



Manhattan Free Press

Priceless
Take One

Vol. 23 Number 44

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, April 2, 2015

Thank You Governor, Good Job

Editorial

By Jon A. Brake

Well, for one, I think the Governor of Kansas and the "Conservative Legislature" have done a great job.

If you listen to our local Legislators and the Manhattan Mercury you would think the State of Kansas is at the edge and ready to fall off the flat earth.

Lets start of the basics, both Republican and Democratic Parties have Conservatives and Liberal. In Kansas there are more Conservatives than Liberals. In Manhattan there are more Liberals.

Monday night's Manhattan Mercury Editorial called the Local Legislators wanting more taxes "Moderate Wisdom". The State of Kansas doesn't need that kind of wisdom. We had it for years when the Liberal Republicans and the Liberal Democrats worked together to raise taxes so they could spend, spend. Remember Governor Sebelius?

When Governor Brownback took office this State had problems, big problems that took more and more tax money out of the hands of Kansans.

According to the Mercury Editorial Republican Representatives Susie Swanson, Tom Phillips and Democrat Sydney Carlin are all saying the State needs to raise taxes. State Senator Tom Hawk also thinks more taxes are needed.

Look at the General Fund Graphic at the right. Kansas has spent \$6 Billion in the General Fund four out of the last six years.

Brownback cut taxes and cut spending in 2010 and 2011 but the spending has been backed up for the past two years.

We have a spending problem in Kansas not a taxing problem.

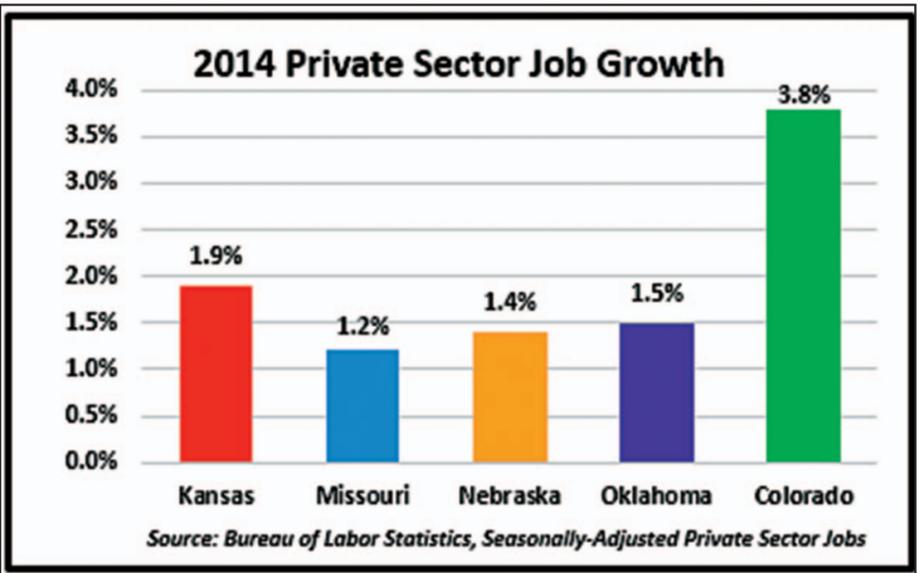
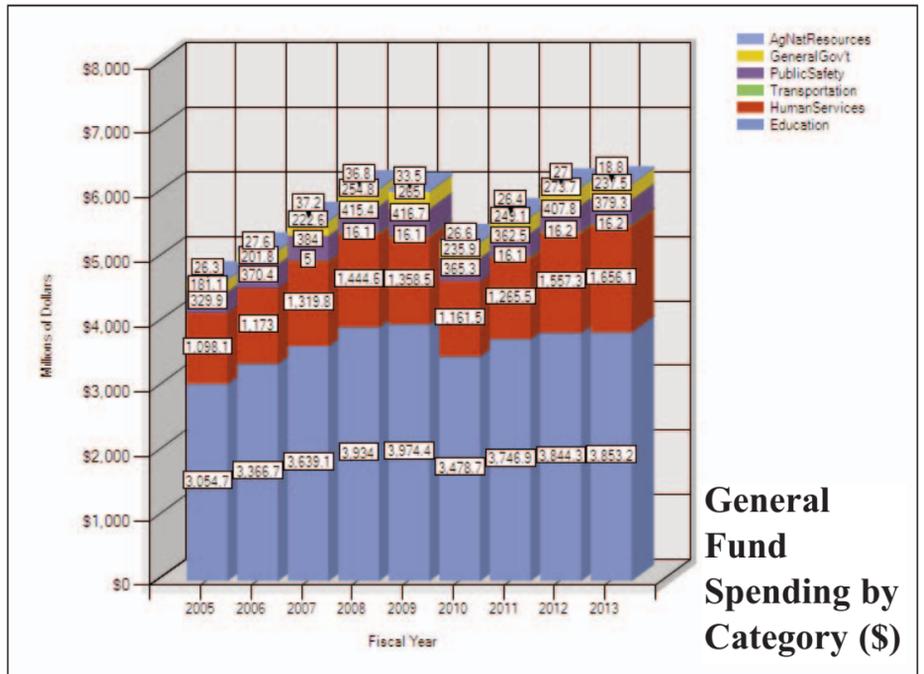
Look at the Private Sector Job Change graphic at the bottom. States without income taxes have grown 15.03% over the past 14 years. Other States have grown 3.64% and Kansas 2.22% over that same 14 years.

Now look at the 2014 Private Sector Job Growth chart. Kansas out produced Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma in Job Growth in 2014. That tells you that what Governor Brownback and the Kansas Legislature did, worked and is working.

Here is what the Kansas Police Institute says: "Revised data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that Kansas had better private sector job growth in 2014 than neighboring states of Missouri, Oklahoma and Nebraska. Colorado was the only neighboring state that did better, as it has done for thirteen of the last sixteen years. Kansas also outperformed Iowa and Arkansas, both of which had job growth of 1.5%."

Manhattan has been growing and like Lawrence it has turned very Liberal in it's thinking.

Thank you, Governor, Good job.



State Grouping	Pre- Tax Reform		Post- Tax Reform	
	1998 through 2012	Kansas Comparison	Dec. 2012 to Dec. 2014	Kansas Comparison
States w/o Income Tax	15.03%	14.78%	6.78%	54.68%
Income-taxing states	3.64%	61.01%	4.22%	87.88%
Kansas	2.22%	100.00%	3.71%	100.00%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted. KS Comparison is Kansas job change divided by job change of comparison state group. Pre- tax reform comparison is of average annual employment. Post- comparison is current month compared to Dec. 2012.

Graphics from the Kansas Police Institute

Plaintiffs issue motion to block Kansas school funding law

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Four school districts that are suing the state asked a court Thursday to block Kansas Republican Gov. Sam Brownback's \$4.1 billion overhaul of the way the state distributes aid to schools.

The law scraps the state's school funding formula and replaces it with fixed payments directly to school districts in the form of "block grants" and was signed into law by the governor in a private ceremony Wednesday.

The plaintiffs claim in the motion that the law would cause "irreparable harm" to all of the state's school districts by reducing overall funding and distributing it unequally.

Brownback's office referred questions to the attorney general's office.

Jennifer Rapp, a spokeswoman for the attorney general's office said in an emailed statement that the state had not wavered in its support of the rewritten law.

"We will continue to defend the

school finance law as written, and now rewritten, by the people of Kansas, through their elected representatives," she said.

The four school districts filed the lawsuit in 2010 claiming the state's funding levels and distribution methods violated the Kansas Constitution, and a three-judge panel issued an order in December saying that the state should be spending at least \$548 million more on schools.

The three-judge panel will hear arguments on whether the state has met its obligations to distribute money fairly on May 7 and has said that it may take measures to halt changes to the school funding framework until the case is concluded.

Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley, a Topeka Democrat, said in a statement that it is no surprise that the constitutionality of school funding in the state is being challenged given the

many "needless changes" to school funding over the past 25 years.

"It's time for the governor and the Republican legislature to get serious about adequately and equitably funding K

"It's time for the governor and the Republican legislature to get serious about adequately and equitably funding Kansas schools," Hensley said in the statement.

City Of Manhattan 2015 Employee Payroll (Continued from last week)

As you can see, Manhattan Employees are very well paid. Two weeks ago the Free Press ran part of City Manager Ron Fehr's new contract.

Fehr's base is \$141,000.00 but the City also contributes to his ICMA Retirement \$14,000 and then the City pays into the Kansas Personnel Retirement System (KPRS) for him. Not all employees will get the same benefits.

Remember, when you read an employees salary on this page and on page 3 that the amount shown may not be the full compensation.

The City Web Site makes this statement: "Employee Benefits: The city has established a variety of employee benefit programs designed to assist employees and their eligible dependents in meeting the financial burdens that can result from illness, disability, and death, and to help employees plan for retirement, deal with job related or personal problems, and enhance their job-related skills."

The City lists these Benefits:

- Group Health Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Deferred Compensation

- Flexible Benefit Plan
 - Worker's Compensation
 - KPRS Retirement (including disability and death benefits)
 - Life Insurance
 - Voluntary Benefit Plans
 - Employee Assistance Program
- They also receive:
- Educational Assistance
 - Paid Time Off (Vacation, Medical, and Shared Leave, Holiday Pay)
 - Wellness Program
- Here are more of the City Employees Salaries:

Year	FirstName	LastName	Position	TotalPay
2014	Richard A	Messerly	Engineering Aide II	\$38,959.80
2014	Adam W	Gerdes	Water Service Crewleader	\$38,990.60
2014	Anthony J	Monser	Water Service Crewleader	\$39,047.05
2014	Dick A	Flohr	Plant Operator	\$39,248.07
2014	Jerry C	Johnson	Equipment Operator	\$39,392.54
2014	Gayle K	Donaldson	Information/Prog Coordinator	\$39,515.37
2014	Duane R	Edwards	Maintenance Technician	\$39,623.60
2014	Kiel R	Mangus	Assistant City Manager	\$39,809.64
2014	Kerry L	Kolzow	Firefighter II	\$39,811.06
2014	Mitchell A	Budke	Firefighter II	\$39,938.72
2014	Michael R	Simmons	Firefighter II	\$39,993.78
2014	Denise G	Leroux	Animal Keeper II	\$40,018.29
2014	Kevin L	Detmer	Environmental Specialist	\$40,027.47
2014	Chase S	Johnson	Equipment Operator	\$40,083.33
2014	Rick R	Petrie	Engineering Aide II	\$40,224.26

City Payroll page 3

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Riley County Minutes Cost Taxpayers \$700 Per Month

March 23, 2015

115 North 4th Street
Manhattan, KS 66502
Commission Chambers
8:30 AM Call to

Order

Pledge of Allegiance
Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Hanson discussed the REACH Committee's new fundraiser to sell plants. Hanson said the proceeds are used to purchase gifts for the Riley County Training Day, fund RC employee retirement parties and provide goodies to all Riley County Employees to promote TEAMWORK

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Wilson's comments:
Friday, I met with Johnette Shepek to get an overview of the budget and an orientation for the budget process.

Saturday, I attended the Saint Patrick's Day parade in Aggieville. The weather was perfect, and it was very well attended.

Boyd's comments:

Monday 03.09.15

1. Attended the Manhattan Airport Advisory Board meeting at the City Chambers where we discussed the FBO future site and construction. The Board opted to advise the City Commission to maintain Kansas Air Center's original design location and build the facility with City funds. More discussion on the Phase II and Phase III contracts, delays, penalties and options going forward.

2. Attended the Riley County Officials meeting which took place in the County Office Building. The topic of discussion was County Office security.

Tuesday 03.10.15

3. Attended KMAN In Focus with Cathy Dawes, accompanying me was Shilo Heger Riley County Treasurer. Good discussions on various topics.

4. Departed Manhattan for Anchorage Alaska.

Thursday 03.12.15

5. Attended my son's change of command ceremony at Fort Richardson.

Friday 03.13.15

6. Departed Anchorage for Manhattan.

Wells discussed the Township Officials meeting last Wednesday.

Business Meeting

3. Plaza Reservation Request for Sunflower CASA Project, Inc.

Move to approve a Plaza Reservation Request for Sunflower CASA Project, Inc. from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for Child Abuse Awareness Month on April 3, 2015.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

4. Testimony Letter - H.B. 2164

Holeman presented the testimony letter on HB 2164. Holeman suggested Hobson provide the testimony on behalf of Riley County.

The Board agreed Hobson should provide the testimony. Move to sign a letter to Chairman Pyle and Members of the Committee stating our Board unanimously supports H.B. 2164.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

5. Contract for Daniels Drive Bridge Replacement Project with Ebert Construction Co., Inc.

Move to approve the contract with Ebert Construction Co., Inc. for the Daniels Drive Bridge Replacement Project with in the amount of \$186,912.79.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson
Review Minutes

6. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Mar 12, 2015 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT: ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson
Review Tentative Agenda
Tentative Agenda
Press Conference Topics

8. Discuss Press Conference Rich Vargo-General Elections

Pat Collins-Pasture Burning

9:00 AM Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

9. Capital Improved Program

Shepek reviewed the capital improvement process and policy.

Shepek presented a combined form for the CIP request and activation form as opposed to two documents.

Boyd asked Shepek to include in the policy how department heads are to present emergency needs which may impact life and property.

The Board agreed by consensus with the revised policies and procedures and to combine CIP request and activation form.

9:30 AM Press Conference

10. Public Notice concerning a bridge replacement project - Leon Hobson (3 minutes)

Hobson announced the bridge replacement project on Daniels Drive will begin today. The project is located approximately 1/2 mile west of Tabor Valley Road. Daniels Drive will be closed to through traffic from the intersection of Pillsbury Crossing Lane to Tabor Valley Road. The project has been allotted 75 working days, and is expected to be completed in June 2015.

11. Number of rides aTa Bus had for Fake Patty's Day - Anne Smith (3 minutes)

Smith reported aTa Bus provided 1,801 safe rides for Fake Patty's Day event.

12. Riley County Purchase Card Revenue Share - Johnette Shepek (2 minutes)

Shepek reported Riley County's purchase card revenue share was \$17,590.42 for 2014.

13. April 7th General Election - Rich Vargo (3 minutes)

Vargo reported the voter registration books close on March 17th for the April 7th General Election. Vargo stated advance voting by mail and in person begins March 18th in the Riley County Office Building. Vargo said advance voting closes at noon on April 6th.

10:00 AM Break

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

14. Administrative Work

Session

The Board watched the KAC legislative video update.

15. Pending County Projects
County Counselor

Holeman presented the Commission list.

16.

RCHD Written Testimony Support HB 2319, Expansion of Medicaid

Holeman presented written testimony on HB 2319 as submitted by Brenda Nickel.

Wilson stated the bill said it would be revenue neutral, but is not sure how that would be feasible.

Nickel stated she is not completely sure how that will be accomplished but there will be two hearings on the bill.

Move to authorize Nickel to submit the testimony on HB 2319.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

10:30 AM

Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk

17. Health Club Gym Membership Discounts for County Employees

Volanti reported Lori Muir has done most of the work on this subject. Volanti presented the health club gym membership discounts for Riley County employees.

Volanti said we request and recommend the Board of County Commissioners to provide our County employees with options of corporate discounts to Manhattan gyms.

Wells said he likes the ones who do not require long-term commitments and payroll deductions. Wells said he prefers the local businesses.

Wilson said he is comfortable with the recommendation.

Boyd agreed, but stated he does not like option A.

Move to approve offering reduced rates with all Manhattan gyms that don't require payroll deductions to Riley County employees. This includes Body First, Maximum Performance, Wildcat Creek Fun & Fitness, and Pro Fitness. Genesis does not currently offer discounts if not payroll deducted.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

11:15 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

20. Sign Conservation Easement

Holeman reviewed the conservation easement for the City's bank stabilization project at the City's Wildcat Creek lift station.

Move the Board sign and accept the conservation easement as presented.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

18. Activate CIP project: Architect Assessment MFD Station 1

Couchman discussed activation of the architect assessment to MFD station 1.

Boyd stated he does not feel we are at a point where the discussions with the City and University are advanced enough to proceed on the matter. Boyd said there is a meeting this Friday with the City and University on the matter. Boyd said Couchman needs to work on interdepartmental operations between the City and EMS.

Holeman said once the discussions have taken place the information will be presented to the Board.

No action was taken.

11:00 AM

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

19. Inmate Medical Dental Providers

Shepek presented the information on the inmate medical dental providers being paid at the Medicaid rate. Shepek reported Dr. Sager is not willing to continue providing the service at the Medicaid rate. Shepek stated Lee Wolf of Konza Prairie Community Health Center is interested in providing the service. Shepek asked the board to consider moving the Riley County inmate dental services to the Konza Prairie Community Health Center.

Holeman said we have not heard from Dr. Sager directly.

Shepek said the RCPD jail staff has indicated we need to find another dental provide as Sager said he will not provide dental services at the Medicaid rate.

Boyd asked staff to provide a letter of appreciation to Dr. Sager for his dental services provided.

Move to approve Konza Prairie Community Health Center as the provider of dental services to Riley County inmates.

Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

10:40 AM Larry Couchman, EMS Director

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MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

21. Sign "Commercial Services Agreement with Cox Communications"

Holeman said he needs to table the item again as Cox Communication has not finalized the contract.

The BOCC agreed to table the item.

Howser said the recently approved LiDAR contract needs to have a letter generated for the survey crew to present when asked why they are performing the service.

Howser presented a letter describing the LiDAR project.

The Board agreed by consensus to use the letter Howser

presented for the LiDAR project.

Howser asked if an out of county businesses request the GIS data should provide the data as readily as we do the local companies who have contributed through paying taxes?

Boyd said he would prefer to just keep it open at this time until the request become burdensome. Boyd stated in the future we will see more fee for service transactions in local government.

11:30 AM

Adjournment Move to adjourn.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson
Board of Riley County Commissioners Regular

Colorado defends pot law, says states free to legalize weed

DENVER (AP) - States are free to legalize marijuana, Colorado argued Friday in a filing to the U.S. Supreme Court in response to a lawsuit from neighboring states that have asked the nation's highest court to shut down Colorado's pot law.

The filing marks the first time Colorado has defended legal marijuana in writing. The federal government did not sue to block the state's 2012 vote to legalize pot for all adults over 21.

Colorado said that Nebraska and Oklahoma should sue the federal government for not enforcing the Controlled Substances Act, not other states. Colorado said the states' "quarrel is not with Colorado

but with the federal government's" approach to letting states experiment with pot law.

"Nebraska and Oklahoma filed this case in an attempt to reach across their borders and selectively invalidate state laws with which they disagree," Colorado argued.

Because federal drug law bans marijuana for any purpose, including medical, the federal government can't throw out recreational pot laws but not medical pot laws in effect in 23 states and Washington, D.C., Colorado argued.

"Congress has endorsed a policy, at least with respect to medical marijuana, supportive of state regulatory and licensure laws," Colorado wrote.

Colorado argued that the federal government can't throw out recreational pot laws but not medical pot laws in effect in 23 states and Washington, D.C., Colorado argued.

"Congress has endorsed a policy, at least with respect to medical marijuana, supportive of state regulatory and licensure laws," Colorado wrote.

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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: manhattanfreepress.com

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E-Mail: jonbrake@kansas.net or freepress@kansas.net
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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

Free Press Second Front

Manhattan Free Press

Thursday, April 2, 2015

3A

City Of Manhattan 2015 Employee Payroll

Continued From Page One

Year	FirstName	LastName	Position	TotalPay	Year	FirstName	LastName	Position	TotalPay
2014	Courtney A	Kramer	Financial Analyst	\$40,238.40	2014	Virginia B	Pape	Recreation Supervisor	\$43,876.66
2014	Nathan C	Page	Engineering Aide II	\$40,263.97	2014	Timothy J	Cravens	Plant Operator IV	\$43,924.03
2014	Joseph C J	acob	Firefighter II	\$40,267.41	2014	Patrick E	Manning	Plant Mechanic II	\$44,234.99
2014	Mathew E	Conger	Fire Driver I	\$40,326.37	2014	Dominic P	Debita	Maintenance Crewleader I	\$44,306.11
2014	Joshua R	Petro	I.S. Support Specialist	\$40,412.33	2014	Adam S	Naillieux	Water Service Crewleader	\$44,373.49
2014	Donald J	Euler	Firefighter II	\$40,456.58	2014	Roy W	Garrett	Exhibits & Operations Man	\$44,649.28
2014	Gregory L	Waugh	Maintenance Worker II	\$32,737.06	2014	Kirk A	Nemechek	Headkeeper	\$44,813.60
2014	Stephanie R	Baker	Finance Clerk	\$32,976.64	2014	Tammy L	Galvan	Adm Coordinator/Hr/Pr	\$44,984.03
2014	Ernest D	Wilhoite	Custodian	\$32,996.47	2014	David C	Allen	Maintenance Worker II	\$45,024.71
2014	Benjamin J	Fulk	Maintenance Worker II/	\$33,081.61	2014	Michael A	Edwards	Maintenance Crewleader I	\$45,048.41
2014	Kyler J	Monnington	Maintenance Worker II	\$33,532.08	2014	Larry A	James	Equipment Mechanic II	\$45,079.03
2014	Andrew K	Amaro	Maintenance Worker II	\$33,595.61	2014	Douglas R	Myers	Plant Operator IV	\$45,180.64
2014	Julie A	Eisenhut	Finance Technician - A/P	\$33,680.49	2014	Joshua T	Maike	Recreation Supervisor	\$45,307.20
2014	Cody E	Decker	Maintenance Worker II	\$33,702.92	2014	Tom	Korte	Plant Operator IV	\$45,353.80
2014	Heath D	Romine	Parking Control Officer	\$33,733.92	2014	Eugene W	Morehead	Plant Operator IV	\$45,376.86
2014	Donald E	Schmelzle	Animal Control Officer	\$33,964.87	2014	Matthew R	Berens	Equipment Operator	\$45,414.83
2014	Michael D	Rader	Maintenance Technician	\$34,092.74	2014	Bruce M	Loomis	Maintenance Technician	\$45,422.94
2014	William B	Haley	Plant Operator	\$34,115.00	2014	Rick L	Berry	Code Services Officer II	\$45,593.00
2014	Rachel S	Hanna	Animal Keeper I	\$34,143.84	2014	Jeffrey D	Mayer	Recreation Supervisor	\$45,659.20
2014	Lawilson Q	Horne	Maintenance Technician	\$34,189.14	2014	Jerri H	Hager	Development Officer	\$45,720.96
2014	Brenton W	Sullivan	Maintenance Worker II	\$34,318.34	2014	Daniel I	Tidwell	Biosolids/Lift Station Tech	\$45,837.53
2014	Chad A	Brewer	Maintenance Technician	\$34,344.55	2014	Katherine J	Lousch	Human Resource Generalist	\$46,055.11
2014	Troy S	Fisher	Maintenance Worker I	\$34,486.89	2014	Ella L	Casey	Marketing/Development Off	\$46,241.60
2014	Mike S	Witmer	Maintenance Technician	\$34,562.04	2014	Sandra L	Downs	Plant Operator IV	\$46,274.23
2014	Curtis R	Evans	Plant Operator IV	\$40,501.55	2014	Travis A	Longren	Park Technician	\$46,393.75
2014	Stanley C	Morris	Firefighter II	\$40,514.11	2014	Gregg A	Vandecreek	Fire Driver I	\$46,630.37
2014	Charles R	Pitchford	Utility Location Specialist	\$40,618.03	2014	Anastasia M	Keller	Legal Secretary	\$46,701.76
2014	Susan E	Adams	FHDC Vol & Cust Serv Man	\$40,640.32	2014	Inka	Eck	Executive Secretary	\$46,898.97
2014	Aaron J	Mueller	Fire Driver I	\$40,661.94	2014	Kyle J	Highberger	Fire Driver I	\$46,943.86
2014	Andrew S	Brand	Firefighter II	\$40,683.67	2014	Andrew M	Rombeck	Fire Driver II	\$47,018.15
2014	Christina L	Lecuyer	Grant Administrator	\$40,705.92	2014	Kelly W	Cook	Recreation Specialist/Aquat	\$61,812.52
2014	Nathaniel G	Hollenbeck	Fire Driver I	\$40,744.68	2014	Heath L	Major	Fire Driver II	\$61,998.33
2014	Kelsey N	Hemmy	Senior Accountant	\$40,860.20	2014	James B	Cubie	Fire Captain II	\$62,264.62
2014	Joshua S	Breault	Electrician II	\$40,927.21	2014	Joe G	Sapp	Park Mechanic	\$47,063.30
2014	Justin D	Befort	Plans Examiner	\$40,956.95	2014	Drew J	Rathbun	Fire Driver I	\$47,288.28
2014	Donnis J	Eichem	Sr Administrative Assistant	\$41,025.66	2014	Andy J	Tilley	Welder	\$47,322.70
2014	Javier	Chavez	Plant Mechanic II	\$41,048.80	2014	Sheryl L	Jensen	Plant Operator IV	\$47,438.52
2014	Stephanie S	McCall	Animal Shelter Technician II	\$41,073.61	2014	Vickie L	Riniker	Sr Administrative Assistant	\$47,501.60
2014	Mackenzie A	Delrosso	Aerial Operator II	\$41,131.82	2014	Paul D	Bixel	Environmental Specialist-	\$47,523.00
2014	Brian B	Peil	Code Services Officer I	\$41,275.40	2014	David M	Nelson	Water Service Crewleader	\$47,529.16
2014	Scott W	Murphy	Fire Driver I	\$41,322.48	2014	Timothy A	Goss	Maintenance Worker II	\$47,653.32
2014	Joshua A	Huff	Fire Captain II	\$41,324.09	2014	Jay R	Yaeger	Lab Specialist	\$47,764.27
2014	Tyler J	Herrington	Fire Driver I	\$41,359.16	2014	Rodney	Johnson	Park Technician	\$48,028.07
2014	Nathan M	Perez	Firefighter II	\$41,376.65	2014	William J	Edmonston	Engineer II	\$48,160.35
2014	Christa M	Grunewald	Sr Administrative Assistant	\$41,415.58	2014	Tyler S	Reese	Fire Driver I	\$48,195.78
2014	Shaun R	Curtis	Maintenance Crewleader I	\$41,422.91	2014	Brian D	Griffin	Fire Driver II	\$48,229.06
2014	Willard	Davila	Animal Shelter/Control Spv	\$41,426.88	2014	Ryan I	Courtright	Senior Plans Examiner	\$48,854.40
2014	Justin T	Newville	Fire Driver I	\$41,455.26	2014	David A	McGillis	Assistant Court Services Off	\$49,129.60
2014	Jennifer S	Holmes	Legal Assistant	\$41,479.39	2014	Daniel M	yson	Equipment Mechanic II	\$49,394.27
2014	Tyler J	Budke	Fire Driver I	\$41,503.01	2014	Kenneth P	Hays	Project Coordinator	\$49,586.20
2014	Scott A	William	Traffic Technician	\$41,588.15	2014	Elias J	Martinson	Gis Coordinator	\$49,712.02
2014	Steve P	Fritz	Plant Operator IV	\$41,701.16	2014	Marilyn K	Senff	Utility Billing Specialist	\$49,786.93
2014	James A	McDiffett	Code Services Officer II	\$41,831.65	2014	Deborah K	Berry	Engineering Aide II	\$49,809.98
2014	Odin C	Olson	Plant Operator IV	\$41,897.36	2014	Evan S	Swanson	Fire Driver I	\$50,123.95
2014	Gerald J	McCoy	Maintenance Technician	\$41,990.38	2014	Joshua B	Nixon	Fire Driver II	\$50,156.97
2014	Jared M	Tremblay	Infrastructure Analyst	\$42,108.80	2014	Phillip P	Fyffe	Fire Driver II	\$50,495.17
2014	Ethan A	Kloster	Environmental Specialist-Water	\$42,186.88	2014	Dustin C	Minton	Fire Driver II	\$50,504.60
2014	Daniel R	Hinkel	Equipment Operator	\$42,201.09	2014	Darren L	Ivey	Firefighter II	\$50,743.54
2014	Thomas W	Merren	Engineering Technician II	\$42,284.41	2014	Steven A	Taylor	Fire Driver II	\$50,921.75 "
2014	Kimberly A	Boice	Airport Adm & Finance Asst	\$42,700.02	2014	Charles D	Ullmer	Electrician II	\$51,027.13 "
2014	Timothy M	Greco	Water Service Crewleader	\$42,826.23	2014	Christopher L	Nelson	Recreation Supervisor	\$51,070.34 "
2014	Ronald L	Mills	Maintenance Worker II	\$43,040.48	2014	Clifford A	Rudolph	Maintenance Crewleader I	\$51,090.10 "
2014	Donald L	Wilson	Utility Location Specialist	\$43,061.65	2014	David J	Kordyak	Fire Driver II	\$51,101.58 "
2014	Theresa A	Britt	Stormwater Officer I	\$43,084.64	2014	Daniel G	Newton	Fire Driver II	\$51,123.64 "
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2014	Dale L	Houdeshell	Director Of Public Works	\$43,359.21	2014	Larry R	Weeks	Maintenance Crewleader I	\$51,386.14 "
2014	Dustin T	Potts	Traffic Technician	\$43,420.95	2014	David M	Graham	Fire Driver II	\$51,415.44 "
2014	Gregory W	Witt	Equipment Operator	\$43,555.84	2014	Perry G	Potter	Fire Driver II	\$51,763.22 "
2014	Francis J	Dolan	Maintenance Worker II	\$43,590.18	2014	Debra L	Soper	Administrative Supervisor	\$51,829.16 "
2014	Rodney C	Klinkner	Airport Technician II	\$43,664.78	2014	Craig	Ross	Firefighter II	\$51,888.72 "
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Obamacare's crisis and opportunity

By Charlie Katebi
CATO Instatue

In March, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in *King v. Burwell*, a case that could decide the fate of Obamacare in Wyoming and around the country.

The case centers on whether the federal government has the authority to issue tax credits to subsidize insurance on exchanges that it has established. If the chief justices rule against the federal government, it could mean the end not just for Obamacare's subsidies, but its mandates and regulations as well. And herein lies an opportunity for advocates for patient-centered health reform to start making real changes to the way healthcare is financed and delivered.

As many health policy experts have noted, the Affordable Care Act's design and purpose rests on three basic foundations; insurance regulations, the individual mandate, and insurance subsidies. If just one of these bulwarks is removed, the entire structure breaks down.

The law's insurance regulations prohibit insurance companies from charging individuals of the same age different premiums, regardless of whether some of them have health conditions that will make their care more expensive. These "Community Rating" rules force insurers to raise premiums on healthier policy-holders in order to pay for the care of their sicker beneficiaries. Left to their own devices, younger and healthier individuals will forego insurance if their premiums become unaffordable. When healthy individuals flee the insurance market, health insurance costs are foisted on a smaller group of less healthy individuals.

This is where the individual

mandate comes in. By imposing tax penalties on individuals that are uninsured, the ACA avoids the feared "Death Spiral" that occurs when costly mandates drive the young and healthy out of the insurance market. However, community rating and the law's other mandates drive up the cost of insurance, creating substantial financial burdens for lower income individuals who will be forced to purchase insurance.

The third and final foundation to the law is the federal tax-credits that subsidize the cost of premiums for individuals between 100 and 400 percent of the federal poverty line. But who are entitled to these subsidies?

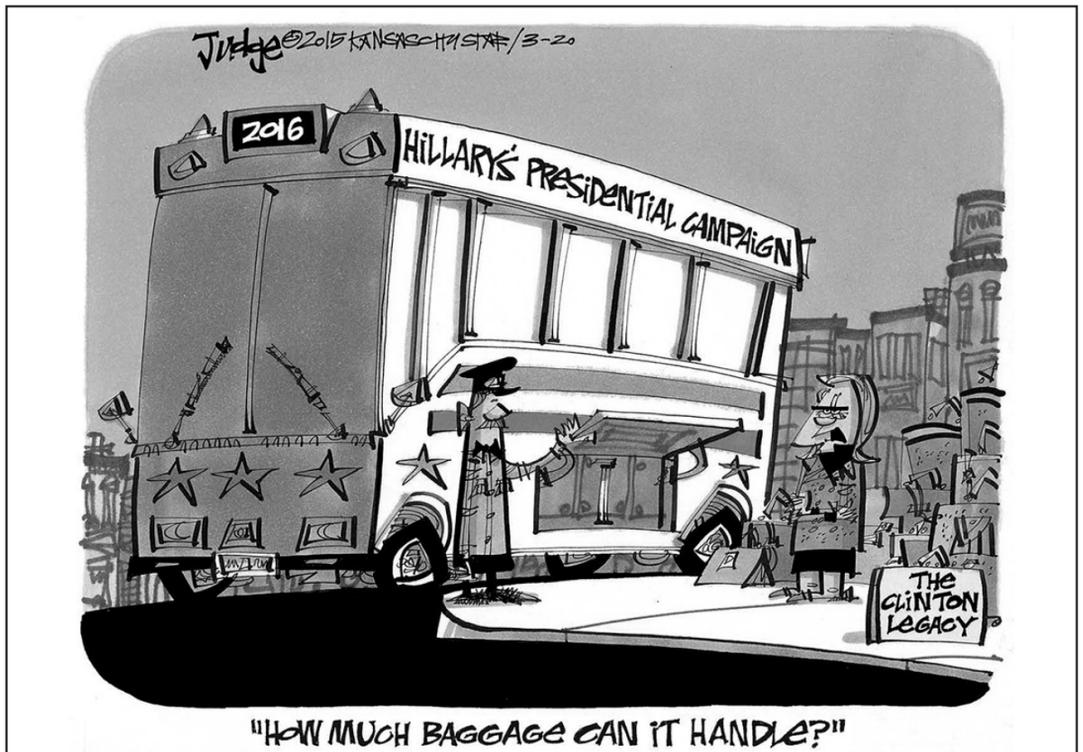
The federal government argues that subsidies are available to those that seek insurance in the insurance exchanges established by state governments as well as the federal insurance exchange and has enforced the law accordingly.

There's just one problem with this interpretation; as Obamacare was written and passed into law, only those that purchase insurance on exchanges "Established by a state" are eligible for subsidies. If the Supreme Court were to rule in favor of the plaintiffs challenging the subsidies on the federal exchange, several things will happen.

The first is that millions who had signed up for insurance on federal exchanges and received subsidies will lose them and potentially have to repay them in back taxes. As of mid-February, 7.5 million individuals that accessed insurance on the federal exchanges were eligible for subsidies. Ninety-one percent of Wyoming's enrollees were eligible for subsidies, which on average covered 76 percent of the cost of premiums. A victory for the plaintiffs would quadruple the cost of insurance for thousands in the Equality State. It's estimated that the average recipient of insurance subsidies in Wyoming would see their monthly premiums increase from \$135 to \$558 if they went away.

Without the subsidies, the individual mandate becomes much harder to enforce. If the least expensive insurance on an exchange costs more than 8

The Conservative Side...



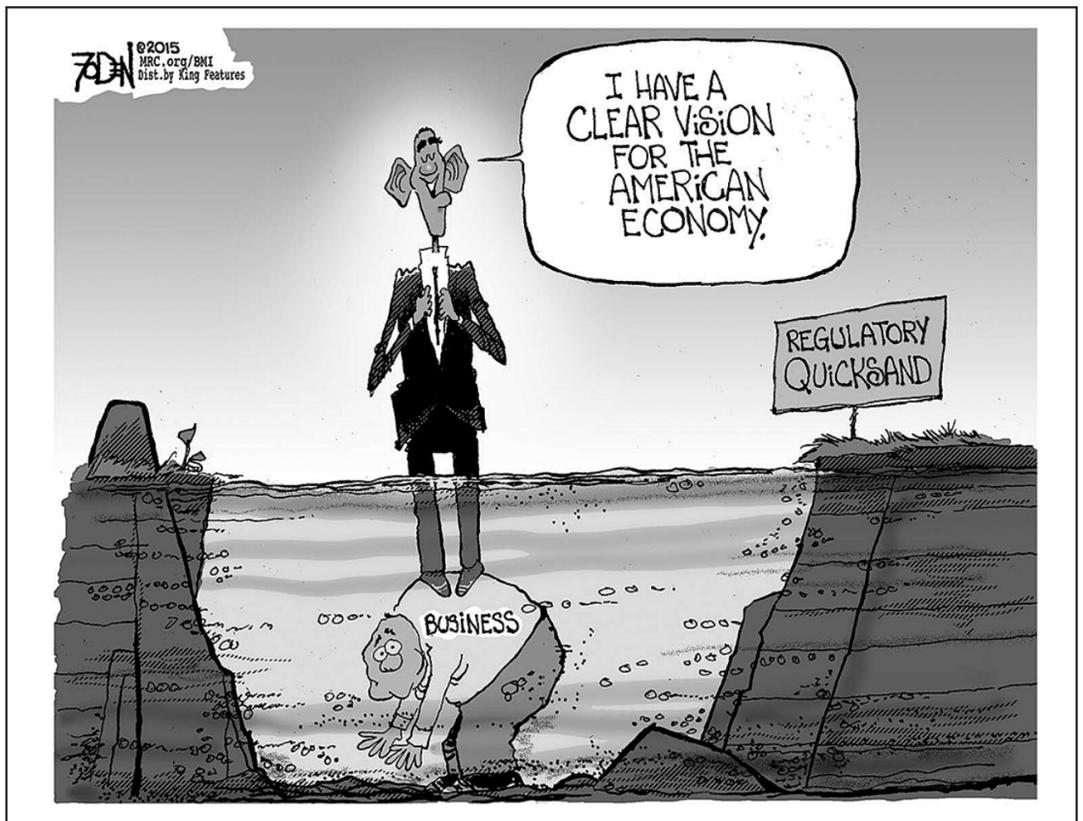
percent of an individual's household income, they are no longer required to buy insurance. The Kaiser Family Foundation estimates that with access to subsidies, only 3 percent of the uninsured fall into this exemption. However, if the subsidies went away, 83 percent of the uninsured would no longer be required to buy insurance.

Without the individual mandate, the young and healthy will have no reason to purchase expensive insurance in order to subsidize care for someone else, and will drop coverage. As the younger exit the insurance market, the cost of care will have to be paid for by a smaller number of insured, which in-turn will drive more people out of the market, and

raise the cost for those remaining. Take away the tax-credits and mandates, and the health insurance market falls apart under the weight of Obamacare's community rating rules.

In the event that the Supreme Court strikes down the subsidies, it will be up to Congress and state lawmakers to draw-up

plans to make sure the health insurance market isn't thrown into disarray. As the Wyoming Liberty group has outlined in the Five Step Plan to Achieve National Healthcare Reform, health insurance must be transitioned back into the free market and government-run programs must be redesigned to benefit our most vulnerable citizens.



— King Crossword —
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

J	A	G	M	O	P	E	S	O	Y	A	
A	L	L	E	V	E	R	U	P	O	N	
Z	O	O	G	A	R	G	A	N	T	U	A
Z	E	B	R	A	O	O	D				
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G	A	R	F	I	E	L	D	E	V	E	N
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Nebraska State Senator won't back down

**By Deena Winter
Nebraska Watchdog**
LINCOLN, Neb. — State Sen. Sen. Ernie Chambers isn't backing down.

The state lawmaker from Omaha defiantly stood Thursday on the floor of the Nebraska Legislature and rejected many of his colleagues' calls for him to apologize — or even resign — for comparing cops to ISIS terrorists and suggesting he'd shoot a cop if he weren't nonviolent and had a gun.

"I meant what I said and I said what I meant," Chambers said.

He said the irony is that lawmakers were discussing freedom of expression on Wednesday, and said it was ignorant and "idle talk" to suggest taking any kind of legal action, since lawmakers are immune from civil or criminal liability in connection with anything they say in the Legislature.

"I'm not going to resign," he said. "I'm not going to apologize. Why do you think I would apologize?"

For two hours, senators took to the microphone to talk about what they thought of Chambers' comments, which were made last week during a legislative hearing on a gun bill that would allow people to carry concealed guns in bars.

State Sen. Beau McCoy of Omaha led the charge, saying he'll stand up every day and demand a "strong denouncement" and apology, noting Thursday morning that two police officers were killed in other states in the past 48 hours.

"What he's said is a public safety risk to the people of Nebraska and those who wear a uniform," McCoy said.

He has said lawmakers are considering their options — censure, admonishment or expulsion for the rest of the session, which would require 33 votes out of 49.

However, what McCoy is suggesting is not civil or criminal action, but a provision in the state constitution and Legislative rules that allows for censure, for example, by a sim-

ple majority of lawmakers. Chambers said he doubted anyone had read the transcript of last week's hearing, but he was mistaken. It was released Wednesday afternoon, unusually quickly, and a copy was on every lawmakers' desk.

State Sen. David Schnoor said he doesn't pay attention to talk radio — where Chambers' comments first were replayed — but he read the transcript of the Judiciary hearing, and asked Chambers to resign by day's end.

"I'm demanding accountability," he said.

State Sen. Lydia Brasch said she was dismayed, saddened and confused after reading the transcript.

"It is not right to compare police to ISIS and what has happened," she said. "The horror internationally — the threat to our people."

The kerfuffle began last week when Chambers asked the gun bill sponsor, Sen. Tommy Garrett, why people felt they needed to carry guns in such bars. Garrett cited the ISIS, causing Chambers to erupt.

Chambers said an "ISIS mentality" can be found in America, where police terrorize and shoot people.

ISIS is the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, which has beheaded journalists and brutally executed Westerners and others.

"My ISIS is the police," Chambers said last week. "I would tell young people: If you tell somebody to go across the world to fight for ISIS, they can put you in jail if you just talk about it. If you want to fight injustice, don't — you don't have to go around the world to find the ISIS mentality, your ISIS is in America. And you're likely to die over there, one way or the other. So if you're going to die, die making your home safe. My home is not threatened by ISIS, mine is threatened by the police. The police are licensed to kill us: Children, old people."

Chambers — who represents north Omaha, which has a high crime rate and is sometimes the scene of clashes between police

and citizens — talked about cases of police brutality and the Nebraska State Patrol's hiring a Lincoln police officers who were found guilty of using excessive force.

State Sen. Jim Smith said regardless of whether Chambers' comments were reported "in context," lawmakers have an obligation to strengthen communities and show gratitude to those who protect them.

"There are simply no comparisons in our society to the barbaric attacks by ISIS," he said.

Sen. Joni Craighead and about a dozen senators showed their support for law enforcement during the noon break, by holding up "#SupportBlue" signs.

Others were uncomfortable with what they saw as piling on Chambers. State Sen. Dave Bloomfield said Chambers has the right to free speech.

"I do not condone what Senator Chambers said," he said. "Senator Chambers has done a great service to this body for 40 years. Whether you like what he said or not, he has the right to say it."

One lawmaker withdrew his support for Chambers' bill to repeal the death penalty. State Sen. Brett Lindstrom was a cosponsor of the bill, and said he still supports it, but in light of Chambers' refusal to apologize, he was pulling his name from the bill.

"I no longer want my name associated with a senator who would make such comments," he said.

Other lawmakers who were in the hearing when Chambers made the comments said they were embarrassed they said nothing at the time. Indeed, some people in the audience laughed.

State Sen. Bob Krist said he was disappointed in himself for not speaking up over the past six years when Chambers' calls lawmakers racists or blasts the Catholic church. However, he said, he'd be equally condemning the next time "someone calls someone a retard."

"It stops here for me," he said.

Another senator on the committee also said he regretted saying nothing when Chambers made the comments. Sen. Matt Williams, a first-year lawmaker, said that won't happen again, noting that a State Patrol officer who was in the hearing room is from his hometown. He said it hurts when Chambers calls people bigots, racists or hypocritical Christians, but it's irrelevant.

Chambers can be bombastic, but also very caring and kind, some noted. State Sen. Rick Kolowoski said he's worked with Chambers for seven years, and learned a lot from him.

"He's passionate about what he believes in," he said. "I'm not here to judge Senator Chambers."

A frequent foe of Chambers', conservative state Sen. Bill Kintner, also struck a diplomatic tone, saying he often gets flack for things he says.

"We have the right to say whatever we want, in hearings, on this floor," Kintner said. "I think I know what he was trying to say. I don't think he said it as well as he could've."

But if he were in Chambers' shoes, he would clarify what he said — "that I don't think policemen should be shot."

"I think that clarification would go along way toward fixing this thing," Kintner said. "And I think you probably need to say I'm sorry for saying it in a way that upset people."

One lawmaker said he was having a resolution drafted to express support for law enforcement.

"I do find Senator Chambers' comments highly inappropriate," Sen. Jeremy Nordquist said. "Any insinuation that there should be an act of aggression toward law enforcement is highly inappropriate."

Sen. Heath Mello said he doesn't condone Chambers' comments, but it's his right to say them and he questioned where lawmakers will draw the line on objectionable statements. But Chambers didn't back down, even angrily leaving the floor at one point, saying, "brave white guy just got through screaming at Cindy in

my office and I'm gonna do what I need to do right this minute."

Speaker Galen Hadley reminded lawmakers that they have "absolute privilege of speech" in hearings and on the floor.

"Senator Chambers had the right to say what he said. We also have right to say we think it wrong," he said. "If we're going to do our work we have to have freedom of expression."

Gov. Pete Ricketts and others joined the calls for Chambers to publicly apologize.

"No one should ever suggest the use of violence against law enforcement officials," Ricketts said in a media release. "I have reviewed the transcript from the Judiciary Committee hear-

ing in question, and Senator Chambers' comments were out of line. Words matter. At a time when we need to develop better relationships between law enforcement and our communities, Senator Chambers' comments are irresponsible and only promote distrust and the potential for violence. I urge Senator Chambers to issue a full apology for his remarks and to condemn all violence against law enforcement."

But that only angered Chambers more, as he suggested a mob mentality had taken over.

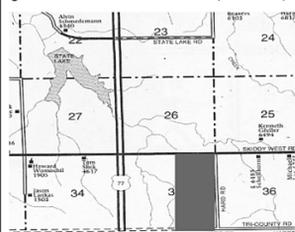
"And you think that your opposition to me is going to do anything other than inflame me?" he said. "I will stand alone and I don't mind it. I'm accustomed to it."

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Police body cameras always on, but not necessarily recording

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Law enforcement at the University of Kansas is implementing new technological measures to record video of all police interactions with the public.

There's just one small catch: Officers wearing the cameras also control what — and when — it records.

KU Police Department Capt. James Anguiano conceded that the need for officers to physically depress a button to begin capturing video opens the door for misuse and abuse.

"Yes, there could be some of that, but fortunately with most places there's policies in place to ask (the officer) why it wasn't utilized," Anguiano told Kansas Watchdog.

At a cost of roughly \$900 apiece, the KU Police

Department recently purchased eight body-mounted cameras, as well as a number of spare cables and batteries, to outfit officers while on patrol. In all, the department says the total bill came to around \$8,000.

Manufactured by Digital Ally Inc., the FirstVu HD body cameras are always on and taking-in video, but the officer must make the decision to push a button to record anything. Anguiano said this is simply a matter of practicality.

"Unfortunately, with technology today, if everything was recording as far as a live feed, you would be using a lot of not only batteries but also recording life," he noted. "There are a lot of things that go on in a daily basis when an officer,

they could be just be out getting gas at the gas pumps. It would take up video space on the camera, if something did occur they could run out of video in the middle of it."

Holly Weatherford, advocacy director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas, said the officer's control over video recording presented a red flag.

"Policies and technology must be designed to ensure that police cannot 'edit on the fly' — i.e., choose which encounters to record with limitless discretion," Weatherford told Kansas Watchdog. "If police are free to turn the cameras on and off or save the footage as they please, the cameras' role in providing a check and bal-

ance against police power will shrink and they will no longer become a net benefit."

Anguiano compared the body-mounted cameras to now-ubiquitous police vehicle dashboard cameras, which usually begin capturing video when an officer flips on the vehicle's lights or sirens.

While the potential for abuse is ever present, Anguiano told Kansas Watchdog he believes there's a strong incentive for officers to record their actions.

"The biggest thing about dash cams and body cams is it not only protects the officer, it protects the public," he said. "When you see complaints, a lot of places have shown complaints against officers go down when you institute some kind of camera system."

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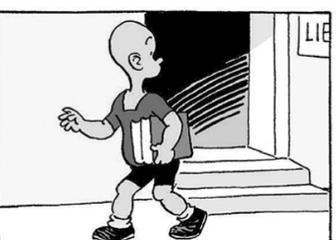
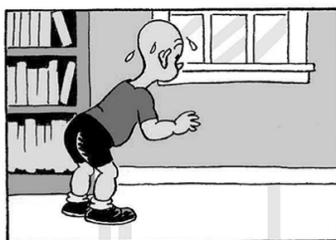
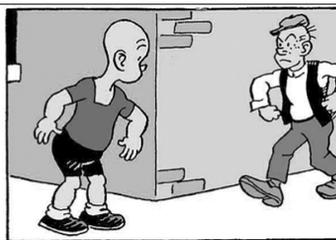
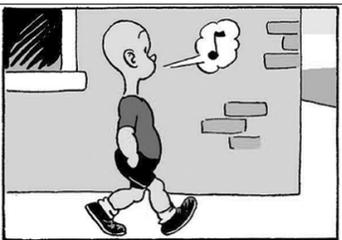
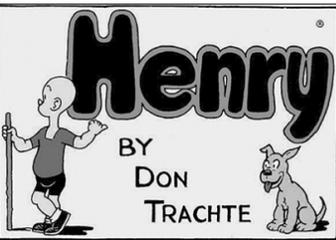
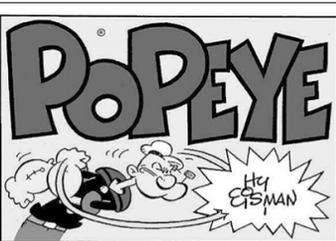
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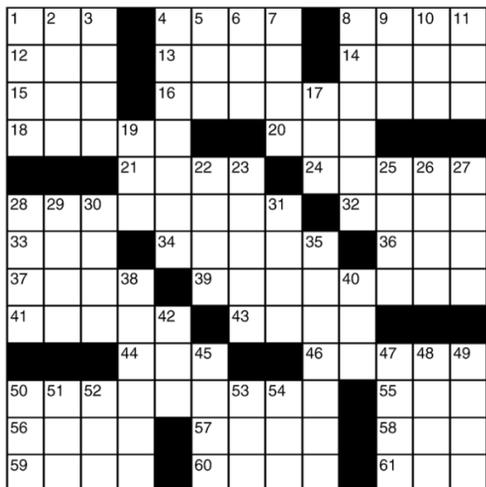
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This Project Funded in Part by the KDOT Public Transit Program

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Binge
 - 4 Sulk
 - 8 Protein-rich bean
 - 12 The whole shebang
 - 13 Always
 - 14 "Once — a time, ..."
 - 15 Menagerie
 - 16 Rabelais' giant
 - 18 Football ref, jocularly
 - 20 Peculiar
 - 21 Swedish pop quartet
 - 24 Congo, formerly
 - 28 Odie's tormentor
 - 32 Level
 - 33 Carnival city
 - 34 Takes a whack at
 - 36 Moreover
 - 37 "American —"
 - 39 Clothing
 - 41 Gold, silver or bronze
 - 43 Wield scissors
 - 44 Cattle call?
- DOWN**
- 1 Satchmo's specialty
 - 2 Lotion
 - 20 Peculiar
 - 21 Amorphous mass
 - 4 Data storage measure
 - 5 Eggs
 - 6 Apiece
 - 7 Therefore
 - 8 Soda shop
 - 9 Choose (for)
 - 10 Thee
 - 11 Literary collection
 - 17 Wood-shaping tool
 - 19 U.K. mil. group
 - 22 Titanic thwarter
 - 23 Pseudonym
 - 25 Terrible guy?
 - 26 Landlord's due
 - 27 Odds and —
 - 28 Gloomy
 - 29 Staffer
 - 30 Cheer (for)
 - 31 Bruce or Laura of films
 - 35 Preparing to be photographed
 - 38 Thin layer
 - 40 Eco-minded grp.
 - 42 High-arc shot
 - 45 Feedbag fill
 - 47 "Do — others ..."
 - 48 Profit
 - 49 Advertise, and then some
 - 50 Solidify
 - 51 Chicken — king
 - 52 Aries
 - 53 Island souvenir
 - 54 Lair



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Impossibly Easy Cheeseburger Pie

Ingredients

- 1 lb lean (at least 80%) ground beef
- 1 large onion, chopped (1 cup)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese (4 oz)
- 1/2 cup Original Bisquick™ mix
- 1 cup milk
- 2 eggs

Directions

- 1 Heat oven to 400°F. Spray 9-inch glass pie plate with cooking spray.
- 2 In 10-inch skillet, cook beef and onion over medium heat 8 to 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until beef is brown; drain. Stir in salt. Spread in pie plate. Sprinkle with cheese.
- 3 In small bowl, stir remaining ingredients with fork or wire whisk until blended. Pour into pie plate.
- 4 Bake about 25 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean.

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Answers on page 4

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Songbook is missing. 2. Cushion is missing. 3. Picture is different. 4. Arm is moved. 5. Leg is shorter. 6. Beads are missing.

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THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME BY AL SCADUTO

11-10

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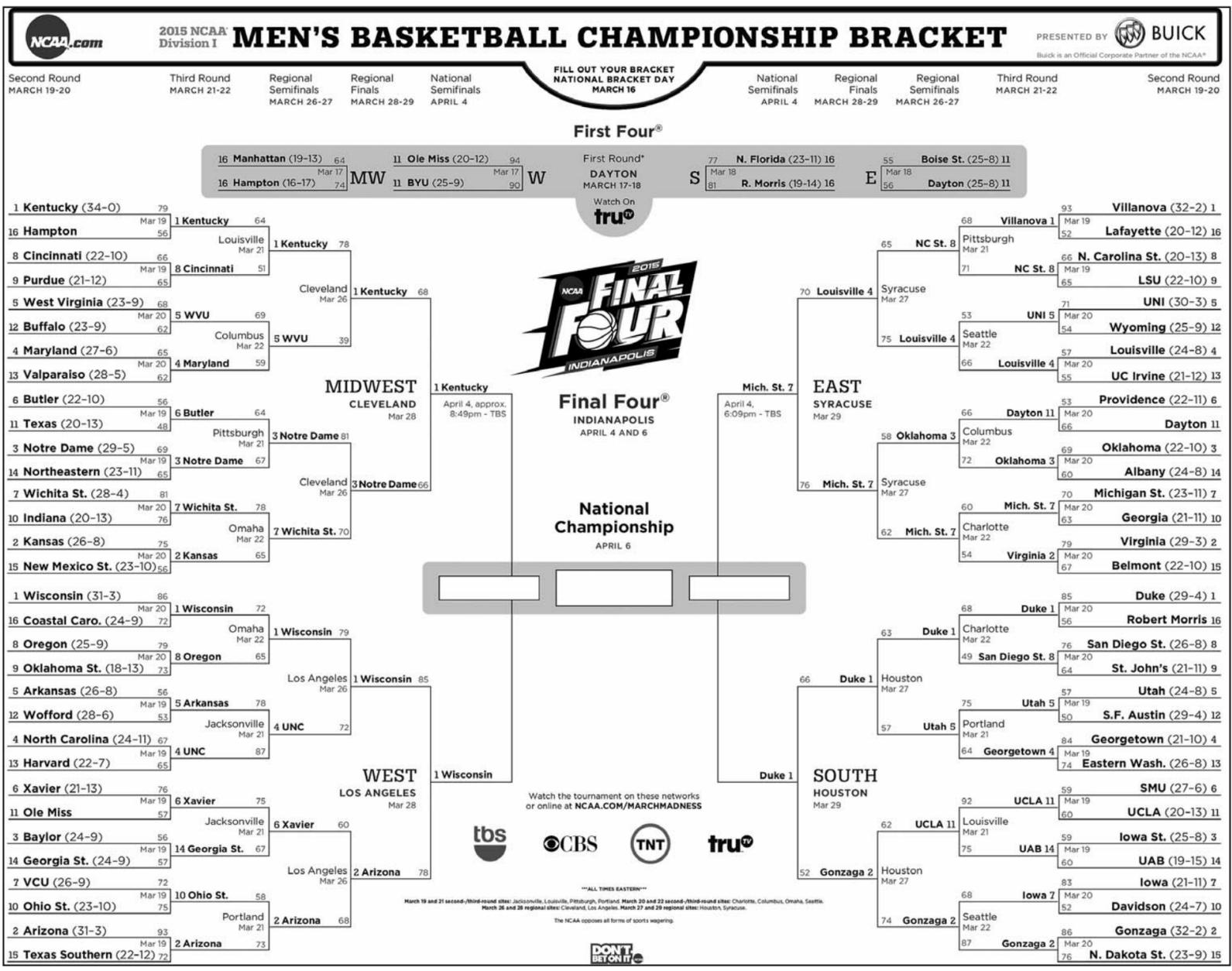
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Sports **Manhattan Free Press - Thursday, April 2, 2015** **8A**



Three No. 1 seeds in the Final Four

By JIM O'CONNELL
AP Basketball Writer

If you liked the look of last year's Final Four, you will love the 2015 edition.

One game — Kentucky vs. Wisconsin — is not only a matchup of two No. 1 seeds, it's a replay of last year's semifinal won by Kentucky, 74-73.

Seventh-seeded Michigan State will face Duke, a four-time national champion led by coach Mike Krzyzewski, who is in his 12th Final Four, tying the legendary John Wooden.

It is the fifth time at least three No. 1 seeds reached the Final Four. The only top-seed sweep was in 2008.

This is the third straight year one conference has had two teams in the Final Four with Wisconsin and Michigan State coming from the Big Ten. The Southeastern Conference did it last year with Kentucky and Florida and the Big East had Louisville and Syracuse in 2013.

The end of the tournament will have plenty to watch, from Kentucky's unbeaten streak to a matchup of some of the game's top coaches. Here's a peek at what to look for in Indianapolis:

MEETING AGAIN: No team has attracted the attention that Kentucky has. The Wildcats (38-0) are two wins away from becoming the first undefeated national champion since Indiana in 1976.

Kentucky survived its toughest test of the tournament in the regional semifinals with a 68-66 victory over Notre Dame that came down to the final possession.

"We figured out a way to win it. We've had other tests, but we have a will to win," Wildcats coach John Calipari said.

Now they get to face Wisconsin, which like Kentucky, is making its second straight Final Four appearance.

Last year's national semifinal came down to a big jumper by Aaron Harrison with 5.7 seconds left.

"That loss left a sour taste in our mouth, so we wanted to get back," Wisconsin's Sam Dekker said of the loss to Kentucky. "As a team we set some goals of what we wanted to do, and now we're two games away from our last goal."

COACHING ROYALTY: Tying UCLA's Wooden puts Krzyzewski one

appearance ahead of Dean Smith, who made 11 trips to the Final Four. Coach K is tied with Adolph Rupp for second in titles won with four.

"I'm in this moment. I've been so lucky to be at Duke for 35 years and in the ACC, and the great players we've had and my past is not important right now," Krzyzewski said.

"My present is incredibly important and just being with these kids and sharing this moment and this Final Four, I'm so happy. I'm so happy for them and to be with them. ... I love my team. I love my team. They are a pleasure to be with, and as a result they're taking me to Indy, which is kind of neat."

All the coaches except Wisconsin's Bo Ryan, who made his Final Four debut last year at age 66, have won a national championship. Michigan State's Tom Izzo won it all in 2000, while John Calipari took the title with Kentucky in 2012.

SPARTY PARTY: Of the four teams headed to Indianapolis, only Michigan State didn't have an impressive regular season. The Spartans had 11 losses, four more than the other three teams combined. They were 18th in the AP's preseason poll and were out of the rankings for most of the season, getting back in the final poll at No. 23.

But relying on coach Tom Izzo's trademark offensive rebounding and team defense, Michigan State made the improbable run to the Final Four.

"I'd like to tell you that I thought five different times this year that we were good enough to get to a Final Four, but I'd be lying to you," Izzo said, adding this was the best of his seven regional final victories. The team didn't want to be a group that didn't make it, and that was a "battle cry" all year long, Izzo said.

UNBEATEN TEAMS: Kentucky is the first undefeated team to reach the Final Four since UNLV in 1991. The Runnin' Rebels lost in the national semifinals to

Duke, which went on to win the first of consecutive championships.

Indiana State was the last team to do it before UNLV, in 1979 when the Sycamores, led by Larry Bird, lost in the championship game to Michigan State and Magic Johnson.

BIG WINNERS: The combined record for the four teams of 133-18 ranks as the fifth-highest winning percentage ever (.881). The 2008 Final Four of Kansas, Memphis, North Carolina and UCLA hold the record for the best winning percentage since the field expanded to 64 teams in 1985. The four entered with a 143-9 mark, a .941 winning percentage.

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