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Thursday, January 1, 2015

Happy New Year

COUNTDOWN! 20 Worst People of 2014

In a year of videotaped beheadings, school shootings, Russian invasions and annexations of eastern Ukraine (or, as Vladimir Putin calls them, stay-cations), Ebola, deadly Mexican cops, deadly American cops, Kim Jong Un's funny/creepy hack of Sony Pictures, the release of those emails revealing that (a) Sony Pictures executives are closet racists — in a year like this one, we're saying, it's easy to overlook the myriad outrageous acts of your local government bureaucrats. We're not saying all those in government service are evil, nor even many of them. But they're out there, the bad or merely incompetent. Watchdog.org's national network of reporters find them. Every day, we produce investigative stories that reveal what Hannah Arendt famously called "the banality of evil" — the little ways in which otherwise average bureaucrats and others participate in acts that range from merely annoying or petty to downright homicidal. —The Watchdog Editors

20. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH: Francis Collins



AP Photo / Scott Applewhite

COLLINS: Ebola scare? Blame the Republicans.

During the Great Ebola Scare of 2014, when it seemed his agency had mishandled the first Ebola case in the U.S., the director of the National Institutes for Health did what anyone at the top of a federal bureaucracy would do: he blamed someone else. Speaking to the Huffington Post, Francis Collins said congressional budget cuts were to blame for the lack of an Ebola vaccine and the NIH's ham-fisted response to the disease. He said the agency would "probably" have developed a vaccine by now if it hadn't seen a "10-year slide" in support for research. Except the facts didn't exactly back him up. Yes, the NIH had been mostly flat-funded since 2004 — if "flat" isn't an increase, it's also not a slide — but the agency's budget has increased by 900 percent since 1970, and topped \$30 billion this year. It's really a question of priorities. And what have been higher priorities for the NIH over the past few years? How about studies that included feeding cocaine to Japanese quail, finding



out why lesbians are fat and getting monkeys sexually aroused. MITIGATING FACTOR: Ebola wasn't as big a deal as some in the media made it seemed, and has already mostly been forgotten here. So the NIH is free to continue blowing money on comic stuff with no real repercussions. — Watchdog's Eric Boehm

19. NEW JERSEY: Chris Christie



Tim Larsen/Governor's Office

'SIT DOWN, SHUT UP': Gov. Chris Christie confronts a heckler before his 19-state campaign trip.

Does it get any scarier than President Chris Christie? In a meeting with potential supporters of a 2016 run for the White House, Christie was asked how he would deal with Russia's Vladimir Putin. Comparing himself to Barack Obama, Christie said, Putin would know better than to mess with the New Jersey governor: "I don't believe that given who I am, he would make the same judgment," he said, mixing naivety with bluster. There's a big difference between radioactive mushroom clouds in the sky and mushrooms on the governor's pizzas. In the Garden State, the governor's embarrassing double-standards are pretty obvious. Despite vowing to fix the public employee retirement system, Christie hired double-dippers while the state's deficit grew to \$170 billion. After promising transparency in government, he is playing hide-and-seek with his travel records. And his

administration says nothing and hides much about a criminal investigation that implicated Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno, his running mate and second-in-command. Nationally, Christie remains a strong contender for the GOP nomination, voters fascinated by his tough talk and bombastic persona — just as TV audiences are drawn to Tony Soprano, "Jersey Shore" and "The Real Housewives of New Jersey." —Watchdog's Mark Lagerkvist

18. WISCONSIN: David Bowen



BOWEN: Thanks to him, union workers get paid . . . less?!

Milwaukee County Supervisor David Bowen was seen by some as a champion of low-wage workers, persuading his county board colleagues to pass an ordinance requiring that all government-contracted workers be paid a "living wage." It turns out Bowen's law produced a side effect — boosting membership in the powerful Service Employees International Union. Bowen wrote the law with SEIU-affiliated individuals and accepted campaign contributions and continued support from the union. Ironically, the law includes a provision exempting county-contracted firms from the living-wage standard — if they force their workers to join a union. The county's comptroller says the living wage will cost taxpayers

more than \$28 million over the next five years and possibly shut down a county agency that assists the elderly and disabled. And it could get even worse for taxpayers come January. That's when Bowen will be sworn in as a new member of the state Assembly, a position he secured with help from SEIU campaign endorsements and contributions. — Watchdog's Adam Tobias

17. WASHINGTON: Kshama Sawant



SAWANT: "Maybe we don't need this economy."

Virtually unknown a few years ago, this self-declared socialist led the campaign to raise Seattle's minimum wage to \$15 an hour this year, and leveraged that victory — and a proposed "millionaire's tax," "transit justice," the nationalization of major corporations (including Microsoft, Boeing, and Amazon.com), and rent control — into a successful run for City Council. When confronted with evidence that raising the minimum wage would kill jobs for the very people Sawant claims she wants to help — minorities and young people — she responded with a kind of inside-the-box idealism: "If making sure that workers get out of poverty would severely impact the economy, then maybe we don't need this economy," she told New Yorker magazine. Karl and Che would be so proud. In her most recent proposal to spend other

people's money, she's demanding taxpayers fork over \$100,000 to install public internet in Seattle's tent cities, raising electric rates on business, and blasting her colleagues for not spending enough on welfare programs. MITIGATING FACTOR: She's led protests against police brutality in the wake of controversial killings by police in New York and Missouri. — Watchdog's Dustin Hurst

16. WISCONSIN: The GAB



AP Photo / Wisconsin State Journal, M.P. King

GAB-FEST: Kevin Kennedy, Wisconsin's top regulator, now getting regulated. (2012 photo)

When it comes to abuse of power, sometimes it takes an agency. Such is the case with the "nonpartisan" Government Accountability Board, Wisconsin's regulator of campaign finance and election law. The GAB — including the six retired judges who lead it and the 34 staff members who serve it — is embroiled in several lawsuits, one alleging the agency abused its authority and sent the bill to taxpayers. The state lawsuit charges that the GAB's use of a secret John Doe investigation created a "Frankenstein's monster" of stitched-together administrative rules and laws. And this monster was unleashed on dozens of conservative organizations on suspicion of campaign finance violations. Two judges have rejected the GAB's legal theory. Attorneys for the plaintiffs suspect the GAB may have altered documents related to its special investigators. The allegation is that the agency may have attempted to hide its tracks, but got caught in the process of legal discovery. The lawsuit against the GAB described the agency's alleged abuses as "terrible to behold" and called the "monster" a "creature that covertly collects sensitive information on political activities that do not — and cannot — constitute a crime, all while maintaining a nearly impenetrable shield of secrecy." That's scary. MITIGATING FACTOR: The GAB's "labyrinthian" campaign finance rules are so contrary to the First Amendment that they made easy work for a federal appeals court in ruling that the rules are unconstitutional. —Watchdog's M.D. Kittle



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Riley County Minutes Cost Taxpayers \$700 Per Month

What the Riley County Clerk and the Riley County Commissioners are doing with the Commission Minutes is Deceiving.
Look at the Minutes taken by Rich Vargo this

year (left) and the Minutes taken by Rich Vargo last year (right). The County is paying \$700 per month to produce nothing but filler (left) and last year it did not cost extra to write a complete history of the meeting.

Board of Riley County Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2014
Commission Chambers 8:30 AM
Call to Order

Board of Riley County Commissioners
December 18, 2014
Public Comment
1. Public Comments
Hobson said the annual township meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 2014.
Pledge of Allegiance
Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments
Business Meeting
3. Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)
The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for John Neill, for a status change, as a Museum Weekend Assistant, in the Museum Department, at a grade E step 3, at \$14.22 per hour.

4. Shared Leave Donation Form(s)
Move to approve the Shared Leave Donation Form(s).
RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Dave Lewis, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Lewis

5. Sign Tax Roll Corrections for the City Of Manhattan
Move to approve the following Tax Roll Corrections for the City of Manhattan:
(204-18-2-80-28-004.01-0) for tax year 2013 per Board of Tax Appeals
Docket #2014-5642-TX. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$7,326.56.

(204-18-2-80-28-004.05-0) for tax year 2013 per Board of Tax Appeals
Docket #2014-5641-TX. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$2,874.18.

(204-18-2-80-28-004.05-0) for tax year 2014 per Board of Tax Appeals
Docket #2014-5641-TX. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$2,891.22.

(204-18-2-80-28-004.04-0) for tax year 2013 per Board of Tax Appeals
Docket #2014-5640-TX. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$5,463.46.

(204-18-2-80-28-004.04-0) for tax year 2014 per Board of Tax Appeals
Docket #2014-5640-TX. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$5,495.84.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Dave Lewis, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Lewis

Review Minutes
6. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Dec 15, 2014 8:30 AM
Move to approve the minutes.
RESULT: ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Dave Lewis, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Lewis

Review Tentative Agenda
7. Tentative Agenda
Press Conference Topics
8. Discuss Press Conference
Debbie Register - changes in mortgage registration fee collection for 2014

Robbin Cole, Pawnee Mental Health Services Director
9. Pawnee Mental Health Services update
Cole discussed the local impacts on mental health services due to significantly reduced funding and actions at State mental health hospitals.

Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director
10. Consider funding for rewrite of zoning and subdivision regulations
Wedel discussed funding for the rewrite of zoning and subdivision regulations. Wedel said he does not recommend using the funding from the economic development fund. Wedel said the rewrite could wait until 2016.

The Board agreed to address funding for the zoning and subdivision regulations rewrite in the 2016 budget process.
Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

11. Administrative Work Session
12. Review/Renewal Aggieville Police Substation Rental Agreement
Holeman said KAC offers a training session for new commissioners January 15, 2015. Holeman said he has been asked to assist with some of the educational sessions

Recommend that the Board approve the lease and authorize me to draft a letter of thanks to Mr. Riffel for leaving the rent stable over the past 3 years.
Move that the Board follow counsel's recommendation to approve the lease and authorize Counsel to draft a letter of thanks to Mr. Riffel for leaving the rent stable over the past 3 years.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Dave Lewis, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Lewis

Break
Greg McClure, Extension Agent
13. Extension Staff Report
McClure presented a list of educational meetings Extension will be providing through the end of June.

Brad Schoen, Riley County Police Department Director
14. Riley County Police Department update
Schoen presented an update on RCPD activities.
Schoen discussed traffic safety during inclement weather.
Rich Vargo, County Clerk

15. Clerk's Office 2014 Accomplishments and 2015 Goals
Vargo presented the Clerk's Office 2014 accomplishments and 2015 goals.
Brenda Nickel, Health Department Director
Move to recess as the Board of Riley County Commissioners and convene as the Riley County Board of Health.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Dave Lewis, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Lewis

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 December 9, 2013 with the following members present: Dave Lewis, Chair; Robert Boyd, Vice Chair; Ron Wells, Member; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk.

8:30 Pledge of Allegiance
Public Comment, Commission Comments, & Business Meeting
Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; and Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk, attended.

Boyd moved to approve "Resolution No. 120913-80, A Resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Temporary Notes of Riley County, Kansas, in the total principal amount of \$90,000 to provide funds for the temporary financing of the costs of certain projects as authorized by the county; and setting forth terms, details, form and conditions of the General Obligation Temporary Notes." Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Boyd moved to approve "Resolution No. 120913-81, a Resolution of Riley County, Kansas, authorizing the county to issue General Obligation Bonds of the county in the principal amount of \$90,000 to pay preliminary costs of determining the extent of sewer deficiencies in the University Park Sewer District created by and located in the county." Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Jodie Grimes, a new hire, as an Account Clerk-License and Elections, in the Clerk's Department, at a grade H step 2, at \$15.44 per hour.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for a Records Assistant I, in the IT/GIS Department, at a grade F.

Boyd moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for John Gregory Berglund Et Al (137-35-0-00-08-001.00-0) for tax year 2008. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$.72. This is a result of the Riley County tax sale held October 2, 2013. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

9:00 Rich Vargo, County Clerk
Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; and Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk, attended.

Vargo presented year to date budget and expenditure reports.

9:11 Shelly Williams, Community Corrections Director
Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk, attended.

Williams said in 2012 they had an Intensive Supervision Officer Assistant position. After the person resigned to relocate to Wichita, Kansas, and the position became vacant, they held the position open for the 2013 budget year.

Williams said given that they did not see an increase in their state budgets, it was decided to remove the position from the 2014 Riley County budget (they had already eliminated it from their 2013 state budgets).

Williams said on September 26, 2013, the commission reviewed and approved their FY14 Carryover Reimbursement Plan that included \$6,860.44 for an as-needed drug testing officer. To-date they have only spent \$1,771.09.

Williams said on November 27th, she was notified that they would be receiving an additional \$6,936.00 in DUI fine and fee money generated as a result of 2011 SB60 establishing the Community Corrections Supervision Fund K.S.A. 75-52,113. On Tuesday of this week (December 3rd), she was notified that they are receiving an additional \$3,404.48 that the Secretary of Corrections is making available. So, the grand total of additional funding that they will be receiving from the Kansas Department of Corrections to spend by June 30, 2014, is \$10,341.00, hence this out of the ordinary request.

Williams said they have to adjust their FY14 current budget to match the new award amount. This budget detail and summary will need to be reviewed by the Joint Corrections Advisory Board with signatory approval by the Board of County Commissioners by January 31st.

Williams said they filled an emergency need in September with the absence of one of our male Intensive Supervision Officer's medical leave, with a drug testing monitor. This absence illuminated an on-going need for drug testing coverage, as well as gaps within existing supervision services.

Williams said she is requesting that they be allowed to put an ISO Assistant position back into their Riley County budget. This would be a regular, part-time, benefits-eligible position with 30 hours per week anticipated through June 30, 2014. In the event the individual selected for the position needed insurance (single \$612.73/month, family \$1,000/month) this money would come from our Carryover Reimbursement dollars. These dollars have to be expended by June 30th, or will be returned to the state. This will not impact the Riley County budget directly.

Boyd moved to allow Riley County Community Corrections to put an ISO Assistant position back into our department to meet ongoing needs and expend the additional allocation by June 30, 2014. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Boyd moved to sign a thank you to Judy Wagner for serving on the Riley County Public Health Council. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Boyd moved to approve the minutes of December 5, 2013 as amended. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

9:30 Press Conference

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Robbin Cole, Pawnee Mental Health Services Director; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Brenda Nickel, Health Department Director; Jan Scheideman, Child Care Facilitator; Greg McClure, County Extension Agent; Emily Wagner, Manhattan Emergency Shelter; Vern Henderson; and Karen McCulloh, Mental Health Task Force Member, attended.

McClure said there is concern for the wheat crop with the sudden drop in temperature.

McClure said the Women Involved in Agriculture classes will be held February 5, 2014 – March 12, 2014. McClure said it is a six week class and registration is open now.

Scheideman said Raising Riley RIGHT and the Riley County Health Department recently received confirmation that the Early Childhood Block Grant (ECBG), awarded through the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund, would be continued for the 2014 year in the amount of \$780,000. The Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, in partnership with the Health Department, serves as the applicant agency and 501(c)(3) pass-through organization for the Health Department program. The Raising Riley RIGHT ECBG grant provides funding for:

- Child care provider training, incentives, salary supplements and a quality improvement system,
- Child screening and assessment with referrals to services as needed,
- Facility-based early literacy story times,

- Child care scholarships for families up to 200% of poverty that help families access quality early learning experiences,

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Check out the Videos of the two meetings the Riley County Commission held on a Public Building Commission at our web site: manhattan-freepress.com

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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

Salina Juvenile Detention Numbers At Seven-year Low

By TIM HORAN

AP - The average daily number of Saline County juveniles in detention has dropped significantly since Judge Mary Thrower took over the juvenile docket in July, Sheriff Glen Kochanowski said.

Thrower said it's because she makes it a point not to send young offenders to the detention center for long periods of time, but instead tries to come up with the best option for the offender.

"Really, really low" Lt. Sean Kochanowski, of the Saline County Sheriff's Office, said the number of Saline County juveniles at North Central Kansas Regional Detention

Center in Junction City is at a seven-year low. On Tuesday, there were only three

Saline County juveniles at the facility, while in the past there have been as many as 20.

"This month (the number) has been really, really low," Sean Kochanowski said. "We are averaging just under four at this point, which is the lowest it's been since I've been here — in seven years."

On May 28, 2013, commissioners agreed to pay a one-time membership fee of \$10,000 and nearly \$405,000 a year to house Saline County juveniles at the Junction City facility. This year, the cost was \$397,484 for the year.

Sean Kochanowski said Saline County has contracted for 4,800 bed days for 2014. Through October, 2,911 bed days have been utilized. He said about 300 bed days were used in November.

"We're not going to come anywhere close to that maximum number," he said.

Daily average drops In November, the daily average of Saline County juveniles in the North Central Kansas Regional Juvenile Detention Facility was 5.6. That was down from 25 in May and 20 in

March. The facility has 28 beds.

The sheriff's office is also making fewer 100-mile round trips to Junction City.

"We do a lot more video," Sean Kochanowski said. "The first detention hearings are always on video. By my numbers, we have taken 12 trips to Junction City this month."

In September, 33 trips were made; that number dropped to 14 in November.

Using all the tools Thrower said that keeping juveniles locked up for a month isn't the answer.

"Detention is no longer going to be a threat to him," she said. "So I have lost a tool out of my tool belt to work with that kid. If I keep a kid in detention for three or four days and then release him, then he doesn't become complacent to it and it still becomes a tool for me to say, 'If you don't go to school, you are in violation of your probation; you can go back to detention.'"

Thrower said the juvenile code is different from the adult criminal code. Juvenile code tells judges to make all reasonable efforts to rehabilitate the offender.

"Before I can just stick someone in detention and forget about them, I have to make sure that we are doing everything we can to keep that juvenile in their home," she said.

Holding people accountable Parents and probation officers also have to be accountable, she said.

"I can't just let a parent say, 'I'm done dealing with this kid. Let them sit for a month and a half in detention. I don't care.' I just can't let a probation officer say, 'I don't know what to do with this kid,' My response to that is, 'Well we need to figure out a plan to meet that requirement of making reasonable efforts,'" Thrower said.

Thrower said there have been multiple studies over the past 15 years that show that keeping a juvenile offender in detention loses any benefit after a few days. The threat of detention keeps the juveniles doing what they need to do — complying with their probation orders and parents' rules.

"We have a lot of tools available," she said. "To me, just letting a kid sit while we figure it out isn't an option. We need to figure out sooner rather than later what is the best option."

What about the jail?

The Conservative Side...



Commission Chairman Randy Duncan, who was a board member of the juvenile facility, which serves 15 counties, said other counties have had lower numbers than Saline County in the past.

"Suddenly we dropped. I'm

not sure why," he said. "That's been a joke. Since our juvenile center dropped so low, we would hope it would drop like that at the jail. If that would happen at the jail, we wouldn't need a new jail. We'll see what happens."

But jail numbers haven't dropped.

Sheriff Kochanowski said that on Dec. 23 there were 223 inmates, 163 in the county jail and 60 housed in other county jails in the area.

The county has been studying the jail population for several years. A half-cent sales tax to fund a 344-bed jail and justice complex was rejected in the Nov. 4 election.



King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

P	A	L	M	G	A	S	S	S	W	A	T
O	L	I	O	U	R	L	E	A	C	H	
S	O	R	O	R	I	T	Y	N	I	N	A
T	E	E	A	S	S	F	I	L	E	T	
	A	G	E	W	O						
J	A	N	U	S	B	O	R	R	O	W	S
A	L	O	T	A	U	K	I	D	E	A	
W	A	S	H	I	N	G	S	T	E	E	D
					O	L	D	D	I	Y	
C	L	E	R	K	G	I	L	K	I	D	
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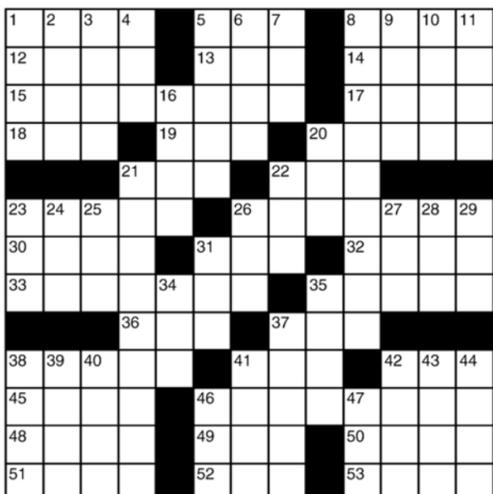
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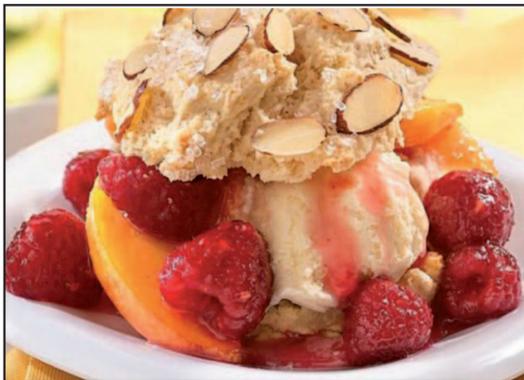
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King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Coconut tree
 - 5 Auto fuel
 - 8 Bat a fly
 - 12 Hodge-podge
 - 13 Web address
 - 14 Apiece
 - 15 Panty raid site
 - 17 1492 vessel
 - 18 Shirt shape
 - 19 Donkey
 - 20 — mignon
 - 21 See 36-Across
 - 22 Court
 - 23 Two-faced god
 - 26 Takes temporarily
 - 30 Greatly
 - 31 Diving bird
 - 32 Concept
 - 33 Laundry task
 - 35 Trusty horse
 - 36 With 21-Across, senescence
 - 37 Handyman's abbr.
 - 38 Store staffer
 - 41 Baseball great
 - 42 Tease
 - 45 Mischievous
 - 46 More than half
 - 48 Aid and —
 - 49 In times past
 - 50 Actor Clive
 - 51 Too inquisitive
 - 52 Skillet
 - 53 Marceau's specialty
- DOWN**
- 1 Mail
 - 2 Lotion
 - 3 Former
 - 4 Cow's call
 - 5 Costume
 - 6 — and crafts
 - 7 Crafty
 - 8 Privilege due to time
 - 9 Banshee's noise
 - 10 Teen's woe
 - 11 Just one of those
 - 16 Tatters
 - 20 Supporting
 - 21 Expert
 - 22 Oriental
 - 23 Mandible
 - 24 — carte
 - 25 Ph. bk. info
 - 26 Insect
 - 27 Rhyming tribute
 - 28 Small
 - 29 Blue
 - 31 Moreover
 - 34 Sort
 - 35 Missile shelter
 - 37 Mustard city
 - 38 Family
 - 39 Timber wolf
 - 40 Scratches (out)
 - 41 Totally smitten
 - 42 New Zealander
 - 43 Particular
 - 44 Unit of force
 - 46 Navigation aid
 - 47 Computer acronym



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Peach Melba Shortcakes

Partner peaches and raspberries for a tasty twist in classic melt-in-your-mouth shortcake.

Ingredients

Fruit

3 peaches, peeled and sliced into thin wedges, or 1 bag (1 lb) frozen sliced peaches, thawed

1 container (6 oz) fresh raspberries (1 1/2 cups)

3/4 cup granulated sugar

Shortcakes

2 1/2 cups Gold Medal™ all-purpose flour

1/2 cup granulated sugar

2 teaspoons baking powder

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/2 cup firm butter or margarine

2/3 cup milk

1/2 teaspoon almond extract

1 egg, slightly beaten

1 tablespoon milk

1/4 cup sliced almonds

3 tablespoons coarse sugar

Ice Cream

1 pint (2 cups) vanilla ice cream

Directions

1 In medium bowl, mix peaches, raspberries and 3/4 cup sugar. Let stand 1 hour so fruit will become juicy.

2 Meanwhile, heat oven to 400°F. In medium bowl, mix flour, 1/2 cup sugar, the baking powder and salt. Cut in butter, using pastry blender (or pulling 2 table knives through ingredients in opposite directions), until mixture looks like coarse crumbs. Using wooden spoon, stir in 2/3 cup milk, the almond extract and egg just until blended. (Dough will be stiff.)

3 On ungreased cookie sheet, drop dough by 8 spoonfuls about 2 inches apart. Brush with 1 tablespoon milk; sprinkle almonds over tops of each. Sprinkle with coarse sugar.

4 Bake 14 to 16 minutes or until light golden brown. Remove from cookie sheet; cool 10 minutes.

5 Cut shortcakes in half. Spoon about 1/4 cup ice cream onto bottom of each shortcake. Top each with 1/2 cup of the peach mixture; add tops of shortcakes.

Expert Tips

For light golden brown shortcakes, make sure you use a shiny cookie sheet and bake the shortcakes on the center oven rack.

Answers On Page 5

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A Bramlage Coliseum Transformation

By Kelly McHugh
K-State Athletics

If you attended K-State's commencement ceremonies on Saturday, Dec. 13, then the K-State men's and women's basketball doubleheader on Sunday, Dec. 14, you noticed Bramlage Coliseum looked a little different.

On Saturday, the basketball court was nowhere to be seen, yet the following afternoon, it was back on the floor ready for the Wildcats to compete.

Along with the court, the basketball goals, score tables and media seating were all replaced with staging and curtains necessary for commencement. Nearly 500 chairs were set up on the floor of the arena for the K-State graduates and even an organ was brought in for the day.

So how does it happen? How does a transformation like that - a basketball arena turned into a graduation celebration then back to a basketball arena - happen literally overnight?

Well, it is quite the process. The work began a few days

before graduation. A crew of nearly 30 people - mainly student grounds and maintenance workers - showed up ready to get to work.

"Wednesday (Dec. 10) at 6 p.m., we brought in our crew and we had to take everything apart," began K-State Athletics Facility Specialist and Bramlage Equipment Operator Michael Barton. "We took the goals down and stored them. We had to take down all the chairs and then we had to take apart the court."

Barton explained the court is taken apart by his crew, stacked on carts and stored in a storage room in the Bramlage Coliseum tunnel. While the court may appear as one big piece to a fan watching a basketball game, it is much more. The court is broken down into roughly 300 four-foot by eight-foot sheets (with some half sheets, Barton said) weighing about 200 pounds each.

Curtis Brown, a K-State senior in economics who has been a student worker for the K-State grounds and maintenance



It takes a lot of work to get the basketball court back after another event at Bramlage. (Photos by KSU Sports Information)



staff for two years, said he didn't realize what went into the Bramlage transformation before he worked with the team.

"My older brother also worked with the grounds crew, and he would tell me that they would have to take out the court," explained Brown who's brother, Jared, graduated K-State in 2013. "When he would tell me that, I had no idea that it was in those big pieces. I didn't know how it was all put together like that, because when you're in the crowd you look at it as a full piece. You don't notice the lines. I think a lot of people don't realize it's that many individual pieces."

Along with taking out the court before graduation, the group had to hang up the curtains - a more tasking job than one might think.

"We bring in these trusses, and they hang from the rafters," explained Calvin Schneider, a senior in financing and a student supervisor for the K-State baseball grounds staff. "Then we have to tie these big black curtains to them that go across the stage and the court. There are probably 20 big, heavy curtains that we have to hang, so that's a long process, too."

A three-year worker for the grounds and maintenance staff, Schneider has spent his fair share of evenings in Bramlage

Coliseum taking the court in and out and hanging up curtains whether it is for graduation ceremonies or special events in the arena.

"It's definitely a physically tasking job, and it can be mentally tasking, too, because usually we're working at awkward times," Schneider explained. "You'll come in after a basketball game or, like for graduation, we'll start at maybe 6 p.m., and not get done until almost 12:30 a.m."

"But we have a lot of people who can do a lot of different things and that makes things pretty fluid. We have a lot of experience on our staff, a lot of people who have been doing this for a while, so there doesn't have to be a lot of explanation. People just show up and get to work, we all know what needs to be done."

While the job is tasking and can take quite some time, having the opportunity to work more time at odd hours gives students and K-State staffers the chance to clock a few extra hours.

"It's always nice to make the extra hours," said Brown. "During school, from 8 a.m., to 5 p.m., I have a pretty set schedule with classes and everything, and I can't always

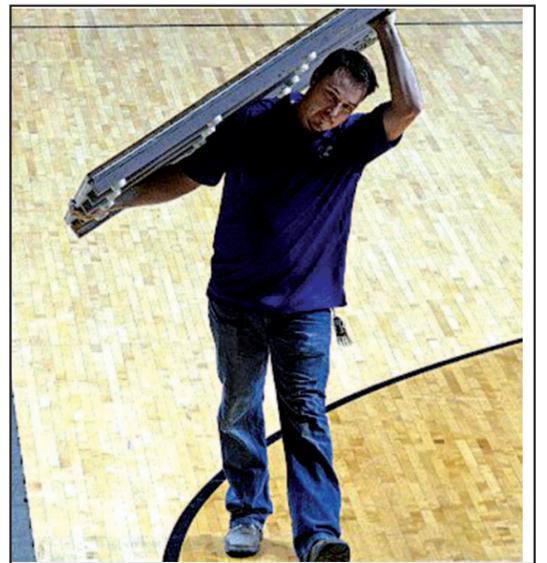
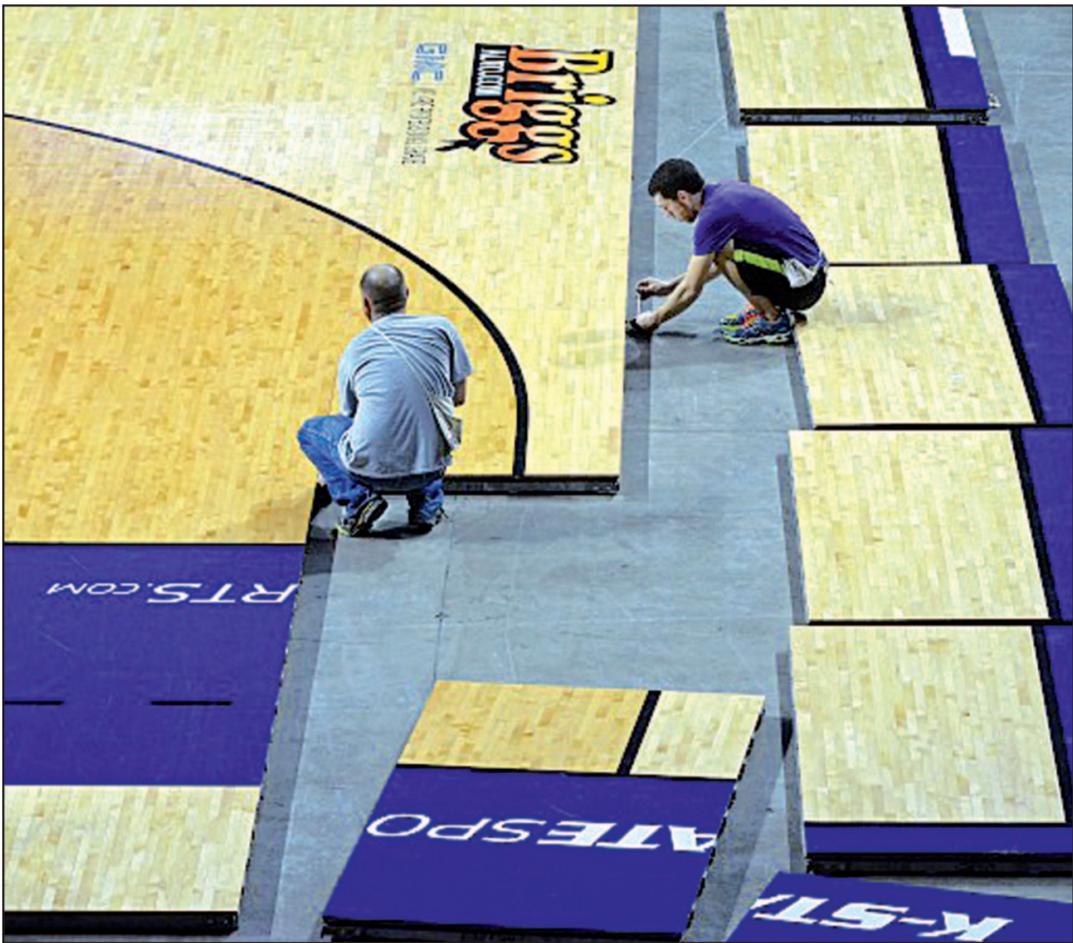
work a lot of hours. So, on weeks that we put in or take out the court, I can get those extra hours."

Barton said the opportunity to transform Bramlage and work a few hours is open to all K-State athletics' staff.

"We have a stagehand call list, but the majority of the workers are the baseball maintenance students," explained Barton. "We do get a few event staffers, ushers and security guys who want the extra hours, so they come in and help also."

From wiring and rewiring the score tables and basketball hoops to folding tables and chairs to stacking and removing the floor, while the transformation of Bramlage Coliseum from one event to the next may be a tough job, it is also a rewarding job when, at the end, the crew sees its hard work brought to life while K-Staters enjoy the numerous events of Bramlage Coliseum.

"The show has to go on - basketball needs to be played and whatever event is happening in Bramlage, we make sure it's ready," said Schneider. "There are definitely a lot of little things that people don't notice, but it all gets done and it's always ready the next day."



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6A

TSU stuns Kansas State at the buzzer, 58-56

Associated Press
MANHATTAN, Kan. — Less than a second was all it took.

That's all Texas Southern needed to turn a two-point deficit into 58-56 win over Kansas State on Sunday.

Chris Thomas' offensive rebound and putback tied it at 56 with 0.9 seconds left and, after Kansas State threw the inbounds pass away, Jason Carter hit a jumper as time expired, giving the Tigers their second win over 2014 NCAA tournament teams in eight days. Texas Southern beat then-No. 25 Michigan State 71-64 on Dec. 20.

"I did not see it coming," Carter said. "I just got the ball and finished the play. It was just a lucky shot."

A three-point play by Thomas Gipson and a layup by Marcus Foster gave Kansas State (8-4) a 54-48 lead with 1:45 remaining.

Chris Thomas made a layup to pull Texas Southern (3-9) within four. After Gipson made a free throw, a layup by Madarioris Gibbs made it 55-52 with 16 seconds left.

A free throw by Nino Williams pushed the Kansas State lead back to four. Tonnie Collier made the first two of three free throws and Thomas put back the third to tie the game at 56 with .9 seconds to play.

After Jevon Thomas threw the inbounds pass away, Texas Southern got the ball out of bounds, setting up Carter's winner.

Kansas State made 2 of 8 free throws in the final 69 seconds.

"We did not have any energy," Gipson said. "That is where we lost it. I am pretty sure if people had energy, they would step up and make their free throws with confidence. I obviously did not, JT (Jevon Thomas) did not, and other people did not so that is what happens."

Thomas and Gibbs scored 15 apiece for Texas Southern.

Marcus Foster had 17 points and three assists, Nino Williams added 11 points and five rebounds for Kansas State, which darted out to a 9-0 lead in the first 4 minutes. For the majority of the first half it was all Wildcats, led by Foster and his trio of 3s.

"We had a good start to the game and the 9-2, 15-5 start," Kansas State coach Bruce Weber said. "We had some turnovers and had some times we let them get some rebounds and allow them to get their heads up. We were still grinding it out at half time. We knew it was going to be a low scoring game. We fought and had the game won, but some crazy things happened at the end."

After making 2 of 9 shots to start the game, Texas Southern trailed by as many as 11 before closing the first half with an 8-3 run. The Tigers trailed 23-31 at halftime.

"I thought they came out that first part of the game and put us on our



Javon Thomas (1) lends a hand in getting a rebound. (Photos by Ben Brake)

heels," Texas Southern coach Mike Davis said. "We settled down, moved the ball and played with a good tempo."

A three-point play by Thomas with 17:32 to play gave the Tigers their first lead of the game, 28-27.

A jumper by Gibbs gave Texas Southern its biggest lead of the game,

43-36, midway through the second half, but Kansas State scored 12 in a row and didn't trail again until Carter's buzzer-beater.

TIP-INS

Kansas State: The Wildcats are 71-4 at home during nonconference play since 2006-07.

Texas Southern: The Tigers are 1-1

on the season against Big 12 opponents. Texas Southern lost to Baylor back on Dec. 1.

QUOTABLE

"We were up 9-0, then the first media time out, and after that we were just drained. I think we were drunk emotionally, drunk on emotion."- Nino Williams.



Marcus Foster (2) looks for the driving player.



Thomas Gipson (42) gets a shot off.



Kansas State Coach Bruce Weber looks a little upset.



Nigel Johnson (23) drives for the basket.

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