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Vol. 24 Number 5

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, July 2, 2015

The Confederate Flag

(This is an Editorial that ran in the Derby Daily Reporter in 1998 and picked up by the Associated Press. It became a Court Case "the student drawing the flag not the editorial and went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court where it was determined the Confederate Flag was a racist symbol.)

The Daily Reporter
Derby, Kansas

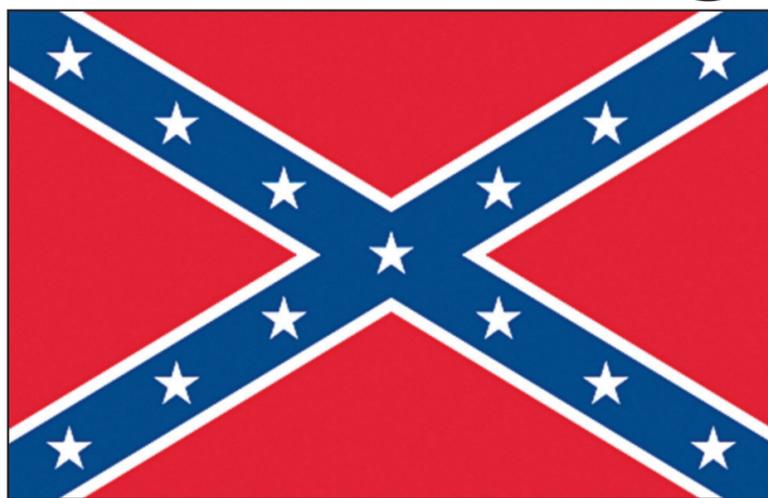
By Jon A. Brake

Thursday April 16, 1998

In The United States, citizens are free to burn the American Flag. It is called Freedom of Speech. In Derby (Ks.) a student cannot draw the Confederate Flag. If they do, they are expelled. It is called racial harassment or intimidation.

Yesterday, a 13-year old student drew the flag from memory. It was given to a teacher by another student and the 13-year old was expelled for three days.

The Confederate flag is not a symbol of hatred. It was a flag used during a bloody war. Many men fought and died for the



(Designed by William Porcher Miles, the chairman of the Flag and Seal committee, a now-popular variant of the Confederate flag was rejected as the national flag in 1861. It was instead adopted as a battle flag by the Army of Northern Virginia under General Robert E. Lee. Despite never having historically represented the CSA as a country nor officially recognized as one of the national flags, it is commonly referred to as "the Confederate Flag" and has become a widely recognized symbol of the American south.[31] It is also known as the rebel flag, Dixie flag, and Southern cross and is often incorrectly referred to as the "Stars and Bars" (From Wikipedia)

Confederate Flag. It is a part of history.

Fighting men and women today are told they are fighting for their country and their flag. All of the armed forces use the American Flag to motivate. It is a symbol of pride.

The same was true 130 years ago. Men fought for their country, their state and their flag. Many stories have been written about the heroics of men protecting the flag. The flag was used on the battlefield as a point to rally to. If the flag

bearer went down, another took his place.

The school systems are teaching acceptance. Why can they not accept the fact the Confederate Flag is only a symbol of fallen men and a fallen nation.

King v. Burwell Decision Doesn't Change That Obamacare Remains Unworkable, Unaffordable and Unpopular

Today the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the administration to allow Obamacare subsidies to flow through HealthCare.gov. This is a disappointment for the rule of law and for the states that have fought to keep some of Obamacare's flawed policies out of their states.

While the administration and Obamacare supporters attempt to convince the American people that it is now smooth sailing for Obamacare, nothing could be further from the truth.

Despite the decision, the problems with Obamacare are real and not getting better. The law's flawed foundation continues to make Obamacare unworkable, unaffordable and unpopular.

As my colleague Ed Haismaier skillfully points out, "The complexity and cascade of adverse effects are the inescapable byproducts of major flaws in the legislation's basic design." For instance, the complexity of the tax credits has resulted in two-thirds of those receiving subsidies, having to repay some portion of the subsidies they received, according to H&R Block.

Nothing in the court's ruling will change this moving forward. Each year individuals wishing to claim a subsidy will have to estimate their income

for the year in advance. Any miscalculation, specifically underestimating their income, necessitates a repayment to the IRS.

Today, a majority of the Supreme Court chose to overlook the clear language of the statute. As Justice Antonin Scalia noted in his dissent it is "quite absurd" that Congress meant to allow subsidies in the exchange established by the federal government when it expressly limited those subsidies to state-run exchanges. This flawed ruling allows the administration to continue making the law, rather than enforcing it.

The law continues to be unaffordable for everyday Americans. Obamacare's costly insurance regulations have made coverage more expensive. The Supreme Court's decision to allow the subsidies to flow through HealthCare.gov only helps a few million people pay for coverage leaving millions more facing higher, not lower, health care costs.

Even now, double digit rate increases are being submitted for 2016. These trends fuel the mounting budgetary pressures facing the law, as my colleagues Robert Moffit and Pat Knudsen have well documented.

Kansas Earns "D" In "Policing for Profit" Report

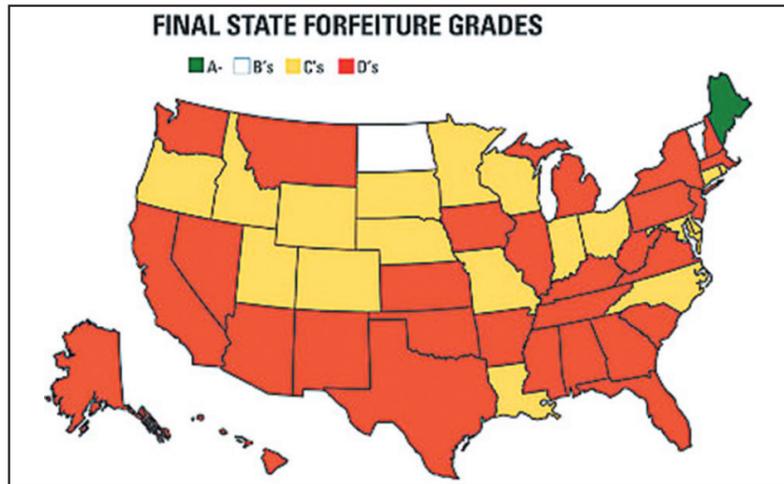
John E. Kramer
Institute for Justice

Arlington, Va.—It's called policing for profit and it's happening all across America. And Kansas has some of the worst laws in the nation for encouraging this abuse.

Under a practice called "civil forfeiture," police and prosecutors' offices seize private property—often without ever charging the owners with a crime, much less convicting them of one—then keep or sell what they've taken and use the profits to fund their budgets. And considering law enforcement officials in most states don't report the value of what they collect or how that bounty is spent, the issue raises serious questions about both government transparency and accountability.

Under state and federal civil asset forfeiture laws, law enforcement agencies can seize and keep property suspected of involvement in criminal activity. Unlike criminal asset forfeiture, however, with civil forfeiture, a property owner need not be found guilty of a crime—or even charged—to permanently lose her cash, car, home or other property.

According to the Institute for Justice—whose fight against eminent domain abuse raised that issue to national prominence—civil asset forfeiture is one of the worst abuses of property rights in our nation today. The Institute for Justice



today released a first-of-its-kind national study on civil forfeiture abuse. The report—Policing for Profit: The Abuse of Civil Asset Forfeiture (<http://www.ij.org/PolicingForProfitPDF>)—is the most comprehensive national study to examine the use and abuse of civil asset forfeiture and the first study to grade the civil forfeiture laws of all 50 states and the federal government. The report finds, not surprisingly, that by giving law enforcement a direct financial incentive in pursuing forfeitures and stacking the legal deck against property owners, most state and federal laws encourage policing for profit rather than seeking the neutral administration of justice.

Laws Stacked Against Property Owners

The report demonstrates that legal procedures make civil forfeiture relatively easy for most governments and difficult for many property owners to fight. The vast majority of states and the federal government use a standard of proof—what is needed to successfully prosecute a forfeiture action—lower than the "beyond a reasonable doubt" standard required to prove an individual was guilty of the criminal activity that supposedly justified the taking of his property. Given that situation, it is not surprising that upwards of 80 percent of forfeitures at the federal level occur absent a prosecution.

"Americans are supposed to be innocent until proven guilty, but civil forfeiture turns that principle on its head," said Institute for Justice Senior Attorney Scott Bullock, a co-author of the report. "With civil forfeiture, your property is guilty until you prove it innocent."

Grading Forfeiture Laws and How Government Evades Them

In Policing for Profit, IJ grades each state on its forfeiture laws and other measures of abuse. Only three states (Maine, North Dakota and Vermont) earned a grade of B or better.

Federal forfeiture law makes the problem worse with so-

called "equitable sharing." Under these arrangements, state officials can hand over forfeiture prosecutions to the federal government and then receive up to 80 percent of the proceeds—even when state law bans or limits the profit incentive. Equitable sharing payments to states have nearly doubled from 2000 to 2008, from a little more than \$200 million to \$400 million.

Policing for Profit was co-authored by IJ's Scott Bullock and criminal justice researchers Drs. Marian Williams and Jefferson Holcomb of Appalachian State University and Tomislav Kovandzic of the University of Texas at Dallas. The university professors examined equitable sharing data and found clear evidence that law enforcement is acting in pursuit of profit. When state laws make forfeiture harder and less profitable, state and local law enforcement engages in more equitable sharing to circumvent the state laws.

Kansas' Law & Practices Kansas earned among the worst grades in the nation for its civil forfeiture laws according to IJ's rankings. Kansas civil forfeiture laws place an excessive burden on property owners while also providing a strong profit incentive for law enforcement agencies. The government need only show by a preponderance of the evidence that the property meets the forfeiture definition. Once

that burden is met, a property owner bears the burden of showing that his interest in the property is not forfeitable. Moreover, Kansas law enforcement keeps 100 percent of the proceeds from the sale of forfeited property after paying reasonable attorney's fees. Finally, even though Kansas requires that forfeiture data be collected, the government did not respond to requests for the information for this report. For analysis of Kansas' ranking, visit: <http://www.ij.org/PolicingForProfit/KS>.

To end policing for profit, the Institute for Justice recommends that, first, law enforcement should be required to convict people before taking their property. Law enforcement agencies could still prosecute criminals and forfeit their ill-gotten possessions—but the rights of innocent property owners would be protected. Second, police and prosecutors shouldn't be paid on commission. To end the perverse profit incentive, forfeiture revenue must be placed in a neutral fund, like a state's general fund. It should also be tracked and reported so law enforcement is held publicly accountable. Finally, equitable sharing must be abolished to ensure that when states act to limit forfeiture abuse, law enforcement cannot evade the new rules and continue pocketing forfeiture money.

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Riley County Minutes Cost Taxpayers \$700 Per Month

Riley County Commission Minutes June 22, 2015

8:30 AM Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
1. Public Comments

Hanson on behalf of REACH presented the Employee of the Month Award to Michelle Markvicka of the Riley County Health Department.

J. Wilson said she received the memo from Holeman returning the Extension Council Budget.

Boyd stated that with the financial situation in the current State, we cannot fund the proposed Extension budget as presented. Boyd said the Board would like for Extension to reduce the budget. Boyd said the Board needs Extension and other organizations to put pressure on the legislature.

B. Wilson and Wells agreed. Volanti presented the 2015 Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for May is .80% and a brief history since 2011.

Commission Comments

2. Business Meeting
3. Accept Kevin Wagner's resignation and appoint Fran Willbrant as Sherman Township Treasurer

Move to accept Kevin Wagner's resignation and appoint Fran Willbrant as Sherman Township Treasurer.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson
4. LEC South Elevator Improvement Project Bid Recommendation

Move to approve the bid and award the contract to Thyssenkrupp Elevator Corporation in the amount of \$47,750.00.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson
Review Minutes

5. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Jun 18, 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
6. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Special Meeting - Jun 18, 2015 6:30 PM

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

7. Tentative Agenda Press Conference Topics

8. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM Larry Couchman, EMS Director

9. EMS Operational Information

Couchman discussed the EMS pay practices and technicians compensation.

Couchman discussed the Ascension Symphony Project for all of their hospitals.

Couchman said there are two proposed pay practices, which will have a significant impact on EMS personnel. Couchman said they have asked for an exemption from the proposed pay practice changes for EMS personnel. Couchman said they have not had a response on the exemption request. Couchman said if the exemptions are not granted the 2015 budget will increase \$110,000 and 2016 the budget will increase \$220,000.

9:20 AM Barry Michie, Riley County Genealogical Society

10. Permission to place a sign at 2005 Clafin

Michie asked for permission for the Riley County Genealogical Society to place a new sign on the County property at 2005 Clafin Road. Michie said the Genealogical Society Board has approved the placement of the sign. Michie stated it will replace the existing sign.

Michie said the Platt House is in need of some maintenance and repair.

Move to approve the City of Manhattan Minor Review Application for Historic Resources for the Genealogical Society.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

9:30 AM Press Conference

11. Tuttle Creek Lake condition - Brian McNulty (5-10 minutes)

McNulty presented information on the Kansas City District for the Corps of Engineers.

McNulty said the current rate of release will continue for the next week and be increased after that time period.

12. Country Stampede - Larry Couchman (5-10 minutes)

Couchman discussed the 20th year of Country Stampede. Couchman asked residents and Stampede attendees to please stay out of the

water. Couchman discussed safety precautions while attending the Stampede.

13. Public Notice - Gary Rosewicz (2-3 minutes)

Rosewicz reported a culvert replacement project is scheduled to begin on Pleasant Valley Road, Tuesday, June 23, 2015. The culverts will be replaced on the north and south sides of the intersection at Pillsbury Crossing Road. The road will be closed to the traveling public during working hours Tuesday and Wednesday. The project has been allotted two working days to complete. Adverse weather conditions may cause unexpected delays.

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.

Holeman discussed the legislation regarding the tax lid.

Boyd asked Vargo to research when an election could be held this year if the current tax lid provision in effect July 1, 2015 does not get overturned.

Vargo said he will research the matter and report back to the Board.

15. Pending County Projects County Counselor

10:30 AM Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director

16. Consider and approve the annual review of the Riley County Solid Waste Management Plan as completed by the Riley County Solid Waste Management Committee

Wedel presented the Solid Waste Management Plan Annual Review.

Move to approve the annual review of the Riley County Solid Waste Management Plan as completed by the Riley County Solid Waste Management Committee for forwarding to KDHE.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

10:40 AM Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

17. 2016 Budget Work

Session

Shepek presented the updated 2016 Budget Development Worksheet.

The Board agreed by consensus to keep the balance of \$169,092 in the Health Departments 2015 fund ending cash balance in their budget and to reduce the 2016 budget request by the \$169,092.

Shepek reported the new State Legislation indicates the Consumer Price Index limit used for the 2016 tax lid will be the last years average which is 1.6%.

Shepek asked if the Board would consider deciding the 2016 COLA for Riley County Employees and appropriations request.

Boyd suggested a 1.5% COLA for 2016 as he believes with the new tax lid legislation, employees may not get raises for some time.

Boyd asked the

Commissioners if they can agree to a 1.6% increase in total expenditures for the 2016 budget.

Wells and Wilson agreed. Boyd suggested increasing the budget stabilization amount significantly from the current 5% to 10%.

Boyd said he believes we should support public services to include RCPD and EMS.

The Board agreed by consensus to approve the RCPD and EMS appropriations and budgets as presented.

The Board asked Holeman to draft a letter to Ascension requesting an exemption for the EMS employees for a change in the pay practices.

Boyd suggested cuts to many

of the appropriation requests.

Wells said he would not fund any new appropriation requests.

Wilson stated as important and communicating with the State legislature, organizations can request private funding.

The Board agreed by consensus to continue the 2016 Budget Work Session on Thursday.

11:50 AM Adjournment

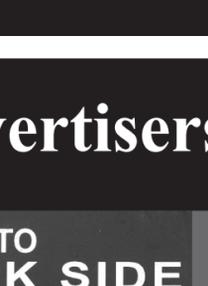
18. Move to adjourn after the Intergovernmental Luncheon.

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John Roberts Rewrites Obamacare Yet Again

By Ilya Shapiro
CATO Institute

"If we give the phrase 'the State that established the Exchange' its most natural meaning, there would be no 'qualified individuals' on Federal Exchanges." You'd think that I pulled that phrase from Justice Scalia's dissenting opinion in today's big Obamacare ruling—it makes clear that Congress said what it meant in the ACA, giving states the incentive to create exchanges by making their citizens eligible for tax credits if they do—but you'd be wrong.

It comes from the pen of Chief Justice Roberts, who admits, as he did three years ago in the individual-mandate case, that those challenging the administration are correct on the law. Nevertheless, again as he did before, Roberts contorts himself to eviscerate that "natural meaning" and rewrite Congress's inartfully concocted scheme, this time such that "exchange established by the state" means "any old exchange." Scalia rightly calls this novel interpretation "absurd."

Of course, Roberts explains his transmogrification by finding it "implausible that Congress meant the Act to operate in this manner," to deny subsidies to millions of people as part of legislation intended to expand coverage. But it's hardly implausible to think that legislation that still says that states "shall" set up exchanges—the drafters forgot to fix this bit after lawyers pointed out that Congress can't command states to do anything—would effectively give states an offer nobody thought they'd refuse. It was supposed to be a win-win: states rather than the federal government would run health care exchanges (yay federalism!) and all those who need subsidies to afford Obamacare policies would get them (yay universal healthcare!).

But a funny thing happened on the way to utopia, and only 14 states (plus D.C.) took that too-tempting offer, perhaps having been burned too many times before by the regulations that accompany any pots of "free" federal money. And that's why we ended up with King v. Burwell: Obamacare the reality doesn't accomplish Obamacare the dream. That may not be the absolutely, 100-percent correct reading of the Affordable Care Act. But it's nothing if not plausible.

That should've been the end of the story: the clear text of the statute produces a plausible result, so courts should enforce that "natural meaning." Alas, as Justice Scalia put it, "normal rules of interpretation seem always to yield to the overriding principle of the present Court: The Affordable Care Act must be saved."

The best that can be said about today's ruling is that it explicitly disclaimed any reliance on so-called Chevron deference, the idea that courts should almost always defer to executive-agency interpretations of statutes—including on questions of their own authority. That pernicious bit of 1984 jurisprudence has enabled the administrative state to explode in the last three decades and, had Roberts relied on it, would really have allowed the executive branch to legislate without any real limit. Instead, again like three years ago, we have a horrendous bit of word play that violates all applicable canons of statutory interpretation to preserve the operation of a unpopular program that has done untold damage to the economy and health care system.

No, instead of allowing agencies to rewrite the law, the Supreme Court today gave itself that power. We might as well call the law at issue RobertsCare.

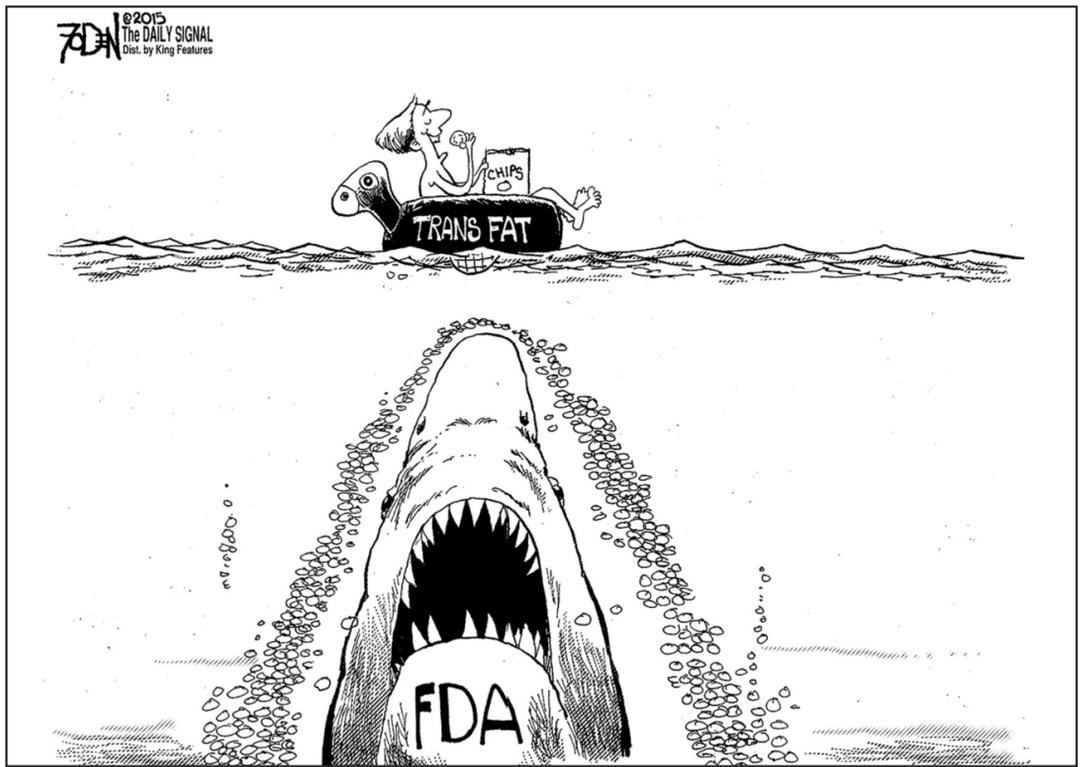
Meeting academic, vocational needs of students a tall order for Kansas schools:

Lawrence Journal-World
Some interesting and, perhaps, unsurprising ideas were expressed during a local listening session with the state's new commissioner of education.

In preparation for his new job, Randy Watson has participated in a number of listening sessions across the state to gather feedback on K-12 education issues. Some were general sessions and several were organized by local chambers of commerce, which added a spe-

cific business perspective to the discussions.

One of those sessions was organized by the Lawrence chamber of commerce last week. During the discussion, some employers expressed the need for schools to do more to help students develop basic job skills such as punctuality and a strong work ethic. This has been a common theme for many years among employers, who simply want to find workers who are responsible and



ready to learn.

The employers also cited problem solving, adaptability and communications skills as areas in which many recent grads seem to be lacking. These are skills that will be needed by all high school graduates whether they are seeking jobs right after high school or pursuing additional vocational training or a four-year degree. These young people can expect to change careers several times during their working lives and need the basic skills to manage those changes.

Watson said he has heard similar comments from employers in other parts of the state and said it pointed to a need to place a greater emphasis on vocational-technical education that can lead students to good jobs without a four-year degree. Efforts like the Lawrence school district's new College and Career Center and the new Peaslee Technical Training Center are aimed directly at meeting that need.

However, meeting the need to help students develop job skills while also meeting all the

academic needs of college-bound students can be a difficult balancing act for public schools. Schools currently are geared to teach things they can measure, like math and reading skills. Teaching youngsters the importance of working hard and showing up on time is harder to measure.

More than ever, schools also are being asked to teach a host of personal and social skills that once were most often learned in a family setting. At the same time, Kansas schools are asked to be academically

challenging to the next generation of top researchers and scientists while also meeting the needs of future technicians and craftsmen.

It's a tall order that often doesn't receive the respect and state support that it deserves. It's good that the new education commissioner is listening to people across the state. Hopefully, he will be able to use what he hears to build an even stronger system of K-12 education in Kansas.



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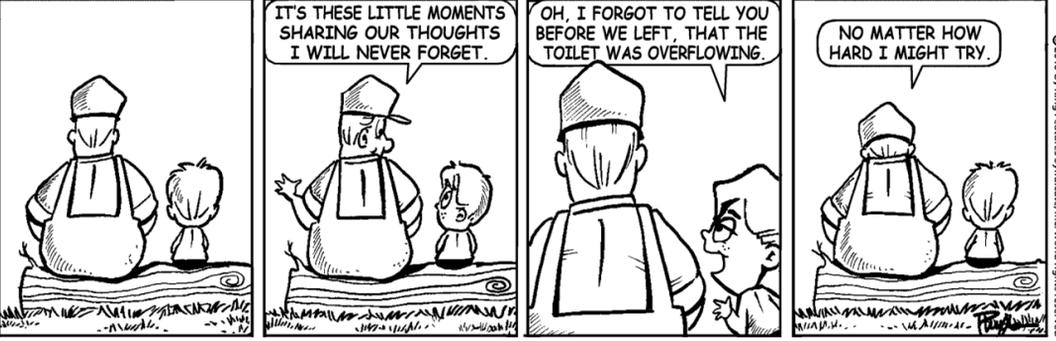
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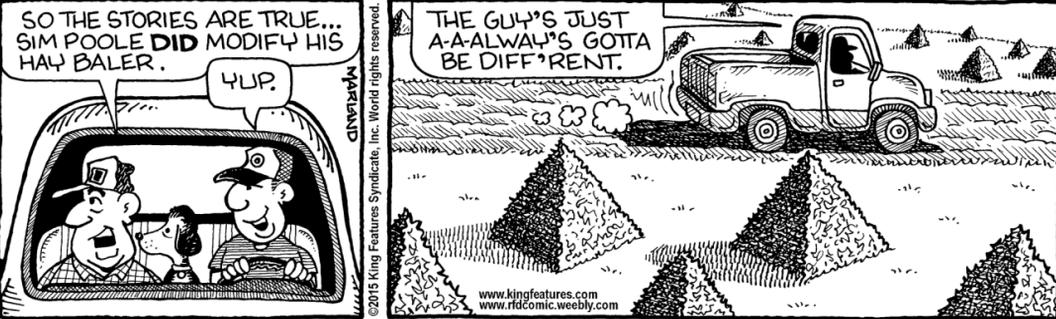
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



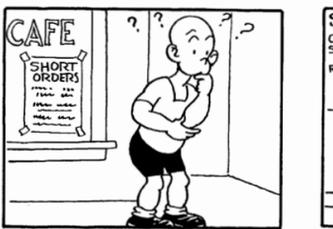
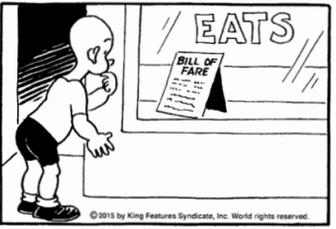
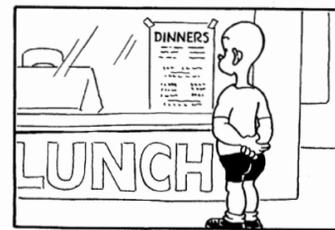
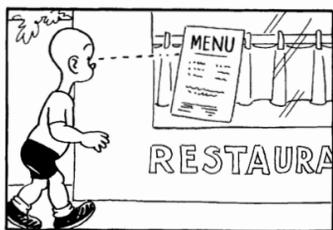
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

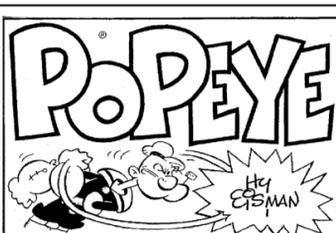


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Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

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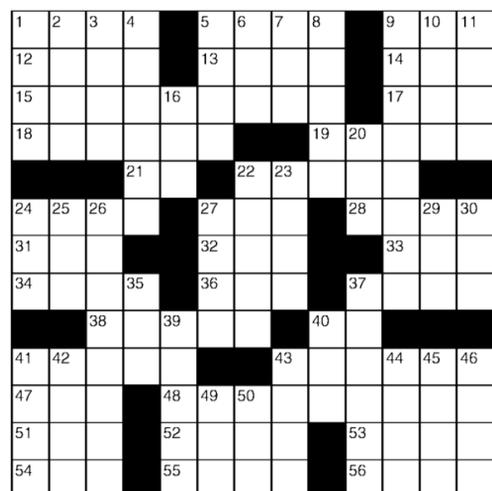
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 - 5 Brat's stocking stuffer
 - 9 Hollywood trickery (Abbr.)
 - 12 Upper palate
 - 13 Formerly
 - 14 Bygone
 - 15 Caved in
 - 17 See 41-Across
 - 18 Sly
 - 19 Big winds
 - 21 Cellist Yo-Yo —
 - 22 Michelangelo masterpiece
 - 24 Wear a rut in the rug
 - 27 Shack
 - 28 TV's talking horse
 - 31 Pair
 - 32 Exist
 - 33 Mess up
 - 34 Partner
 - 36 Doctrine
 - 37 6/6/44
 - 38 Tureen
- DOWN**
- 1 Curved paths
 - 2 Continue
 - 3 Portrayal
 - 4 Blazing
 - 5 Mimic
 - 6 Switch positions
 - 7 Expert
 - 8 Sill
 - 9 Apprehended
 - 10 Merriment
 - 11 Mid-month
- 16 Alias abbr.
 - 20 \$ dispenser
 - 22 Prize money
 - 23 Couple, in a gossip column
 - 24 School org.
 - 25 Piercing tool
 - 26 Crashed
 - 27 Greet
 - 29 Historic period
 - 30 Parched
 - 35 Tibetan bovine
 - 37 Olympic Frisbee?
 - 39 Transfer
 - 40 "Gosh!"
 - 41 Stay away from
 - 42 Sit for a shot
 - 43 Stage presentation
 - 44 Italian volcano
 - 45 "Bill & — Excellent Adventure"
 - 46 Fusses
 - 49 Tramcar load
 - 50 Tyler or Ullmann



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Answers on page 6



Greek Chicken Pizza

Enjoy this cheesy chicken pizza made with Pillsbury® refrigerated classic pizza crust that is ready in 30 minutes - perfect if you love Greek cuisine.

Ingredients

- 1 can (13.8 oz) Pillsbury™ refrigerated classic pizza crust
- 1 can (8 oz) pizza sauce
- 1 1/2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese (6 oz)
- 2 cups cubed cooked chicken
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced red onion
- 1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese (2 oz)
- 1/4 cup chopped kalamata olives
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh or 1 teaspoon dried oregano leaves

Directions

- 1 Heat oven to 425°F. Spray large cookie sheet with cooking spray. Unroll dough on cookie sheet; starting at center, press dough into 13x9-inch rectangle.
- 2 Spread pizza sauce over dough to within 1/2 inch of edges. Top with remaining ingredients.
- 3 Bake 12 to 15 minutes or until crust is golden brown and cheese is melted.

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Orchestra On The Oregon Trail



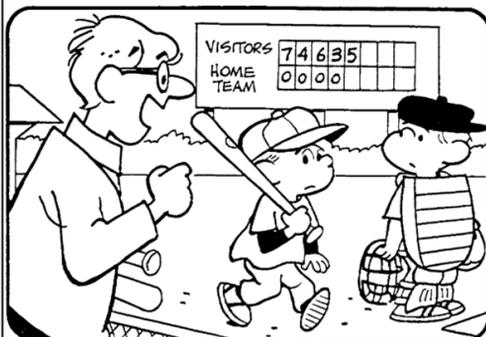
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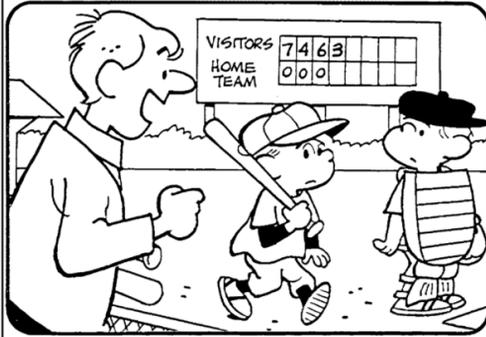


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Glasses are missing; 2. Arm is moved; 3. Bat is shorter; 4. Pants are shorter; 5. Scoreboard numbers are missing; 6. Mask is missing.

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



BY AL SCADUTO



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Catching up with Randall Evans

By Kelly McHugh
K-State Athletics

It hasn't taken Randall Evans long to get used to life in the pros.

The former Wildcat cornerback (2010-14) was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles in the sixth round, No. 196 overall, of this year's NFL Draft, and he has since been living in Philadelphia making a living doing what he loves most: playing football.

"Things are going really well," said Evans over the phone earlier this week. "I'm enjoying the city and I'm enjoying the team. The coaching staff here and everything this program brings to the table, it's very similar to K-State. It believes in all the goals that Coach (Bill) Snyder taught us. That goes a long way."

Competing on an entirely new level has been an adjustment, but Evans credits his smooth transition to the many things he learned while at K-State.

"K-State prepared me a lot," said Evans. "Through everything we did, through Coach Snyder and the coaching staff, we learned a certain respect level. We always had manners, we took care of the little things and we always said thank you. We were always respectful, even in just putting your stuff away and not making a mess. It was all those little things we learned that added up at the end of the day."

"And also, hard work, that's the No. 1 thing K-State taught us," he continued. "Coach Snyder taught us how to be better people both on and off the field. Off the field, people are looking at us now. A lot of people might try to get us in trouble, but K-State taught us how to avoid those situations, and on the field, I feel very comfortable putting in that hard work and sticking to the 16 Goals."

"I would say the talent level here is the biggest difference," he began. "Everyone is good in the NFL. You have to be on your A-game every day, every play. Also, most of my day is all football, whether it's practice, lifting, meetings or studying the game."

Along with learning how to compete at an entirely new level, Evans also said learning the Eagles' bigger, thicker and more intense playbook has also been a challenge.

But tackling challenges is nothing the Miami, Florida, native isn't already used to.

Evans began his collegiate football career as a walk-on at



Randall Evans (15) in last year's UTEP game. (Photo by Ben Brake)

K-State in 2010 and worked his way to the top. After redshirting his first season, he went on to become a 31-game starter for the Wildcats and earned First Team All-Big 12 accolades his senior season after recording 64 tackles (4.5 for loss). He led K-State with four interceptions and 14 defended passes - marks that ranked fourth and sixth in the Big 12 Conference, respectively.

Voted a player representative for the 2014 season, Evans was looked to as a team leader and finished his career helping the Wildcats go 38-14 over the past four years, including a Big 12-best 27-9 conference record.

Walking on and earning a spot wasn't easy, but it taught Evans a thing or two about hard work, and those lessons are ones he won't soon forget.

"Walking on, that experience helped me a lot," explained Evans. "I feel blessed to be here right now, but I have to keep that walk-on mentality because I know it will take me a long way. I can't be complacent in what I do and what I achieve. I go back to that walk-on mentality often; I look back at where I started. You can't forget the struggle - it made me into who I am today."

LOOKING BACK AT DRAFT DAY

Evans recalls the day he was drafted to the Eagles as, "the best day of his life."

At home in Miami and surrounded by family and friends, Evans became a Philadelphia Eagle on May 2, 2015.

"It's something I dreamed of," said Evans of hearing his name called in the draft. "Every kid dreams of it. It was a dream come true because not everyone gets that moment. I felt

very blessed that they called my name on that stage; you can't ask for anything more. That's always going to be one of the best things that has happened to me in these 23 years of my life."

Projected as a seventh round pick or undrafted free agent by NFL.com, his sixth round selection came as a breath of fresh air during a day filled with waiting.

"It was definitely nerve-racking because I didn't know what was going to happen," said Evans of the day he was drafted. "So I went and worked out that morning to release all that stress. I didn't want to sit in front of the TV all nervous and wonder what was going to happen next, but once I did start watching it, I put it in God's hands and, of course, it all worked out."

Since he was drafted, the past two months have been filled with football, but the Philadelphia Eagles' organization, Evans said, has been a great fit, and he's excited to see where this new journey takes him.

Finally, when asked if he had any special message to K-Staters, Evans didn't hesitate to answer.

"I'd just like to say I miss my K-State family, my teammates, my coaching staff and the fans. I miss all of them and I hope to come back and visit soon," he said. "I love K-State; I miss it a lot. I do miss college, but at the end of the day, the next level is even better. I graduated in December, so right now it's all football, and I'm doing what I've wanted to do since I was a kid."

Iowa State expanding stadium to 61,000

By LUKE MEREDITH
AP Sports Writer

AMES, Iowa (AP) — One of the many reasons cited for Iowa State's lack of success in football was a stadium experience that often fell flat.

That shouldn't be much of an excuse much longer.

The Cyclones are in the final stages of a major renovation to the stadium's south end zone, part of a \$60 million expansion of Jack Trice Stadium that is set to be completed in late August.

It's arguably the most ambitious renovation at the 40-year-old stadium, which will soon be the third-largest in the Big 12 with a capacity of 61,000. Iowa State opens its season Sept. 5 when it hosts Northern Iowa in front of what should be the biggest crowd in school history.

"The south end zone project is something that's been discussed for 25 years," athletic director Chris Jorgensen said. "So to finally see where we're less than 100 days away from seeing it in action, everybody is

really excited about that."

The stadium's original design offered 1970s-style functionality. Adjoining double-decked grandstands were surrounded by a sea of parking lots perfectly positioned for tailgating.

But the place has always lacked an aesthetic charm so common with other college football stadiums.

The Cyclones are hoping this project will fix that.

The centerpiece of the new end zone will be a two-story club space, replacing a set of metal bleachers put in nearly 15 years ago. The facility will feature a glass-encased upper level with views of the field and multiple bars, accessible only to the 3,000 fans that purchase club seats.

Iowa State is hoping the club's facade will be a much cleaner look for both fans and the general public, since the road that borders the stadium serves as a de facto entrance for

many heading to campus as well.

Once the end zone renovation is completed, Iowa State will remodel the parking lots behind it to further enhance the look of the stadium. Plans for that project have yet to be finalized.

The Cyclones are also putting in a new video board behind the south end zone, connecting the east and west grandstands with a new concourse and installing permanent seating on each side. Iowa State is also installing new ribbon boards in each grandstand.

The end zone project will effectively close the south side of the stadium, which should help lock in some of the noise that has routinely drifted out of the stadium.

The north end zone, which houses Iowa State's main athletic building, will remain largely open.

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