

Local Video can be
see by hitting the
Local TV line.

- Collin Klein Program
- Brownback at Woodrow Willson
- County Commission on a Building Commission

Manhattan Free Press

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An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, July 24-, 2014

Surprise...

City Wants All Rates To Increase

Part Of The City Budget Memo Given To The City Commission:

City Administration recommends these rate increases for each utility to become effective beginning in January, 2015. If these proposed rate increases are lowered, current forecasts indicate that future rate increases may need to be higher in order to meet projected debt service payments and other planned project costs.

The utility cut pavement repair program has previously been provided through a two-year contractual agreement with a private contractor. The city has contracted with the same vendor since 2010. City Administration is recommending that this program be converted to an in-house program. This would require two full-time maintenance technicians (\$81,900), which would be funded through the Water and Wastewater funds. However, there will be offsetting savings from providing the program internally, which will absorb the annual cost of the two positions.

This reallocation will increase timeliness and efficiencies in the repairs, and provide added support benefits to the Public Works Department.

SUMMARY

The 2015 City budgeting process continues to present challenges that are primarily centered on growth-related issues. Please note that planned increases to the City's operational budgets, coupled with growing principal and interest payments within the Bond & Interest Fund, may create additional fiscal stress for the 2016

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 Proposed
Water Rates	7%	7%	3%	4%	4%
Wastewater Rates	20%	15%	3%	3%	3%
Stormwater Rates Residential	5%	5%	4%	3%	4%
Stormwater Rates Commercial	5%	5%	4%	3%	4%

From The Budget Memo: "Based on utility growth and consumption City Administration is recommending the following rate increases for 2015. The table below provides both the historical rate increases for the utility funds, as well as the proposed rate increases for 2015."

budgeting process.

City Administration continues to closely monitor spending patterns, revenue projections, and efficiency measures, in order to ensure that overall City services are maintained at the highest levels expected by the City Commission, community residents, and local businesses with the least amount of property tax support.

City Administration would like feedback from the City Commission

Bond & Interest Fund – For 2015, the Bond & Interest Fund is projected to increase by about \$1.6 million. This increase is largely attributed to the voter-approved, "quality of life" bond issue supported by a .25 sales tax. The sales tax revenues are accumulating reserves, which can only be used to pay principal and interest on outstanding bonds.

In addition, the renewed Riley County sales tax allows for 35% of the annual revenues

distributed to the City from this sales tax to go directly to the Bond & Interest Fund. This sales tax revenue in the Bond & Interest Fund has accumulated reserves from 2013 revenues. These additional revenues will assist in off-setting the mill levy impact of the Bond & Interest Fund to .225 mills.

Outside Services and Agencies – In addition to the traditional outside agencies funded by the City (RCPD and the Library), a number of other social service agencies also receive funding, primarily from the General Fund, through the annual budgeting process.

During the third budget work session, the City Commission heard from most of those agencies.

Also, at the July 1st, City Commission Meeting, the City Commission heard from the Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Chamber of Commerce with whom the city has service contracts. The requests are based on 2014

funding levels and will have no impact on the 2015 mill levy.

Preliminary analysis of the 2014 property tax revenues received to date for the Riley County Police Department fund indicates that there will be a shortfall in delinquent tax collections this year. As a result, the beginning 2015 cash balance for this fund will be less than the current budgeted amount and it is likely that the Riley County Police

Department budget will be impacted adversely by this projected delinquency shortfall in 2015. [Please recall that a 2% delinquency rate was not budgeted in 2014 in order to keep the 2014 mill levy rate low.]

Enterprise Funds – Based on utility growth and consumption City Administration is recommending the following rate increases for 2015. The table below provides both the historical rate increases for the utility funds, as well as the proposed rate increases for 2015.



SEEING GREEN: In the past 10 years, Kansas law enforcement have split \$6.3 million reaped from drug tax stamp laws.

Marijuana Is Law Enforcement's Cash Crop

By Travis Perry
Kansas Watchdog

OSAWATOMIE, Kan. — In Kansas, the War on Drugs is really just the war on marijuana.

At least, that's the picture painted by the latest statistics from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.

KBI stats show marijuana was involved in about 8,000 law enforcement incidents during 2013. For the record, marijuana busts account for more law enforcement involvement than cocaine, meth, heroin, LSD and all other drugs combined.

The statistics don't include figures from Topeka, Overland Park, Olathe and Kansas City. Those municipalities don't track specific drug types.

Yes, while Kansas' neighbor to the west has legalized the nation's most widely used

recreational drug (excluding alcohol and tobacco), the Sunflower State continues to come down hard on cannabis.

One possible reason is something that Kansas law enforcement have known for years — marijuana means money.

It just depends which side of the legal fence you're on.

In the past decade, according to documents provided by the Kansas Department of Revenue, law enforcement agencies statewide have split a combined \$6.3 million reaped from assessment of the state's drug tax stamp law. Marijuana and other drugs may be illegal to possess, it still won't stop the government from trying to tax you for it.

While that dollar amount isn't broken out by drug type, it's not a hard to figure that for law enforcement, marijuana is the real cash crop.

Kansas Says School Is Sitting On \$1 Million In Potential Savings

By Travis Perry
Kansas Watchdog

OSAWATOMIE, Kan. — State auditors have uncovered seven digits worth of savings within one Kansas school, but just how far district officials will go to realize those savings is yet to be seen.

As part of the state's annual analysis of education spending, the Kansas Legislative Division of Post Audit presented Tuesday their findings after putting Emporia USD 253 under the microscope. In all, auditors suggested more than \$1.1 million in potential savings.

The biggest numbers were also among the most difficult to swallow for Emporia school district officials. Focusing on the district's charter school, Turning Point Academy, auditors suggested savings of \$260,000 by merging school operations with another existing district building, or saving as much as \$600,000 by shuttering it entirely. While the school is designed to accommodate 200 students, enrollment during the 2012-13 school year was only 67, down 42 percent in the past three years.

The innovative school focuses on project-based instruction, but while reading scores are on par with the rest of the district, math scores are lower.

"District officials acknowledged the current structure of the charter school is not sustainable but expressed concerns about how the community might react to closing the school," auditors stated.

Judging by Kansas Department of Education efficiency guidelines, auditors figure the USD 253's food service crew is significantly over staffed. Salary and benefits for the 50 employees on hand composed about 45 percent of the district's \$2.3 million in food service expenditures last year.

The abundance of help has led to some duplication of duties, requiring more staff to prep and serve a small number of meals in multiple locations than would otherwise be necessary.

"Some staff are only responsible for serving food and cleaning up afterward, but still work a full seven hour day," auditors wrote. "Based on our observations while touring district kitchens, some staff did

not appear to be fully occupied during their shifts."

In all, auditors estimate the district could save about \$190,000 by reducing about 14 full-time food service positions.

Roughly \$313,000 in savings could be accrued by restructuring classes and schedules at district middle and high schools in cases in which a class was not filled to capacity. Doing so would allow for six fewer classroom instructors across the two buildings, though staff reductions are never without some amount of opposition. Adjusting the same positions to part-time to accommodate the increased efficiency would reap about \$215,000 in savings.

"Officials told us they prefer to offer more classes to allow students greater flexibility in their schedules," auditors stated. "However, the departments most affected by consolidating classes not filled to capacity are core departments such as language arts and science. Because the district offers a large number of these courses, reductions in scheduling flexibility would be minimal."

The smallest savings —

though still totaling more than \$76,000 — were most favorably received by district officials. Auditors suggested USD 253 could save upward of \$42,000 through increased use of procurement cards. A further \$34,000 in savings could be found by better utilizing the federal E-Rate program to manage cell phone costs.

As it stands, the district spends about \$45,000 annually in cell phone stipends for various staff members. But if the school district took over cell phone payments directly, it would qualify for an 82 percent reimbursement rate. The one hangup? District officials were concerned some employees might get annoyed by having to carry around more than one cell phone.

"It is true that if employees want access to their personal cell phones during the day, they would have to carry two phones," the audit stated. "However, carrying a personal cell phone would be an employee's choice and not a business necessity."

Superintendent Theresa Davidson thanked KDLP staff for scrutinizing her district's expenditures.

Head Of Troubled CDC Anthrax Lab Has Resigned

NEW YORK (AP) — The head of the government lab that potentially exposed workers to live anthrax has resigned, an agency spokesman said Wednesday.

Michael Farrell was head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lab since 2009. He submitted his resignation Tuesday, the spokesman said.

Farrell declined interview requests, said the spokesman, Tom Skinner.

Farrell was reassigned following an incident last month at an Atlanta lab that handles bioterrorism agents. The lab was supposed to completely kill anthrax samples before sending them to two other CDC labs that had fewer safeguards. But the higher-security lab did not completely sterilize the bacteria.

Dozens of CDC workers were potentially exposed to anthrax. No one got sick. But an internal investigation found serious safety lapses, including use of an unapproved sterilization technique and use of a potent type of anthrax in an experiment that did not require a live form of the germ.

Skinner declined to answer questions about what blame has been placed on Farrell in the events that led to the error. He also did not say whether Farrell was asked to resign.

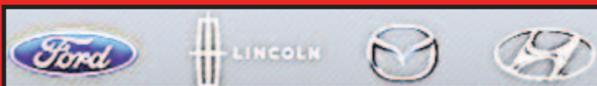
The CDC fell under a harsh spotlight following the incident and the subsequent disclosure of another safety breach at the agency's vaunted influenza laboratory. In that incident, relatively harmless bird flu virus was accidentally contaminated with a much deadlier strain. The contaminated virus was then sent to a lab run by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The contamination was discovered in May, but the incident was not reported to CDC's top management until last week.

No one has been reported infected. But CDC Director Tom Frieden has said the second incident was particularly worrisome because flu, unlike anthrax, is a germ that can potentially spread easily from person to person.

Frieden said the two incidents forced agency officials to recognize that a number of safety lapses - which had been treated as isolated accidents - were actually signs of systemic safety problems in the CDC laboratories that handle dangerous germs.

Frieden closed the anthrax and flu labs, halted exports from other high-level labs, and kicked off an analysis that is to include appointment of an external panel of experts.

DICK EDWARDS
Manhattan, Ks



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Courthouse News

Manhattan Free Press

Thursday, July 24, 2014

2A

Kansas Places Ranked By Per Capita Income

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
Kansas Household income

Kansas has the twenty-sixth highest per capita income in the United States, at \$20,506 (2000). Its personal per capita income is \$29,935 (2003).

- 1 Willowbrook, Kansas \$118,946
- 2 Mission Hills, Ks \$95,405
- 3 Eastborough, Ks \$71,101
- 4 Mission Woods, \$68,713
- 5 Lake Quivira, \$60,567
- 6 Leawood, Kansas \$49,139
- 7 Westwood Hills, \$48,256
- 8 Fairway, Kansas \$45,456
- 9 Countryside, \$37,129
- 10 Ensign, Kansas \$35,637
- 11 Prairie Village, \$34,677
- 12 Overland Park, \$32,069
- 13 Westwood, \$31,048
- 14 Lenexa, Kansas \$30,212
- 15 Timken, Kansas \$28,897
- 16 Shawnee, Kansas \$28,142
- 17 Mission, Kansas \$27,870
- 18 Vining, Kansas \$26,924
- 19 Roeland Park, \$26,220
- 20 Andover, Kansas \$24,818
- 21 Greeley, Kansas \$24,591
- 22 Olathe, Kansas \$24,498
- 23 Aurora, Kansas \$24,213
- 24 Bunker Hill, \$24,128
- 25 Merriam, Kansas \$23,988
- 26 Spivey, Kansas \$23,849
- 27 Portis, Kansas \$23,653
- 28 Overbrook, \$23,309
- 29 Bel Aire, Kansas \$23,202
- 30 De Soto, Kansas \$23,141
- 31 Bison, Kansas \$23,122
- 32 Herndon, Kansas \$23,005
- 33 Garden Plain, \$22,946
- 34 Fairview, Kansas \$22,789
- 35 Derby, Kansas \$22,779
- 36 Kechi, Kansas \$22,444
- 37 New Strawn, \$22,288
- 38 Paola, Kansas \$22,191
- 39 Sabetha, Kansas \$22,126
- 40 Geneseo, Kansas \$21,998
- 41 Benton, Kansas \$21,975
- 42 Alden, Kansas \$21,908
- 43 Ozawkie, Kansas \$21,857
- 44 Lansing, Kansas \$21,655
- 45 Louisburg, \$21,560
- 46 Iuka, Kansas \$21,462
- 47 Rexford, Kansas \$21,301
- 48 Frederick, Kansas \$20,845
- 49 Basehor, Kansas \$20,731
- 50 Wichita, Kansas \$20,647
- 51 Elmore, Kansas \$20,600
- 52 Dorrance, Kansas \$20,513
- 53 Gardner, Kansas \$20,434
- 54 Penalosa, Kansas \$20,331
- 55 Silver Lake, \$20,290
- 56 Clearwater, \$20,286
- 57 Valley Center, \$20,259
- 58 Halstead, Kansas \$20,252
- 59 Rose Hill, Kansas \$20,221
- 60 Council Grove, s \$20,189
- 61 Glen Elder, \$20,169
- 62 Rossville, Kansas \$20,103
- 63 Whitewater, \$20,078
- 64 Grinnell, Kansas \$20,056
- 65 Tribune, Kansas \$20,020
- 66 Larned, Kansas \$19,936
- 67 Bonner Springs, \$19,730
- 68 McPherson, \$19,716
- 69 Spring Hill, \$19,642
- 70 Colwich, Kansas \$19,588
- 71 Topeka, Kansas \$19,555
- 72 Mulvane, Kansas \$19,523
- 73 Burdett, Kansas \$19,490
- 74 Earlton, Kansas \$19,421
- 75 Cambridge, \$19,413
- 76 Assaria, Kansas \$19,381
- 77 Lawrence, Kansas \$19,378
- 78 Kingman, Kansas \$19,286
- 79 Moundridge, \$19,263
- 80 Dighton, Kansas \$19,232
- 81 Scott City, Kansas \$19,227
- 82 Marysville, \$19,196
- 83 Manter, Kansas \$19,184
- 84 Winfield, Kansas \$19,162
- 85 Lane, Kansas \$19,144
- 86 Clay Center, \$19,128
- 87 Mount Hope, \$19,103
- 88 Augusta, Kansas \$19,094
- 89 Seneca, Kansas \$19,076
- 90 Montezuma, \$19,052
- 91 Belleville, Kansas \$18,989
- 92 Goddard, Kansas \$18,957

- 93 Leon, Kansas \$18,953
- 94 Brookville, \$18,945
- 95 Pretty Prairie, \$18,944
- 96 Edwardsville, \$18,887
- 97 Lone Elm, Kansas \$18,885
- 98 Colby, Kansas \$18,872
- 99 North Newton, \$18,869
- 100 Waterville, \$18,833

- 101 Gridley, Kansas \$18,805
- 102 Maize, Kansas \$18,803
- 103 Leavenworth, \$18,785
- 104 Cheney, Kansas \$18,783
- 105 Edna, Kansas \$18,694
- 106 Eudora, Kansas \$18,693
- 107 Salina, Kansas \$18,593
- 108 Hays, Kansas \$18,565
- 109 Newton, Kansas \$18,529
- 110 Palco, Kansas \$18,519
- 111 Haysville, Kansas \$18,484
- 112 Ness City, \$18,481
- 113 Linn Valley, \$18,479
- 114 El Dorado, \$18,458
- 115 Burlington, \$18,443
- 116 Republic, Kansas \$18,399
- 117 Mayfield, Kansas \$18,399
- 118 Hardtner, \$18,390
- 119 Whiting, Kansas \$18,353
- 120 Luray, Kansas \$18,351
- 121 Barnard, Kansas \$18,329
- 122 Buhler, Kansas \$18,278
- 123 Mullinville, \$18,258
- 124 Potwin, Kansas \$18,254
- 125 Wellsville, \$18,215
- 126 Ashland, Kansas \$18,183
- 127 Hesston, Kansas \$18,138
- 128 Ransom, Kansas \$18,123
- 129 Greensburg, \$18,054
- 130 Havensville, \$18,043
- 131 Tonganoxie, \$18,026
- 132 Galva, Kansas \$18,021
- 133 Cimarron, \$17,970
- 134 Douglass, Kansas \$17,965
- 135 Marquette, \$17,965
- 136 Hutchinson, \$17,964
- 137 Bucklin, Kansas \$17,954
- 138 Phillipsburg, \$17,902
- 139 Elkhart, Kansas \$17,900
- 140 St. John, Kansas \$17,889
- 141 Clyde, Kansas \$17,852
- 142 White Cloud \$17,828
- 143 Towanda, \$17,815
- 144 Cassoday, \$17,807
- 145 Sublette, Kansas \$17,787
- 146 Bazine, Kansas \$17,749
- 147 Beloit, Kansas \$17,713
- 148 Sharon Springs, \$17,656
- 149 Humboldt, \$17,651
- 150 Matfield Green, \$17,642
- 151 Tipton, Kansas \$17,637
- 152 Minneapolis, \$17,628
- 153 Linn, Kansas \$17,624
- 154 WaKeeney, \$17,596
- 155 Rantoul, Kansas \$17,594
- 156 Caney, Kansas \$17,578
- 157 Perry, Kansas \$17,577
- 158 Park City, \$17,539
- 159 Pratt, Kansas \$17,486
- 160 Coolidge, Kansas \$17,485
- 161 Burlingame, \$17,465
- 162 Holton, Kansas \$17,459
- 163 Mankato, \$17,457
- 164 South Hutchinson, Kansas \$17,445
- 165 Grainfield, \$17,443
- 166 Andale, Kansas \$17,439
- 167 Eshon, Kansas \$17,438
- 168 Lindsborg, \$17,415
- 169 Abilene, Kansas \$17,356
- 170 Frontenac, \$17,349
- 171 Ramona, Kansas \$17,345
- 172 Caldwell, Kansas \$17,340
- 173 Sylvia, Kansas \$17,322
- 174 Inman, Kansas \$17,290
- 175 Westmoreland, \$17,290
- 176 Hoxie, Kansas \$17,286
- 177 Oberlin, Kansas \$17,271
- 178 La Crosse, \$17,264
- 179 Windom, Kansas \$17,240
- 180 Dresden, Kansas \$17,236
- 181 Osage City, Kansas \$17,227
- 182 Kinsley, Kansas \$17,219
- 183 Stockton, Kansas \$17,205
- 184 Selden, Kansas \$17,137
- 185 Langdon, Kansas \$17,136
- 186 Bushton, Kansas \$17,125
- 187 Hugoton, Kansas \$17,115
- 188 Goodland, \$17,105
- 189 Cuba, Kansas \$17,103
- 190 Osborne, Kansas \$17,092
- 191 Great Bend, \$17,085
- 192 Vermillion, \$17,082

- 193 Ulysses, Kansas \$17,079
- 194 Morland, Kansas \$17,060
- 195 Hanston, Kansas \$17,049
- 196 Maple Hill, \$17,048
- 197 Summerfield, \$17,046
- 198 Concordia, \$17,019
- 199 Erie, Kansas \$17,019
- 200 McLouth, \$17,012

- 201 Sedgwick, \$17,009
- 202 Hill City, Kansas \$16,989
- 203 Hiawatha, \$16,981
- 204 Richfield, \$16,974
- 205 Protection, \$16,973
- 206 Johnson City, \$16,970
- 207 Lyndon, Kansas \$16,968
- 208 Agra, Kansas \$16,960
- 209 Wakefield, \$16,939
- 210 Prairie View, \$16,912
- 211 Edgerton, \$16,911
- 212 Oakley, Kansas \$16,882
- 213 Oketo, Kansas \$16,862
- 214 Blue Rapids, \$16,859
- 215 Coldwater, \$16,851
- 216 Chapman, \$16,842
- 217 Ottawa, Kansas \$16,840
- 218 Tescott, Kansas \$16,839
- 219 Gem, Kansas \$16,805
- 220 Viola, Kansas \$16,804
- 221 Solomon, Kansas \$16,800
- 222 Wellington, \$16,790
- 223 Fowler, Kansas \$16,788
- 224 St. Francis, \$16,714
- 225 Baldwin City, \$16,698
- 226 Spearville, \$16,686
- 227 Bird City, \$16,680
- 228 Walton, Kansas \$16,679
- 229 Kiowa, Kansas \$16,670
- 230 Girard, Kansas \$16,668
- 231 Wilson, Kansas \$16,622
- 232 Radium, Kansas \$16,608
- 233 Junction City, \$16,581
- 234 Manhattan, \$16,566
- 235 Weir, Kansas \$16,561
- 236 Manhattan, \$16,556
- 237 Leoti, Kansas \$16,550
- 238 Harper, Kansas \$16,543
- 239 Lebo, Kansas \$16,532
- 240 Herington, \$16,526
- 241 Elbing, Kansas \$16,513
- 242 Willard, Kansas \$16,513
- 243 Minneola, \$16,498
- 244 Oxford, Kansas \$16,479
- 245 Marion, Kansas \$16,464
- 246 Barnes, Kansas \$16,446
- 247 Gypsum, Kansas \$16,440
- 248 Norton, Kansas \$16,438
- 249 Canton, Kansas \$16,428
- 250 Belle Plaine, \$16,414
- 251 Durham, Kansas \$16,402
- 252 Leonardville, \$16,327
- 253 Lincolnville, \$16,319
- 254 Haven, Kansas \$16,319
- 255 Lincoln Center, \$16,319
- 256 Wamego, Kansas \$16,307
- 257 Park, Kansas \$16,303
- 258 Jennings, Kansas \$16,294
- 259 Chanute, Kansas \$16,288
- 260 Norwich, Kansas \$16,288
- 261 Galatia, Kansas \$16,282
- 262 Garnett, Kansas \$16,265
- 263 Bern, Kansas \$16,254
- 264 Ellis, Kansas \$16,248
- 265 Cunningham, \$16,248
- 266 Alma, Kansas \$16,245
- 267 Medicine Lodge, \$16,231
- 268 Onaga, Kansas \$16,219
- 269 Melvern, Kansas \$16,206
- 270 Lyons, Kansas \$16,206
- 271 Udall, Kansas \$16,202
- 272 Kanopolis, \$16,161
- 273 Atwood, Kansas \$16,161
- 274 Smolan, Kansas \$16,149
- 275 Oneida, Kansas \$16,138
- 276 Bentley, Kansas \$16,111
- 277 Cedar Point, \$16,102
- 278 Abbyville, \$16,080
- 279 Frankfort, \$16,078
- 280 Argonia, Kansas \$16,060
- 281 Plains, Kansas \$16,047
- 282 Stafford, Kansas \$16,032
- 283 Hartford, \$16,014
- 284 St. Paul, Kansas \$16,012
- 285 Meriden, Kansas \$16,008
- 286 Rush Center, \$16,006
- 287 Wallace, Kansas \$16,005
- 288 Albert, Kansas \$15,948
- 289 Arkansas City, \$15,933
- 290 Scammon, \$15,926
- 291 Bennington, \$15,919
- 292 Meade, Kansas \$15,910
- 293 Alta Vista, \$15,885
- 294 La Cygne, \$15,880

- 295 Allen, Kansas \$15,855
- 296 Elk Falls, Kansas \$15,817
- 297 Ellinwood, \$15,811
- 298 Wetmore, \$15,791
- 299 McDonald, \$15,790
- 300 Olivet, Kansas \$15,781

- 301 Russell Springs, \$15,773
- 302 Schoenchen, \$15,768
- 303 Garfield, Kansas \$15,767
- 304 Parsons, Kansas \$15,763
- 305 Washington, \$15,760
- 306 Kirwin, Kansas \$15,744
- 307 Louisville, \$15,741
- 308 Kansas City, \$15,737
- 309 Waverly, Kansas \$15,733
- 310 Jewell, Kansas \$15,713
- 311 Russell, Kansas \$15,690
- 312 Auburn, Kansas \$15,679
- 313 Oskaloosa, \$15,677
- 314 Admire, Kansas \$15,666
- 315 Arma, Kansas \$15,636
- 316 Valley Falls, \$15,626
- 317 Enterprise, \$15,619
- 318 Scandia, Kansas \$15,619
- 319 Copeland, \$15,615
- 320 Nashville, \$15,613
- 321 Horace, Kansas \$15,602
- 322 Kismet, Kansas \$15,600
- 323 Winona, Kansas \$15,596
- 324 Hanover, Kansas \$15,596
- 325 Quinter, Kansas \$15,588
- 326 Alton, Kansas \$15,584
- 327 Victoria, Kansas \$15,567
- 328 Madison, Kansas \$15,558
- 329 Hillsboro, \$15,544
- 330 St. George, \$15,544
- 331 Lucas, Kansas \$15,544
- 332 Dodge City, \$15,538
- 333 St. Marys, s \$15,536
- 334 Syracuse, Kansas \$15,531
- 335 Lakin, Kansas \$15,531
- 336 Nortonville, s \$15,523
- 337 Jetmore, Kansas \$15,510
- 338 Utica, Kansas \$15,508
- 339 Cullison, Kansas \$15,508
- 340 Smith Center, \$15,500
- 341 Independence, \$15,496
- 342 Peabody, Kansas \$15,493
- 343 Conway Springs, \$15,470
- 344 Howard, Kansas \$15,441
- 345 Wathena, Kansas \$15,440
- 346 Lecompton, \$15,433
- 347 Lenora, Kansas \$15,426
- 348 McFarland, \$15,419
- 349 Ellsworth, \$15,396
- 350 Satanta, Kansas \$15,392
- 351 Osawatomie, \$15,353
- 352 Waldron, Kansas \$15,350
- 353 Pittsburg, \$15,318
- 354 Muscotah, \$15,299
- 355 Zenda, Kansas \$15,287
- 356 Holyrood, \$15,272
- 357 Paradise, Kansas \$15,253
- 358 Hoisington, \$15,234
- 359 New Cambria, \$15,218
- 360 Scranton, \$15,210
- 361 Garden City, \$15,200
- 362 Coffeyville, \$15,182
- 363 West Mineral, \$15,176
- 364 Cottonwood Falls, Kansas \$15,166
- 365 Riley, Kansas \$15,164
- 366 Emporia, Kansas \$15,157
- 367 Elk City, Kansas \$15,152
- 368 Eureka, Kansas \$15,142
- 369 Troy, Kansas \$15,138
- 370 Plainville, \$15,134
- 371 Kensington, \$15,131
- 372 Hoyt, Kansas \$15,116
- 373 Liberal, Kansas \$15,108
- 374 Greenleaf, \$15,084
- 375 Fulton, Kansas \$15,070
- 376 Sun City, Kansas \$15,059
- 377 Ford, Kansas \$15,037
- 378 Le Roy, Kansas \$15,034
- 379 Speed, Kansas \$15,031
- 380 Coyville, Kansas \$15,012
- 381 Downs, Kansas \$15,001
- 382 Fort Scott, \$14,997
- 383 Havana, Kansas \$14,996
- 384 Toronto, Kansas \$14,960
- 385 Columbus, \$14,937
- 386 Liberty, Kansas \$14,917
- 387 Ingalls, Kansas \$14,898
- 388 Altamont, \$14,895
- 389 Seward, Kansas \$14,891
- 390 Glasco, Kansas \$14,875
- 391 Athol, Kansas \$14,872
- 392 Burrton, Kansas \$14,835

The List has 634 Kansas Towns and Cities

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Manhattan Free Press

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- Nikita Khrushchev, 1959

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“Missing Board Member Cause Problems

Dear Patrons of USD 378,
When my husband and I got home from the USD 378 School Board Meeting, July 21, 2014, in the Library at the High School we were very upset. As you all know there have been disagreements between Board members as well as disagreements between the Patrons of the District. I don't understand when in the hearts of most of these people we all want the same thing – a good school for our children to attend, to learn at, and to graduate from.

Preparing them to face what life brings. Why do we need to battle one another? Providing the children of the District the very best schools and teachers we can afford should be our goal. Can we just stop fighting each other and think of our children?
I was surprised, confused, then shocked and angry when I learned three (3) of the Board of Education members were not present at the Board meeting Monday evening. Every board member ran for a school

board position of their own accord, they knew when they ran there would be no financial compensation; they knew they would be expected to attend a Board meeting every other Monday; they knew they would have to make personal sacrifices concerning their time, family, and jobs; hopefully, they understood they would need to work with 6 (six) other board members to make USD 378 one of the best school districts in the state. If they were NOT willing to make those per-

sonal sacrifices they should NOT have run to be or continue to be school board members. It is also of importance to acknowledge that the School Board meeting of July 21, 2014 was NOT a special meeting, it was scheduled and the scheduling approved in July 2013. I am of the opinion that unless a board member is very ill, contagious, or a family emergency they should be present at each and every Board meeting.
Jennifer Wilson, Randy Glenn and Shane Allen all

knew of the important issues needing careful, full attention when they notified (I'm assuming, Mr. Starns) of their absence after 3PM Monday.
The important issues on the agenda were reports from teachers and employees, important requests from students and their parents, insurance of every kind thru out the District. Can we afford to be without insurance for even a short time? Is it worth the chance? As I understand it members of the Board are given the agenda for their approval on the Friday BEFORE the meeting. I would think with so many important issues they would have made every effort possible to be in attendance. When a suggestion was made to schedule a special meeting, that wasn't even possible – WHY? Our Superintendent couldn't make it. Where on your personal list are the school board meetings? I had one more question – Reports by the Principals were on the agenda. The Principals were NOT present Monday, July 21. When the question of “Why?” was asked we were told, “They have July off.” If that is the reason then why were they at the July 7th meeting giving very long detailed reports? There were several questionable happenings at the long time scheduled meeting July 21, 2014. These are some of the issues needing consideration at our school board meetings.

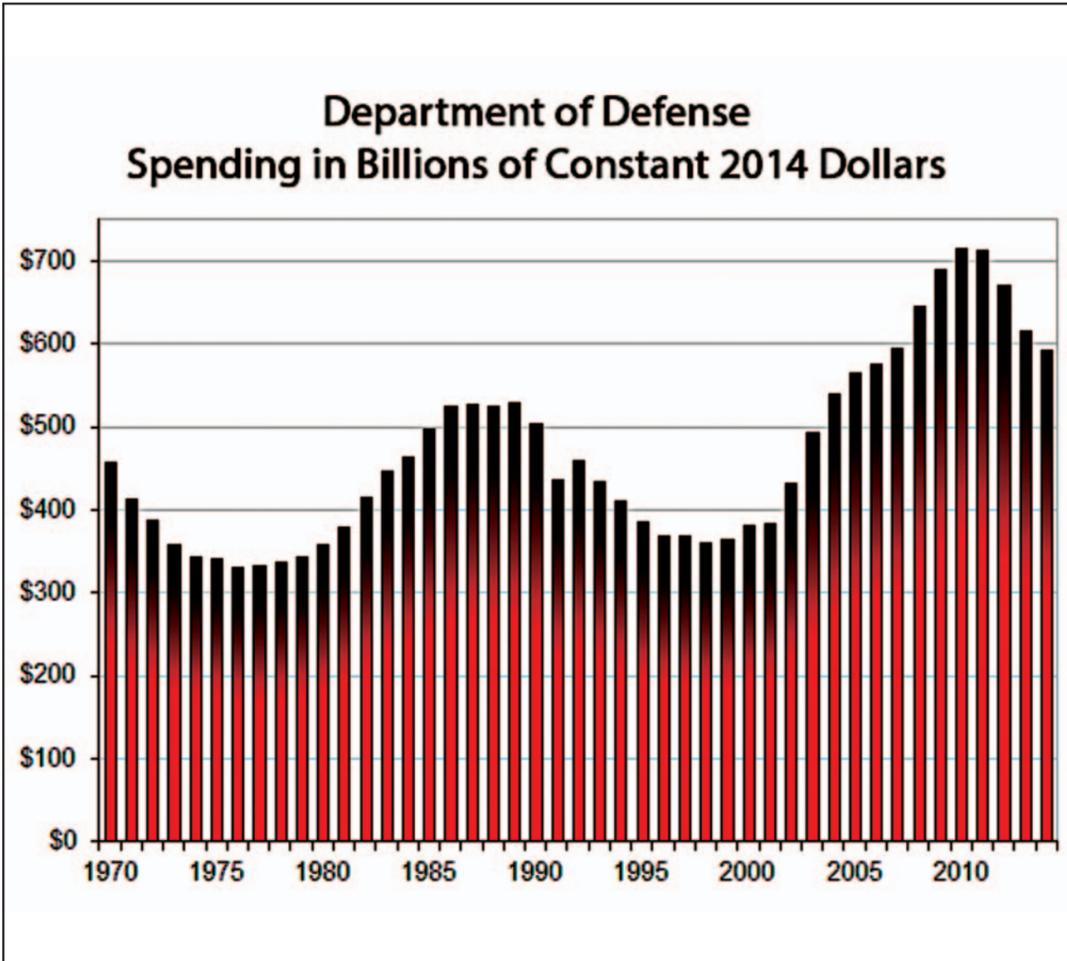
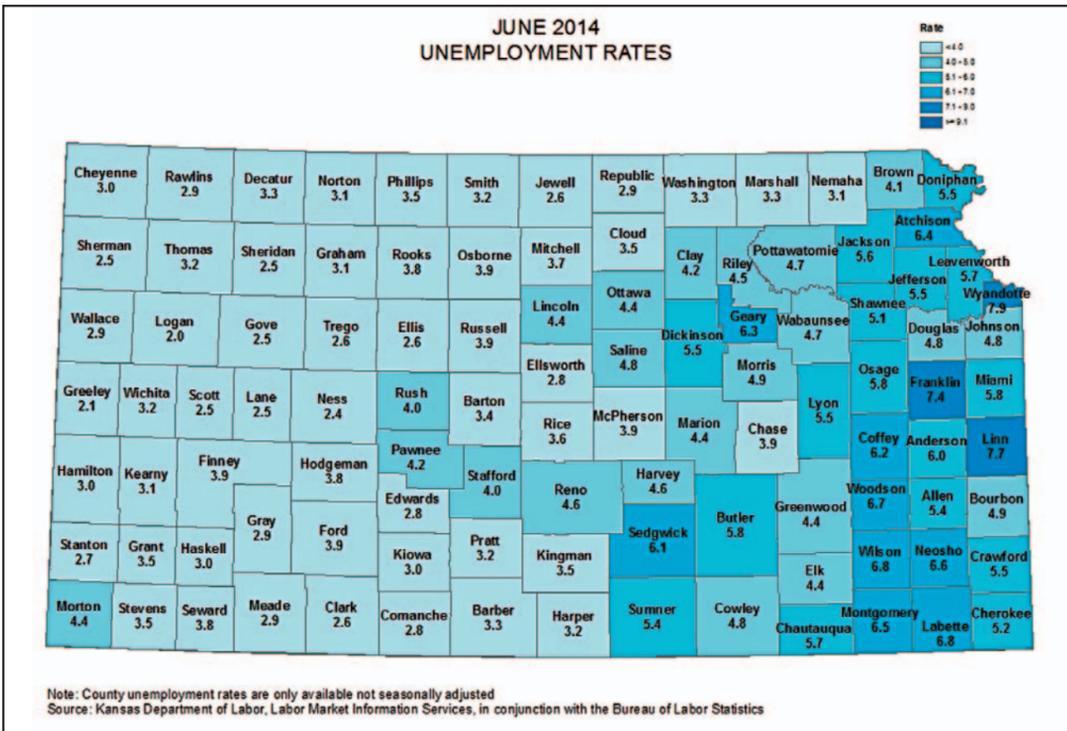
the elected board member representing the “at large” position resigned. It is “Policy” of the board that an immediate family member can NOT be hired while a family member sits on the board. Dan's wife applied for a position within the District; the District wanted to hire her; thus requiring Dan to resign. As of now, the remainder of the Board has NOT been able to agree on a replacement. School Board elections will be in 10 months. Isn't there a fair minded person in our district to run?
In case you don't understand how 3 missing board members can cause such danger to our schools – let me explain. To pass any business it must be approved by a minimum of FOUR (4) board members. That is State Law. At this time we only have 6 board members so when 3 are absent NOTHING can be passed or approved.

With these thoughts in mind I want to Thank the Board members who were present: Board President Kerry Thurlow, David Higgins, and Ross Wahl. I also want to Thank the patrons who have been attending the Board meetings. All members of the Board and all concerned members of the community must learn to work together. It is our children we are hurting.

Sylda Nichols
Concerned patron of Blue Valley School District 378 Leonardville, Kansas

One issue that I have not addressed is “Why do we have only 6 board members?” A short time ago, Dan Thomson,

Riley County Unemployment Rate at 4.5%



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Cut Federal Highway Spending

By Chris Edwards
CATO Institute

Congress faces gridlock on many issues until after the November elections, but a transportation bill is still high on the agenda, because the federal Highway Trust Fund (HTF) will soon run out of money after years of elevated spending. Congress will probably put a bandage on the HTF to get it through this year, but eventually it will have to choose between tax increases and spending cuts.

HTF spending on highways and urban transit adds up to \$53 billion a year, while the HTF rakes in \$39 billion in revenues, mainly from the federal gasoline tax. That leaves a gap of \$14 billion. President Obama wants to fill the gap with corporate tax revenues, but that bad idea is dead on arrival in Congress.

Senator Bob Corker (R., Tenn.) has a different idea. His bill, co-sponsored by Senator Chris Murphy (D., Conn.), would hike the federal gas tax by 12 cents per gallon. In his press release on the bill, Corker calls himself a conservative and claims that higher federal taxes "would create thousands of new jobs."

But Corker's position is the opposite of conservative. If Tennessee needs more money for roads, it can raise its own gas tax any time it wants. Wouldn't Tennesseans prefer that their gas taxes stay within the state for local roads, rather than flowing to wasteful Washington to fund subways and bicycle paths elsewhere?

The real conservative solution for the HTF is to cut spending by \$14 billion a year to match revenues. The reduction in federal aid would encourage states to pursue privatization and other innovative solutions for their highways and transit.

Corker claims that his federal tax-and-spend solution would "boost economic growth." But that is not true if federal spending is inefficient and low-return — which it is. Transportation expert Cliff Winston of Brookings recently noted that federal "transportation policy is so inefficient that infrastructure spending fails to

generate the large promised benefits."

Here are some of the reasons why:

Investment is misallocated. Federal aid is not based on market demands. The HTF creates winner and loser states in terms of taxes paid and spending received, and many loser states — such as Texas — have growing populations and a higher need for investment. At the same time, the HTF unfairly redistributes money from lower- to higher-income states.

Aid spending is mismanaged. For the states, federal highway aid has only a small matching requirement, so it seems almost "free" to them, which encourages waste. Federally funded projects often have large cost overruns — for example, the Big Dig in Boston, which exploded in cost to five times the original estimate.

Federal mandates raise costs. Federal aid comes with strings attached. Davis-Bacon labor rules, for example, inflate wages on highway projects by an average of 22 percent, according to the Joint Economic Committee of Congress.

Aid distorts decision-making. Federal aid for urban transit covers about 40 percent of capital costs, on average, but just 6 percent of operating costs. That bias has induced local governments to buy expensive rail systems rather than more-flexible and efficient bus systems.

A good way to cut HTF spending would be to end aid for mass transit and other non-highway uses. The original idea behind the HTF was that gas taxes would be user charges for funding highways. But since the 1970s gas taxes have been siphoned off for other purposes, and today about one-quarter of HTF spending is for non-highway purposes.

Cutting transit aid would, hopefully, encourage cities to privatize their bus and rail systems. Before the 1960s, most urban transit in America was private, but that ended when the federal government began handing out aid only to government-owned transit systems, giving them a competitive advantage. Local governments everywhere squeezed out private bus and rail systems, and that sadly ended a century of private transit investment in our cities. It's time to reverse course by cutting federal aid and bringing entrepreneurs back into transit.

The same is true for highways. Cutting federal aid would encourage states to partly privatize their highways through public-private partnerships (P3s). America is lagging countries such as Canada and Australia in the worldwide

The Conservative Side...



trend toward infrastructure P3s. If we embraced these reforms, we could attract billions of dollars of private financing to help upgrade our highways and bridges.

A number of U.S. states are pursuing P3s, including Texas, Florida, and Virginia. In Virginia, a private partnership built and largely financed new

electronic toll lanes along 14 miles of the Capital Beltway (I-495). The lanes were completed on time and on budget in 2012.

Infrastructure can also be fully privatized. FIGG Engineering Group financed and constructed the \$142 million South Norfolk Jordan Bridge over the Elizabeth River in Virginia.

The bridge opened in 2012, and its cost will be paid back to investors over time with toll revenues. Now FIGG is pursuing other opportunities to build unsubsidized bridges, including a \$250 million project in East Chicago, Ind.

We need many more such projects. When private businesses take the risks and put

their profits on the line, projects are more likely to be constructed and operated efficiently. Indeed, studies have found that P3 projects are more likely than government projects to be completed on time and on budget.

Meanwhile, in Ames, Iowa...



— King Crossword —
Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

G	I	N	S	A	P	T	A	B	E	L	
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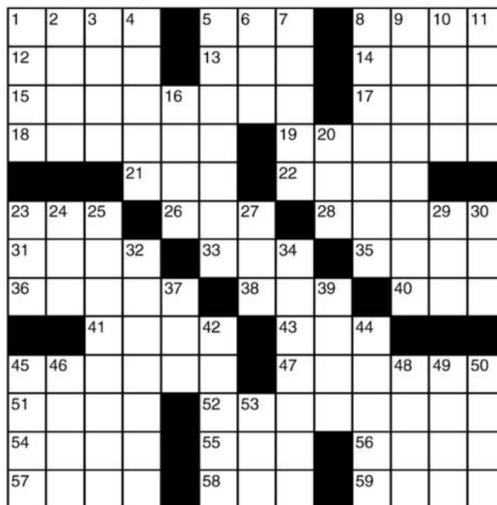


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King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bar bottles
 - 5 Suitable
 - 8 First victim
 - 12 Sandwich treat
 - 13 Train component
 - 14 Go down the runway
 - 15 Hull attachment
 - 17 Ore carrier
 - 18 Rainbow shade
 - 19 Mark of disgrace
 - 21 French vineyard
 - 22 Antitoxins
 - 23 Priestly vestment
 - 26 Pismire
 - 28 Rid of frost
 - 31 Harvest
 - 33 Ball holder
 - 35 Uppity sort
 - 36 Folkways
 - 38 Mandela's org.
 - 40 Weep loudly
- DOWN**
- 1 Asian desert
 - 2 Mideast nation
 - 3 Dweeb
 - 4 Videogame hedgehog
 - 5 Story
 - 6 Crony
 - 7 Lock
 - 8 Outfits
 - 9 Sales
 - 10 Physical South
 - 11 American
 - 16 capital
 - 20 City of India
 - 23 Williams or Turner
 - 24 Branch
 - 24 Writer
 - 25 Buscaglia
 - 25 Bridgetown's island
 - 27 Afternoon social
 - 29 Bill's partner
 - 30 Recede
 - 32 Individuals
 - 34 Glut
 - 37 Cul-de- —
 - 39 Lacks the skills
 - 42 Aristocrat
 - 44 Stockholmer, e.g.
 - 45 Swimmer's footwear
 - 46 Notion
 - 48 Performance from 56-
 - 49 Across
 - 49 Guns the engine
 - 50 June 6, 1944
 - 53 Diving bird



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Sweet Potato Gratin

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- 1/4 cup Gold Medal™ all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 2 cups half-and-half
- 4 oz Gruyère cheese, shredded (1 cup)
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Directions

- 1 Heat oven to 375°F. Butter 2-quart baking dish or gratin dish. Layer sweet potato slices to fill dish.
- 2 In 1-quart saucepan, melt butter over medium-low heat. Stir in flour, salt and pepper. Cook and stir until mixture is smooth and bubbly. Gradually add half-and-half, stirring constantly, until mixture boils and thickens. Stir in cheese and nutmeg. Remove from heat; pour cheese sauce over sweet potatoes.
- 3 Cover; bake 40 minutes or until potatoes are just tender. Bake uncovered 30 to 35 minutes longer or until golden. Let stand 15 minutes before serving.

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Driver's Education Teachers Worried About Waning Programs

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Driver education instructors are alarmed at the declining emphasis on teaching youngsters how to drive at a time when the number of distractions is growing exponentially.

Tight budgets have forced many Kansas school districts to eliminate their driver's education programs, while others are offering them as an after-school or summer add-on and not a core part of their curriculums.

"If a child is working out a math problem and they get it wrong they have an opportunity to erase it and do it over. Life is good, they learn, which is our goal," said Connie Sessoms, a longtime driver education teacher. "This driver education thing, if they don't get it and they hit a tree at 50 mph, they don't get to do that over."

Sessoms was among about 200 members of the American Driver & Traffic Safety Education Association who met in Wichita last week for a conference on the latest trends in driver training.

The Wichita School District dropped driver's education in the 2010-11 school year, spokeswoman Susan Arensman said.

Because school districts

aren't hiring much, universities are dropping their programs to train driver education teachers. That has contributed to a growing teacher shortage as baby-boomer educators move on.

But it wasn't driver education programs that lowered the number of teen traffic fatalities in Kansas over the past few years, said Jim Hanni, a spokesman for AAA Kansas.

Instead, it was a graduated licensing program that went into effect in 2010 that made the difference, he said. Teen traffic fatalities fell by roughly 32 percent from 2010 to 2011, and 11 percent from 2011 to 2012, according to Kansas Department of Transportation statistics.

"There just isn't any research that shows that driver education reduces crash rates; I mean we haven't changed the rigor of driver's education since it began in 1946," Hanni said.

Under the graduated licensing law, drivers do not receive an unrestricted license until they turn 17 and must go through a full year of supervised driving with an adult, with no night driving and restrictions on passengers, Hanni said.

Answers On Page 4

Classifieds...

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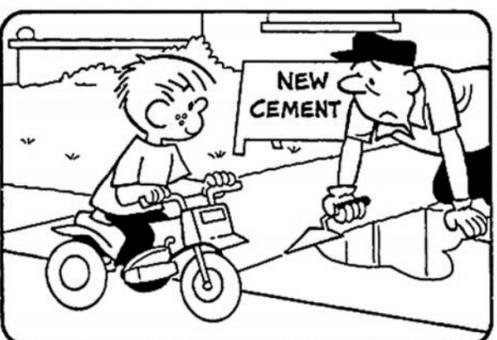
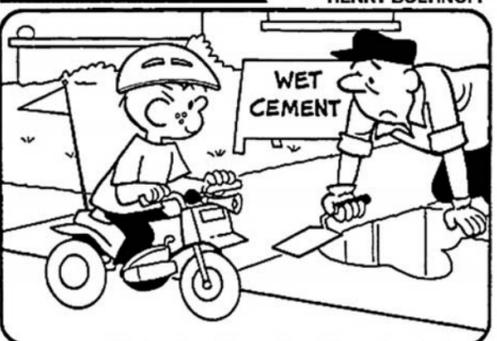
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K-State Meets With The Media At Big 12 Media Days

KSU Sports Information

DALLAS, Texas - Kansas State head football coach Bill Snyder, along with student-athletes, B.J. Finney, Tyler Lockett, Ryan Mueller, Jonathan Truman and Jake Waters met with national and regional print, radio and broadcast media on Tuesday as part of the Big 12 Media Days. The following is a transcript of Snyder's press conference from late Tuesday morning.

THE MODERATOR: We're now joined by Coach Bill Snyder, Kansas State coach. Your thoughts about the upcoming season.

COACH SNYDER: Probably as any season we're anxious for it to begin. It will happen very quickly. Summer is disappearing in a heartbeat.

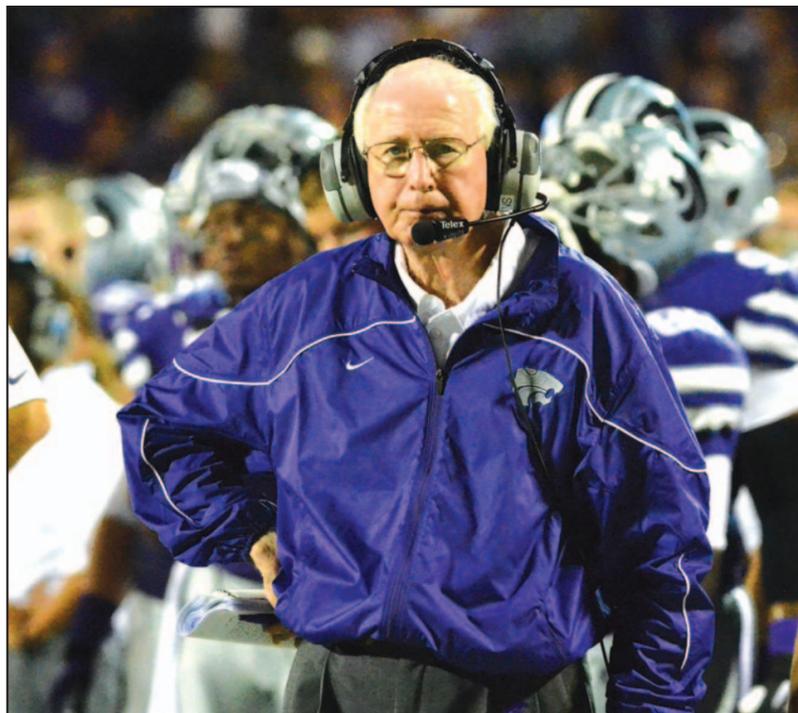
There's seven of us here from Kansas State University right now. Sean Snyder, my son and associate head coach, special teams coordinator. And we have our five captains: B.J. Finney, our center; and Jake Waters, our quarterback; Tyler Lockett, one of our receivers; and then on the defensive side Jonathan Truman, linebacker, and Ryan Mueller, a defensive end and returning Defensive Player of the Year last year. All people that I'm immensely proud of, people that have had a great impact on our program.

As you visit with them, you'll realize that they're quality young men and wonderful people, great representatives of our university and great representatives of the conference.

Q. Looking at this current team, the reports you've heard, summer conditioning and the workouts and knowing what you have returning, what kind of signs of optimism do you carry heading into the fall?

COACH SNYDER: My degree of optimism is negotiated daily, I think, and the mantra of our program has always been centered around that daily improvement. And when we make daily improvement, then I become a little more optimistic. And when we don't, obviously I don't.

I think my major concern -- and going in the opposite direction but my major concern is always young people taking things for granted. I say young



File Photo by Ben Brake

people. I probably can reference everybody in our program, is not taking our performance level, our talent level for granted, not taking the preparation for opponents for granted, not taking our workouts during the course of the summer for granted. Trying to find that way to get better every single day.

And I'm not alone in that. I think that's probably a feeling that permeates collegiate athletics across the board.

I'm proud of so many of our youngsters, the five that are here and so many more that we have back in Manhattan right now who have really invested themselves during the course of the summer.

I would share a fairly high degree of optimism for today, but tomorrow's a new day and we'll see how that goes. I can't make projections in regards to what kind of a football team. I know what we have capabilities of being and whether or not we can reach that level or not is dependent upon a lot of things, and the biggest thing is not taking anything for granted.

Didn't tell you anything, did I (laughter)?

Q. Can you talk about how you've seen Tyler Lockett mature on and off the field since he arrived at your program?

COACH SNYDER: Tyler's a tremendous representative of our program. He has matured greatly, but he was a reasonably mature young man when he came into our program.

We've had his uncle and his brother in our program as well. Comes from an amazingly wonderful family. And each of the three that we have had, even though far different skill capabilities on the field, all of them quality players.

But probably more importantly than anything else is the fact that they are truly genuine young people, have a great value system brought forth by their family, their parents.

Tyler has taken perhaps the same road as Aaron and Kevin did when they were in our program. Worked diligently at trying to be better people, better family members, better players, better students, et cetera, day in, day out.

Tyler does exactly that. He's an extremely hard worker. He's a young guy that right now -- tomorrow's another day, but

right now I'm so proud of his attitude, his value system, and part of that guides him to do anything and everything that he can to get himself a little bit better every day.

He's one of those guys that you leave the practice field, you go in your office, you look out the window and you've got the equipment managers out there twiddling their thumbs wanting to get the lights turned off and Tyler won't let them because he's out there catching balls off the machine and keeping quarterbacks out to throw to him.

So just a young guy that he's got all his marbles in the right place.

Q. At the safety position, what all did Ty Zimmerman do for you guys in the last few years, and which guys are you going to count on to step into that place?

COACH SNYDER: You know, Ty was a quarterback in high school. Father was a high school football coach. They came from just up the road in Junction City.

And Ty was a starter for us as a redshirt freshman and really did -- he grew in the program. He was very knowledgeable. His high school background was beneficial to him in the program. He was a good director of traffic, so to speak. He was a quality leader. He was

one of those young guys again that had a great value system, promoted well by his family.

He always did the right things. He always tried to do the right things. He was a very caring young guy. He took on a leadership role very early in the program. And when I say was a good director of traffic, he was one of those guys that made the most of our calls for us and would be able to get people in the right position.

Very valuable young guy.

Q. I wonder what kind of sense did you get from the group coming back after the way that your team finished winning six of the last seven and especially the Bowl game? What did that do, do you think, for the program?

COACH SNYDER: Well, the hope would have been and was that we had learned lessons along the way. And the lessons dated back to the outset of the season in which we were not a very good football team. We were 2-4 the first half of the season and lost the very first ballgame to a very fine North Dakota State University team, but a game that we were supposed to win.

And the result of that game was brought forth I think by what I mentioned a little bit earlier, by taking things for granted, taking our performance level for granted, taking the opponent for granted, certainly some other things, but by and large that led to the charge.

And I think that the way that our young people finished the season allowed them to understand the value of not taking anything for granted because they certainly didn't toward the end of the season or the last half of the season and preparing yourself that way on a very consistent basis. And we had a lot of dialogue about that during the last three-quarters of the season.

And probably the period of time that I was most proud of the young people in our program was the approach that they took to our preparation for the Bowl game.

And my -- I don't know, we've been to 16, 18 Bowls at Kansas State, but I cannot recall a preparation that was as pleasing to me as the one that took place this past season.

I thought our young guys were tremendously focused. They brought that value system to the practice field and their preparation off the field and in an environment that's totally different than what you go

through during the course of the season.

And I was just extremely happy and pleased and proud and very hopeful that that preparation and that approach to the preparation would carry over during the course of the season, spring practice and the summer, and then our preseason workout starting here in August.

Remains to be seen. I think sometimes -- I mean, they learn valuable lessons, but sometimes when you learn valuable lessons, then you have a tendency to reinvest and taking that for granted that you've learned your lesson and everything is in order.

And hopefully we don't do that. And I think during the course of the summer we've been pretty good, at least, grades probably 90 percent. That's not perfect, but still tells me about 90 percent of the young guys in our program have carried that experience forward and are putting it in place to help them achieve success during the course of this year.

Q. In his first season, Jake Waters reported the highest passer rating of any non-senior quarterback in K-State history. The legacy of your quarterbacks between the junior and senior season has been well documented. What signs from Jake give you encouragement in his further development as he heads into his senior season?

COACH SNYDER: Jake, as I mentioned before, Jake is one of those young guys that has a tremendous value system. He's a young guy that understands what our program is truly all about. He's a young guy that works diligently to improve his plight in life and on the football field on a very regular daily basis.

He was a young guy that entered our program with very little experience. When I say very little experience, he was in our program for a very short period of time and didn't have the experience in our program to get started off as he would have liked and I would have liked as well.

And he had a rocky start in the first half of the season. But at no time did he ever stop trying to improve his plight. He's a bright, young guy. He works well. But it was just a new environment for him and just having the experience, we all do that in whatever our routine is.

Football Picked Third In Preseason Big 12 Poll

MANHATTAN, Kan. -- A day after four Wildcats were named to the Preseason All-Big 12 team, Kansas State was picked to finish third in the 2014 Big 12 football race by media representatives who cover the league, the conference office announced Thursday.

The Wildcats picked up 377 points in the poll to rank just ahead of Texas, which collected 376 points, as the third place selection was the highest for the Wildcats since the Big 12 went to full round robin play in 2011.

Oklahoma garnered 47-of-56 first-place votes and 548 total points to top the preseason rankings, while defending Big 12 champion Baylor received the other nine first-place nods and accumulated 508 points to place second.

Kansas State took part in the 2014 Big 12 Football Media Days on Tuesday at the Omni Hotel in downtown Dallas, Texas. Representing K-State along with head coach Bill Snyder was Tyler Lockett, Jake Waters, Ryan Mueller, B.J. Finney and Jonathan Truman. Complete media day coverage will be available at both www.k-statesports.com and

2014 Big 12 Football Media Preseason Poll

1. Oklahoma (47) 548
2. Baylor (9) 508
3. K-State 377
4. Texas 376
5. Oklahoma State 312
6. Texas Tech 308
7. TCU 297
8. West Virginia 170
9. Iowa State 121
10. Kansas 63

www.big12sports.com.

The Wildcats kick off the 2014 season with an August 30, matchup against Stephen F. Austin at Bill Snyder Family Stadium. The sixth-annual K-State Family Reunion will begin at 6:10 p.m., and be shown world-wide on K-StateHD.TV.

Season tickets for the 2014 campaign sold out on June 5,

while only a small number of scattered singles remain for games against Texas Tech (Oct. 4), Texas (Oct. 25) and Oklahoma State (Nov. 1). Standing-room only tickets are available for the Stephen F. Austin, UTEP, Texas, Oklahoma State and Kansas contests.

Kaw Valley Special Rodeo

The Kaw Valley Rodeo Association will be sponsoring the Annual Kaw Valley Special Rodeo for children with special needs Friday, July 26, 2014, 7 p.m. at the Riley County Fairgrounds, Wells Arena. Children, ages 5 to 12 years of age, are invited to enter up and get a taste of rodeo events! This Special Rodeo "partners" up children with proroдео cowboys and cowgirls, rodeo royalty, clowns and bullfighters who assist in the fun of noncompetitive rodeo activities. All events are designed to be appropriate to meet the children's needs and accommodations are made for those with physical limitations. Contestants will enter the big arena to ride hand-rocked bulls, rope a steer head and even ride a REAL horse! There is no cost, but due to the limited number of participants, pre-registration is required. For more information or to sign up your child, contact Sandy Chandler, 785-313-3863. The Kaw Valley PRCA Rodeo will be held this Thursday through Saturday nights in conjunction with the Riley County Fair.



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