said.

Kansans are paying the 21st highest combined load of federal, state and local taxes in the nation — the state is tied with Colorado, Rhode Island, Montana and Oregon, said McBride, who helps put together the foundation's annual compilation of Tax Freedom days.

The nationwide Tax Freedom Day is the theoretical date in which the average taxpayer has earned enough money to pay all of that year's federal, state and local income taxes, sales taxes, property taxes, and other levies.

For Kansas — and those four other states — the date is April 15, the traditional filing deadline for federal and state income taxes. But, officially, Tax Freedom Day in the United States is April 17, as April 15 falls on a Sunday.

Higher personal and corporate income taxes — two con-

sequences of economic improvement in the past 12 months — have, in this hypothetical model, many U.S. taxpayers working four to five days longer than a year ago to cover their tax costs, he said.

Would Kansas' proposed tax reductions reverse that trend? The answer is contingent on whom one asks.

"It depends on how big the eventual tax cut really is," said Art Hall, director of the University of Kansas' Center for Applied Economics.

"Without spending cuts, the money has got to come from somewhere," he said.

There's that magic word ... again.

"What drives the process isn't taxes, it's the spending," said Antony Davies, an associate economics professor at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pa., who has been watching recent tax trends in Kansas and other states.

Government spending has become a big deal in Kansas, Davies said.

That spending accounted for 50 cents of each dollar spent in Kansas in 2009, up from 33 cents in 2000, Davies said. He's referring to a study by Canadian researchers at the Fraser Institute, a Vancouver, B.C., think tank, which, according to its website, "measures and studies the impact of competitive markets and government interventions on individuals and society."

"The growth in the size of government's footprint has become alarming," Davies said. "That's our money. You've got to ask what has changed so much since 2000 when (the government) could get by with 33 cents."

States without income taxes generally tend to have higher sales, property and other taxes, said Nicholas Johnson, a researcher at the nonpartisan Center on Budget and Policy Priorities who's been critical of proposed income tax cuts in Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

The immediate effects in Kansas "depend on what choices the state makes," Johnson said.

But barring sharp reductions in spending, such as those which Davies advocates, "the change in Kansas taxes would largely be a shift," Johnson said.

How that would happen, Johnson said, is difficult to predict.

"No state has ever completely repealed its income tax in modern times," Johnson said. "We're getting into unexplored territory here."

Some of the shift could be inexplicably direct — turning to sales, property or other taxes to make up reduced income tax revenue. Other parts of the shift could be indirect — cutting funding for higher education, which could lead to higher tuitions at state-owned universities.

"It may be years before the dust really settles," Johnson said.

Kansans by then may have trouble recognizing the landscape, which could include pockets of tax quicksand, one expert says.

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EXPRES APRIL 30, 2012

Juanita Mae (Kisinger) Frauenfelder

Juanita Mae (Kisinger) Frauenfelder, age 91, of Wamego, died March 29, 2012, at the Wamego City Hospital.

She was born March 12, 1921, in Peck, Kansas, the daughter of Arthur William and Mary Elizabeth (Jackson) Kisinger.

Mrs. Frauenfelder was a homemaker. She enjoyed planting flowers, feeding the birds, search and crossword puzzles, and latch hook.

She was a member of the St. George United Methodist Church and the American Legion Auxiliary.

On October 11, 1943, in Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, she was married to Max Noah

Frauenfelder. Mr. Frauenfelder preceded her in death on March 17, 1999. She was also preceded in death by one son, Galen Frauenfelder on November 5, 1997; one sister, Margaret Morgan; two grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and one great-great grandson.

Survivors include one daughter, Linda Woolard of Wamego, KS; daughter-in-law, Irene Frauenfelder of Lead, South Dakota; eight grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 17 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 A.M. Monday, April 2, 2012, at the St. George United Methodist Church with Pastor

Leslye Haller officiating. Interment will follow in the St. George Cemetery.

The family received friends from 7:00 until 8:30 P.M. Sunday, April 1, 2012, 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 the St. George United Methodist Church or Valley Vista Good Samaritan Home. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

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Vacating Part Of 9th St.



Howie's Recycling and Trash Service, owner of a facility located at 625 South 10th Street, has requested as part of the land sale agreement for the vacation of a portion of 9th Street road right-of-way, adjacent to their existing facility. Howie's agreed to trade the property at 512 N. 10th Street to the City in exchange for the proposed vacated portion of 9th Street and lots 214, 215, and 216, which were previously used by the Community Gardens. The City will pay Howie's \$10,000 to demolish the house at 512 N. 10th Street, but there is no direct financial impact associated with the vacation of the portion of 9th Street. At Tuesday night's City Commission Meeting Bart Thomas of Thomas Signs ask the City Commission to not approve the vacation because he uses that part of the street to back his big trucks into so they can make the turn into his property across from Howie's Recycling. The Commission approved first reading of the vacation with the understanding that the City Staff and the two parties would get together and work out an agreement.

The United States Has The Highest Taxes In The World

Mike Brownfield

The Heritage Foundation

There aren't many American-owned companies more iconic than Anheuser-Busch, the famous producer of Budweiser beer based in St. Louis, Missouri. That was true up until 2008, when the Brazilian-Belgian company InBev executed a hostile takeover of the historic brewer, leading to layoffs of more than 1,800 workers. Unfortunately, conditions in the United States are growing ripe for even more takeovers like these to occur, especially now that the nation's corporate tax rate is officially the highest in the world.

As of yesterday, the U.S. corporate tax rate of 39.2 percent claimed the world's top spot, edging out Japan which recently lowered its rate from 39.5 percent to 36.8 percent. (The U.S. rate includes the 35 percent federal rate plus the average rate the states add on.) That's well above the 25 percent average of other developed nations. Heritage's Curtis Dubay explains the impact on companies based in the United States:

This gaping disparity means every other country that we compete with for new invest-

ment is better situated to land that new investment and the jobs that come with it, because the after-tax return from that investment promises to be higher in those lower-taxed nations.

Our high rate also makes our businesses prime targets for takeovers by businesses headquartered in foreign countries, because their worldwide profits are no longer subject to the highest-in-the-world U.S. corporate tax rate. Until Congress cuts the rate, more and more iconic U.S. businesses such as Anheuser-Busch will be bought by their foreign competitors.

Unfortunately, in the face of this tax rate, the Obama Administration is proposing measures that will make matters even worse for U.S. companies. Last week, Vice President Joe Biden proposed a "global minimum tax" in a wrongheaded effort to encourage companies to invest in the United States instead of overseas. Just like the rest of President Obama's corporate tax policy, it will just make matters worse — punishing firms that seek new opportunities in growing markets by taxing their earnings in those developing markets even more heavily than they're already

taxed. The net result will be to make it even more likely that the companies' assets would go up for sale to overseas firms in order to escape the Obama tax penalty. Unfortunately, America's workers pay the price for this destructive tax policy. Heritage's J.D. Foster explains why:

Economists and policymakers increasingly understand that while the tax is paid almost exclusively out of profits that would otherwise go to the shareholders, the true economic burden falls primarily on workers.

The reason is simply that the higher the effective corporate tax burden, the higher the hurdle rate on corporate investment. (The hurdle rate is the minimum rate a business must earn on investment to make the investment.) The higher the

hurdle rate, the less investment takes place. The less investment takes place, the slower labor productivity grows, and the slower labor productivity grows, the slower wages grow.

Congress should act now to help make America more competitive on the global stage, and it can do so by reducing the corporate tax rate to match or preferably fall below the international average. The U.S. economy is struggling to recover from the global recession, and by lifting the burden of record-high corporate tax rates, Congress can give American companies incentive to grow and expand here at home. If not, the American people can expect to see more companies like Anheuser-Busch bought up by international competitors — and the jobs will go right along with them.

Have You Read What The Free Press Said?

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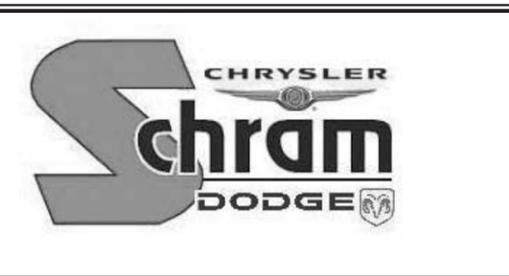
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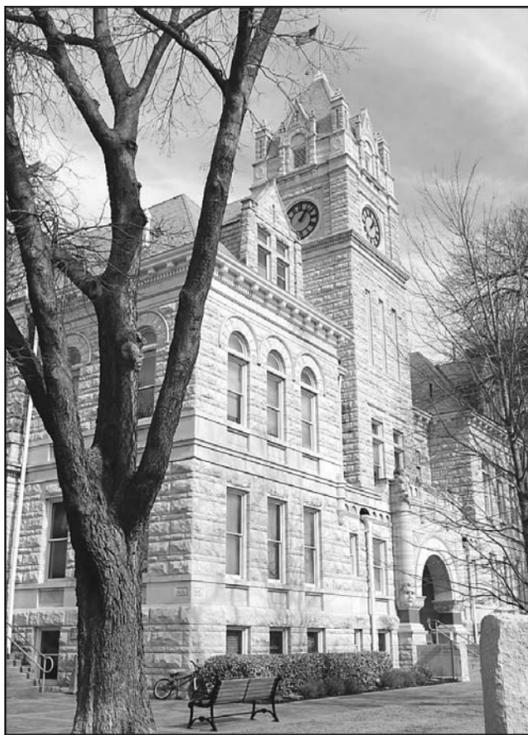
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Riley County Commission Minutes

The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building March 26, 2012 with the following members present: Alvan Johnson, Chair; Dave Lewis, Vice Chair; Karen McCulloh, Member; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk.

8:30 Public Comment & Business Meeting

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; and Mel Van Der Stelt, attended.

McCulloh suggested moving the public hearing to rezone Prairiewood Holdings LLC to the week of April 9, 2012.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Jayce Knight, a promotion, as the Lead WIC Clerk, in the Health Department, at a grade H step 1, at \$14.70 per hour.

McCulloh moved to approve the minutes of March 22, 2012 as amended. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.

9:00 Bob Isaac, Planner
Clancy Holeman, Counselor /Director of Administrative Services; Mel Van Der Stelt; Greg McHenry, Appraiser; and Lori Muir, Real Estate Specialist, attended.

Isaac said rather than replating, the Planning and Development Department has been moving to a more customer friendly agreement for restrictive covenant combination of lots.

Isaac suggested tabling the item until next Monday.

The Board agreed by con-

sensus to table the restrictive covenant agreement until next Monday.

9:15 Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

Mel Van Der Stelt; and Dan Page, KMAN, attended.

Shepek reviewed the 2013 budget calendar.

9:30 Press Conference

Dan Page, KMAN; Mel Van Der Stelt; Eileen King, County Treasurer; Gregg Eyestone, County Extension Agent; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Eyestone said a Beginner Vegetable Gardening class will be held Thursday, March 29, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said soil testing can be provided at the Riley County Extension Office for \$1.80.

King stated that Friday, March 30, 2012 all "B" license tags are due for renewal.

King reminded that a current insurance card must be shown for each vehicle registered.

King said that renewal forms or other forms need to be signed by the registered owner, even if they are not present.

King said that military personnel must present their current full month LES and Orders/ORB/ERB for Personal Property tax exemption. King said the Treasurer's Office now provides a workstation outside of the office for military personnel to access the information needed.

King said the Treasurer's Office will open one hour late (9:00 a.m.) on Thursday, April 5, 2012 due to training on the new motor vehicle system from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Messer reported there were 175-200 people that called in control burns this weekend.

Messer stated this burning season will be compressed, causing a lot of smoke in the air. Messer stated no burning will be allowed from April 1, 2012 to April 30, 2012, unless it is for rangeland management.

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

Administrative Work Session

Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Dan Page, KMAN; Mel Van Der Stelt;

Burk Krohe, Manhattan Mercury; Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Paul Foltz; and Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer, attended.

Wedel stated Thursday, March 29, 2012 the Board will receive a packet on the Prairiewood rezoning request. Wedel stated previous testimony and e-mails will be provided in the packets.

Holeman said the Board asked about having a site visit. Wedel stated site visits could be arranged for the Board.

McCulloh said she would just like to see the surrounding area adjacent to the property.

Wedel said the Planning Board rejected the request on a 4-1 vote.

Holeman discussed the draft Charter Resolution No. 10 on the Health Advisory Board.

The Board agreed by consensus with the draft Charter Resolution No. 10 language.

10:25 Lewis moved that the County Commission recess into executive session on potential litigation for the purpose of consultation with an attorney for the Commission which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 10:35 a.m. McCulloh seconded. Carried 3-0.

10:32 McCulloh moved to go out of executive session. Johnson seconded. Carried 3-0.

No binding action was taken during the executive session.

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

Burk Krohe, Manhattan Mercury; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Julie Winter, Public Works Office Manager; Mel Van Der Stelt; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Hobson said in September of

2011 the Board agreed to do away with the taxi coupon program in the Public Works Budget. Hobson stated aTa Bus is a less expensive option. Hobson stated there is one individual who has requested the use of the taxi coupon program.

The Board agreed by consensus to not continue the taxi coupon program.

Hobson discussed Public Works projects.

Hobson said cost estimates have been obtained for the proposed ½ cent sales tax projects.

Hobson discussed the proposed sewer line connection to the University Park system.

11:11 Lewis moved to adjourn. McCulloh seconded. Carried 3-0.

The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building March 29, 2012 with the following members present: Alvan Johnson, Chair; Karen McCulloh, Member; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Dave Lewis, Vice Chair, was absent.

8:30 Public Comment & Business Meeting

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

Johnson said Ken Schweitzer called about the appraised value on his home and about his retirement from the rural fire department.

Johnson said Mel Van Der Stelt called about Julie Lane.

McCulloh moved to approve the following warrant vouchers for March 30, 2012:

2012 Budget

County General	\$688,142.30
Health Dept	41,545.09
Teen Court Collected Fund	117.23
Juvenile Intake Case Mgr	182.25
Riley Co Juvenile Service	1,759.64
21st Jud Dist Teen Court	776.91
Riley Co Adult Services	4,358.81
Emergency 911	4,093.82
Solid Waste	665.77
County Building	583.52
RCPD Levy/Op	3,230.95
Riley Co Fire Dist #1	25,771.38
University Park W&S	854.51
Hunters Island Water Dist	508.57
Carson Sewer Benefit Dist	175.22
Deep Creek Sewer	386.52
Moehlman Bottoms	345.87

Valleywood Operations	87.64
Terra Heights Sewer	613.85
Konza Water Operations	1,054.29
TOTAL	\$775,254.14

Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Alia Rice, a new hire, as an On Call Juvenile Intake Officer, in the Community Corrections Department, at a grade B step 5, at \$12.49 per hour.

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

Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), in the Health Department, at a grade N.

Temporary Elections Workers (5 positions), in the County Clerk's Office.

McCulloh moved to approve a Highway Use Permit for AT&T to place a fiber optic cable in the W. Anderson Avenue road right-of-way, the cable to be bored under Anderson Avenue. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to approve the minutes of March 26, 2012 as amended. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

9:00 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

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Watering The Grass...



The Riley County Commission last week approved a Contract Agreement with Flint Hills Landscape to install the Public Works Administration Building Irrigation System in the amount of \$22,341.00. The system will only be around the Administration building and not the long section close to the highway that's in this photo.

Critics Are Wrong: Conservatives Have a Plan for Health Reform

By Nina Owcharenko
The Heritage Foundation

Following last week's Supreme Court arguments, supporters of the President's health care law are once again criticizing opponents of the law for failing to offer their own alternative. They are wrong.

The Heritage Foundation, for example, has outlined a detailed and comprehensive approach to reforming health care in Saving the American Dream. There are four core elements of this conservative alternative.

1. Repealing Obamacare

Patient-centered, market-based health care is incompatible with the fundamental construct of Obamacare.

Driver's License Office Closed

Drivers license exam stations throughout Kansas remain unable to renew or issue new drivers licenses and identification cards Wednesday as vendor technicians continue repairs on a malfunctioning server.

The 8-year-old server, which is due to be replaced, malfunctioned over the weekend. Vehicle titles and registration services remain unaffected.

"Resuming issuing drivers licenses and identification cards is our top priority. This is a great inconvenience for many Kansans and we and our vendor are focused on ensuring there are no problems in the future," said Director of Vehicles Donna Shelite.

Obamacare is based on turning more power over health care dollars and decisions to Washington. In sharp contrast, the Heritage plan is based on turning more power over health care dollars and decisions to individuals and families.

2. Reforming Health Care Entitlements

Medicare and Medicaid are in need of reform. Obamacare cuts roughly \$500 billion out of Medicare—but not to extend Medicare's solvency. Instead, savings are used to pay for other health care spending under the law. On Medicaid, Obamacare offers no reform and instead dumps over 16 million new people onto an already broken government program.

In sharp contrast, the Heritage plan would transform Medicare and Medicaid into premium-support systems where seniors and low-income families can choose the health plans that best suit their person-

al needs. It also restores Medicaid as a true safety net to care for those with disabilities.

3. Restructuring the Tax Treatment of Health Insurance

The tax code discriminates against those who want to buy and own their health insurance, and it provides unlimited tax breaks to those who get their health insurance through their place of work. Obamacare ignores this distortion and simply adds more complexity on top of this flawed structure.

Under the Heritage plan, tax-paying Americans would get a federal tax credit to help them buy health insurance for themselves and their families. Like life, home, and car insurance, individuals would own their health insurance policies and would no longer be at risk of losing their health coverage just because they change or lose a job. Moreover, if they don't like their health insurers, they can fire them.

4. Advancing Practical

Insurance Market Reforms

The current insurance market is a patchwork system where some people slip through the cracks. The insurance changes under Obamacare, however, create a new set of problems by imposing a heavy regulatory regime that turns private health insurance into a public utility.

The Heritage plan structures its insurance market reforms on a consumer-driven model, not a government-controlled model. Changes are made to complement and enhance a real consumer-based marketplace for health insurance, where insurers and providers are compelled to compete based on quality and price.

Conservatives looking for an alternative should start with these principles when formulating their proposals. For more detailed information on how to fix the debt, cut spending, and restore prosperity, read Saving the American Dream.

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No. 24 Oklahoma Scores In Ninth To Take Series

University of Oklahoma Sports Information

NORMAN, Okla. - A pair of two-out RBI base hits by Oklahoma in the bottom of the ninth inning sent the 24th-ranked Sooners to a 4-3 walk-off victory over Kansas State Sunday afternoon at L. Dale Mitchell Park.

Oklahoma, which won the series, improved to 18-11 overall and 4-5 in Big 12 play. A day removed from winning their first one-run game of the season, the Wildcats fell to 14-13 on the year and 3-6 in conference action.

K-State worked around trouble in the eighth inning as two of the first three batters reached base before the Wildcats went to right-hander Nate Williams (0-2). The freshman quickly coaxed a fly out and a ground out to strand runners on second and third and keep the Kansas State lead at one.

Williams recorded a fly out to begin the ninth before surrendering a single to Hunter Lockwood. The freshman battled back for another fly ball for the second out of the frame.

Oklahoma elected to pinch hit Cody Reine, who hit a triple into the right-center field gap on the first pitch he saw to tie the game at three apiece. The Sooners went to the bench again in Evan Mistich, who dumped a single into left field



Blair DeBord (9) the catcher from Manhattan drove in three runs in the first game with Oklahoma. This is was a two run home run, his first of the year. (Manhattan Free Press Photo by JoeWhitehead)

for the game winner.

"We were right there," head coach Brad Hill said. "I'm proud of Nate because they had to beat us by swinging the bats. He didn't walk anyone. Unfortunately for us, they had a senior step up, got a good look at a pitch and took a good hack at it. He hit it in the gap we weren't covering, unfortunately."

The loss spoiled a fantastic outing by starting pitcher Kayvon Bahramzadeh, who worked six frames, allowing two runs on six hits with one walk and a career-best 11 strikeouts. The senior sat down the first 11 batters he faced until a leadoff walk in the fifth, which was followed by a Lockwood double to put runners on second and third.

Brian Brightwell followed with a sacrifice fly, but with two outs, Bahramzadeh uncorked a wild pitch that tied the game at 2-2.

Bahramzadeh, who became the first Wildcat with 10 or more strikeouts since May 4 last season, settled down after the wild pitch as he got out of the frame with a strikeout and worked around a two-out dou-

ble during his final inning of work.

"No question Kayvon had a great day. It's one of those days where you come out to the ballpark thinking there is going to be 10 to 12 runs scored," Hill said about the strong wind blowing out to center. "He really took command of the zone and was down in the zone. It

was a great start by him. We had three pretty good starts out of our starters this weekend."

Lockwood led the Sooners with a 3-for-for-4 outing with two runs scored. Steven Okert (4-3), who took the loss on Saturday, came back with two shutout innings by working around two hits with three strikeouts.

Jon Davis led K-State with a career-best three hits, while driving in a run. The junior-college transfer had not started since March 4 against Pacific, but earned the nod over the last two games, going 5-for-8 with three doubles, a RBI and two runs scored.

The Wildcats got on the board first with two-out RBI doubles by Davis and Tanner Witt in the second and third innings, respectively.

After Oklahoma scored its two runs in the fifth, Davis and the Wildcats came back with another pair of two-out doubles in the seventh as Brown doubled down the left-field line to score Davis from second base and give K-State its 3-2 lead.

Kansas State opens up a stretch of nine home games in the next 10 contests on Tuesday as the Wildcats host Nebraska at 6:30 p.m., at Tointon Family Stadium. The game against the Huskers serves as Dollar Dog Night as hot dogs are just \$1 while supplies last.

K-State Rallies For 8-7 Win At No. 24 Oklahoma

University of Oklahoma Sports Information

NORMAN, Okla. - Tanner Witt's two-out run-scoring single completed a two-run eighth inning as Kansas State came from behind to defeat No. 24 Oklahoma, 8-7, Saturday afternoon at L. Dale Mitchell Park.

K-State improved to 14-12 overall and 3-5 in Big 12 play and will look for its first Big 12 series win Sunday afternoon. The Sooners fell to 17-11 and 3-5 in league action.

It was the Wildcats' first one-run victory of the year and the first when they have trailed after the seventh inning.

K-State jumped out to leads of 4-0 and 6-3, but a four-run outburst by OU in the fifth inning - which was boosted by Hunter Lockwood's opposite field three-run homer - gave the Sooners a 7-6 lead.

Jon Davis started K-State's eighth-inning rally with a one-out double down the right-field line and moved to third when OU right-fielder Cody Reine couldn't field the ball cleanly.

Jake Brown followed with a successful squeeze bunt to tie the game at 7-7.

Ross Kivett reached base when he was hit by a pitch and stole second with Witt at the plate. Witt worked the count to 3-1 before singling through the right side of the infield to put K-State ahead.

Freshman Nate Williams came out of the bullpen in the ninth and worked around a one-out hit batter to pick up his third save of the season and second in as many weekends.

"When you compete like that, win or lose, you can still talk about the game," head coach Brad Hill said. "Yesterday, we couldn't talk about it because when you don't show up, there's nothing to talk about. Win or lose, give me today's effort every time and we'll take our chances."

After allowing Lockwood's home run, Gerardo Esquivel (2-1) retired nine of the final 11 batters he faced in a crucial relief appearance, including a stretch of nine straight, before

handing the game over to Williams.

"After the home run, it was great stuff from Gerardo," Hill said. "He competed, which is part of it too. He could have quit and dropped his head after the home run, but he didn't. He put some zeroes up there to give us a chance, and Nate showed us great composure for a freshman."

Oklahoma reliever Steven Okert (3-3) suffered the loss by allowing the two eighth-inning runs. He finished the game with four strikeouts in 2.1 innings of work.

Kansas State, which recorded six two-out RBI in the contest, had four players record two-hit games, including Witt, Davis, Jared King and Blair DeBord. DeBord, who drove in three runs, gave the Wildcats a 6-3 cushion in the fifth with his first home run of the year, a two-run shot over the left-field wall.

"We had been lacking two-out RBI for the last three or four games," Hill said. "To me,

one of the biggest things was after two bad at-bats in the fifth, Matt Giller steps up, takes a depth breath, hits a base hit through the middle and gives Blair an opportunity for the two-run homer. He gets the base hit, and then all of a sudden, we get a mistake and Blair hits it out. That's what senior maturity is."

The Wildcats jumped on the Sooners early with two runs in the second inning thanks to RBI singles by Dan Klein and Brown, while DeBord followed a sacrifice fly by Giller in the third with a run-scoring double to make the score 4-3.

The Sooners were paced offensively by Lockwood's 2-for-5 day with five RBI, including a two-run double in the fourth inning that began a three-run frame. Caleb Bushyhead, who also had two hits, followed with a RBI single. Jack Mayfield drove in a run on a single in the fifth.

The rubber match between the Wildcats and Sooners is slated for 1 p.m., Sunday at L. Dale Mitchell Park. K-State is expected to start right-hander Kayvon Bahramzadeh, while OU will counter with right-hander Jonathan Gray.

Weber from page one

to the Orlando Magic and Dee Brown being picked No. 46 by the Utah Jazz.

In his first season at the helm, Weber led the Illini to the Big Ten Conference title winning the school's first outright Big Ten title in 52 years. The 2003-04 season saw Weber become the third coach in Big Ten history to win a conference title his first year in the league. That season, Illinois won 10 straight games to end the regular season and win the title, including six straight road wins.

The following year Weber guided the team to 29 straight victories to open the 2004-05 campaign. It marked the best start in school history and 12th-best in NCAA Division I history. During the 100th season of Illinois basketball, Weber would take the Fighting Illini all the way to the championship game of the NCAA Tournament. Illinois closed the year with a 37-2 overall record, claiming both the Big Ten regular season title and tournament title. Weber's team won the regular season Big Ten title with a 15-1 conference record, becoming the first head coach in Big Ten history to win outright conference titles in his

first two years in the league. It was the school's first Final Four in 16 years and the first time Illinois had reached the championship game.

Weber has proven to be able to turn teams around quickly during his career as well. After going 16-19 in the 2007-08 season, he and his Fighting Illini squad had the third-best improvement in Division I during the 2008-09 season. That year, Illinois went 24-10 with 10 more regular season victories than the previous season and went to the NCAA Tournament after finishing as the Big Ten runner-up.

Weber's teams have a tradition of playing strong defense. The 2008-09 season sparked a run of three straight years Illinois led the Big Ten Conference in shooting percentage defense in conference games. In 2011, Illinois' conference foes shot just 39.6 percent from the field and 29.9 percent from 3-point range. That followed the 2010 season that saw opponents shoot just 39.0 percent overall. Weber's team led the Big Ten and ranked third in the nation in scoring defense in 2009, holding opponents to an average of 57.2 points a game.

Offensively, Weber's teams have proven to be efficient with the ball in averaging 70 or more points in five of his nine seasons with Illinois. The Illini led the Big Ten in scoring in 2004 (72.8 ppg) and ranked second in 2005 (77.0). His teams at Southern Illinois also scored the ball well with averages of 75.5 (2002) and 74.5 (2003) his final two seasons there. In 2009, Weber's Illini led the nation in assist rate with an impressive 69.3 percent of Illinois' baskets scored off of an assist. Illinois also led the Big Ten and ranked seventh nationally with 17.5 assists per game that season.

Weber took charge as the 16th men's basketball coach at Illinois on April 30, 2003 after spending the previous five seasons as the head coach at Southern Illinois. He led the Salukis to the top of the Missouri Valley Conference, winning league titles in 2002 and 2003, collecting a 103-54 (.656) overall record from 1998 to 2003. He posted records of 28-8 and 24-7 in his last two seasons, leading the squad to consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances, including a run to the Sweet 16 in 2002 with wins over Texas Tech and Georgia at the United Center in Chicago. His .689 (62-28) winning percentage in Missouri Valley play ranked

12th in the long history of the league. He is the second K-State head coach with ties to Southern Illinois, as all-time wins leader Jack Hartman posted a 142-64 (.689) record as the Salukis' head coach from 1962-70.

Weber began his coaching career in his hometown of Milwaukee, where he started as a volunteer assistant at Madison (Wis.) High School before becoming a varsity assistant at Marquette University (Wis.) High School.

Coaching Experience
Assistant Coach, Western Kentucky (1979-80)
Assistant Coach, Purdue (1981-98)
Head Coach, Southern Illinois (1999-2003)
Head Coach, Illinois (2004-12)
Head Coach, Kansas State (2012-present)

Education: Bachelor's in Education, Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1978
Master's in Education Administration and Physical Education, Western Kentucky, 1981

Personal Born: October 19, 1956 in Milwaukee, Wis.
Wife: Megan Children: Hannah, Christy, Emily

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