



Manhattan Free Press

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Students-Athletes Have Fun

Children age 4 to 12 experienced what it's like to play football and basketball and cheer for Kansas State University athletics during the 2013 Jr. Wildcat Fantasy Day on May 4. Events took place in the Basketball Training Facility and in the Indoor Practice Facility.

The daylong event provided activities for children to scrimmage with K-State student-athletes on the men's and women's basketball and football teams and cheer with K-State cheerleaders. Children also had the opportunity to get autographs from student-athletes on the three teams as well as the cheer squad and Willie the Wildcat.

"Jr. Wildcat Fantasy Day is a great time for K-State's youngest fans to have the opportunity to get on the field or court and interact with the student-athletes," said Gavin Hargrave, associate director of alumni programs for the K-State Alumni Association.

Representatives from the Manhattan Public Library presented to the members during lunch, which was sponsored by Liberty Mutual Insurance, about the library's summer reading program.

"We have been in the program for four or five years," said Julie Dodds, Augusta, Kan. "It's fun watching the kids interact with the players, and the kids love getting to go to the women's basketball games and bring their grandparents."

"I like meeting the players and seeing all the purple everywhere," said Karli Dodds, 12, the eldest of the three Dodd sisters enrolled in the Jr. Wildcat Club.

Jr. Wildcat Club is organized by the Alumni Association, K-State Athletics and KansasStateCars.com. For more information about the Jr. Wildcat Club program visit

www.k-state.com/jwc or call the K-State Alumni Association at 800-600-ALUM (2586).



Darius O'Connell, 11, Manhattan, Kan., is at the center of a team huddle led by K-State women's basketball assistant coaches Claire Coggins (left) and Shalee Lehning (right) during basketball drills at the K-State Basketball Training Facility. The basketball drills were part of the 2013 Jr. Wildcat Club Fantasy Day May 4.



Jake Larson, 5, Manhattan, Kan., bumps fists with K-State women's basketball guard Chantay Caron during an autograph session in the Bramlage Coliseum concourse as part of the 2013 Jr. Wildcat Club Fantasy Day May 4.



Asher Baltrip, 5, Manhattan, Kan., collects an autograph from K-State men's basketball guard Brian Rohleder in the Bramlage Coliseum concourse during the 2013 Jr. Wildcat Club Fantasy Day May 4.

Audit Takes Aim At Veterans Facilities

By Travis Perry
Kansas Watchdog

TOPEKA — Lax financial controls, poor accountability and the potential for fraud have landed two Kansas veterans facilities in auditors' crosshairs.

The Kansas Soldiers Home in Dodge City and the Kansas Veterans Home in Winfield first gained the attention of lawmakers and auditors two years ago after their overseeing agency, the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs, reported a series of issues at the institutions.

At the time, neither facility had recorded any assets in the state accounting system, and the Kansas Soldiers Home was unable to provide an inventory of \$7.3 million in capital assets, auditors say. The Kansas Veterans Home mishandled state procurement card transactions, failing to reconcile pur-

chases in a timely manner, and was unable to produce receipts for a number of purchases, auditors found.

A subsequent investigation of both facilities revealed a litany of issues, each compounding the potential for fraud within the system.

"The records are not in good shape, and they're sometimes missing documentation," said state auditor Joe Lawhon. "The absence of the good controls, the absence of the good documentation is definitely cause for concern."

Speaking to members of the Legislative Post Audit committee, Lawhon detailed the troubling findings.

Facility purchases often lacked complete documentation, if any documentation existed at all, said Lawhon. Some purchases — such as a \$600 television — were made without prior approval, receiv-

ing authorization only after the money had already been spent. Auditors also found a severe lack of checks and balances; facility officials were able to issue checks worth more than \$1,000 with a single signature, in violation of agency policy.

Superintendents at both facilities also took business trips on their own accord, instead of obtaining prior approval from Gregg Burden, KCVA executive director.

One of the most glaring aspects of the audit was the KCVA's failure to exercise its own authority over the two facilities' business operations.

"Historically, the two business offices have done very little to communicate or coordinate with each other," Lawhon said. "As a result, there has been no sharing of knowledge."

This has led to inconsistencies and inefficiencies at both locations, in addition to the

forementioned financial control issues. The veterans home still processed some monetary transactions by mailing paper checks, and the soldiers home failed to maintain an inventory list.

"KCVA's central office has not provided adequate oversight and management of the two facilities' business operations in part because officials were not aware they had authority over the two facilities," according to the audit, disclosed Tuesday.

"If written policies existed, staff would know the proper way to handle transactions, and this would reduce the possibility for abuse," said Rep. Ed Trimmer, D-Winfield.

Burden made no excuses for his agencies' failures, and said actions have already been taken to address issues outlined in the audit report.

Newell Middle School Principal

Tracy Newell has been named the principal of Eisenhower Middle School. Newell currently serves as the Lead-Associate Principal at Garden City High School in Garden City, KS. He has served in that position since 2006. Prior to that, he was a State Math Consultant for the Kansas State Department of Education from 2004-2006. He also has been a mathematics teacher at Oskaloosa Middle School and McLouth High School. He has a B.A. in Mathematics Education and a M.S. in Educational Administration from Washburn University.

"I am appreciative, enthusiastic, and honored to have been chosen for the Principal's position at Eisenhower Middle School," states Newell. "I have had the opportunity to meet with some of the staff and parents and heard great things about the school. I look forward to meeting the remainder of the staff, parents, and the students of Eisenhower Middle School."

"We are pleased to announce the appointment of Tracy Newell as Principal of Eisenhower Middle School beginning with the 2013-14



Tracy Newell

school year," states Dr. Robert Shannon, Superintendent. "Mr. Newell brings to the position experience as an assistant principal at Garden City High School as well as mathematics teaching experience at both the middle school and high school levels. Tracy has also served as a mathematics consultant for the Kansas State Department of Education. We look forward to welcoming Tracy to the Manhattan-Ogden USD 383 team this summer."

Newell will begin his new position on July 1, 2013. He replaces Greg Hoyt. Mr. Hoyt will be the principal of Manhattan High School beginning on July 1.

Palmer Resigns For New Position

Lauren Palmer will be resigning as Assistant City Manager for the City of Manhattan effective May 22, 2013. Palmer has accepted the position of City Administrator for the City of Parkville, Missouri. The resignation was announced by Ron R. Fehr, City Manager, for the City of Manhattan.

City Manager Fehr said, "Lauren has provided exemplary service and dedication with the City of Manhattan as a member of the City's senior management. She played an instrumental role in working with various agencies and businesses to foster our economic development activities. Her professionalism and dedication will be greatly missed. Our community has been fortunate to have Lauren on our team. She is a rising star in the profession and we wish her and husband Paul the very best as they move closer to their family in Missouri."

Lauren Palmer began employment at the City of Manhattan as Assistant City Manager in January 2008. In her role as Assistant City Manager she coordinated legislative and intergovernmental activities to facilitate interaction between City officials, City management and

State/Federal officials/representatives, along with other county, City, and regional government officials. She played a vital part in many community and economic development accomplishments, including the opening of the Flint Hills Discovery Center, coordination of regional jet service to Manhattan Regional Airport and associated funding, the expansion of CivicPlus, and the renewal of the half-cent sales tax. Lauren also served as the City Manager's designated representative to the Riley County Law Board, as Staff liaison to the City/University Committee and several other special projects as needed.

"I cannot begin to adequately express my gratitude for the opportunity of serving the Manhattan community," stated Palmer. "As I reflect on the past five years, I am overwhelmed by the myriad of ways I was challenged and fulfilled in my professional duties. All of my colleagues will be missed; however, I am excited to serve in a chief administrative position at the City of Parkville and moving to this community will also allow my husband and I to fulfill our personal desire to relocate closer our families."

City Manager Fehr plans on

Veteran's To Honor Fallen Veterans

Kansas Veterans' Cemetery at Fort Riley-Manhattan will honor fallen veterans and their loved ones, again this year on Memorial Day. The Commemorative Service is open to the public and will begin at 11:00 am, May 27th, 2013 at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery, 5181 Wildcat Creek Road, (near the Manhattan Airport).

This year's program includes the First Infantry Division Band and the Isis Shrine Highland Bagpipers among others. Immediately following the ceremony light refreshments will be provided at a hospitality suite in the honor guard room adjacent to the administrative building.

As always you are also invited to attend this ceremony.

DICK EDWARDS
Manhattan, Kansas



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AG Schmidt: Kansas Concealed Carry Applications Continue At A Fast Pace

TOPEKA – (May 2, 2013) – More than 3,000 Kansans applied for concealed carry permits during the month of April, Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt said today.

Schmidt said his office received 3,462 applications for concealed carry permits during April. While this number is down slightly from the record month in March, it is still the third-highest month since the concealed carry licensing pro-

gram began in 2007. It represents a 140 percent increase from the 1,442 permit applications that were received in April 2012.

Schmidt said his office is working diligently to process the applications in a timely manner while ensuring complete and accurate review of each application as required by law. Currently, applications are being processed in 89 days or less except for those that are

pending the receipt of additional information. Since last fall, additional staff have been hired or temporarily reassigned to assist in processing the sharp increase in applications, more than doubling the number of people assigned to the processing of concealed carry permit applications compared with this time last year. Investigators who conduct applicants' backgrounds checks are working overtime. The Legislature is still considering the attorney

general's request for authority to hire up to three additional licensing personnel in order to reduce processing time.

In the first four months of 2013, Schmidt's office received 14,274 new concealed carry applications. There are currently 55,988 active concealed carry licensees in Kansas.

Obituaries

Harold L. "Gil" Gillispie

Harold L. "Gil" Gillispie, age 79, of Manhattan, Kansas, died Thursday morning, May 2, 2013, at his residence.

He was born on May 11, 1933, in a farmhouse near Levant, Kansas, the son of Harold and Agnes (Dryden) Gillispie. Gil was raised on a farm until age 11.

In 1944, the family moved to Salina, Kansas where they joined the First Presbyterian Church. After graduating from high school in Salina, Gil earned a scholarship to Kansas Wesleyan University and graduated in 1955 with a BA degree. While attending Wesleyan, he worked at the Salina YMCA where he had previously played basketball.

He was then drafted into the U.S. Army in 1955, eventually being shipped to Korea where he went to the 8th Army Headquarters, becoming a clerk typist in the Adjutant General's office. His military awards and honors included a letter of commendation and good conduct medal. He returned to the states in 1957 and spent the next four years in the reserve before leaving military service.

He then returned to the YMCA with a long term career

in numerous leadership positions including Assistant Youth Director for the Des Moines, IA YMCA and eventually Executive Director of the West Des Moines YMCA. He went on to serve as Executive Director of numerous YMCA's including the Aurora Branch of the Denver, Colorado YMCA, the McCook, Nebraska, YMCA and the Junction City, Kansas YMCA. In 1979, he purchased the Manhattan franchise of H&R Block, which he operated for the next 11 years. His love for youth was reflected in his involvement with Big Brothers Big Sisters where he has been a "Big Brother" for 10 "Little Brothers."

Gil was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Manhattan. Having been involved in church leadership throughout his life he began preaching in 1967 for YMCA Sunday in West Des Moines, then in Aurora, McCook and later in Junction City and Manhattan. After a Methodist District Superintendent heard one of his sermons he was invited to fill pulpits several times over the years in McCook. Later while living in Junction City the local

Presbyterian Pastor put his name on the pulpit supply list of the Presbytery, and he began immediately getting calls to fill pulpits. In 1996 he was called upon to serve as a temporary supply pastor for the Oakhill Presbyterian Church in Oakhill, Kansas, eventually becoming a Commissioned Lay Pastor in 1998. At the time of his death he was still serving as the Commissioned Lay Pastor for the Oakhill Presbyterian Church.

In 1970, he was named to "Who's Who in the West", then in 1990 to "Who's Who in the Midwest" and every year since 2000 to "Who's Who in America" and later to Who's Who in the World." Gil was named as one of the "2000 Outstanding Intellectuals of the 21st Century."

He is survived by two sisters: Julia "Julie" Stephen, Orlando, FL and Elsie Ohlson and her husband Nils, Hampton, NH. Also surviving are his nephews and niece: Brian Gillispie, Manhattan, KS; Tim Gillispie and his wife Maria Francia, Overland Park, KS; Mark Stephen and his wife Anne, Orlando, FL; Joni Abbate and her husband John,

Hackettstown, NJ; and Nils Ohlson, Jr. of Hampton, New Hampshire.

He was preceded in death by his parents and by his younger brother: Leonard Gillispie.

Friends may pay their respects anytime Thursday through Friday at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home. Private burial will be in the Sunrise Cemetery.

Memorial services will be held 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 11, 2013, at the First Presbyterian Church, 801 Leavenworth Street, Manhattan with Reverend Zachary Morton officiating.

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 Oakhill Presbyterian Church, Big Brothers Big Sisters and for the Kansas Wesleyan University-Harold L. Gillispie Endowed Scholarship Fund.

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

Barbara Thorson

Barbara Lois (Anderson) Thorson was born September 24, 1922 in Hatton, North Dakota to Norwegian pioneer parents, Mary (Hanson) and Carl S. Anderson. She attended Hatton schools and graduated from St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing in Fargo, N.D. in 1944. She followed her mother and aunt and became a registered nurse. Barbara was baptized and confirmed at St. John Lutheran in Hatton. She was always very proud of being born and raised in North Dakota and continued to correspond and visit her childhood friends in Hatton throughout her life.

Barbara was united in marriage to Ingolf Eugene (Stubby) Thorson on August 24, 1945 at St. John Church. They had known each other since childhood. Three daughters and one son were born to this union. She was a Girl Scout and taught her children, grandchildren and great-children songs from her Girl Scout days. She often spoke about going to camp at Ottertail Lake in Minnesota where years later she and Stubby had their cabin.

Prior to her marriage she worked at St. Luke's Hospital

in Fargo and the Marine Hospital in Bremerton, Washington. Later when the children were older she did private duty nursing, and staff nursing at the former Memorial Hospital in Manhattan. She was the plant nurse at McCall's Pattern Company for eight years before retiring from nursing.

Barbara has been an active member of First Lutheran since 1948 when she and Stubby moved to Manhattan. She has enjoyed friendships through the First Lutheran Guild and her circle. She was a volunteer at First Lutheran, in the office, in the food pantry, and as a quilter. She also volunteered for Hospice in Manhattan.

She remained faithful in the use of the Word and Sacrament of the church until her death. Along with Stubby she was dedicated to the baptismal promises they made for their children.

She was an avid reader and especially enjoyed Norwegian emigrant history. She taught her daughters, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren to make her "family famous" cinnamon rolls. She enjoyed entertaining her friends and

playing bridge. She was always a good sport and swam in the lake at Ottertail into her late 80's. She worked hard at all she did.

She was preceded in death by her husband Stubby in 2009, her parents Mary and Carl, her brother Eugene Anderson and sister Winifred Larson. She was the beloved mother of Mary Anne (Karmon) Almquist, Lindsborg, Dan (Sandi) Thorson, Battle Lake, MN, Sarah Preston, Topeka, and Becky (Bob) Shawgo, Lakeville, MN. Also left to mourn her passing are 10 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and many friends.

Barbara was a resident of Bethany Home, Lindsborg at the time of her death on May 3, 2013.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 PM Wednesday at the First Lutheran Church, 930 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, with Reverend Dr. Keith Wiens Officiating. Interment will follow in the Sunrise Cemetery in Manhattan.

The family will receive friends from 1:30 until 2:15 PM Wednesday at the church prior to the services.

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Tuttle Creek Dam Will Be 50 This Year

Topeka, KC Merchants Speak In Favor Of Dam

Between 1945 and 1953 Congressman Albert Cole represented the U.S. congressional district that included the area of Tuttle Creek Dam. His district also included Topeka and Lawrence where floods had done a great deal of damage. Congressman Cole received many letters both in support and in opposition to the construction of Tuttle Creek Dam.

The following letters are from the North Topeka Merchants Association and the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce. Both cities suffered greatly in the 1951 flood.

**The North Topeka Merchants Association
North Topeka, Kansas
February 20, 1948**

**J. F. FERNSTROM, SECRETARY
PHONE 2-2237
835 NORTH KANSAS AVENUE**

**Honorable Albert Cole,
House of Representatives**



Blue Valley Belles meet with other delegates on the Capitol steps, Washington, D.C.

Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:
We are sending the bearer, John Fernstrom, with a plea for

your support of flood control for Topeka as embraced in the comprehensive plan offered by the Army Engineers.

While we appreciate the

opposition of those who would be adversely affected by the installation of the Tuttle Creek Dam we take a position of the greatest good for the greatest

number of your constituents. Aside from the subjective value, which to them is dear, they would be compensated for their loss. We have recovered neither money nor morale from past floods nor could we in the future. This does not include the too often forgotten injury and loss of life, which is irreparable.

Mr. Fernstrom has long been an active crusader for maximum protection against flood and at the instance of the residents of this area. The North Topeka Merchants Association made it possible for him to make a personal appeal on our behalf.

He is adequately equipped as a student of this problem to supply you verbally with details too voluminous to be contained here.

Relative to the so-called Soldier Creek cut-off west of Topeka, we recognize this as a necessity to our local protection. Studies, surveys and recommendations of the Army Engineers have our approval and we are satisfied that the reasons for objections raised by those in the sparsely settled vicinity are not born out in the competent judgment of the engineers.

Mr. Fernstrom was not provided with petitions. However, the aroused residents of the flood potential land north of the Kaw can furnish ample opinion of this nature if you so elect.

Sincerely Yours
The North Topeka Merchants Ass'n
H.K. Harper, President

Ways Immigration Bill Is Like Obamacare

**By Amy Payne
The Heritage Foundation**
Congress rammed Obamacare through without many Members even reading the bill. Now it's applying that same frantic, complex, pie-in-the-sky legislating to immigration. The similarities are frightening.

1. Extreme Costs

The Government Accountability Office now projects that under the most realistic scenario, Obamacare will add \$6.2 trillion to the primary deficit over the next 75 years. That's a staggering figure, especially considering the fact that President Obama pledged in 2009, "I will not sign a plan that adds one dime to our deficits—either now or in the future."

The Gang of Eight's immigration plan granting amnesty to those unlawfully in the U.S. will cost already burdened American taxpayers more than they can bear. When he last crunched the numbers during

the 2007 amnesty debate, Heritage's Robert Rector calculated that a general amnesty would cost some \$2.5 trillion—after considering what legalized immigrants would likely pay in taxes and receive in government benefits and services. His updated research on the latest proposal, due out soon, is likely to find a higher price tag in 2013.

2. False Promises

Remember President Obama's promise that "If you like your health care plan, you can keep it"? That's just one of the most famous (or infamous) broken promises of Obamacare. The Congressional Budget Office projects 7 million people will lose their employer-sponsored coverage by 2022 because of the law.

On immigration, Heritage President Jim DeMint told CNBC's Larry Kudlow this week: "I've heard a lot of promises about bills that have gone through Congress. ...The only thing that I know about

this bill is that it's going to give legal status and eventual citizenship to those who came here unlawfully. The rest are just promises." One of those promises is border security—as Heritage's James Jay Carafano explains, the bill would not actually secure the border.

3. Have to Pass It to See What's In It

Nancy Pelosi wasn't kidding when she said Congress would have to pass Obamacare "to see what's in it." That's because the bill gave federal agencies free rein to write regulations that would become the real-world version of the law—and even though it passed in 2010, the regulations are still being written today.

The immigration bill does the same thing—it gives over congressional authority to federal agencies, allowing unelected bureaucrats to think up all the details later.

4. Piles on Already Broken—and Broke—Entitlement Programs

This isn't the way Congress should make laws. It's only making the same mistakes all over again—and we'll be paying for them.

Obamacare plans to add millions of people to the Medicaid rolls—the largest expansion ever to this problematic program, which is already unsustainable and needs vital reforms.

Likewise, the immigration bill would add millions to the number of people on various taxpayer-funded benefits, from Medicare and Social Security to welfare. As DeMint said, "These programs are already broke. Our country is already \$17 trillion in debt. This will be a net loss, a huge cost to taxpayers."

5. Perks for Special Interests

Whenever the legislative process turns fast and furious, Members of Congress start loading on special-interest deals that are less likely to be noticed in the chaos. Obamacare was full of favors for Big Labor. Now, the immigration bill is carrying all sorts of special-interest goodies—not to mention a bonanza for immigration lawyers.

This isn't the way Congress should make laws. It's only making the same mistakes all over again—and we'll be paying for them.

Second Annual Photo Contest

The Ranchland Trust of Kansas (RTK) invites professional and amateur photographers to submit photographs for its second annual photo contest to showcase the natural beauty of ranching and grazing lands across the state. The competition, open to anyone, offers Kansans the chance to explore the many activities, seasons and faces of Kansas' ranching tradition.

"We are excited to continue our photo contest after the overwhelming quality and quantity of photos we received last year," says RTK board chairman Heather Fuesz of Eureka. "The grassland in our state has a story to tell and photos are a great way to tell those stories with others who share a love for agriculture and those who want to learn more."

The contest, which runs through September 10, asks participants to submit photos expressing the mission of RTK: "To preserve Kansas' ranching heritage and open spaces for future generations through the conservation of working landscapes." This may include livestock, people and landscapes, with preference to grasslands, grazing lands with cattle, ranchers, ranching families and much more.

"All ages and skill levels are welcome," Fuesz says. "The photo contest is all about capturing the beauty of Kansas' grassland, cattle and people."

The contest is open to anyone with an original photograph taken in Kansas since January 1, 2011. Participants may enter up to five photos. The categories include: land-

scape, livestock and people. The entry deadline for the contest is September 10, 2013. Entries will be judged by a panel of professionals in the field of photography and by RTK representatives.

A total of 10 prizes will be awarded to competition winners, sponsored by Wolfe's Camera of Topeka. A \$25 Wolfe's Print Services Card and a certificate for 10 photo cards of the winning photo from Wolfe's will be awarded to the winner in each category, while the single image selected as the overall winner will receive Promaster

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Catalina 8x30 Binoculars, a \$25 Wolfe's Print Services Card and a certificate for 10 photo cards of the winning photo from Wolfe's. In addition, a youth (ages 5-17), a Fan Favorite via Facebook voting, a Kansas Livestock Association member winner and three honorable mentions each will receive a \$25 Wolfe's Print Services Card and a certificate for 10 photo cards of the winning photo from Wolfe's.

For full contest rules and to enter, visit <http://www.ranchlandtrustofkansas.org/2013photocontest.aspx>. For questions, please contact Mike Beam at (785) 273-5115 or rtk@kla.org.

RTK is an agricultural land trust affiliate of the Kansas Livestock Association, with a mission to preserve Kansas' ranching heritage and open spaces for future generations

through the conservation of working landscapes.

Wolfe's Camera is a photographic store in downtown Topeka, Kansas, that has been in business for 88 years. They stock a huge selection of cameras from all the major manufacturers, camcorders, Apple & PC computers and accessories. Wolfe's Photo Finishing Services provides literally hundreds of high-quality photographic services. Their long-time, experienced laboratory staff produces the highest quality photos, photo books, stretched canvas prints and photo gifts in the industry.

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"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."
- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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The Conservative Side...



Over Easy

"This piece is constructed in bronze and is my rendition of a Kaw Indian Chief offering the customary peace pipe to all. The sculpture is 7.5' high ... (and) is in keeping with its surroundings and the history of the Native American Indian who settled near the mouth of the Big Blue River." Tom Ford



Bob Strawn

This is the \$64,400 proposal from Wyoming sculptor Tom Ford for mounting atop the existing roundabout pedestal at 4th and Bluemont. It's an attractive, proud, strong depiction of the Kaw who inhabited this place well before the time Manhattan was founded in the 1850's. A chief, hand outstretched, offering a peace pipe to all who enter the town we call home. And frankly, we're rather taken with it.

You may recall the city commission earlier committed a maximum of \$20,000 for a suitable piece of roundabout art. So, it will take a larger community effort to raise the remaining 40 grand, assuming the idea passes commission muster, which is never a sure bet.

Mr. Ford has also proposed casting fifty miniature chiefs and selling them to the public for \$4150 each. After which, he would return \$1200 apiece to the private funding effort. Seems like a reasonable idea, as these kinds of mementos are always helpful in attracting gifts from those with extra cash in the kitty. Plus, there's nothing wrong with Mr. Ford mak-

ing an additional buck; we suspect he's not cutting his wisdom teeth here.

To this effort, not long ago an old soldier came to me with an idea that this should

be a war memorial. We always thought it should be a Free State monument. Another citizen believes it would be best if dedicated to Manhattan blue bloods who helped build the town - presumably guys like Jack Goldstein. However, none of those has taken it this far. Instead, the government system grabs onto needs like these and turns them into something that we either love or abhor. Seldom is there a middle ground. The best example, of course, is a certain \$37million discovery center. So, we live with it.

Now here, we get another

shot - a simple image that ties nicely to our heritage. And yes, we believe there's a need to finish the roundabout. What's there today is silly. Empty limestone pedestals with rebar accoutrements are rather scarce in America these days, my friends. And thankfully, this Kaw piece depends mostly on private donations rather than tax levies. As we tend to favor worthy projects of this nature that are funded mostly with private money. So yes, we see this making sense on many fronts, including an important historical art form for the ages.

But at this writing, we have no clue what action was taken Tuesday evening by the new city commission. We can only trust they used good judgment, respected taxpayer interests and made a statement to future generations about the significance of our past. If the proposal moved forward, we're glad. After all, "We are our choices." Good guidance for those on the bench and the rest of us too.

As a side note, when we think about the mid-1800's here in the Flint Hills, we are taken with all their achievements - those Free State Kansans. And to that point, we share this one sentence editorial that appeared recently in a Peoria, IL newspaper: "A pen in the hand of this president is far more dangerous than a gun in the hands of 200 million law-abiding citizens." We suspect

Cato Institute: Krugman's Still Wrong

By Michael D. Tanner
Cato Institute

Paul Krugman has never been shy about proclaiming that he is right and everyone else is wrong — and not just wrong, but "knaves and fools." Lately, however, one begins to worry that he might actually hurt himself, so vigorously has he been patting himself on the back for his opposition to "austerity" (defined as any cut in government spending, anytime, anywhere).

On his latest victory lap, Krugman is celebrating two things. First, a group of researchers from the University of Massachusetts Amherst discovered a small error in a widely cited paper by Carmen Reinhart and Ken Rogoff that showed economic growth was lower in countries with higher debt loads. Many of those who favor reduced government spending (including me) have cited Reinhart and Rogoff positively. Therefore, Krugman declares, the entire idea of austerity has been "sold on false pretenses."

Second, European economies have sputtered. Krugman blames this on sharp spending cuts, which would be the opposite of the Keynesian stimulus spending that he favors. If only European governments had listened to him, Krugman suggests, instead of to all those knaves and fools, and spent more, their economies would be humming along by now.

Professor Krugman should pause briefly from congratulating himself to take a look at a few unfortunate facts.

Let's deal with the Reinhart and Rogoff kerfuffle first.

For all the attention it has received, the Amherst

researchers did not actually disprove Reinhart and Rogoff's conclusion. Reinhart and Rogoff found that economies grew slower during periods of high debt (defined as government debt greater than 90 percent of GDP) than they did during times of lower debt.

The researchers from UMass, on the other hand, found that — wait for this — economies grew slower during periods of higher debt than they do during times of lower debt.

The UMass researchers did find a smaller difference in growth rates (one percentage point versus 1.3 points for the preferred median rates in Reinhart and Rogoff), but that hardly suggests that we are in dire need of more debt.

Besides, Reinhart and Rogoff's model always provided a sort of faux precision to the debt argument. While the UMass researchers agreed that higher debt is correlated with lower growth, they found no evidence of Reinhart and Rogoff's assertion that growth drops off dramatically above 90 percent of GDP. Did anyone really believe that debt equal to 89 percent of GDP was fine, while 91 percent of GDP sent the economy into a free fall? The point is that governments cannot amass an unlimited amount of liabilities without economic consequences.

Numerous studies besides Reinhart and Rogoff's have shown this, including ones by the European Central Bank, the IMF, and the Bank for International Settlements. No doubt knaves and fools all.

More important, however debt has never been the most important measure of government's burden on the economy. As Milton Friedman pointed

out, the real burden of government is spending, regardless of whether that spending is financed through debt or taxes. Too much debt is clearly bad, but substituting taxes for the debt does not make the problem substantially better.

Which brings us to the question of European "austerity." Krugman continues to insist that European countries' austerity has been devastating, and that spending cuts must therefore be resisted. The "case for keeping [the U.K.] on the path of harsh austerity isn't just empirically implausible, it appears to be a complete conceptual muddle," he wrote this week, and "austerity policies have greatly deepened economic slumps almost everywhere they have been tried."

But there have actually been few spending cuts in Europe, so it makes little sense to blame them for poor performance. A new study by Constantin Gurdgiev of Trinity College in Dublin compared government spending as a percentage of GDP in 2012 with the average level of pre-recession spending (2003–2007). Only three EU countries had actually seen a reduction: Germany, Malta, and Sweden. Not surprisingly, two of those three, Germany and Sweden, are among those countries that have best weathered the economic crisis. Those countries that have suffered most, Greece, Italy, Spain, and Portugal, have all seen spending increases.

And what about Great Britain, which has been Krugman's No. 1 exhibit for the dangers of austerity? Compared with pre-recession

Secret Cable Revelation Blows Open Cover Up

By Helle Dale
The Heritage Foundation

The revelation of a classified cable dated August 15 from Ambassador Christopher Stevens to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton describing in detail the security threats to the U.S. Benghazi consulate is a quantum leap forward in the reporting on the attack that left the ambassador and three security personnel dead.

We have Fox News's Catherine Herridge to thank for reporting yesterday on the existence of the classified cable. Mainstream media coverage of Benghazi has been scandalously negligent. Indeed, David Ignatius, one of The Washington Post's top columnists, is now citing Fox News for its breaking stories on Benghazi. This has clearly not

been sitting well with the editors of the Post's op-ed section, who initially chose to run Ignatius's column, "Lingering Questions About Benghazi," dated October 30, on its website only. Criticized roundly on talk radio and social media, the Post ran it in its print edition two days later.

The August 15 cable, marked "secret," was sent by the Benghazi mission and outlined both the threats and the insufficiencies to U.S. security in Libya. The mission called for an "emergency meeting" to discuss the rapidly eroding situation on the ground:

RSO (Regional Security Officer) expressed concerns with the ability to defend Post in the event of a coordinated attack due to limited manpower, security measures, weapons

capabilities, host nation support, and the overall size of the compound.

The cable repeatedly describes the situation in Benghazi as "trending negatively" because "the Benghazi militias have become more brazen in their actions and have little fear of reprisal" from the government of Libya.

"In light of the uncertain security environment, US Mission Benghazi will submit specific requests to US Embassy Tripoli for additional physical security upgrades and staffing needs by separate cover." The cable went on to include "the location of approximately ten Islamist militias and AQ training camps within Benghazi.... [T]hese groups ran the spectrum from Islamist militias, such as the QRF Brigade and Ansar al-Sharia, to 'Takfirist thugs.'"

The revelation of the cable follows the report on Friday by Fox's Jennifer Griffin that CIA officers in Benghazi had been ordered to "stand down" when they wanted to help repel the attack on the consulate about a mile away. Fox also reported that the CIA officers at the annex had asked for military support when the annex came under fire later, but they had also been turned down.

Questions on what happened before, during, and after the Benghazi attack continue to pile up, and just a few media outlets seem to be looking for real answers.

Two Technical Institutions Awarded Recycled Vehicles

Washburn Institute of Technology (Washburn Tech) and Manhattan Area Technical College (MATC) are pleased to announce that on Thursday, May 9th at 9:30 a.m., a ceremony will be held at the Kansas Capitol grounds, south lawn for the recipients of two Recycled Rides vehicles, one from each institution. The joint ceremony features vehicles donated by American Family Ins. for MATC & local vehicle owners to Washburn Tech through the NABC's Recycled Rides program. The students from Washburn Tech Automotive Collision Repair program will present their vehicle to an area family in need. MATC's students have worked with the Wounded Warriors organization and deliver their vehicles to soldiers who need assistance after receiving devastating injuries in the service of our Country.

Tech students in making the necessary repairs, providing parts, supplies, making a financial contribution, or providing other assistance.

The two spring 2013 Washburn Tech Recycled Rides vehicles are a 2007 Kia Sportage donated by Pam and Brad Clark and a 1996 Ford Taurus station wagon donated by Gail and Scott Kenefake. Both spring 2013 vehicles were donated by Washburn employees, Brad Clark of Washburn Tech and Gail Kenefake of Washburn University. A committee of the Greater Topeka United Way, the Community Resource Council, the Topeka Community Foundation and others has chosen each of the recipients of the five Washburn Tech Recycled Rides vehicles.

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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 April 29, 2013 with the following members present: Dave Lewis, Chair; Ron Wells, Member; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Robert Boyd, Vice Chair, was absent.

8:30 Pledge of Allegiance
Public Comment,
Commission Comments, &
Business Meeting

Clancy Holeman, Counselor /Director of Administrative Services; Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/ Deputy Clerk; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Mark Bachamp, Olsson Associates; Shelly Williams, Community Corrections Director; Mike Holtman, Gordan & Associates; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Hobson discussed the Mineral Springs bridge replacement project.

Hobson discussed the K-18 entrance into Tri-City Fence by Murray Road. Hobson said the State proposed the State build the entrance and Riley County provide the surfacing.

The Board suggested further negotiation with KDOT on the entrance.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Bonnie McKinsey, a rehire, as an APRN, in the Health Department, at a grade EE, at \$41.65 per hour (adding to as needed status to fill in during interim of hiring a full time APRN).

Wells moved to sign an

Audit Engagement Letter with James Gordon & Associates. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

Wells moved to sign Budget Engagement Letter with James Gordon & Associates. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

Wells moved to accept the proposal submitted by Foley Equipment, of Manhattan, to supply four 2013 Caterpillar 12M2 motor graders as specified, for a period of 10 years with a lease payment of \$14,023.07 and trade the tires from the three rental machines with three of the new machines for a total deduction of \$9,000. This dedication will result in a lower lease payment. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

Wells moved to sign an asphalt overlay bid acceptance with Shilling Construction Co., Inc. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

Wells moved to sign an Agreement for Professional Services with Olsson Associates for Professional Engineering Services for McDowell Creek Road - Discovery Study Phase not to exceed \$153,585.50. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

Wells moved to sign a 2014 Community Corrections Comprehensive Plan Grant Application. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

Wells moved to approve the following warrant vouchers for April 30, 2013:

2013 Budget	County General	\$669,468.51
	Health Department	24,815.33
	JJA Prevention St. Formula	2,967.75
	Teen Court Collected Fund	138.39
	Juvenile Intake Case Mgr	222.75
	Riley Co Juvenile Service	1,807.26

21st Jud Dist Teen Court	557.25
Riley Co Adult Services	2,003.00
Capital Improvements Fund	97,698.10
Emergency 911	1,298.33
Solid Waste	3,000.32
County Building	2,601.22
Road & Bridge Cap Project	25,293.81
RCPD Levy/Op	5,251.44
Landfill Closure	307.20
Riley Co Fire Dist #1	23,550.42
Riley Co Fire Dist CapOut	4,995.00
University Park W&S	827.40
Hunters Island Water Dist	1,145.01
Carson Sewer Benefit Dist	115.18
Deep Creek Sewer	255.37
Moehlman Bottoms	773.78
Valleywood Operations	52.39
Terra Heights Sewer	461.37
Terra Heights Sinking	327.00
Konza Water Operations	1,504.86
TOTAL	\$871,438.44

Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

Shepek presented the 2013 CIP project activation list.

Holtman presented the confirmation request letters.

Wells moved to sign Confirmation Requests Letters for James Gordon & Associates. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

Wells moved to approve the special meeting minutes of April 23, 2013 as presented. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

Wells moved to approve the special meeting minutes of April 24, 2013 as presented. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

Wells moved to approve the minutes of April 25, 2013 as amended. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

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

Administrative Work Session
Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; Craig Cox, Assistant County Counselor; Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director; Steve DeHart, Sanitarian; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Holeman suggested the appellate process for preliminary or final wastewater treatment plan decisions by the sanitarian be rescheduled when all three commissioners are present.

The Board agreed. Holeman discussed the conceal carry gun bill.

9:30 Press Conference
Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; Eileen King, Treasure; and Cheryl Collins, Museum Director, attended.

King presented the following:
April Vehicle Renewals: Tuesday, April 30 - All "C-

D" tags are due.

MUST SHOW CURRENT INSURANCE CARD ON EACH VEHICLE.

Renewal forms or other forms need to be signed by registered owner, if not present.

MILITARY must present current full month LES and Orders/ORB/ERB for Personal Property tax exemption. We now provide a work station outside our office for military personnel to access the information needed.

2nd Half Taxes Due:

The second half of 2012 taxes are due Friday, May 10, 2013. We do accept cash, check or credit card. However there is a 2.5% convenience fee charged by our credit card provider.

Tax amounts can be found on our website www.rileycountyks.gov under e-gov services, Online Property Tax Search.

Taxes can be paid: in person at 110 Courthouse Plaza by mail with a May 10 postmark by internet at www.rileycountyks.gov using either e-check or credit card by phone at 1-800-2PAY-TAX jurisdiction code 2613

Update on Motor Vehicle System:

As of May 1, we will have been on the new system for one year. Hopefully we have most of the problems figured out, especially those with records that didn't convert over. We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding and hope you will continue to work with us as we refine the issues.

Wildlife and Parks Passports:

The passports for the State parks has been a great success. The price of \$15.50 at renewal time has been a very popular item. Asking people in January and February about buying a park permit was a real stretch, but we have sold over 800 permits so far this year.

C. Collins said the 5th Annual Get Around 2 It! will be May 2nd from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Sunset Zoo. This free community event showcases all the wonderful things to see and do in and around Manhattan. The Riley County Historical Society and Museum will have an exhibit on the history of toys along with a variety of toys to try out.

C. Collins said Manhattan and Riley County offers a wealth of educational and entertaining experiences for both residents and visitors alike and everyone is invited to come to Sunset Zoo and learn more about them.

10:00 Paula Pedersen, Health Department Office Manager

Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

Pedersen said the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) put forth a one time grant to assist family planning program recipients with adopting and implementing Health Information Technology (HIT) related services. The Riley County Health Department would like to take advantage of this funding opportunity to train the office manager and nursing supervi-

sor as "super users" of the Insight software system, which is currently being used by the health department. Within the last year, the health department lost nearly all staff that was competent in the software's administrative capabilities, i.e. running reports, reviewing provider time use, and trouble shooting. This training will not only help with day-to-day operations, but it is essential for the health department's quest for accreditation.

Pedersen said all expenses

are covered by the grant.

Pedersen recommended allowing the Riley County Health Department to proceed with submitting grant to KDHE to assist in training of the Insight software system.

Wells moved to approve the submittal of the grant application to KDHE to assist in training of the Insight software system. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

10:02 Wells moved to adjourn. Lewis seconded. Carried 2-0.

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K-State Takes Series At Texas, Tied For 1st

KSU Sports Information

AUSTIN, Texas – Kansas State scored multiple runs in three different innings, including a four-run seventh to put the game away, as the Wildcats won the series rubber match over Texas, 9-3, Sunday afternoon at UFCU Disch-Falk Field.

The victory improved K-State to 34-15 overall and 11-7 in Big 12 play as the Wildcats moved into a three-way tie for first place in the conference standings with Oklahoma and West Virginia. It also marked just the third-ever series win in Austin (1997 and 2009) and the largest margin of victory against the Longhorns in series history. Texas fell to 24-22 on the year and 6-15 in conference action.

Texas scored a run in the first inning on a wild pitch and K-State appeared to have tied the game in the third when Tanner Witt was ruled to have beaten out an infield single. However, after a conference by the umpires, Witt was ruled out and the inning was over.

The controversial ruling seemed to ignite a fire under the Wildcat offense as the Cats scored five runs over the next two innings. Mitch Meyer and Blair DeBord teamed for consecutive two-out RBI singles in the fourth, including a two-run hit up the middle by DeBord that gave K-State a 3-1 lead.

An inning later, Austin Fisher shot a RBI single into right field right after an intentional walk loaded the bases, while a one-out sacrifice fly by Jon Davis put K-State on top, 5-1.

"It was a different part of the

Big 12 Standings

Oklahoma	11-7
Kansas State	11-7
West Virginia	11-7
Kansas	12-9
Baylor	11-9
Oklahoma State	9-8
TCU	8-10
Texas Tech	7-14
Texas	6-15

order that did it today," head coach Brad Hill said. "Mitch and Blair stepped up today. It was good to see those guys come through in big situations. That swung momentum our way. Fisher getting the hit after the intentional walk kept momentum on our way."

After stranding 22 runners over the first two games and leaving a pair of runners on base in the second and third innings, K-State only left five runners on base the rest of the game and went 6-for-14 from the fourth through the ninth with runners on base.

K-State was led offensively by Fisher, who went 3-for-4 to extend his hitting streak to 14 games. Jared King added a two-hit game and scored a pair of runs, while DeBord had two hits and two RBI. Meyer produced his fourth two-RBI game of the season.

Blake McFadden was solid in his fourth-straight weekend start by allowing just the first-inning run on five hits with two walks in 4.1 innings. After surrendering a one-out double to Brooks Marlow, Jared Moore (3-0) came out of the K-State bullpen to catch Mark Payton and Erich Weiss looking on



File Photo: Ross Kivett (7) is safe at third base against Texas Tech. (Photo by Ben Brake).

two-straight strikeouts to end the inning. Moore tossed 1.1 innings with three strikeouts.

"It was a good start by Blake," Hill said. "We would have obviously liked to have seen him be sharper than what he was. He was what we needed, though. But I thought Jared Moore was outstanding by coming in to get those left-handers. That was crucial by stopping it right there."

After Jake Matthys allowed two runs on three hits in the

seventh inning, Nate Williams came out of the bullpen to throw 1.1 no-hit innings with a walk and three strikeouts. Witt finished off the game for K-State by tossing a scoreless ninth inning with a strikeout.

"Matthys wasn't sharp today, so now Nate Williams comes in and steps up in a role that was really crucial today," Hill said. "It was really a complete-team effort today."

Meyer's second RBI of the game came on a bases-loaded

hit-by-pitch in the seventh inning. Following a strikeout, Kyle Speer hit a hot grounder past Marlow at second base for an error that allowed two runs to score. Backing up on the play, right fielder Collin Shaw had the ball go under his glove as a third run came across to give the Wildcats a 9-1 advantage.

Texas starting pitcher Nathan Thornhill (2-6) suffered the loss by allowing five runs (four earned) on eight hits with three

walks and four strikeouts in five innings. Marlow and Payton, the top two hitters in the Longhorn lineup, recorded two hits apiece, while designated hitter Paul Montalbano also added two hits.

Kansas State returns to action this weekend as the Wildcats travel to Lawrence for a three game series against Kansas, Friday through Sunday, at Hoglund Ballpark.

Wildcats Finish Strong At Big 12 Championships

KSU Sports Information

WACO, Texas – Kansas State Head Coach Cliff Rovelto believed his men's track and field team would be in a tight battle at this weekend's Big 12 Outdoor Track and Field Championships, and his men came away in fourth with the best combined effort in conference history. The women also had a number of shining performances to finish in seventh place over the three days of action from Hart-Patterson Track and Field Complex.

The men's team had two champions at the Big 12 championship meet and scored a total of 96 points in the 21 events. Those 96 points are the most ever scored by the men's team at the Big 12 Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

"I think the men had a very solid meet. We were within six points of what I thought would be a great meet for us," Rovelto said. "Our top guys took care of business as expected and we had solid performances from the majority of the team."

After Erik Kynard won his third straight high jump title on Saturday, pole vaulter Kyle Wait successfully defended his conference title. Wait had a miss early on in the competition and then did not miss again until he was the only one left.

Wait claimed his second pole vault conference crown with a clearance of 5.34 meters (17-06.75) as the final three competitors were eliminated at that height. He cleared 5.34 on his first attempt and then elected to move the bar significantly higher when he was the only one remaining. He then took three attempts at what would

have been a new Big 12 Championship meet record of 5.56 meters (18-02.75). That height would have also made Wait alone at No. 8 on the NCAA performance list this season.

"I felt like it's what I should be doing. I had that one miss on my first bar, but it turned out pretty well," Wait said of not missing attempts at early bars. "Coach told me to not limit myself and expect big things, so I expected myself to do well."

The Wildcats tallied one more title on Sunday, this one going to a female.

Martina Tresch became the first Wildcat to win a women's steeplechase title as she won a dramatic race in 10:10.82. The junior claimed her first title after redshirting last season due to injury and seeing second place snatched away from her down the final 100 meters in both her freshman and sophomore seasons at the Big 12 Championship.

This time Tresch led from the starting gun all the way until West Virginia's Jordan Hamric got the edge with 250 meters to go. The lead was just one step going into the barrier jump in the final turn and three steps coming out of the last water jump. Tresch made the move to the outside heading to the final barrier and took the lead with a sprint to the finish.

Tresch said the victory is a significant moment for her considering her history at this meet of slowing down the stretch and getting passed by.

"It means a lot, especially because training was not what

we would have hoped with a lot of ups and downs," Tresch said. "Coming here, I wanted to sit back, but steeple is such a rough event with the barriers and the water jump. I thought, 'OK, I'm gonna take it.' And when she passed me with 250 to go, I was like, 'I'm not gonna let anyone take this from me ever again.' I'm just really happy I had it in me. She ran a great race. She did everything right. I think I was just lucky at the end to have a little bit more left."

With the 10 points scored by Tresch in her win, she and her teammates combined to score a total of 66 points to finish seventh. It was the most points K-State's women have scored at the Big 12 Championship since tallying 76.5 in 2008 when the Wildcats finished fifth.

"The women placed as I thought as a team. We had some stumbles but others picked up the slack," Rovelto said. "Martina ran great. Erica Twiss ran super in the 400 hurdles after doing the heptathlon and qualifying for the final over the last two days."

The men's fourth-place finish ties last year's and is the second-best mark in the Big 12 era, behind only the third-place finish in 1997.

K-State's leading scorer at the meet was sprinter Carlos Rodriguez. He finished third in the 100 meters with a time of 10.48 seconds to earn six points. He then added five more to K-State's total with a clocking of 20.91 in the final of the 200 meters to finish fourth. Then, he came back to close the night for the Wildcats by running the third leg of the 4x400 relay that finished third.

Rodriguez did all that, in addition to running his semifinal heats on Saturday, all with an illness.

"I thought Carlos was a warrior. He had been under the weather this week and he ran very well under the circumstances," Rovelto said.

Also performing well for the men's team was hurdler Tarique Hill. After finishing eighth last year at the Big 12 Championship, Hill had one of the largest improvements among the Wildcats this year. He raced to a second-place finish in the 110 meter hurdles, clawing his way by runners as the race progressed and finishing in 13.88 seconds.

Hill's time was a new personal record, shedding 0.16 off his previous best from the Mt. SAC Relays two weeks ago. His time also keeps him at ninth in school history. He was unable to catch Oklahoma's Tre' Lathan to get a victory as the Sooner ran 13.70.

Jessica Carter was one of the women who made a major improvement in her standing at the Big 12 meet as she finished third in the discus throw. Last year, at home she finished seventh with a throw of 49.97 meters (163-11). This time she put out a new personal best of 51.81 meters (170-00) to claim third place and move into seventh on the all-time list at K-State.

Throwing events were a strong area for the Wildcats on both the men's and women's side of the meet. The Wildcats opened the final day of the meet with three men in the javelin and walked away with 15 points.

Ivan Hartung claimed second in the javelin with his throw of 63.74 meters (209-01) to earn eight points. Tomas Kirieliuss came back to throw the javelin after finishing third in the decathlon over the first two days. He finished fifth at 62.73 meters (205-10). Jake Darrington was right behind in sixth place with a throw that was just off his PR at 61.82 meters (202-10).

Ryan Hershberger also claimed seventh place for the men's team in the shot put later in the day with his mark of 17.17 meters (56-04.00). For the women, freshman Olivia Housholder just missed qualifying for the final in the javelin finishing 10th.

Freshmen made a significant impact on the meet for the Wildcats.

Three freshmen ran on the men's 4x100 relay that finished eighth as Jordan Oakry, Tyriss Jefferson and Ifeanyi Otuonye joined Grant Loeschner.

Three freshmen ran on the women's 4x400 relay that claimed fifth place. Sonia Gaskin, Ashley Williams and Tia Gamble ran with sophomore Sarah Kolmer, which was easily the youngest women's 4x400 in the meet.

Gibbs would later take sixth in the 100 meters as she clocked in at 11.59 seconds. Gaskin ran to a seventh-place finish in the 800, and freshman Alyssa Kelly took seventh in the triple jump.

Otuonye and Jefferson would run with sophomores Rodriguez and Chris Campbell in the men's 4x400 that took

third place. The men clocked in at 3:09.27.

An event that went well for the women was the 400 meter hurdles. After competing in the heptathlon Friday and Saturday, Twiss qualified for the final of the event on Saturday evening and followed it up with a new PR during the final. Angela Hart ran well during semis on Saturday to grab the last spot available in the final and did not disappoint Sunday either.

Twiss ran a new PR of 58.97 seconds during the final to finish in fourth place as she held off a charge from Iowa State's Donnise Powell. Hart was in a tight battle throughout the race behind Twiss and Powell and was able to outrun a pair of Longhorns from Texas in Alicia Patterson and Melissa Gonzalez. Hart finished sixth in 1:00.30, just off her PR pace set during the semifinals.

With the conclusion of the Big 12 Outdoor Track and Field Championships, the Wildcats will prepare to host the Ward Haylett Invitational. The meet will serve as a quasi last chance meet heading into the postseason. The NCAA West Preliminary Rounds are coming up in a few weeks, and athletes will be looking to move up the regional rankings to qualify.

Action for the Ward Haylett Invitational starts at 10 a.m. with field events. Running events are slated for a 1 p.m. start at the R.V. Christian Track Complex. Admission to the meet is free, and K-State will be honoring its seniors during the meet.

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