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Turn the job of determining how state aid to public schools is distributed over to the State Board of Education

TOPEKA, Kansas — Two Republican lawmakers are suggesting that the Kansas Legislature turn the job of determining how state aid to public schools is distributed over to the State Board of Education.

Reps. Gene Suellentrop of Wichita and Marvin Kleeb of Overland Park raised the idea during a House Appropriations Committee hearing on a school funding plan from the panel's chairman.

The 10-member board would then face the burden of making sure the money is distributed fairly.

The plan is designed to bring the state into compliance with a Kansas Supreme Court order last month saying have been unfairly shorted on their state aid.

The plan would boost overall state spending on schools by nearly \$39 million for the 2016-17 school year while shifting dollars among districts. Seventy-nine would still lose funds.

	PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE <i>Proficient</i>		
	Grade 4	Grade 8	Grade 12
CIVICS	27% 2010	23% 2014	24% 2010
ECONOMICS	—	—	42% 2012
GEOGRAPHY	21% 2010	27% 2014	20% 2010
MATHEMATICS	40% 2015	33% 2015	26% 2013
READING	36% 2015	34% 2015	38% 2013
SCIENCE	—	32% 2011	—
U.S. HISTORY	20% 2010	18% 2014	12% 2010
WRITING	—	27% 2011	27% 2011

Educations National Average is not that good. (The Nations Report Card)

Two School Battle For State Funding

TOPEKA, Kansas — The Kansas Legislature's debate over school funding is turning into a battle between the two communities with the most clout.

The dispute was evident Tuesday during a House Appropriations Committee hearing on plan for complying with a ruling last month from the Kansas Supreme Court.

The court said the state was shorting poor school districts on their aid. The plan redistributes

aid to help them and boosts total spending by nearly \$39 million to soften the blow for potential losers.

But the Blue Valley, Shawnee Mission and Olathe districts in Johnson County would lose a total of \$4.6 million in aid during the 2016-17 school year. Johnson County is the state's most populous county.

Meanwhile, the Wichita district would gain more than \$9.6 million. Wichita is the state's largest city.

Funding per student

Barns-Hanover	\$15,715
Blue Valley - Randolph	\$16,799
Clay Center	\$15,028
Clifton-Clyde	\$12,379
Derby	\$10,864
Geary County	\$14,110
Hutchinson	\$12,449
Manhattan	\$12,803
Newton	\$13,715
Onaga	\$14,835
Republic County	\$13,546
Riley County	\$13,262
Rock Creek	\$11,564
Salina	\$16,314
Valley Heights	\$14,122
State Average	\$12,960

An effort to repeal national educational standards in math and reading is moving forward in the Kansas

TOPEKA, Kansas — After years of controversy surrounding the Common Core standards for reading and math education, their Kansas supporters fear momentum is building this year for repeal.

The House Education Committee approved a bill earlier this month that would prohibit school districts from aligning any materials, tests or programs to Common Core or any other nationwide curriculum.

"Since last year it had no steam or momentum, and then all of a sudden it was passed out of the committee and on the agenda for a House debate," said Brad Neuenswander, the state's deputy education commissioner. "It's a concern of ours because it still has some legs."

The standards were developed by a group of states with the goal of making sure students were ready for jobs or higher education after graduation. Common Core is optional for the states, and the Kansas State Board of Education adopted them in 2010. The standards call for a classroom focus on analytical skills instead of rote memorization.

The standards have caused criticism from the start, with opponents calling them a national mandate and arguing the curriculum is a one-size-fits-all approach to education. Supporters say they encourage rigorous standards throughout the state.

One sign the bill may be being prepped for more serious consideration is that House

Understanding Common Core

See how Common Core teaches how to add 9+6. A short video:

<http://thefederalist.com/2014/09/24/top-ten-things-parents-hate-about-common-core/>

leadership sent it back to the education committee to have one of the most-opposed aspects — provisions that would have banned Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams — removed. State board member Deena Horst said she sees that as a sign that the bill could be gaining traction, and it worries her.

House Education Committee chairman Rep. Ron Highland,

a Republican from Wamego, said he plans to take the bill up again this session. He thinks it has a good chance of passing if other lawmakers have heard as many complaints as he has.

Senate Majority Leader Terry Bruce, a Nickerson Republican, said he'd like to see the Senate debate the bill.

Neuenswander said the education department supports Common Core because it al-

lows students to think critically and apply the skills that they've learned to real life situations.

Neuenswander points to \$100 million spent annually on computers, textbooks and testing that will have been wasted if the standards are repealed. What's more, he said, it's not clear how the state could create new standards that aren't similar to Common Core.

William Hall, superintendent of Salina schools, said repeal would set his schools back several years. Students seem more engaged in classes and Common Core is helping reduce the achievement gap, he said.

"By increasing the rigor, we will get our low-income students moving up to the level that they need to be," Hall said.

But some parents and teach-

ers think not all students should be expected to learn at the same rigorous level. Satanta art teacher Jeffrey Locke said the standards squash creativity. His students have completed a handful of art projects this year because they are busy completing worksheets, he said.

Teresa Selensky, a mother from Grainfield, said her son had a similar experience in math, which had been his favorite subject before the school began using Common Core. She was alarmed when he began spending several hours a night completing homework that required him to explain each of his answers.

"The writers of this (curriculum) did not consider how differently kids think," Selensky said.

Dick Edwards



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The Kansas House is expected to debate a bill later this month that would require parents' consent prior to teaching sex education to students

TOPEKA, Kansas — Denise Mead panicked when she learned that her ninth-grade daughter, one of her seven children, was learning about safe sex in her Topeka High School health class, concerned that the curriculum would conflict with her Catholic values.

"We are teaching our children that sex is a beautiful thing created by God," Mead said.

Under a bill that the House Education Committee approved last month, Kansas public schools would be required to get parents' consent before students could enroll in sex education courses. The "opt-in" bill also would allow parents to review curriculum before enrolling their children in the classes. However, critics worry that the Kansas bill could undo historic declines in teen birth and pregnancy rates.

Committee Chairman Ron

Highland, a Republican from Wamego, said the bill likely would pass if it reaches a floor vote. Rachel Whitten, spokeswoman for House Speaker Ray Merrick, said the bill will be debated in the full House later this month.

Most of the 286 school districts in the state currently have an "opt-out" policy, in which children are automatically enrolled in sex education courses unless their parents exempt them. Each school district chooses its own curriculum for fifth through 12th grade that encourages students to abstain from having sex but also promotes using protection if students are sexually active.

Mead teaches her children that sex should be saved until marriage and that it cements a man and woman's relationship. She said she only received material about puberty and the dangers of drug use when she

requested a copy of the curriculum from her daughter's health teacher.

Although her daughter assured her that the instructor only briefly discussed sex, Mead said she plans on removing her younger children from sex education classes in the future.

"When people don't give you the information that they're covering, it seems like they're hiding something," Mead said.

Shawnee Republican Sen. Mary Pilcher Cook sponsored the bill after a parent in her area saw a photo that his then 13-year-old daughter took of a sexual education poster in Hocker Grove Middle School. The photo, which listed acts including grinding and anal sex, sparked a national controversy over schools' role in teaching children about sexuality.

Bill Albert, the chief program officer of the National Cam-

paign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, said teen births in Kansas are down 50 percent since peaking in the 1990s.

He worries that the 40 percent of Kansas high school students who are sexually active will be robbed of information that helps them prevent pregnancies if the measure passes.

"Kansas has seen nothing but declines in teen pregnancy year after year. Why would you want to tinker with success?" Albert said.

Another Kansas bill under consideration in the House that would prevent school boards from using national sexual education curriculum seeks to give more control to local educators.

But Rick Doll, superintendent of Lawrence Public Schools, said that a prohibition on multi-state standards would have the opposite effect. The Lawrence school district, which has an opt-out policy, adopted national sexual education standards in 2014 with the aim of better preparing students for puberty.

"They would be taking the

control away from local decision makers," he said about the measure to prevent national standards. He also worries that an opt-in policy would exclude students who forgot to give their parents the form.

"If you believe that reading instruction is important for kids, then you wouldn't ask them to opt-in," Doll said. "I don't think opt-in should follow with human sexuality either."

A Wichita lawmaker has introduced a bill that would roll back a tax exemption for business owners in order to reduce sales tax on groceries

TOPEKA, Kansas — A Wichita legislator is trying to persuade his colleagues to roll back a tax exemption for some Kansas business owners in order to reduce the state's sales tax on groceries.

Republican Rep. Mark Hutton has proposed a bill that would do away with an income tax break for owners of limited liability companies and use the extra revenue to lower the state's sales tax on groceries, The Wichita Eagle reported (<http://bit.ly/1TIXTOE>). The bill is scheduled for a hearing Tuesday before the House Taxation Committee.

The Kansas Department of Revenue estimated that removing the tax exemption would raise about \$261 million. That would allow the state to lower the sales tax on groceries to between 2.6 percent and 2.9 percent. Kansas currently taxes

groceries at 6.5 percent, the second highest in the nation, and that can increase to as much as 10 percent with local sales taxes on unprepared food.

Hutton led a coalition last year that tried to remove the same income tax exemption. That effort stalled when Gov. Sam Brownback, who pushed the exemption as a way to attract businesses to Kansas, threatened to veto any bill that contained the provision. The Republican governor has made similar comments this session.

Hutton said his bill is designed to start a conversation about the food taxes and the special exemption for some businesses. He acknowledged using the revenue from ending the LLC tax break to lower grocery sales taxes wouldn't address the state's financial problems, but he said it would make the state's tax system fair

to everyone and could spur economic growth.

As the owner of a construction firm, Hutton benefits from the business income tax exemption while his employees pay state income tax on their wages. He said he's spoken to several business owners who are "uneasy with this arrangement and believe that is kind of a slight to our employees."

"One of the arguments with the whole business-income exemption was that it put more money back into the economy. This is money that business owners had that they could then spend on their businesses," Hutton said. "I believe discounting the sales tax (on groceries) and putting that money back into everybody's pocket will actually be a more direct path for those funds to get back into our economy."

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- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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Kansas Profile: Marieta Hauser – Woman leader

By Ron Wilson, director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University.

Orlando, Florida. We are at the national meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation, where four candidates are vying to become president of this national organization. It is a highly contested election, and the four candidates are speaking at a candidate's forum. Would you believe, the person who is moderating this forum is a woman from rural Kansas? It's today's Kansas Profile.

Marieta Hauser is the woman who moderated this candidate forum for the national Farm Bureau organization. She has risen through the ranks to be a key leader in agriculture.

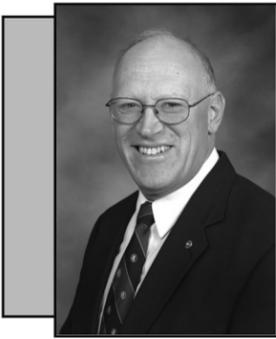
Marieta was born and raised in Grant County in southwest Kansas. Grant County is located 30 miles from Oklahoma to the south and borders the mountain time zone on the west. Marieta's ancestors were

in ranching and then got into the grain elevator business in Grant County.

Marieta met Tom Hauser in school and ultimately married him. They moved to Tom's farm where today they raise dryland crops of wheat and milo. Tom and Marieta had three sons and a daughter. After the kids were older, Marieta took the job as director of the Grant County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism, where she serves today.

Marieta enjoys promoting her home county. "Our historic Adobe Museum is outstanding, and Wagon Bed Springs has rich history from its location along the Santa Fe Trail," Marieta said. "Mountain man Jedediah Smith is said to have died here in an Indian battle," she said.

Each year, Marieta promotes the annual Grant County Home Products Dinner (as we have previously profiled) which serves all-local foods to more than a thousand people. Wow.



Ron Wilson
director of the Huck
Boyd National
Institute for Rural
Development at Kansas
State University

Years ago, Marieta had gotten involved in the Farm Bureau organization. Shortly after moving to the farm, her husband was invited to join the county Farm Bureau board and Marieta joined the county women's committee.

"As a service to members, we were going to offer a first aid class," Marieta said. "Since I was certified in first aid and CPR, I agreed to help." She did so well that she was asked to chair the committee the next year, and her involvement with Kansas Farm Bureau grew from

there.

"I loved the fact that it was a grass-roots organization and members can really get involved and make a difference," Marieta said. She got so involved at the county level that she had the opportunity to serve on the state resolutions committee. Then a vacancy opened up for the chairmanship of the statewide Women's Leadership Committee.

Marieta ran for the office and was elected. That position entails serving on the Kansas Farm Bureau Board of Direc-

tors.

Then a vacancy opened on the national level – the American Farm Bureau Federation Women's Leadership Committee. Again, Marieta ran for the office and won. Her duties involve working with the national Farm Bureau organization to promote agriculture and enhance leadership.

In 2015, the longtime president of the American Farm Bureau Federation announced he was going to retire. Four men from different regions of the nation threw their hats in the ring in hopes of being elected as his successor.

The Women's Leadership Committee recognized that the voting delegates needed more information about these candidates. They proposed to the American Farm Bureau Federation that they would host a candidate's forum where all four candidates would speak side-by-side at the same time, and the organization agreed. When the national convention

was held in Orlando, the Women's Leadership Committee hosted the event. And when that committee needed someone impartial to moderate the event, the person to whom they turned was Marieta Hauser.

"I had moderated some candidate forums locally, so I agreed to take it on," Marieta said. On that national stage, she led the discussion with the candidates. It was an exciting moment for someone from the rural community of Ulysses, Kansas, population 5,857 people. Now, that's rural.

"I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had through Farm Bureau to broaden my horizons," Marieta said.

It's time to leave Orlando, where Marieta Hauser is making a difference by using her skills to help inform the voters and enhance her organization. She has grown from the grass-roots into national leadership.

For the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development.

100 years ago, Brandeis faced longest confirmation

By MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — No one endured a longer time between nomination and confirmation as a Supreme Court justice than Louis Brandeis, the famed lawyer, political reformer and first Jewish justice.

That could change soon if Republicans maintain their resolve not to confirm or even consider anyone President Barack Obama nominates to the Supreme Court to take the place of Justice Antonin Scalia, who died in February.

But the 100th anniversary of Brandeis' nomination offers a propitious moment to look back on his choice by President Woodrow Wilson and the vociferous opposition of political conservatives and business leaders that followed, some of it laced with anti-Semitism.

One hundred twenty-five days elapsed between Brandeis' nomination and confirmation, including 19 days of hearings by a special Senate subcommittee in which Brandeis opponents "kept trying to find something against him and they couldn't," said Brandeis biographer Melvin Urofsky.

Wilson, a Democrat, was facing re-election in 1916, but he had a Senate controlled by his own party. The high court opening then also resulted from the untimely death of a Republican appointee, Justice Joseph Lamar, in January. (Lamar himself was a Democrat from Georgia and a childhood friend of Wilson, though he had been nominated by President William Howard Taft.)

The choice of Brandeis was both an effort to shore up Wilson's re-election chances and a reward to a loyal ally, Urofsky said. But the opposition to the nomination was loud and enduring.

"He was seen as a radical. He had taken on J.P. Morgan, favored labor unions and opposed big business. He was disliked by a lot of people," said Urofsky, author of the 2009 book "Louis Brandeis: A Life."

As a lawyer, Brandeis was not an especially gracious winner, Urofsky said. "He fought to win and he did it without kid gloves on," he said.

Urofsky acknowledges that anti-Jewish sentiment played a role in the opposition to Brandeis, but concludes that it was relatively limited.

Among the critics of Brandeis' nomination was Taft, the former president and future chief justice. "He is a muckraker, an emotionalist for his own purposes, a socialist, prompted by jealousy, a hypocrite, a man who has certain high ideals in his imagination, but who is utterly unscrupulous, in method in reaching them, a man of infinite cunning ... of great tenacity of purpose, and, in my judgment, of much power for evil," Taft wrote at the time.

Their relationship was better when Taft joined the court in the early 1920s.

The hearings didn't undermine the case for Brandeis, allowing Democrats to stick together in the face of united Republican opposition. He was approved on party-line votes by the subcommittee and the Senate Judiciary Committee. Brandeis was confirmed 47-22, with three Republicans voting for him and one Democrat in opposition.

Wilson went on to win re-election and Brandeis stayed on the court until Feb. 13, 1939 — 77 years to the day before Scalia died.

The court's official mourning period for Scalia is coming to an end, a month after his

death, but his "presence will always be felt in this courtroom," Chief Justice John Roberts told a crowd that filled the marble courtroom for an evening lecture last week.

The flag outside the court, at half-staff since Scalia's death, will be raised to the top of the flagpole on Monday. Black bunting that has draped his chair, his place on the bench and the courtroom itself will be removed.

"At that time we will also rearrange the bench chairs," Roberts said in introducing a lecture on one of his predecessors, John Marshall.

Scalia's place to the right of Roberts will be taken by Justice Anthony Kennedy, now the longest-serving member of the court, Roberts said. On Roberts' left will be Justice Clarence Thomas. All the other justices also will change seats and move to the other side of the bench from where they had been sitting in a choreography shaped by seniority.

Perhaps most significantly, Scalia's chair will be removed from the bench, leaving only eight.

"There will not be a chair on the far left, which is where the new member will sit," Roberts said. Left unsaid, of course, was how long it might take for a new justice to be confirmed.

One thing that hasn't changed yet is the number of cases the court has agreed to hear in its new term. There are just five cases set for the court's return in October and none has been added since Scalia's death.

The court may be putting off taking on new cases that could divide the justices on ideological grounds until there are nine of them and the likelihood of tie votes recedes.

But it's not clear the court

has passed up any obvious cases because of Scalia's death. Also, the court has a bit of breathing room because of the odd hearing schedule in October.

The Columbus Day holiday almost always reduces argument days from six to five in October. But this year, there will be only three days on which the justices hear cases

because the Jewish holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur occur during the first two weeks of the month. Instead of the usual load of 10 cases, only six will be argued.



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Will Failed Obamacare Co-Ops Repay Taxpayers' Money?

Leah Jessen
Heritage Foundation

Top Obamacare officials told a Senate panel Thursday that they can't guarantee the government ever will recover billions of taxpayer dollars loaned to health insurance "co-ops."

"Today's hearing is about the families who lost their health care plans, it's about the taxpayers who were swindled, it's about the bureaucrats who mismanaged this program, and it's about the local governments who had to cut budgets from firefighters and schools to make up for Washington's failures," Sen. Ben Sasse, R-Neb., said.

During the hearing, held by the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations within the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, senators paid particular attention to the 12 of 23 Obamacare co-ops that have failed.

The Affordable Care Act, popularly known as Obamacare, created consumer oriented and operated plans (co-ops) as a public option for health care. The Department of Health and Human Services awarded \$2.4 billion of taxpayer money in the form of startup and solvency loans to the 23 nonprofit co-ops.

Kevin Counihan, CEO of HealthCare.gov, the govern-

ment's online health insurance exchange set up by Obamacare, also testified during the hearing. Counihan, deputy director of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which oversees Obamacare, told the subcommittee:

The team at CMS has the charge to specifically oversee the federal loans made to these startups with the goal of maximizing the return to taxpayer funds, supporting the co-ops so that consumers have access to uninterrupted, competitive insurance coverage, and providing information to state departments of insurance so they can make the best possible decisions about the future of the co-ops in their state.

When questioned, Andy Slavitt, acting administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, said it's "too early to say" whether co-ops will repay any of the taxpayer-backed loans.

"These failed co-ops were a costly experiment gone wrong, and real people got hurt," Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, said.

Portman added:

"Over the last nine months,

our subcommittee has carefully investigated these failures. We wanted to know whether HHS, when it played the role of investor, made good or bad decisions with taxpayer money. Unfortunately, what we found out is that a lot of bad decisions were made."

When co-ops collapsed, 740,000 residents of 14 states lost their health insurance provider. The 12 failed co-ops also received a total of \$1.2 billion in taxpayer dollars that they may never repay.

"The subcommittee obtained the failed co-ops' most recent financial statements, and those statements show that none of the failed co-ops have repaid a single dollar, not a single dollar [of] principal or interest, of the \$1.2 billion in federal loans they received," Portman said.

Portman presented a new report on the failure of the co-ops, released Thursday by the subcommittee's Republican staff, at the hearing.

>>>Warning Signs About Failed Co-Ops Ignored by Obama Administration, Senate Report Says

"In my view, it is unlikely they will pay any significant fraction back," Portman said.

"The latest statements show that the failed co-ops' non-loan liabilities exceed \$1.13 billion—which is 93 percent greater than their reported assets, including money they expect to receive. On top of that, they owe \$1.2 billion to the federal government. We should not hold our breath on repayment."

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Slavitt listed three "potential" sources of funds: claims still coming in, a series of receivables, and lawsuits and judgments with contractors and vendors.

Under questioning by Sasse, Slavitt said he could not guess what percentage the government expects to recover of the \$1.2 billion in taxpayer loans to the 12 failed co-ops.

"Obviously we don't expect 100 percent recovery or anything close to that, but we are expecting that between those sources and the strategies that they pursue, that there will be funds recovered for the taxpayers," Slavitt said.

"Very little, if any, of the \$1.24 billion in federal startup and solvency loans to establish those co-ops will be repaid, and at least several will be unable

to meet all of their obligations to policyholders and health care providers," Scott Harrington, professor and chairman of the Health Care Management Department at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, testified.

In 2014, the co-ops lost \$376 million and in 2015, more than \$1 billion.

"But despite getting regular reports that co-ops were hemorrhaging cash, HHS took essentially no corrective action for over a year," Portman said:

Worse, the department approved additional loan awards to three of the now-failed co-ops. This happened in 2014. This was despite clear warnings that these co-ops did not have reliable plans for turning things around.

CoOpportunity Health, which operated in Iowa and Nebraska, collapsed after one year in operation.

On Dec. 16, 2014, when people were signing up for 2015 coverage, the Iowa insurance commissioner placed CoOpportunity under a supervision order, Sasse said.

"One month later, in January

of last year, the Iowa insurance commissioner said that rehabilitation of CoOpportunity would be impossible and he sought a court order for liquidation."

Slavitt acknowledged that CoOpportunity should not have entered the 2015 market.

Sasse said: CoOpportunity owed millions of dollars to doctors and hospitals for claims for its enrollees that will not be repaid. To address the insurer collapse, the state of Nebraska has a guaranty fund that pays claims in the event of insurer collapse, such as CoOpportunity's.

The Nebraska Republican added:

To help pay for CoOpportunity's unpaid claims, insurers in Nebraska were assessed fees totaling about \$47 million last year alone. ... This means that my state will have much less revenue to pay for priorities like education, roads, firefighters, and other local government issues. Thus, Nebraskans are going to have to pay for the CoOpportunity failure again. First as individuals became uninsured, and now as taxpayers have to bail out CoOpportunity on top of the \$145 million that they as taxpayers made in federal loans to CoOpportunity.

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The 'Compassionate' Bullying of the Left

Erick Erickson
Heritage Foundation

Under the guise of compassion and caring, the Left attacks people like Baronelle Stuzman, a helpless grandmother who refused to provide flowers for a same-sex wedding from her flower shop, trying to force her to approve of that which she cannot in good conscience endorse.

All the while, it claims it is acting in the best interest of society, acting on behalf of all those poor same-sex couples who can't get flowers for their ceremonies—except that they can. They can even get flowers from Barronelle for anything other than a wedding. In spite of the lawsuits that happened after her refusal to sell the flowers, she says she still thinks of her former customer as a friend and would happily sell him flowers if he walked into her shop tomorrow. Meanwhile, both her former customer and the State of Washington are trying to take everything she has for not bowing at the altar of sexual sin.

But these radicals want to look like they care as they force their views on others. It's what bullies do. That way other people think better of them and they sleep better at night, assuaging any guilt they may feel for giving nightmares to genteel grandmothers. The progressives' compassionate bullying reminds me of the catchy slogan for "Monsters, Inc.," in the Disney Pixar film of the same name: "We scare because we care."

For example, the very people who support Planned Parenthood's butchering and selling of baby body parts also advanced the disaster of Obamacare because they care for children. The same people who insist that "The Vagina Monologues" be permitted on college campuses also set up "safe zones" to restrict free speech because students must be protected from harmful ideas—like marriage being between a man and a woman. They outlaw incandescent light bulbs so we can use only toxic mercury because they care about polar bears and penguins with happy feet.

Around the country, progressive bullies have attacked Christians for daring to put their faith ahead of the pet causes of those who feign compassion while destroying life-giving liberties. What we are seeing is a scorched-earth, take-no-prisoners approach as the wildfire burns across our land. It is not enough that Christians be quiet. Christians must be silenced and punished. Their faith cannot be respected. Legislation that ensures people are free to live and work according to their faith without fear of being punished by government must be stopped and decied as discrimination.

In Denmark, France, San Bernardino, and elsewhere, we have seen Islamic extremists take lives because of the Islamic extremists' beliefs. They do not want tolerance. They do not want pluralism. They do not want to show respect for the views of others. They will take life as revenge for being of-

fended. There will be no magnanimity. There will be no mercy. In taking life, the Islamic extremists want to create a public spectacle. They want not just revenge for perceived wrongs, but also to make others fear—and to think twice before doing the same. They want to silence others and drive them from the town square. They use death and violence to do it.

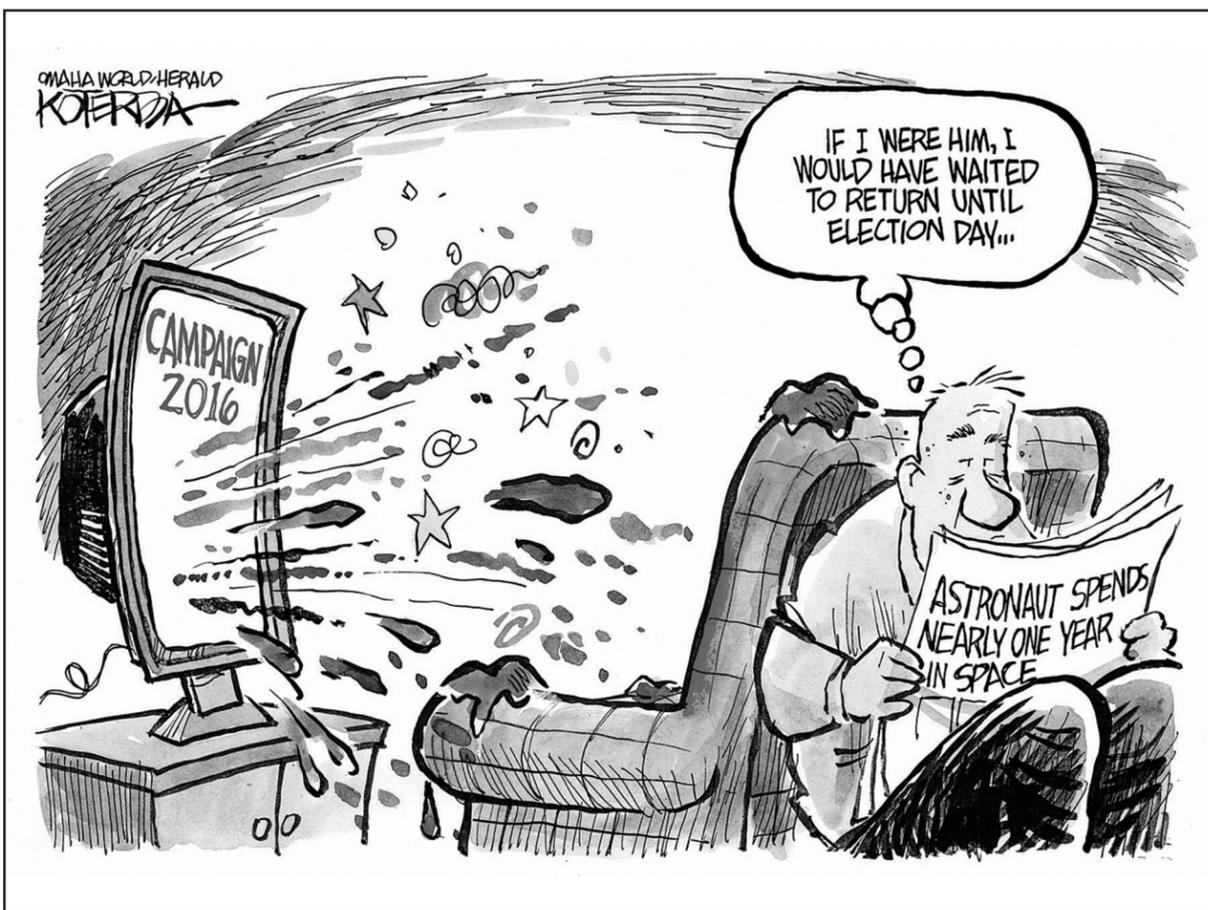
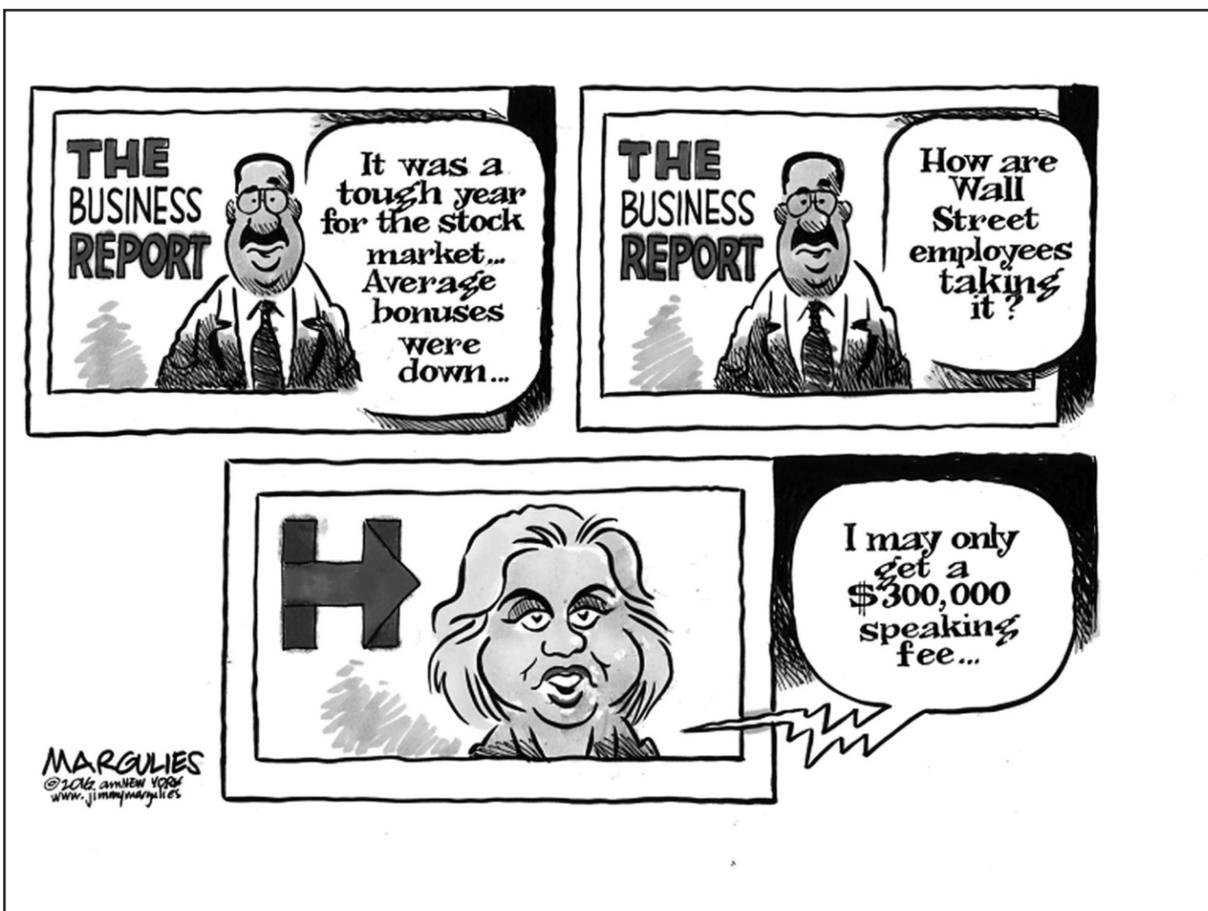
Thankfully, unlike the radical jihadists, progressive activists have not turned physically violent for the most part.

Instead, they are intent on compassionately crushing any who disagree with them. Unlike the Islamic jihadists, they will not kill, but they will destroy. They won't cut your head off, but they will destroy your reputation so that you are afraid to show your face in public. They won't burn down your home, but they'll take the homes, businesses, and life savings of any who defy them. They will use the tools of the state and mob action—fear and intimidation—to make it happen. They threaten, scare, and make public examples of those who disagree in order to send a message that dissent is hazardous to your emotional, mental, and financial health. There will be no magnanimity, and there will be no mercy. There will be no going down the street to another florist, baker, pharmacist, venue operator, or photographer. Any who defy them are labeled bigots and driven to the fringes of society.

They will viciously attack those who disagree with them because they tire of the debate, which they never wanted to begin with. They have no interest in explaining or defending their beliefs. They want victory and know the only way to get it is to silence, isolate, and destroy any who get in their way. The progressive activists who yell bigot at those who disagree with them are the jihadists of American culture. But unlike the jihadists—who don't care if everyone approves of their destructive ways—it's important to progressives that they appear to be kind as they mercilessly crucify you for your faith.

Crushing legal action and punitive lawsuits are one way the Left punishes those who refuse to recant their faith. Death threats and harassment are other tactics the Left employs to make you care.

That's what happened to Memories Pizza in Indiana after the state passed its own version of the federal Religious Freedom and Restoration Act (RFRA). A reporter in need of a story stuck a camera in the faces of Crystal O'Connor and her father, Kevin, owners of a small-town pizza shop. She asked them a hypothetical question—what would they do if a same-sex couple asked them to cater a wedding ceremony? The O'Connors said they would never deny anyone service on the basis of sexual orientation, but they would decline to sell pizzas for a same-sex wedding ceremony because of their religious beliefs. Key word: would.



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Usha Reddi
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Manhattan's

Mandatory Rental Inspection History

(Editor's Note: This is part of Memo given to the Manhattan City Commission by the Brad Claussen, Building Official.

Something that has never been said by the City Manager, City Staff or the City Attorney is that a Mandatory Rental Inspection Program is Unconstitutional.

Twenty-one Cities have been taken to court and all 21 cities have lost their case.)

Date: October 9, 2015
To: Ron Fehr, City Manager
From: Brad Claussen, Building Official
Subject: Mandatory Rental Inspection History
(In part - cut to fit space)

2008 to 2011

In 2008, as part of the Governing Body's goal setting session, staff was directed to present information on a possible residential rental licensing and inspection program. On July 22, 2008, a work session was held to discuss options for such a program. During that meeting the City Commission gave direction to staff to establish a citizen committee to assist with development of a formal recommendation for a program. On Sept. 16, 2008, the City Commission approved establishing the committee with specific positions representing several different organizations and entities.

Because the Commission had given direction to come back with a program recommendation, the committee was advised at the outset that its function was not to debate the merits of a program but to finalize a recommendation. The committee met numerous times throughout



The Manhattan City Commission knows that 21 Cities have been taken to court over Mandatory Rental Inspection and all 21 Cities have lost. Yet, the Manhattan City Commission will pass another Rental Inspection Program.

The State of Kansas needs a law that states "If a Commission or Council pass an ordinance that is Un-lawful, the Commission Members must pay the attorney fees.

the remainder of 2008 and into early 2009. On March 4, 2009 a public forum was held by the committee to accept input on the draft recommendations. The draft program was adjusted in response to the feedback received. On March 31, 2009 the draft ordinance comprised of two different options was presented to the Governing Body.

Following comments received at this work session, another work session was held on June 16, 2009 to further narrow down the ordinance options. On August 18, 2009 and Sept. 15, 2009 first and second readings occurred and the program was enacted.

Although the program officially went into effect in September of 2009, rental license applications had to be submitted by October 1, 2010 and inspections did not begin until January of 2011. The program, in brief, consisted of an initial onetime (unless not renewed on

time or property transferred) \$20 per unit registration fee and an inspection fee of \$65 per unit which was only due in the year that the unit was inspected. The program was set up for every unit to have an initial inspection within the first three years of the program and then the next scheduled inspection year would be based on the results of the first inspection. Units having no violations would not be inspected for 5 years, units having violations but correcting those in a timely manner would be inspected every three years and those that had violations but did not correct those in a timely manner would be inspected annually. Had the program been allowed to continue for long enough, it was envisioned that the units needing the most attention would be inspected more often than those that did not and would eventually pay a larger share of the fees.

On May 10, 2011, a work session was held at the direction of the City Commission to review the status of the program. Direction was given to staff at that meeting to prepare an ordinance to repeal the existing program but also expressed some willingness to consider a smaller program. In all, 11,714 rental units were registered and 1,304 rental units had been inspected at that point in

the program. On June 7, 2011, the City Commission approved first reading of an ordinance amending the rental program to allow for registration and licensing and a dramatically scaled back scope of inspections. However, ultimately the City Commission voted to repeal the program during second reading which occurred on July 19, 2011.

2012 to Present

Since the repeal of the mandatory rental licensing and inspection program, the city has been inspecting units much the same as previous to that program. That is, predominantly by tenant complaint with a very few owners volunteering for inspections. The registration and licensing database compiled during the mandatory program still exists but has not been updated since 2011 due to lack of staff available to maintain it. In addition, there is currently no ordinance requiring owners and managers to maintain registration and submit information.

Summary

As you can see from the above history, this subject has had a wide variety of input, proposals and discussion from many different groups and

staff. A registration process without inspection reached the closest point throughout the past years to consensus prior to the actual implementation of the licensing and inspection program in 2009 but even that only garnered lukewarm support of the commission at the time.

We currently have one full time inspector and one that is half time devoted to inspecting rental units on a tenant complaint, voluntary or referral (i.e. Ft. Riley off post housing, fire inspector, etc.) basis.

Since 2000 (other than during the mandatory program), we have averaged inspecting about 114 units per year with the one and one half inspector positions.

Keep in mind that these inspectors also enforce the city's nuisance and property maintenance ordinances which accounts for thousands of inspections annually. In addition, the fire inspection division of the Manhattan Fire Department resumed inspecting all three unit and above structures that we are aware of for fire code compliance in July of 2014. Previous to the mandatory rental licensing and inspection program this had been done since the mid 1980's.

I hope this memo has provided you with a general background of this issue in the City of Manhattan.

We have a considerable amount of information compiled over the years which I have used to create this history and which you are welcome to review if you would like. I would be glad to discuss any of this with you in more detail or answer any questions you may have.

City Gives Warranty Deed To Dreiling Real Estate

CITY COMMISSION AGENDA MEMO

FROM: Jason Hilgers, Deputy City Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 021616-B Executing a Special Warranty Deed and Releasing GTM/Dreiling Real Estate, LLC, of the Lease on Kretschmer Drive

BACKGROUND

Municipalities have the statutory authority to issue Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRBs) for the purpose of constructing and/or equipping facilities, which will enhance, promote, stimu-

late, and develop the general economic welfare and prosperity of the community.

Furthermore, interest earned from IRBs issued for certain purposes is exempt from Federal and State income taxes. Although the City is the issuer of the bonds, the City incurs no legal obligation to make payments on the bonds should the tenant become unable to make the payments. Should there be a default, the real or personal property reverts to the City, and the Trustee Bank would attempt

to sell or lease the property to reimburse the bondholders.

On May 2, 2006, the City Commission conducted a public hearing and passed a Resolution of Intent to issue up to \$28 million in IRBs to finance the costs of acquiring, constructing, expanding, and further equipping GTM's manufacturing facility on McCall Road. The City has issued IRB's for GTM Sportswear (GTM) on four separate occasions in 2006, 2008, 2009 and 2010 for a total amount expended of \$11,885,898.45.

On December 1, 2015, the City Commission issued the final \$1.7 million in IRB's per the Economic Development Agreement with GTM to build a warehouse adjacent to their operation on McCall Road. GTM also indicated they planned to sell their warehouse on Kretschmer Drive to US Engineering. As part of the real estate transaction, the abatement GTM receives from the City on Kretschmer Drive that had been in place since 2010 would expire with the transfer of ownership to US En-

gineering.

DISCUSSION

The City is in receipt of a letter from Dreiling Real Estate, LLC (Tenant) electing to exercise their option to purchase the 2010 series of IRB's (see attached).

Gilmore & Bell have created a resolution (attached) for the City to pass and generate a warranty deed to transfer the property to Dreiling Real Estate and release the current lease once the IRB's have been paid.

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Kansas rout K-State in Big Tournament 85-63

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - Not long ago, Kansas coach Bill Self had an official who calls games all over the country pay his team the ultimate compliment while simultaneously offering a somber warning.

"He said, 'When you're on, you're as good as anybody,'" Self recalled after watching his team dismantle Kansas State in the Big 12 Tournament. "And when you're off, you really fall off."

The top-ranked Jayhawks were decidedly on in their 85-63 quarterfinal victory Thursday.

Perry Ellis scored 21 points and Frank Mason III added 16 as the regular-season champions built a 45-30 halftime lead, then quickly stretched the advantage past 20. Kansas coasted the rest of the way to a semifinal matchup Friday night with No. 22 Baylor, which handled No. 23 Texas earlier in the day.

"They played at a very, very high level," Kansas State coach



Perry Ellis goes up for two of his 21 points against K-State.

Bruce Weber said.

The eighth-seeded Wildcats (17-16) were led by Justin Edwards, who hit five 3s and had

23 points. But the senior guard didn't get nearly as much help as he had in a first-round victory over Oklahoma State.

Wesley Iwundu and D.J. Johnson scored 10 apiece, but freshman forward Dean Wade - who had a career-high 20

against the Cowboys - was held to five points on 1-for-6 shooting. Fellow freshman Barry Brown was 1 of 8 from the field and managed only three points in 26 minutes.

"We came into the tournament and got a win right off the bat. Losing to the No. 1 team in the country, I don't think that's a bad loss in anyone's book," Edwards said.

Kansas State has never beaten Kansas in nine tries in the Big 12 Tournament.

The Jayhawks, potentially playing for the No. 1 overall seed in the NCAA Tournament, certainly looked the part before a heavily pro-Kansas crowd. They shot 57 percent from the field, had the edge in rebounding, assists and steals, and protected the ball so well Kansas State never made much of a run.

The few times the Wildcats mounted a charge, Ellis or Mason was there to answer it.

The biggest highlight may have come when Ellis soared for an alley-oop pass and slammed it down midway through the second half, sending the crowd in Sprint Center buzzing and giving Kansas a 55-37 lead.

Edwards kept trying to shoot Kansas State back in the game,

but the rest of the Wildcats looked spent from their game against the Cowboys down the stretch. Kansas merely had to protect the basketball in the final minutes to wrap up its 12th consecutive victory.

"There's no doubt it's a factor, we played a hard-fought game last night," Weber said. "It just seemed like we were a step behind everything. They got into transition, got some layups, starting feeling good, and then started to make shots. It made it tough on us, no doubt.

NIT HOPES

The Wildcats were 11-2 outside the league, the lone losses to North Carolina and Texas A&M, and Weber hopes that's enough to earn a spot in the NIT. "We had overtime losses, close losses - we just have to wait and see," he said. "I hope for the senior's sake, it would be a nice reward for them."

CHEICK CHECK

Kansas forward Cheick Diallo did not play after needing five stitches in his mouth following an incident in practice Wednesday. Diallo, a five-star recruit, has struggled to earn minutes behind the Jayhawks' bevy of veteran forwards. He hasn't scored more than two points in a game since January.

K-State Women Selected to Make 14th NCAA Appearance

MANHATTAN, Kan. - After exceeding preseason expectations in the Big 12, Kansas State women's basketball was rewarded with the program's 14th NCAA Tournament appearance in school history and the first since the 2011-12 season, during Monday night's NCAA Women's Basketball Selection Show on ESPN. This is the 13th postseason appearance for the Wildcats in the last 15 years.

The Wildcats (18-12, 8-10 Big 12) were chosen as a No. 9 seed in the Sioux Falls, South Dakota, regional and will be opposed by No. 8 seed George Washington (26-6, 13-3 Atlantic 10) on Friday, March 18 at 4 p.m., (CDT) in Columbia, South Carolina, at Colonial Life Arena. The game will be broadcast live on ESPN2 and on ESPN3.com. The contest will also be available on the K-State Sports Network and free live audio on kstatesports.com. The Colonials lead the all-time series with K-State, 1-0, a 69-45 decision on Dec. 19, 1995 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The winner of the Kansas State-George Washington game will play the winner of the No. 1 South Carolina-No. 16 Jacksonville matchup on Sunday, March 20. The top four seeds in the Sioux Falls regional are: No. 1 South Carolina (31-1), No. 2 Arizona State (25-6), No. 3 Ohio State (24-7) and No. 4 Syracuse (25-7).

Tickets for K-State's first round matchup with George Washington will be available Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m., by calling the K-State Ticket Office at (800) 221-CATS. Tickets are priced at \$33 for re-

served seats for all sessions, \$28 for baseline reserved and \$23 in general admission. Single session tickets are \$15 for the first round and \$12 for the second round. Tickets will be limited to K-State alumni, staff, season-ticket holders and students. All ticket orders will be distributed at Colonial Bank Arena will call.

Should K-State advance to play in the second round, all first round ticket orders will be duplicated for the game on Sunday, March 20.

K-State is 11-13 in its previous 13 NCAA Tournament bids. The Wildcats advanced to the second round of the 2012 NCAA Tournament in Bridgeport, Connecticut, as K-State entered the tournament as the No. 8 seed in the Kingston, Rhode Island, region. K-State defeated No. 9 seed Princeton in the first round before falling to No. 1 seed Connecticut in the second round.

Under second year head coach Jeff Mittie, Kansas State has tallied an 18-12 overall record, which surpassed last season's regular season win total of 17, and an 8-10 mark in the Big 12, which marked the most wins in league play since the 2011-12 season.

After being slated for a seventh-place finish by the Big 12 Conference coaches in the pre-season poll, K-State carded a sixth place finish in the conference standings. This is the second straight season under Mittie that K-State has improved its league win total from one season to the next.

On the floor this season,

Kansas State has been led by the junior All-Big 12 duo of Breanna Lewis and Kindred Wesemann.

During her career year, Lewis was selected by the league's coaches as an All-Big 12 First Team member and a Big 12 All-Defensive Team selection for the second straight season. Lewis became the first player in program history to register the combination of 500 or more points, 200 or more rebounds, 70 or more blocks and 45 or more steals in a season. She is the ninth player in program history with 500 or more points and 200 or more rebounds in a season. Nationally, Lewis is one of just two players in NCAA Division I (Breanna Stewart, Connecticut) this season to record these benchmarks.

The center from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has been one of the most dominant centers in the Big 12 this season. She leads the Wildcats in a number of statistical categories, including: points (501; 16.7 ppg), field goals made and attempted (216-of-390; .554), rebounds (224; 7.5 rpg) and double-doubles (7). Lewis ranks third in the Big 12 in scoring, fourth in field goal percentage, seventh in rebounding, third in blocked shots (74; 2.5 bpg) and fifth in double-doubles (7). Earlier this season, Lewis became the 39th player in program history to join the 1,000 career point club and is the 24th player to register 1,000 or more career points and 500 or more career rebounds.

Lewis helped anchor one of the Big 12's top defenses this season. She has been responsible for 51.0 percent of K-State's blocked shots and set the school

record for blocked shots in a two-year span with 171. Lewis has registered a combined 120 blocks and steals. She is one of two players in the Big 12 among the top-10 in both blocks and steals.

Wesemann garnered her first career league honor as she was selected by the league's coaches as an All-Big 12 Second Team honoree while achieving career season-highs in points (375; 12.5 ppg), field goals made (113), 3-point field goals made (82), free throws made and attempted (67-of-79; .848), assists (94; 3.4 apg) and steals (57; 1.9 spg). Her scoring average this season of 12.5 points per game is an increase of almost five points per game from her previous career-best of 8.0 points per game in the 2014-15 season.

The guard from Pleasant Hill, Missouri, has ranked as one of the Big 12 Conference's top 3-point shooters this season. Wesemann leads the Big 12 in 3-point field goals made (82) and 3-point field goals made per game (2.7), while ranks sixth in the league in 3-point field goal percentage (82-of-1203; .404).

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Kansas Wins Big 12 Men's Basketball Championship

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Bill Self still remembers the day Devonte Graham stepped foot on the Kansas campus, back when the point guard was trying to decide where he was going to play college basketball.

"I told him when he visited, 'You're going to win this place if you just come in and try hard,'" Self recalled with a smile. "His attitude is just a 10 and I think it's rubbed off on others."

His game has turned into a 10, too.

Graham matched a career-high with 27 points Saturday night, Wayne Selden Jr. added 21, and the top-ranked Jayhawks overcame a remarkable performance by West Virginia's Devin Williams for an 81-71 victory over the No. 9 Mountaineers in the Big 12 Championship title game.

Perry Ellis added 17 points for the Jayhawks (30-4), who almost certainly locked up the No. 1 overall seed for the NCAA Tournament by winning their 10th Big 12 postseason championship.

"I felt like we played well," said Graham, the game net hanging around his neck. "We just have to keep playing the way we've been playing. Play better. Keep the confidence we have. Keep this momentum going."

Kansas trailed the Mountaineers (26-8) at the break before seizing control, and it was Graham who made the difference. He hit five 3-pointers, was 10 of 10 from the foul line and had a four steals while helping his teammates through the Mountaineers' trademark pressure.

"I can't put it into words," Graham said. "It's a good feeling."

Williams finished with a career-best 31 points and 10 rebounds, but the junior forward was forced to carry the load by himself. Jevon Carter was held to four points after scoring 26 in a semifinal win over No. 6 Oklahoma, and leading scorer Jaysean Paige managed just six points while committing four turnovers.

"We came here to win a championship and we fell short," Paige still. "Time to go back to work."

With supporters and protesters of Republican presidential contender Donald Trump trading barbs just down the street, two teams intimately familiar with each other spent the first 20 minutes trading baskets.

Trading turnovers, too. They combined for 24 of those in the first half.

Williams was the difference-maker, scoring 18 points on 7-for-7 shooting. That helped the Mountaineers cover a 0-for-7



Devonte Graham (with ball) matched a career-high with 27 points Saturday night against West Virginia. (File Photo by Ben Brake)

performance from beyond the arc and forge a 33-32 halftime advantage.

It didn't stay that way for long.

With his infectious aura and devil-may-care attitude, Graham began to take over for the Jayhawks in the second half. He knocked down a 3-pointer

immediately out of the locker room, then curled in two more in quick succession to give Kansas a 51-39 lead with just under 15 minutes to go.

West Virginia's vaunted press, so effective early in the game, had been reduced to shreds.

Attrition and foul trouble also began to play a role. Williams appeared gassed in the closing minutes, and Carter and Dexter Miles Jr. had to play with four fouls apiece down the stretch.

The remarkable depth of the Jayhawks became apparent as Self kept sending wave after wave of long, talented players onto the floor. And no matter what combination he used, Kansas never seemed to get too far out of rhythm, holding the Mountaineers at bay in the closing minutes.

When the final buzzer sounded, the Jayhawks celebrated in a businesslike manner — as if they had known all along the outcome was inevitable. They shook hands with West Virginia, gathered together in front of the bench and patiently awaited their coronation as the league's best one more time.

"It probably was not the most artistic game, but both teams competed hard," Self said. "They had a guy that played unreal and we had a couple of guys that did as well, but it was a good game, and a game that was tough, and I'm certainly very proud of our team."



Perry Ellis (34) added 17 points for the Jayhawks (30-4). (File photo by Ben Brake)



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Jim Rose

A Blueprint for Balance: A Federal Budget for 2017

By The Heritage Foundation

The Blueprint for Balance provides detailed recommendations for the annual congressional budget. Congress needs to drive down spending – including through reform of entitlement programs – to a balanced budget, while maintaining a strong national defense, and without raising taxes.

While Congress cannot solve everything at once, it can and must take opportunities through the annual budget and appropriations process to make a down payment of putting the government's finances back in order. They can do this by immediately reducing discretionary spending and taking meaningful steps to reduce mandatory spending by reforming those programs.

The Blueprint:

Balances the budget while reducing taxes. The Blueprint reaches primary balance (i.e., without including interest of the debt) within the first year and eliminates deficits by 2023 without counting any benefits from growing the economy (that would result in balance even sooner). The budget stays in surplus while allowing the nation to begin reducing the national debt. It does this while completely eliminating over \$1.3 trillion in the tax revenues included in Obamacare.

Reforms Entitlement Programs. Entitlement spending is growing on autopilot, consuming more and more of the federal budget each year. Tens of trillions in unfunded obligations are threatening younger generations with massive tax increases and undue burdens of debt. This blueprint would: repeal Obamacare; modernize Medicare by transitioning to a premium-support system and making key reforms to meet demographic, fiscal, and structural challenges; cap the federal allotment for Medicaid and give states greater flexibility in designing benefits and administering the program; and make common sense reforms to Social Security to ensure seniors are protected from poverty in retirement while accounting for increased life expectancy and reducing the growth in benefits.

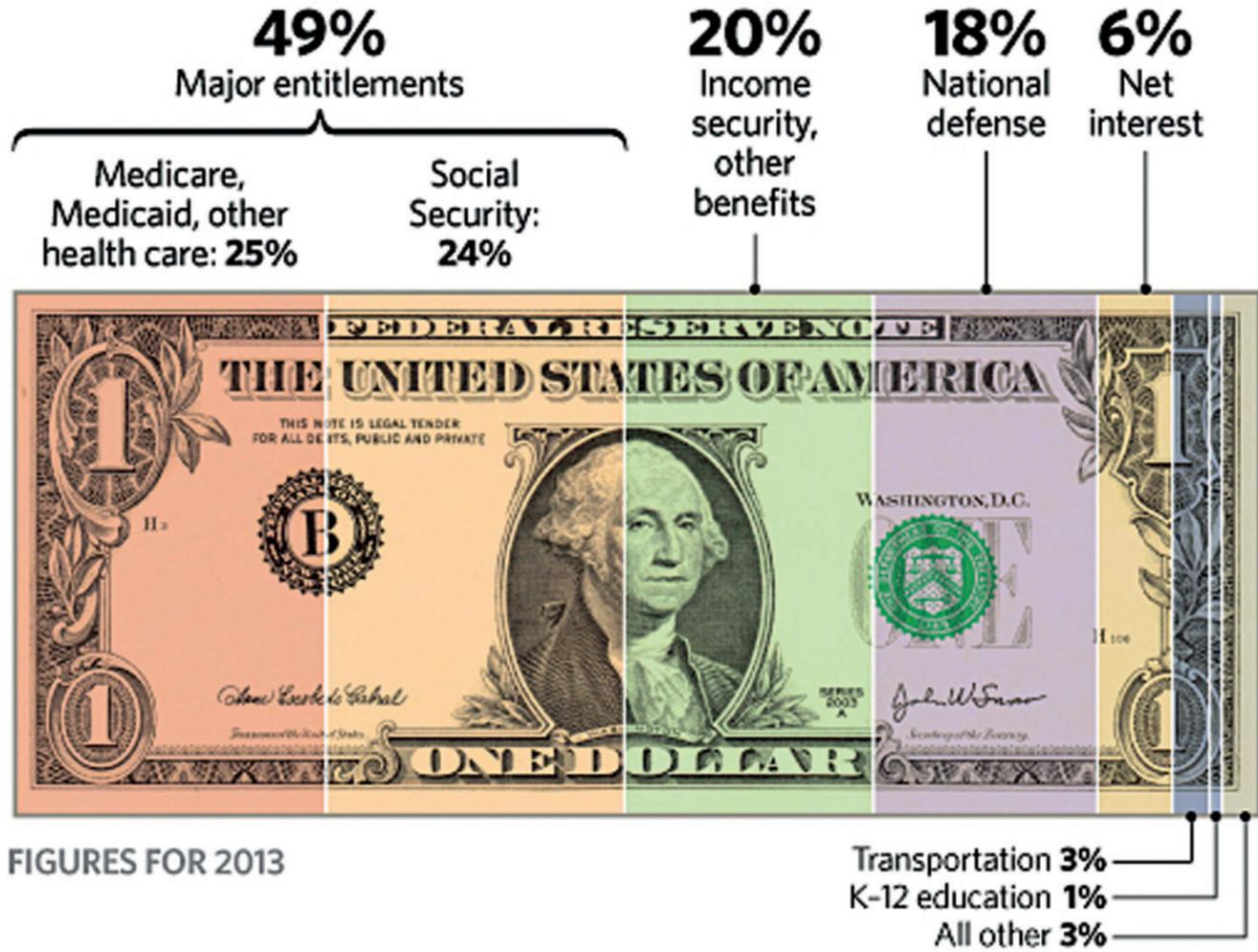
Reduces the National Debt. The Blueprint would reduce debt held by the public by \$9.3 trillion over the decade, when compared to current Congressional Budget Office projections. As a percentage of the economy, debt would fall from a projected 75.6% in 2016 to a more sustainable rate of 52.5% in 2026, and continue falling from there.

Responsibly Brings Spending Under Control. The federal government cannot continue to spend at a rate faster than the economy grows. Over the next decade, the Heritage budget would reduce the growth in spending to an average rate of 1.7% annually, well below the nearly 5% annual growth rate under CBO's baseline projection.

Reigns in Interest Spending. Net interest spending is projected to quadruple over the next decade if no action is taken. By 2024 the nation would be spending more on interest payments on the debt than on national defense. By stabilizing the debt, this budget reins in the cost of servicing the debt, freeing up resources for other national priorities.

Fully Funds National Defense. The Blueprint prioritizes

Where Did Every Dollar in Spending Go?



FIGURES FOR 2013

Notes: Income security includes federal employee retirement and disability, unemployment compensation, food and housing assistance, and other federal income security programs. Figures have been rounded. National defense includes overseas contingency operations. **Source:** U.S. Office of Management and Budget, *Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2015: Historical Tables*, 2014, pp. 156-157, Table 8.4, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/Historicals/> (accessed September 17, 2014).

Federal Spending by the Numbers 2014 heritage.org

national defense capabilities by moving resources from less critical domestic programs to funding the federal government's core constitutional role fully. With continued and rising tensions across all corners of the globe, fully funding national

defense must be a top priority. Provides the Framework for Budget Process Reform. The Blueprint takes immediate steps towards implementing change in the budget process. These include: enacting a statutory spending cap enforced by

sequestration to curb excessive spending growth; moving towards a balanced budget amendment to constrain future attempts at circumventing budget caps; eliminating the use of changes in mandatory programs (CHIMPs) as a tool

to evade discretionary spending limits; stopping spending on unauthorized programs and reducing spending for those programs that Congress re-authorizes; putting government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs) on budget to accurately account

for the budgetary impacts and risks of these programs; and implementing use fair-value accounting to more accurately report the risks Congress assumes and the subsidies it provides through federal credit programs, like student loans.

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Barry Wilkerson
Carnegie Building
105 Courthouse Plaza
Manhattan, KS 66502

Ph: 785-537-6390
Fx: 785-537-6334

County Treasurer

Shilo Heger

County Office Building
110 Courthouse Plaza
1st Floor
Manhattan, KS 66502

Ph: 785-537-6320
Fx: 785-537-6326

Debbie Register

Register of Deeds

County Office Building
110 Courthouse Plaza
2nd Floor, Rm B202
Manhattan, Kansas
66502

Ph: 785-537-6340
Fx: 785-537-6343

Clancy Holeman

County Counselor

Courthouse Plaza East
115 N 4th Street
3rd Floor, West
Manhattan, KS 66502

Ph: 785-565-6844
Fx: 785-565-6847

Riley County Police Department
1001 South Seth Child Road
(785) 537-2112

Dial 911

Minutes Are Light On Detail

Riley County Commission Minutes

March 7, 2016

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

Arpin said a Change Order was presented last Thursday. Arpin said they had another meeting and were not able to attend the commission meeting and apologized for it.

Arpin said BG Consultants, Cheney, USDA, and Riley County set a meeting up Friday to discuss what happened at the Thursday commission meeting.

Arpin said they worked out some remedies Friday.

Arpin said they will come up with a substantial completion date some time today.

Arpin said there will be a warranty period.

Arpin said unfortunately they were not here to answer questions that the commission had Thursday.

Shepek updated the commission on the Courthouse water damage issue.

Business Meeting

3. March for Meals Month Proclamation
Move to approve the March for Meals Month Proclamation.
AYES: Wells, Wilson
ABSENT: Boyd

4. EMS Cardiac Monitor Replacements - CIP Funding Authorization Form
Move to approve a CIP Funding Authorization Form for EMS cardiac monitor replacements for EMS Department in the amount of \$71,724.14.
AYES: Wells, Wilson
ABSENT: Boyd

5. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Mar 3, 2016 8:30 AM
Move to approve the minutes.
AYES: Wells, Wilson
ABSENT: Boyd

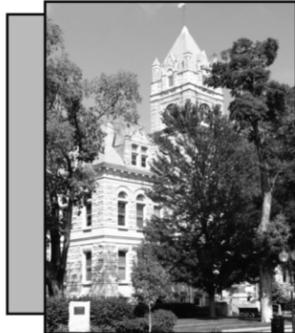
6. Tentative Agenda
7. Discuss Press Conference
Pat Collins - current status on burning
Commissioner Ben Wilson - Annual Township Officers Meeting

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

8. Administrative Work Session
Holeman asked the commission for permission to remove executive session at 10:15 a.m.
The Board agreed.
The Board watched a KAC Legislative video update.
Holeman discussed SB2665, SB403, and HB2701.

9. Pending County Projects
County Counselor

9:30 AM Press Conference



Riley County Commission Minutes

Riley County Minutes

Cost Taxpayers \$700 Per Month:

The minutes for years did not cost the county extra. They were produced using Word. A new program now costs \$700 per month.

10. Riley County Police Department update/Fake Patty's Day update - Captain Josh Kyle (5 minutes)

Kyle said the Riley County Police Department is still getting stats in from Fake Patty's Day.

Kyle presented an update on Fake Patty's Day.

Kyle thanked the Aggieville Business Association and organizations involved with Fake Patty's Day.

11. Fake Patty's Day update - Larry Couchman (5 minutes)
Couchman said it was a very busy Fake Patty's Day.

Couchman presented the 2016 Fake Patty's Day preliminary numbers.

Couchman presented a comparison to the Country Stampede.

12. Severe Weather Awareness - Laurie Harrison (3-4 minutes)

Harrison said Severe Weather Awareness is March 14-18.

Harrison said a tornado drill will be at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 15th.

Harrison said now is a good time to update your emergency kit.

13. Check smoke detectors when setting clock for daylight savings - Laurie Harrison (3 minutes)

Harrison said a good time to remember to change your batteries in your smoke detectors is when you change your clocks for daylight savings time change.

14. Present March for Meals Proclamation - Ben Wilson and Mary Jo Harbour (3-5 minutes)

Wilson read and presented the March for Meals Proclamation to Mary Jo Harbour, President of the Riley County Council on Aging.

Harbour said this week the Senior Center is doing special things.

Harbour thanked the commission for all they do.

15. Legislative Issues Forum- Board of County Commission (5 minutes)

Wells discussed the Legisla-

15th.
10:15 AM Adjournment

Riley County Commission Minutes

March 10, 2016

8:30 AM Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

(Editor's Note: Each week the Free Press removes the Commission Comments because they are long and seldom have anything to do with the work of the Commission.)

This week we will leave in Commissioners Ron Wells comments because he apparently do not like the Free Press reporting.)

Commission Comments

Wells' Comments:

Wells said he was on the KMAN Radio show and re-

ceived several calls.

Wells discussed his frustration with inaccurate reports in the Free Press.

Business Meeting

3. Review and sign Appraiser's Real Estate Sales Data Search Service Agreement and Contractual Provisions for Jodi Thierer of Legacy Realty of Kansas LLC

Move to approve the Real Estate Sales Data Search Service Agreement and Contractual Provisions for Jodi Thierer of Legacy Realty of Kansas LLC for the Appraiser's Office.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

4. Change Order No. 1 for the Casement Ditch Outfall Structure

Move to approve the Casement Ditch Outfall Structure

See Minutes page 11

The Next Riley County General Election Will Be November 8, 2016



Riley County Commissioner Ron Wells (left) and Riley County Commissioner Bob Boyd will be up for re-election on November 2, 2016. Both voted to take the vote away from the citizens of Riley County when they passed a Riley County Building Commission.

By appointing themselves as the Building Commission they could approve a \$50 million 9th Grade re-construction for the School District without a vote of the people or they could help the City of Manhattan add \$50 million in debt for a Sports Complex without a vote. Before you talk to a Commissioner go to manhattanfreepress.com August 1, 2013 issue and read where Cities and Counties can use "Home Rule" to get around a vote of the people.

(This is not a paid political advertisement. It is part of an Editorial written by Jon A. Brake, Publisher, Manhattan Free Press.)

County Commission Minutes

from page 10

Change Order #1 for a decrease in the contract amount of \$23,525.77 with Jueneman Excavation Inc. The final cost of the contract is \$216,439.00. This is a 2002 Sales Tax funded project.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

5. Approve a warrant voucher

Move to approve a warrant voucher for March 8, 2016 for the following:

County General \$30.00
Final Total \$30.00

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

Review Minutes

6. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Mar 7, 2016 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

7. Tentative Agenda

8. Discuss Press Conference

Pat Collins - Prescribed Burning Update

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

9. Administrative Work Session

Holeman presented testimony drafted regarding HB 2725 regarding KPERS-covered employees accumulating leave to 240 hours.

Move to sign the Testimony on HB 2725 regarding KPERS.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

9:30 AM Shilo Heger, Treasurer

10. February 2016 Revenue Reporting - Riley County Treasurer

Heger presented the February 2016 revenue reports.

10:00 AM Jessica Fiscus, Community Health Educator

Move to recess as the Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Board of Health.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

11. Healthy Families Contract Renewal: Outreach, Prevention and Early Intervention Services

Fiscus presented the Healthy Families contract renewal.

Move that the Board authorize the Chairman to sign Amendment Three to the Agreement between Kansas Department of Health and Environment Division of Health Care Finance and the Riley County Board of County Commissioners and the Riley County Health Department for Outreach, Prevention and Early Intervention Services.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

12. February 2016 Budget Review & Monthly Report to Board of Health

Fiscus presented the monthly report.

Move to recess as the Board of Health and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

10:30 AM Budget and Planning Committee

13. 2015 and February 2016 Monthly Cash Flow Reports

Shepek presented the monthly cash flow reports.

10:50 AM Russell Rohlman

14. Bridge Designation Request

Russell Rohlman thanked the board for hearing his request for the bridge designation in recognition of the loss of his son. Rohlman stated he would pay for all the cost for the placement of the sign. Rohlman discussed his son's accomplishments.

Boyd stated he is concerned with setting a precedent in naming bridges after loved ones. Boyd suggested setting up a memorial in honor of his son.

Wilson said if the family is willing to fund the sign he is not opposed.

Boyd asked how long would the sign be erected and stated his concern with its long term maintenance and replacement.

Wells stated he is not opposed, but acknowledged the number of bridges we have in Riley County. Wells asked who would maintain the sign 25 years from now.

Wilson asked if we could put a 10 or 20 year sunset of the bridge sign. Wilson asked if the next step is to create a policy on bridge designations prior to approving this request.

Wells agreed a policy would need to be in place.

Hobson stated the County does not provide private signs for the public and public private signs are not allowed in the

public right-of-way.

Wells stated he is not comfortable approving it today.

Wilson said he will meet with Hobson to develop a proposal to address the request for a public sign on public right-of-way.

11:00 AM Jan Scheide-man, Child Care Facilitator/Manager

Move to recess as the Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Board of Health.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

15. Out of State Travel Request for CLASS Summit in Chicago

Move to approve the Out of State Travel Request for the Riley County Health Department Raising Riley Early Childhood Facilitator Erin Cox to attend grant funded training that includes CLASS Observation Summit, Provider Feedback Strategies, and Instructional Support Strategies in Chicago, Illinois in the amount of \$2,925.20.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

Move to recess as the Board of Health and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

11:05 AM Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director

16. Change Order for Tuttle Creek Fire Station

P. Collins presented the change order for the Tuttle Creek Fire Station.

Boyd stated we owe the money for the material. Boyd said his issue was for the extension of the 4 days.

Hibbs said he did ask the contractor to reduce the initial request from 5 days.

Wells stated he does not agree with the change orders, but wants to proceed and get the fire station completed.

Hibbs stated the additional days were warranted, because the other trades people had to be brought back to complete the request.

Hibbs said the plans showed all the documentation necessary for the change order # 004R2.

Cheney stated the change order was submitted because the louvers were missed because they were placed on the mechanical side rather than the general side of the plans.

Move to approve the change order #004R2 as submitted for support louvers L-1 and L-2; RFI 14 reply and support for

wall mounted exhaust fans in the amount of \$2,552.00.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

Move to approve change order #005 as submitted for additional wall furring; ASI 04 in the amount of \$1,275.00.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

11:52 AM 17. Executive session for preliminary discussions relating to the acquisition of real property

Move that the Board of Riley County Commissioners recess into executive session pursuant to the preliminary

discussion of real property exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, in order to discuss an initial offer of purchase by the county, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 12:00 p.m.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

12:00 PM

Move to go out of executive session.

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

No binding action was taken during the executive session.

12:00 PM Adjournment

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Landoll Lanes Conference Center ★ MARYSVILLE, KANSAS
Tract Info: 154.5 acres± with 131.94 DCP cropland.
Directions from Marysville: South on Hwy. 77 approx. 4.5 miles to Pheasant Rd - 3 miles east to 13th Rd -1 mile south to Quail Rd then 1/2 mile east. Property is located on the south side of Quail Rd.
Watch upcoming Grass & Grain's for complete details!
LISTING AGENT'S NOTES
Well located with easy access to grain elevators in all directions. Contact me direct with any questions you may have.
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Report has shows women in Kansas earn 79 cents for every dollar made by men

LAWRENCE, Kansas — Women in Kansas who work full-time, year-round earn 79 cents for every dollar made by men, according to recent findings released by the Women's Foundation.

"That just seems silly," said Mary Akerstrom, with the Topeka chapter of the National Organization for Women. "It's just one more brick in the patriarchy to keep women at a status that's less than men."

The University of Kansas' Center for Science and Technology & Economic Policy was commissioned by the Women's Foundation to analyze factors such as economic well-being, health and civic engagement of women across the state, the Topeka Capital Journal (<http://bit.ly/21r5pgr>) re-

ported. The report, titled "Status of Women in Kansas," found that the median earnings of women who work full-time, year-round is about \$35,560 annually. Johnson County has the highest median earnings for women, while Gove County has the lowest.

Women account for 49.1 percent of the employed individuals in Kansas. They hold fewer management positions and are much less likely than men to be self-employed or to own a business, according to the study.

Additionally, the report determined that 39 percent of the state's single-mother households are in poverty, and that child poverty in Kansas has doubled since 2000.

Donna Ginther, director of the Center for Science Technology & Economic Policy, said she was particularly surprised at the cost of child care in Kansas, which is 1.1 to 1.5 times more expensive than in-state college tuition.

"It's a troubling issue," said Akerstrom, who worked in child care for about 10 years. "Child care is a very big hurdle for people living in poverty."

Women in Kansas also have "significantly" less access to preventative health screenings, the report said.

The study concludes that "alternative policies that facilitate the empowerment of Kansas women and the growth of the Kansas economy should be implemented."

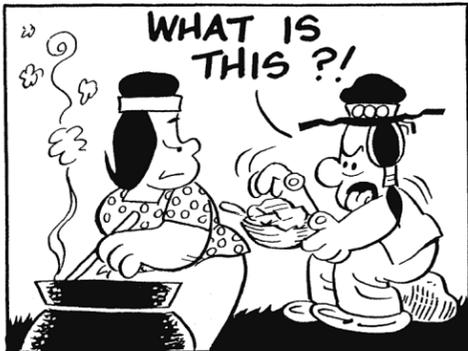
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GRIN AND BEAR IT



"Don't worry, Mom. ... This is just a phase."

LAFF - A - DAY



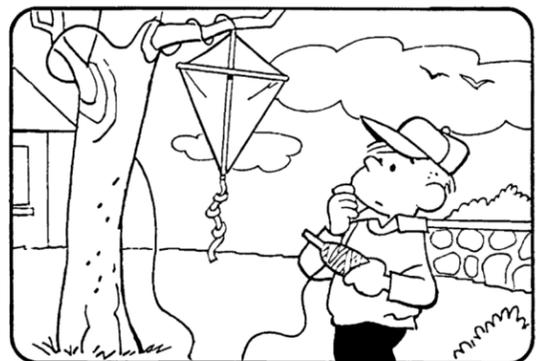
"I'm no expert, but I'd say it's the backstroke."

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Sign is missing. 2. Tree trunk is slimmer. 3. Kite tail is shorter. 4. Wall is shorter. 5. Sun is missing. 6. Sundial is missing.

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An effort to repeal national educational standards in Kansas

TOPEKA, Kansas — After years of controversy surrounding the Common Core standards for reading and math education, their Kansas supporters fear momentum is building this year for repeal.

The House Education Committee approved a bill earlier this month that would prohibit school districts from aligning any materials, tests or programs to Common Core or any other nationwide curriculum.

"Since last year it had no steam or momentum, and then all of a sudden it was passed out of the committee and on the agenda for a House debate," said Brad Neuenswander, the

state's deputy education commissioner. "It's a concern of ours because it still has some legs."

The standards were developed by a group of states with the goal of making sure students were ready for jobs or higher education after graduation. Common Core is optional for the states, and the Kansas State Board of Education adopted them in 2010. The standards call for a classroom focus on analytical skills instead of rote memorization.

The standards have caused criticism from the start, with opponents calling them a national mandate and arguing the

curriculum is a one-size-fits-all approach to education. Supporters say they encourage rigorous standards throughout the state.

One sign the bill may be being prepped for more serious consideration is that House leadership sent it back to the education committee to have one of the most-opposed aspects — provisions that would have banned Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams — removed. State board member Deena Horst said she sees that as a sign that the bill could be gaining traction, and it worries her.

House Education Committee chairman Rep. Ron Highland, a

Republican from Wamego, said he plans to take the bill up again this session. He thinks it has a good chance of passing if other lawmakers have heard as many complaints as he has.

Senate Majority Leader Terry Bruce, a Nickerson Republican, said he'd like to see the Senate debate the bill.

Neuenswander said the education department supports Common Core because it allows students to think critically and apply the skills that they've learned to real life situations.

Neuenswander points to \$100 million spent annually on computers, textbooks and test-

ing that will have been wasted if the standards are repealed. What's more, he said, it's not clear how the state could create new standards that aren't similar to Common Core.

William Hall, superintendent of Salina schools, said repeal would set his schools back several years. Students seem more engaged in classes and Common Core is helping reduce the achievement gap, he said.

"By increasing the rigor, we will get our low-income students moving up to the level that they need to be," Hall said.

But some parents and teachers think not all students should

be expected to learn at the same rigorous level. Satanta art teacher Jeffrey Locke said the standards squash creativity. His students have completed a handful of art projects this year because they are busy completing worksheets, he said.

Teresa Selensky, a mother from Grainfield, said her son had a similar experience in math, which had been his favorite subject before the school began using Common Core. She was alarmed when he began spending several hours a night completing homework that required him to explain each of his answers.

Manhattan Free Press - Web Site manhattanfreepress.com

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 That guy
- 4 Autumnal abbr.
- 7 Colorful parrot
- 12 Big bother
- 13 Winter ailment
- 14 Foolish
- 15 Crossword-page abbr.
- 16 What a trigger triggers
- 18 Discoverer's cry
- 19 "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" writer Betty
- 20 Inmates
- 22 Mandela's old org.
- 23 Pop
- 27 Illumination unit
- 29 Quaint fashion accessory
- 31 Urge
- 34 Put back to 0
- 35 Kegler's

DOWN

- 11 target
- 37 Meadow
- 38 Hint
- 39 — glance
- 41 Handle
- 45 Duck
- 47 Mimic
- 48 Certain fastener
- 52 Opposite of "trans-"
- 53 Pelvis-related
- 54 Tokyo's old name
- 55 Trench
- 56 Choppers
- 57 "— Kapital"
- 58 Type squaresl
- 1 Destruction
- 2 Baking potato
- 3 Nitwit
- 4 Kills, gangster-style
- 5 Culmination
- 6 Shroud city
- 7 Ho Chi —
- 8 Director Lee
- 9 Upper limit
- 10 Blackbird

- 17 Cyst
- 17 Pruritus
- 21 Ski run
- 23 Porterhouse, e.g.
- 24 Chances, for short
- 25 Conk out
- 26 Pismire
- 28 Half of bi-
- 30 Exist
- 31 "Yada yada yada"
- 32 Solidify
- 33 Wildebeest
- 36 Almost black
- 37 Pretentious
- 40 Recorded
- 42 Mother-of-pearl
- 43 Poppy product
- 44 Defeats
- 45 Leave a good impression
- 46 Grandson of Eve
- 48 Perch
- 49 Draft pick?
- 50 "A pox upon thee!"
- 51 Nosh

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56					57				58	

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Answers on page 2

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

R.F.D.



by Mike Marland

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



BY AL SCADUTO

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Travel Kansas Events

"The Butler Did It"
March 11 - 20, 2016
 Every Sunday, Friday, Saturday

Venue: Theatre Atchison
 Address: 401 Santa Fe, Atchison, KS 66002

Time: 2:00 & 8:00 PM
 Type: Events
 Phone: 913-367-7469

Miss Maple, a dowager with a reputation for "clever" weekend parties, invites a group of detective writers.

135th Annual Messiah Festival of the Arts
March 18 - 27, 2016
 Recurring daily

Venue: Messiah Festival of Music & Art

Address: 421 N 1st St, Bethany College, Lindsborg, KS 67456

Time: various
 Type: Events
 Phone: 785-227-3380

Presentations of Handel's Messiah and Bach's St. Matthew Passion (Good Friday) plus recitals, concerts and art exhibitions. Reserved seating.

40th Annual Farm/City Banquet
March 22, 2016

Venue: Atchison Event Center

Address: 710 S 9th, Atchison, KS 66002

Time: Starting: 4:30 PM
 Type: Events
 Phone: 800-234-1854

Join more than 300 people at this annual event held at the Atchison Event Center. Help celebrate the agriculture of Atchison with dinner.

Annual Pleasantview Spring Celebration
March 26, 2016

Venue: Pleasantview Community

Address: 6401 West Morgan Ave, Hutchinson, KS 67501

Time: From: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Type: Events
 Phone: 620-662-0559

Come celebrate spring with Pleasantview Merchants at their annual Spring Celebration. Join the fun of door prizes, refreshments, and games.

Brain: The Inside Story
March 5, 2016 - August 28, 2016

Recurring daily

Venue: Museum at Prairiefire
 Address: 5801 W. 135th,



44th Annual Square Fair (Crafts Festival) May 7, 2016 Venue: Anderson County Courthouse Address: 100 E 4th Ave, Garnett, KS 66032

Overland Park, KS 66223

Time: From: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Type: Events
 Phone: 913-333-3500

Learn how the fascinating human brain works - from senses and emotions to aging and effects of technology - as you explore this special exhibition.

Dodge City Law Arena Football vs Texas Revolution
March 26, 2016

Venue: Dodge City Law Arena Football

Address: 4100 W Comanche, Dodge City, KS 67801

Time: Starting: 7:00 PM

Type: Events
 Phone: 620-371-7390

Playing their home games at the United Wireless Arena, 4100 W. Comanche, Dodge City, KS.

Easter Lamb Cooking Class
March 22, 2016

Venue: First Taste Olive Oils, Vinegars & Cafe

Address: 424 Cherokee St., Leavenworth, KS 66048

Time: From: 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Type: Events
 Phone: 913-744-5138

This is a hands on cooking class where you will learn to French and cook a rack of lamb just in time for Easter.

Easter on the Mall
March 26, 2016

Venue: Downtown Mall
 Address: 400 Commercial,

Atchison, KS 66002

Time: From: 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Type: Events
 Phone: 18002341854

Kids, explore the Commercial Street Mall during the annual Easter Egg Hunt beginning at 10:30 a.m. Then, join the Easter Bunny and play fun games.

Exhibition opening: How People Make Things
January 30, 2016 - May 1, 2016

Recurring daily

Venue: Flint Hills Discovery Center

Address: 315 S 3rd, Manhattan, KS 66502

Time: From: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Type: Events
 Phone: 785-587-2726

How People Make Things tells the story of how everyday items are manufactured and brings to life the people, ideas and technology.

Kansas City Roller Warriors
March 26, 2016

Venue: Memorial Hall

Address: 600 N 7th St, Kansas City, KS 66101

Time: From: 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Type: Events
 Phone: 913-573-5332

The Kansas City Roller Warriors, LLC is KC's Premier all-female flat track roller derby league.

Kool & The Gang

March 25, 2016

Venue: Prairie Band Casino & Resort

Address: 12305 150th Rd, Mayetta, KS 66509

Time: Starting: 8:00 PM

Type: Events
 Phone: 785-966-7777

Kool & The Gang has sold over 70 million albums worldwide and influenced the music of three generations.

Live Music by The M80s at Hollywood Casino
March 25 - 26, 2016

Recurring daily

Venue: Hollywood Casino at Kansas Speedway

Address: 777 Hollywood Casino Boulevard, Kansas City, KS 66111

Time: From: 9:00 PM to 12:00 AM

Type: Events
 Phone: 913-288-9300

Enjoy live music by The M80s, Friday & Saturday night inside Hollywood Casino at 9 p.m.

2016 Garmin Marathon
 April 16, 2016

Venue: Embassy Suites by Hilton Kansas City Olathe

Address: 10401 S. Ridgeview Rd, Olathe, KS 66061

Time: Starting: 6:45 AM

Type: Events
 Phone: 913-764-1050

Join us for a full marathon, half marathon, 10k or kids run through the beautiful streets and trails of Olathe.

2016 Garnett Farmers Market

May 5, 2016 - October 6, 2016

Every Thursday

Venue: Prairie Spirit Trail
 Address: 418 S. Main Street, Garnett, KS 66032

Time: 4:30-7:00 PM
 Type: Events
 Phone: 785-448-6767

The Garnett Farmer's Market is an weekly event that allows visitors to capture what is unique about Garnett.

2016 Historic William Fulton House Tours

May 21, 2016 - August 28, 2016

Every Sunday, Saturday

Venue: Finney County Historical Museum

Address: 403 S 4th, Garden City, KS 67846

Time: From: 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Type: Events
 Phone: 620-272-3664

There will be free guided tours of the Historic William Fulton House, dating to 1884 and built by one of Garden City's four founders.

2016 Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) Men's Golf Championships
 April 17 - 19, 2016

Recurring daily

Venue: Buffalo Dunes Golf Course

Address: 5685 S. US Highway 83, Garden City, KS 67846

Time: All Day

Type: Events
 Phone: 316-337-5999

The Men's KCAC Golf Championship Tournament will be held over a three day period at Buffalo Dunes Golf Course.

2016 Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) Women's Golf Championships
 April 17 - 19, 2016

Recurring daily

Venue: Buffalo Dunes Golf Course

Address: 5685 S. US Highway 83, Garden City, KS 67846

Time: All Day

Type: Events
 Phone: 316-337-5999

The Women's KCAC Golf Championship Tournament will be held over a three day period at Buffalo Dunes Golf Course.

2016 NCBA Division II World Series
 May 19 - 25, 2016

Recurring daily

Venue: Jaycee Ballpark

Address: 12th and Highway 69, Pittsburg, KS 66762

Time: TBA

Type: Events
 Phone: 620-231-1212

2016 NCBA Division II World Series May 19th - May 25th Jaycee Ballpark Pittsburg, Kansas.

29th Annual Tulip Festival
 April 16, 2016

Venue: Wamego Dutch Mill and Prairie Village

Address: E 4th St, Wamego, KS 66547

Time: From: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Type: Events
 Phone: 785-456-7849

Each spring, the City of Wamego comes alive with thousands of visitors, vibrant colors of tulips and over 150 craft vendors.

44th Annual Square Fair (Crafts Festival)
 May 7, 2016

Venue: Anderson County Courthouse

Address: 100 E 4th Ave, Garnett, KS 66032

Time: From: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Phone: 785-448-6767

Held annually the Saturday before Mother's Day, Square Fair is a great place to shop for mom...or for yourself!

50th Annual Antique & Barbed Wire Festival
 May 5 - 7, 2016

Recurring daily

Venue: Kansas Barbed Wire Museum

Address: 417 Main Street, La Crosse, KS 67548

Time: all day

Phone: 785-222-9900

A festival for the entire family. Displays feature barbed wire and fencing related tools along with other antiques and collectibles.

Air Fair
 May 7, 2016

Venue: Garnett Industrial Airport

Address: 1202 E. 4th Avenue, Garnett, KS 66032

Time: From: 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Phone: 785-448-6931

Air Fair includes open cockpit airplane rides, vintage and specialty aircraft displays, WWII jeep rides, a special appearance by the KC Bet.

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The parents of a former University of Kansas student who says she was raped

LAWRENCE, Kansas — The parents of a former University of Kansas student who says she was raped in university housing have filed a lawsuit against the school, claiming its residence halls are unsafe.

The university, however, said its campus housing is safe and the school works hard to ensure students' safety.

James and Amanda Tackett's daughter, Daisy Tackett, was a freshman at the University of Kansas when she said she was raped in a Jayhawker Towers apartment by another student-

athlete in the fall of 2014, according to the lawsuit filed Friday in Douglas County District Court. The lawsuit, which seeks class-action status, claims the university has misled the public by portraying the campus housing as safe.

The Associated Press generally does not identify people who say they have been sexually assaulted, but Daisy Tackett, who attended high school in Dallas before going to Kansas, where she was a varsity rower, told the Lawrence Journal-World and The Dallas Morning News she wanted her

name used.

She did not file a police report after the alleged rape, but filed a complaint about a year later with the university's Office of Institutional Opportunity and Access, which oversees compliance with state and federal laws and university policies on discrimination, sexual violence and other subjects.

She said she contacted the IOA office after learning that the student she accused of rape tried to assault a rowing team-

mate this past fall.

"At first I was reluctant," she told The Dallas Morning News. "Then I realized if he's assaulted two people, he has assaulted more or will assault more if we don't do anything about it."

The lawsuit asks for a judge to rule that the university violated the Consumer Protection Act and also order the school to cease representing its dorms as safe until they are "demonstrated" as such.

"In addition to the horrific assault of our daughter, we are concerned for the safety of all students at KU," Amanda Tackett said in a statement. "We believe there are many more victims of on-campus crimes in the dorms. Had we known this, we would not have considered KU as an option."

University spokeswoman Errin Barcomb-Peterson told the Lawrence Journal-World in an emailed statement that campus housing is "absolutely

safe" and that the university goes to great lengths to ensure residents' safety, including training of residence assistants, security cameras, ID-card access and overnight security patrols throughout buildings.

"The suggestion that our residence halls are unsafe or that we misrepresent campus safety in our student recruitment is baseless," she said.

Two proposals would mean changed funding for school districts

TOPEKA (AP) - The majority of Kansas school districts would lose money under a bill crafted by the Senate's budget chairman as a way to address inequities in school finance.

Most around Wichita, however, would see an increase in funding.

Sen. Ty Masterson's bill is one of two responses so far to the Kansas Supreme Court's order that lawmakers fix inequities between school districts or risk a statewide shutdown of schools in July. It shifts money already allocated for K-12 education to poorer districts.

Under the bill, 189 school districts would see overall funding drop, while 97 districts would gain state dollars, according to a preliminary analysis by the state's nonpartisan Legislative Research Department.

A bill introduced in the House on Friday would boost school funding by \$39 million

for next school year. Under that approach, 162 districts - including Wichita area districts - would see overall funding increase. Another 45 districts would have flat funding, and 79 districts would lose some state aid.

That plan, crafted by Rep. Ron Ryckman, R-Olathe, taps the state's \$17 million emergency need fund to cover part of new spending.

The Wichita school district, one of the plaintiffs in the school funding lawsuit against the state, is projected to gain significantly under both bills.

It would receive \$10.1 million more for next school year under the House plan, with more than half of that going to property tax relief. It would get about \$6.2 million more under Masterson's plan.

Both bills would restore the state's old equalization formula, which provides extra dollars to property-poor dis-

tricts that can't raise as much in local property tax revenue as property-rich districts.

"The difference is, mine does not add additional funds," said Masterson, R-Andover. "It is strictly a reshuffle." The plan would mean nearly \$168,000 less for the Andover school district for next school year.

"I don't think the Supreme Court will approve that"

Some lawmakers want to pursue a plan that does not add money in the face of the state's recent revenue woes, but attorneys for the plaintiff school districts say that will fail to satisfy the court's ruling.

"In essence, it's taking it out of your left pocket to put it in your right pocket," said John Robb, an attorney for Schools for Fair Funding. "And I don't think the Supreme Court will approve that."

Robb said the court instructed lawmakers not to affect the adequacy of school

funding when making funding more equitable.

Ryckman said he has reread the court's opinion and thinks his bill, HB 2731, satisfies the court's demand for equity by restoring the old equalization formula and providing more money.

"This version mirrors to me what the court's requested," he said. He said he hopes work on the bill can begin next week.

Ryckman's plan provides the additional money only for next year. Some Democratic lawmakers say the state needs to allot more money for the current school year as well.

Robb said the plaintiffs have sought clarification on this point. He believes that the order was retroactive, but said the wording was unclear.

Johnson County districts would lose

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LAND AUCTION

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 — 1:30 PM
Landoll Lanes Conference Center - MARYSVILLE, KANSAS
320 Acres +/- PRIME CROPLAND
Marshall County Kansas Land

Tract 1: 160 acres± with 153.62 DCP cropland acres featuring predominantly Wymore Silty Clay Loam soil type with 1-3% slope.
Legal Description: Southwest Quarter of S24, T03, R07E, Less Right of Way (160 + Acres).

FSA Base Acres (estimated): Corn = 49.35, Beans = 46.21, Milo = 10.57, Wheat = 1.66, Oats = .86 Enrolled in ARC County.
2015 Real Estate Taxes (estimated) = \$2238.22.

Tract 2: 160 acres± with 156.52 DCP cropland acres featuring predominantly Wymore Silty Clay Loam soil type with 1-3% slope.
Legal Description: Northwest Quarter of S24, T03, R07E, Less Right of Way (160 + Acres).

FSA Base Acres (estimated): Corn = 49.34, Beans = 146.20, Milo = 10.57, Wheat = 1.66, Oats = .86 Enrolled in ARC County.
Tract 3: Tract 1 & Tract 2 SOLD TOGETHER
2015 Real Estate Taxes (estimated) = \$2238.22.

• Possession immediately following auction (land has been prepped for 2016 planting season)

• Buyer to pay input cost for 2016 planting

Directions from Marysville: Go south on Highway 77 approximately 5 miles to Pheasant Rd then east approximately 2 miles. Property is located on the north side of Pheasant Rd east of 12th Rd.
Listing Agent's Notes: Bottom Line ... you're not going to want to miss this one. Approximately 300 acres of Wymore Silty Clay Loam, 1-3% slope, located off a county blacktop highway, with easy access to multiple elevators in all directions including a new rail facility that could pay an additional .10 to .15 cents per bushel. It just doesn't get much better than this. If you're a farmer or investor looking to add a high quality tract of land ... Give me a call for more information.

Jeff Dankenbring - 785-562-8386

Terms & Possession: 10% down day of the sale, balance due at closing on or before May 2, 2016. Seller to pay 2016 taxes. Title insurance, escrow and closing costs to be split equally between buyer and seller. Immediate possession following the auction. This property to be sold as-is. All inspections should be made prior to the day of the sale. This is a cash sale and will not be subject to financing, have your financing arrangements made prior to sale day. Midwest Land and Home is acting as a Seller's Agent and represents the seller's interest. All information has come from reliable sources; however, potential bidders are encouraged to verify all information independently. Bolton & McNish, attorney for seller, will act as escrow and closing agent. Statements made sale day take precedence over printed material.

MIKE & SHANNON BUSSMANN, SELLERS

Midwest Land
and Home

Jeff Dankenbring - Listing Agent 785-562-8386
Mark Uhlik - Broker/Auctioneer 785-325-2740
www.MidwestLandandHome.com

LAND AUCTION

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 — 10:00 AM
Waterville Community Center, WATERVILLE, KANSAS
80 Acres +/- Marshall County Kansas Land

Tract Info: 80 acres + with 65.48 DCP cropland featuring Wymore Silty Clay Loam soil types.

Legal Description: S02, T04, R06E, 6th PM, 79.2 Acres, East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 Less Right of Way.

FSA Base Acres: Wheat = 19.80; Grain Sorghum = 22.80; Soybeans = 22.50. Soybeans & Wheat enrolled in ARC County Grain Sorghum enrolled in PLC.

2015 Real Estate Taxes = \$919.20

This property **IS NOT** being sold subject to tenants rights. Buyer will receive FULL possession of the entire property at closing. There is approximately 15-20 acres of wheat that buyer can choose to keep or plant to beans, corn, etc.

Directions from Waterville: Go north on 4th Rd approximately 1 mile then east on Sunflower Rd approximately 1.25 miles. Property is located on the north side of Sunflower Rd 1/4 mile past 5th Rd.
Listing Agent's Notes: Here's a GREAT 80 with highly productive soil types, high percentages of cropland, and the opportunity to add even more cropland with additional work. Combine these factors and you have the perfect property for small & large producers and investors alike. Contact me direct with any questions you may have on this property.

Jeff Dankenbring - 785-562-8386

Terms & Possession: 10% down day of the sale, balance due at closing on or before May 6, 2016. Seller to pay 2015 taxes. Title insurance, escrow and closing costs to be split equally between buyer and seller. Possession on closing. This property to be sold as-is. All inspections should be made prior to the day of the sale. This is a cash sale and will not be subject to financing, have your financing arrangements made prior to sale day. Midwest Land and Home is acting as a Seller's Agent and represents the seller's interest. All information has come from reliable sources; however, potential bidders are encouraged to verify all information independently. Darrell Spain, attorney for seller, will act as escrow and closing agent. Statements made sale day take precedence over printed material.

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The Atwood Police Department is taking applications for a full-time Police Officer.

Applicants must be 21, valid driver's license and no criminal record. High school diploma or GED required. Salary is DOQ. Excellent benefits including BC/BS insurance, KPERs retirement plan, paid vacation and sick leave. KLETC certification is preferred but not required. Applicant must pass a background check, psychological exam and drug screen. Applications may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 106 S. 3rd, Atwood, KS 67730. 785-626-9462. Position is open until filled. The City of Atwood is an EOE.

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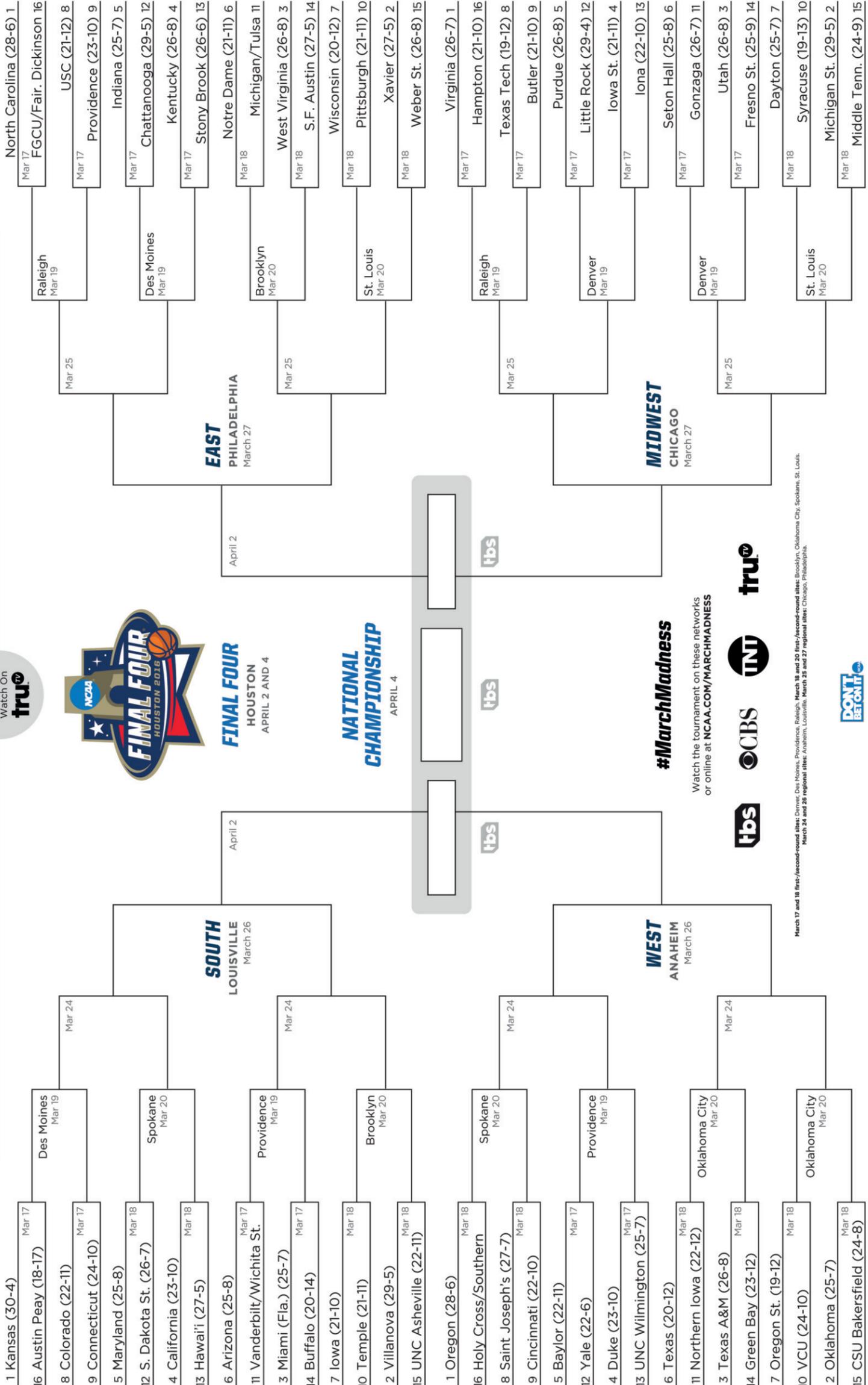
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Second Round MARCH 19-20
Regional Semifinals MARCH 24-25
Regional Finals MARCH 26-27
National Semifinals APRIL 2
Finals APRIL 4

FIRST FOUR

11 Vanderbilt (19-13) Mar 15 **S**
 16 Fla. Gulf Coast (20-13) Mar 15
 11 Wichita St. (24-8) Mar 15 **E**
 16 Fair. Dickinson (18-14) Mar 15 **E**
 Michigan (22-12) 11 Mar 16 **W**
 Tulsa (20-11) 11 Mar 16 **S**
 Holy Cross (14-19) 16 Mar 16
 Southern (22-12) 16 Mar 16



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