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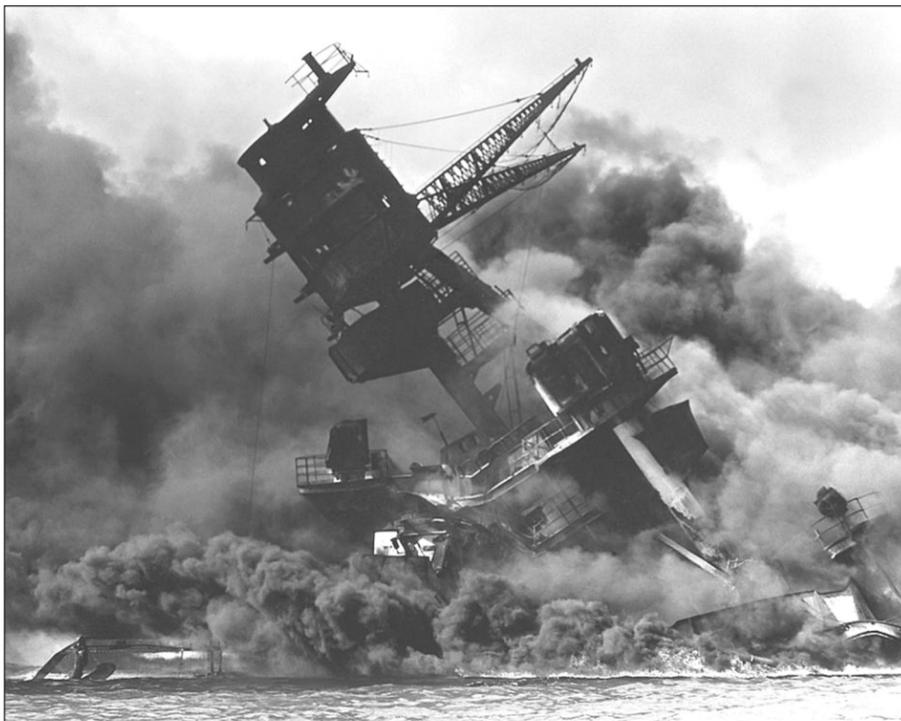
## December 7, 1941... Local links to Pearl Harbor Day

Special To The Free Press  
By Gloria Freeland

The 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day on Dec. 7 has local links that bring the beginning of U.S. involvement in World War II close to home.

Frank Jake Stevenson, a farm boy who grew up near Waterville, Kansas and later moved to Manhattan, was among the first local casualties of the war. Marine Pfc. Stevenson was stationed aboard the USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii at the time of the Japanese attack. He is buried in Waterville. His mother Myrtle lived in Manhattan for many years and was considered to be one of the first "Gold Star" mothers from that war.

On Wednesday, Dec. 7, Stevenson and others who served in World War II will be honored by a group of elementary students and others in a free "Bob Hope-style U.S.O. Show Extravaganza." The concert will be at 7 p.m. in Peace Memorial Auditorium, built to honor Riley Countians who served, including the more than 101 who lost their lives. The auditorium was dedicated in 1955 as a "living memorial" and includes a stage, basketball court and seating.



The USS Arizona on December 7, 1941.

The show will feature the Jammin' Northstars Elementary Choir of Northview Elementary

School, directed by Laurie Davis; Manhattan's Thundering Cats Big Band; the male a cappella group Cadence; a trio from Kansas State University's K-State Singers; and others.

Davis, the elementary music teacher at Northview School, said she wants her students to participate in activities such as the Dec. 7 concert because she wants them to learn what community service means. She also wants to be sure the Peace Memorial Auditorium stage is used for the purpose it was intended - as a memorial to those who served in World War II.

The 32 members of her elementary choir will sing numbers from the 1940s, including 1941 radio hits, "Jingle Bells" and "You Are My Sunshine."

Stevenson lettered on the Waterville High School Yellow-jackets football team. His parents were Myrtle and James Stevenson. His father raised kafir corn - a predecessor of

today's milo and grain sorghums - on a farm near Waterville. After James' death in 1937, the family moved to Manhattan, where, in the 1940 census, Jake, then 18, was listed as a worker for a magazine company.

His brother Charley joined the Marines after his older brother was killed, and he served from 1943-1946. Charley graduated from Kansas State Agricultural College (now Kansas State University) in 1949, with a bachelor of science degree in animal husbandry. On one visit to the USS Arizona Memorial in Hawaii, Charley purchased a U.S. flag, which he flew not only on Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, but also on his brother's birthday each September.

All World War II veterans are encouraged to attend. Peace Memorial Auditorium is located in Manhattan City Hall, 1101 Poyntz Avenue.

Kansas' tax reform maintain that owners of so-called pass-through entities (businesses not organized as regular C-Corporations) haven't created jobs since their pass-through income was exempt from state income tax beginning in 2013. But U.S. Census data from their County Business Patterns (CBP) database not only shows they created 36,135 jobs, pass-through entities actually created most of the job gains in 2013 and 2014. Fewer than 13,000 of the pass-through jobs were from companies that converted from C-corporations but the Census data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics doesn't count proprietors, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis shows 15,134

new proprietors, so the net job gain is even greater. It may not fit the narrative but pass-through employers are powering the job engine in Kansas and only WIBW Radio (to our knowledge) has shared that news with citizens.

And finally, media often quotes tax-and-spend proponent Duane Goossen as being with the Kansas Center for Economic Growth despite proof that KCEG is falsifying its identity and doesn't legally exist; media holds Goossen forth as an expert while also refusing to disclose that he was cited for securities fraud by the Securities & Exchange Commission when he was Kansas state budget director.

## Media's hypocritical tizzy over fake news

Kansas Policy Institute

Fake news stories on the presidential election outperformed real news on Facebook according to a story recently published by online news site BuzzFeed and mainstream media, including CBS News, jumped all over it. Even President Obama chimed in, saying that fake news "threatens democracy;" apparently saying "you can keep your doctor if you want" doesn't count as "fake news." The Washington Examiner now reports that BuzzFeed's methodology is "a mess" but we all know there's a lot of fake news out there, and it's not just on Facebook.

Kansas and Missouri media is loaded with examples of

'fake news,' such as:

KC Biz Journal misleads Johnson County on property tax KWCH-TV allows false claims on school administrative spending

KMBC-TV perpetuates false school funding claim

Many newspapers also carried a litany of false claims made by State School Board member Jim Porter

Then there's the pants-on-fire type of fake news used to justify some editorial positions, as exemplified by Steve Rose at the Kansas City Star.

Media also fakes the news by declining to report facts that refute the narrative touted by special interests' or their own editorial positions. The Kansas

Association of School Boards, for example, contends that student achievement is in the top ten in the nation, but media ignored a January press release from Education Week, whose annual Quality Counts report gave Kansas a "D" for student achievement.

Media wrote about the controversy over highway funding being cut but they ignored proof that spending on highways projects over the last two years was the highest in recent history (and possibly set new records). They repeated Kansas Contractors Association executive vice president Bob Totten's claim that raids on the highway fund were have a big impact on the loss of construction jobs, but

had they bothered to check the data, they would know that less than 2 percent of the decline was attributable to highway construction.

Amidst all the concern over school funding, media saw fit to ignore proof that funding could have set another new record last year if districts hadn't used \$58 million to increase their operating cash reserves to a record level of \$911 million. And while some people say past records were only set because of KPERS retirement funding, media doesn't report that another record was set last year for non-KPERS funding at \$12,458 per-student.

Without any data to back their claims, opponents of

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## Trump taps 'Obamacare' foe, champion of privatizing Medicare

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Reaching deep into conservative territory, President-elect Donald Trump chose Georgia Rep. Tom Price to oversee the nation's health care system on Tuesday, picking a fierce "Obamacare" critic who also has championed efforts to privatize Medicare. Trump selected another veteran Republican, Elaine Chao, to lead the Department of Transportation.

Both have long ties to Washington.

Price, picked to lead the Department of Health and Human Services after more than a decade in Congress, helped craft House Speaker Paul Ryan's plan to privatize Medicare - a position Trump opposed in the campaign. Chao, who was the first Asian-American woman to serve in a president's Cabinet, is married to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

Trump announced his choice of Price, while the selection of Chao was confirmed by a person with knowledge of the decision but not authorized to speak publicly.

The selections came as Trump spent Tuesday with advisers in his Manhattan skyscraper, racing through meetings with prospective administration hires as high-profile vacancies loom - none bigger than secretary of State. Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, on the shortlist for the nation's chief diplomat, was to have a private dinner with the incoming president.

Trump also met with former Vice President Dan Quayle, who is not a Cabinet candidate, among a half dozen visitors on the day.

Price's selection raised questions about the incoming president's commitment to Medicare, among other popular entitlement programs he repeatedly vowed to preserve before the election. The Georgia congressman led GOP efforts on Capitol Hill to transform Medicare into a voucher-like system, a change that if enacted, would likely dramatically reduce government spending on the health care program that serves an estimated 57 million people.

Trump did not address Price's position on Medicare in a statement released by his transition team. The team did not respond to subsequent questions about it.

"Chairman Price, a renowned physician, has earned a reputation for being a tireless problem solver and the go-to expert on health care policy, making him the ideal choice to serve in this capacity," Trump said. "He is exceptionally qualified to shepherd our commitment to repeal and replace Obamacare and bring affordable and accessible health care to every American."

Trump, in a 2015 interview promoted on his campaign website, pledged not to cut expensive entitlement programs that Republicans have fought for years to cut to help reduce the federal deficit.

"I'm not going to cut Social Security like every other Republican. And I'm not going to cut Medicare or Medicaid. Every other Republican's going to cut," Trump told the Daily Signal.

He later changed his mind on Medicaid, embracing the GOP

concept of turning the program over to the states with a fixed amount of federal "block grant" funding.

Like any Cabinet official, Price would carry out the wishes of the president. And a sweeping Medicare initiative would have to go through Congress with some Democratic support, which would be unlikely.

Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., a leading Democratic voice on health care, called Price a leader of the movement to privatize Medicare. She said his selection "will result in the complete undermining of our nation's health care system."

Like Price, Chao is well-known in Washington, having led the Department of Labor for several years under President George W. Bush.

Her record at the Labor Department suggests she would bring a light hand to safety enforcement as transportation secretary. Under Chao at Labor, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration didn't issue a single significant new safety regulation for four years. Mine

safety inspectors were cut and inspections reduced.

Whether it's integrating drones into the national airspace, deploying self-driving cars or "some other new technology, she's not going to be especially inclined to second guess the industry when they say that this will be safe," said Thomas McGarity, a University of Texas law professor and author of "Freedom to Harm," a book about the Labor Department that includes Chao's tenure.

Both Price and Chao would require Senate confirmation. Major Cabinet vacancies remain.

The president-elect summoned Romney for dinner Tuesday night to discuss the secretary of state job for a second time. He also met with Tennessee Sen. Bob Corker, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, having met with former CIA director David Petraeus the day before.

After his meeting, Corker told reporters, "The world needs to know that the secretary of state is someone who speaks fully for the president," a possible jab at Romney, who aggressively opposed Trump's candidacy.

Transition aides said Trump was likely at least a few days away from a decision.

Even as he weighed crucial Cabinet decisions, Trump appeared distracted by outside issues - or eager to create distractions himself. He tweeted that "nobody should be allowed to burn the American flag." He warned that those who do should face "perhaps loss of citizenship or year in jail!"

Trump offered no context for his message. The Supreme Court has ruled that flag burning is protected by the First Amendment, and Republican House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy said Tuesday he doesn't support Trump's approach.

## Trump tapping Washington, Wall Street veterans for top jobs

WASHINGTON (AP) -- President-elect Donald Trump is enlisting a trio of nominees with deep ties to Washington and Wall Street to fill out his Cabinet, including former Goldman Sachs executive Steven Mnuchin as secretary of the Treasury Department.

On Tuesday, Trump also chose Georgia Rep. Tom Price to oversee the nation's health care system, picking a fierce "Obamacare" critic who has championed efforts to privatize Medicare. And he selected another veteran Republican, Elaine Chao, a former labor secretary and the wife of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, to lead the Department of Transportation.

Mnuchin's official announcement was expected as early as Wednesday, according to a person familiar with the decision who insisted on anonymity in order to confirm the pick ahead of time.

Mnuchin, 53, led Trump's finance operations during the presidential campaign and become close with the president-elect and his family. But he has no government experience, which could prove a hurdle in navigating the tricky politics of Washington.

If confirmed by the Senate, Mnuchin would play a central role in shaping Trump's tax policies and infrastructure plans. He would also lead an agency tasked with implementing international economic sanctions.

Mnuchin is expected to be joined on Trump's senior eco-

nomie team by another financier, Wilbur Ross. The billionaire investor is considered the "king of bankruptcy" for buying beaten-down companies with the potential to deliver profits.

Trump spent much of Tuesday in his Manhattan skyscraper, racing through meetings with prospective administration hires as high-profile vacancies remain - none bigger than secretary of state. He emerged in the evening for a private dinner with former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, who is on the shortlist for the nation's chief diplomat.

A transition official said the president-elect and Vice President-elect Mike Pence will travel to Indiana on Wednesday for an event with Carrier, the air conditioning company. During the campaign, Trump repeatedly used the news of Carrier's plans to move some business to Mexico as criticism of Democratic trade policies. Carrier tweeted, "We are pleased to have reached a deal with President-elect Trump & VP-elect Pence to keep close to 1,000 jobs in Indy."

Price, picked to lead the Department of Health and Human Services after more than a decade in Congress, helped craft House Speaker Paul Ryan's plan to privatize Medicare - a position Trump opposed in the campaign.

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"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."  
- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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# Preparing a Smooth Transition for the Repeal of Obamacare

By **Nina Owcharenko** and **Edmund F. Haislmaier**  
**Heritage Foundation**

It is vital that the new Administration, Congress, and state officials orchestrate a smooth and methodical transition for the repeal of Obamacare. For this smooth transition to take place, Congress should act immediately to initiate repeal and the Administration should take aggressive administrative actions to stabilize the private market for the upcoming 2018 plan cycle. The Administration, Congress, and the states should then coordinate efforts to begin the process to have a set of reforms in place for the 2019 plan cycle.

## Setting a Strategic Timeline

The timing is crucial with respect to provisions affecting private insurance markets. For 2017, insurance plans are already set, and the 2017 annual

enrollment period will still be underway as the new Congress and Administration take office. At the same time, insurers will be preparing their 2018 plan offerings, which they will need to finalize by May 2017.

With respect to the legislative timing, the sequencing is also crucial. Some budget experts have suggested that Congress could take a two-budgets/two-reconciliations approach to enacting repeal-and-replace legislation.

The first step would be for Congress to pass a budget for fiscal year (FY) 2017, followed by an FY 2017 reconciliation package that repeals the major budgetary components of Obamacare. The second step would be for Congress to pass a budget for FY 2018, again followed by an FY 2018 reconciliation package that enacts a set

of replace components.

To ensure a smooth transition between repeal and replacement, Congress (as it did in a previous version of reconciliation) could set the effective dates of provisions so that key elements of current law (such as subsidies) do not expire before their replacement components are in place.

## What Should Be Done

The following recommendations can help guide the new Administration, Congress, and state officials through this complex process to ensure a seamless and successful repeal of Obamacare:

Maximize the reconciliation process for repeal. Last year, Congress passed (and President Obama vetoed) a reconciliation package that repealed the major budgetary provisions of Obamacare. Specifically, it repealed the various tax provisions,

ended the individual and employer mandates, and sunset the subsidies for exchange and Medicaid coverage at the end of two years. Although vetoed by President Obama, this effort provided a solid road map for a future repeal.

This time, Congress should go further and push to include the costly insurance mandates in the reconciliation package: specifically, the age rating, essential benefits, and actuarial value limitations. These specific regulations have driven up the cost of premiums by as much as 44 percent for young adults and 7 percent for pre-retirees. In addition, it is essential to establish—either through reconciliation or through other legislation—more sensible rules on preexisting condition exclusions in order to restrict the “gaming the system” behaviors that also have played a

large role in driving up premiums under Obamacare.

Execute an aggressive regulatory rollback. While only Congress can make the necessary statutory changes, the new Administration can support and encourage those legislative efforts by aggressively rolling back many of the regulations implementing Obamacare.[5] Rolling back and loosening the regulations would help to stabilize markets in 2017 and 2018 and offer consumers tangible evidence that relief is on the way.

Equally important, it would signal the new direction in health care reform to insurers, employers, and other stakeholders and give health plans clearer guidance in developing their offerings for the 2018 plan year. If Congress is able to move legislation repealing some or all of the costly insurance mandates and restore more stable market rules faster than regulatory rollback, so much the better.

Accelerate state-level action to restore authority over health insurance markets. With the repeal of Obamacare imminent, states should act in their 2017 legislative sessions to have replacement market rules ready to take effect upon repeal. As they prepare to reclaim authority over the regulation of their health insurance markets, rather than simply returning to the pre-Obamacare status quo, states should develop a package of alternative insurance reforms. Most urgently, they should review their benefit mandates, rating rules, and other regulatory barriers to ensure that these regulations do not raise the cost of coverage, do not limit choice, do not drive down competition, and do not hamper innovation.[6]

With regard to the Medicaid expansion, those states that expanded Medicaid will have to consider adjustments to accommodate elimination of the enhanced federal match rate. States could either continue the coverage for these able-bodied adults under the traditional match rate, with the possibility of receiving greater flexibility

through the traditional waiver process, or consider a state-only alternative that would not be tethered to the statutory restrictions in the Medicaid program and would enable the states to define and design health care arrangements as they see fit.

Begin the process for replacement. The new Administration and Congress will have to begin the legislative process for replacement in 2017. There are various legislative proposals that capture the essence of replacement, but they must now work their way through the legislative process for consideration. The goal should be to have the legislation completed by the end of 2017 so that the Administration can begin the regulation and implementation phase in 2018 for the 2019 plan year.

Congress should tackle equalizing the tax treatment of health insurance for those who are with and without employer-based coverage, develop common insurance market reforms, and modernize both the Medicare and Medicaid programs to facilitate greater choice and competition.[7] Such reforms need not be presented in one comprehensive legislative package (as Obamacare was) but could instead be a set of reforms to be advanced prudently through the legislative process.

## Conclusion

Timing and sequencing of these efforts are complex, and proper execution is critical. Congress, the new Administration, and the states should work together both to ensure a smooth transition for the repeal of Obamacare and to create a path toward a more patient-centered, market-based approach to reforming the health care system.

—Nina Owcharenko is Director, Domestic Policy Studies, and Preston A. Wells, Jr., Fellow in the Institute for Family, Community, and Opportunity at The Heritage Foundation. Edmund F. Haislmaier is a Senior Research Fellow in the Institute for Family, Community, and Opportunity.

# Microsoft buying all the power future western Kansas wind farm will produce

Electricity from a wind farm under construction in western Kansas will supply the power for a Microsoft data center in Wyoming, which stores cloud-based data from around the nation.

Microsoft has signed a 10-year-contract to purchase all 178 megawatts of power from the Bloom Wind Project, which is now under construction on 15,000 acres in Ford and Clark counties, about 20 miles south of Dodge City.

Alberta, Canada-based Capital Power, which owns the project, expects to start taking turbine deliveries in January and to go online by the third quarter of 2017, according to Capital Power's website.

Microsoft will couple the Kansas-generated power with the 59-megawatt Happy Jack and Silver Sage wind farms in Wyoming. The combined output of the three projects will produce enough energy on an annual basis to cover the energy used at the Cheyenne, Wyoming, datacenter, said Brian Janous, director of energy strategy at Microsoft.

“We’ve actually been in the

business of procuring renewable energy for our operations for the last number of years, but one of the challenges we run into is that electricity markets don’t always cooperate with us,” Janous said.

So the datacenter will not directly tap into the electricity generated some 450 miles south, but instead draw from the power pool the wind energy goes into.

“Our goal is to ensure every megawatt of power we pull of the system has a megawatt of clean energy being put on the grid somewhere on our behalf,” Janous said. “We can’t dictate that a utility build that power for us. Utilities are subject to public service of their communities and federal rules and regulations.”

“Think of it like a pool,” Janous said. “If you scoop water out of one end of the pool and simultaneously pour water in the other end, the pool hasn’t changed. The (electric) grid works the same way. We’re not extracting the same molecules we put in, but the overall mix of electrons has that much more green energy than it did be-

fore.”

By agreeing to buy all the energy generated by the wind farm long-term, though not directly financing the capital costs for its construction, it helps ensure it is built, Janous said. It also helps Microsoft lock in a long-term rate for the electricity.

“We’ve been looking for projects in this region for some time,” Janous said, when asked “Why Kansas wind?”

“We have a goal to eventually supply all our datacenters with renewable energy,” he said. “We are actively looking throughout the west and Midwest for projects that might align with our goals in terms of timing and price and ability to execute. It is an ongoing process for us. This project just fit the bill for us.”

The datacenters themselves are large rooms full of rows and rows of computer servers, Janous said.

“Most of the energy consumed at these sites is for running these servers, which are very energy-intensive operations,” he said.

“The number one thing driving us as a company is an ongoing commitment to carbon neutrality since 2012,” Janous said. “It’s a long-standing commitment and we continue to evolve our approach how to achieve it. As an energy-intensive operation, it’s really important as we grow our global footprint to be cognizant of the legacy we’re leaving as we do so.”

There are also economic drivers pointing the company to wind, Janous admitted.

“The price of wind has continued to come down over the last several years, with improvements in turbine heights and design and the overall efficiencies of the turbines themselves,” he said. “All that has led to significant improvement in price, which made it even more attractive to a corporation like Microsoft.”

The decade-long fixed price contract for power is actually between Capital Power and Allianz Risk Transfer, an international insurance group, and Microsoft has contracted with Allianz to purchase the power.

“One thing unique about this agreement is it’s the first time an insurance company has been involved in a renewable power transaction like that,” Janous said. “Typically it’s between the developer and the buyer. In this case, Alliance stepped in to provide some amount of transferring the risk from the buyer and seller.”

There is additional risk with wind power in that it is not always producing and, unlike a gas power plant, for example, cannot be ramped up and down as loads or prices rise or fall.

“It doesn’t perfectly match consumption on the other end,” he said. “We’re constantly scooping energy out, but wind is not constantly putting it in. One of the roles of the insurance company is to act as an intermediary, taking some of the risk volumetrically, removing that risk from the buyer and seller. They’re better able to manage and assume that risk than the buyer or seller.”

## Kansas legislator, federal judge Richard Rogers dies at 94

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Richard Rogers, a decorated war veteran who served in both chambers of the Kansas Legislature before spending 40 years as a federal judge, has died. He was 94.

Rogers died Friday evening at a Topeka care center, The Topeka Capital-Journal reported (<http://bit.ly/2gyG2g9>). Stewart Funeral Home in Wamego said he died of natural causes.

Rogers was born Dec. 29, 1921, in Oberlin, which is in northwestern Kansas. His family moved to Wamego when he was in the first grade.

He graduated from Wamego High School in 1939 and from Kansas State University in 1943. Later that year he joined the Army Air Corps and completed Officers Candidate School.

Rogers flew 33 combat missions as a bombardier in a B-24 heavy bomber over Europe in World War II, receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross.

He left the military in 1945 and graduated from the University of Kansas Law School in 1947 before entering private legal practice.

Rogers married Beth Stewart in 1946. She died in 1983, but their two daughters and son are still alive. In 1987, Rogers married one of his tenants, Cynthia Conklin, a single mother of two.

“He fell in love with the kids and I. He is a wonderful father,” Cindy Rogers told The Capital-Journal last year.

Rogers served four years in the Kansas House of Representatives and eight years in the state Senate, where he served as the chamber's president in

1975.

President Gerald Ford appointed Rogers in August 1975 to a U.S. District Court judgeship based in Topeka. He was named a senior U.S. District judge in 1989 and took inactive status in 2015 while continuing to serve the court as a consultant.

J. Thomas Marten, chief U.S. District Court Judge for Kansas, said attorneys enjoyed arguing cases before Rogers because of his sense of humor, breadth of knowledge and his love of people.

“He was an exquisite human being and a hero to a whole lot of people, including me,” Marten said, describing Rogers as a “judge’s judge.”

Services for Rogers will be private and will be open only to family and friends, Cincy Rogers said.

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## The People Have Spoken: Change Must Start Now

Jim DeMint  
President  
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Last night, the American people soundly rejected the failed liberal policies of Hillary Clinton and the broken legacy of President Barack Obama.

Instead, they elected a candidate who vowed to restore their jobs, protect their borders, strive for peace, respect the Constitution, and make their country great again.

Early on in the campaign, Clinton chose to ignore policy and focus on personal attacks. Federal overspending, failing schools, tax hikes, illegal immigration, and other issues Americans care deeply about were thrown aside for a personality-driven campaign.

But the public did not like the person behind the personality.

The dealings of the Clinton Foundation revealed disturbing allegiance to global elites, while leaked emails showed her campaign's contempt for the priorities and faiths of regular Americans. To top it off, the voters could not stomach electing a candidate repeatedly investigated by the FBI for mishandling classified material.

Donald Trump's campaign was divisive to many Americans, and upended the conventional wisdom of nearly every talking head and professional

politician in the country. But he spoke to the concerns of a people too often ignored by the mainstream media and ruling elites. He offered a vision of a secure nation, of policies which promote opportunity for all, and an end to dysfunctional big government programs like Obamacare.

And America chose.

This year, we saw millions of Americans rekindle their political passion in opposition to massive unconstitutional government and in defense of a nation that values the prosperity of its citizens over the interests of foreign powers. Conservatives cannot afford to extinguish or ignore this flame; we must tend it, grow it, and keep the watch fires of liberty burning, side by side with our allies, new and old.

The Trump White House promises to be a place where pro-growth, pro-liberty, and pro-life ideas get a fair hearing. It is now the happy task of conservatives, like the hundreds of thousands of members of The Heritage Foundation, to ensure that those ideas lead the way.

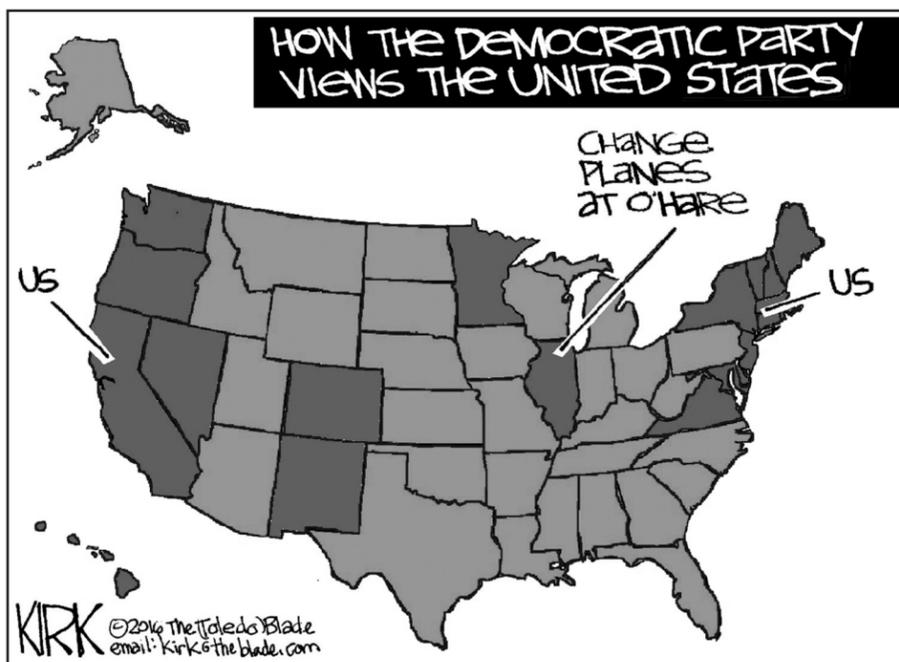
Every new administration needs to be reminded of its purpose, held to its promises, and kept on the right track. That's what we're preparing to do here at The Heritage Foundation.

For months, we have worked with the Trump transition team to ensure they have the best staff and best institutional knowledge of the executive branch. A Trump administration will need to make 5,000 new federal appointments; conservatives are working to ensure appointees are people who will serve the Constitution and protect the rights of all Americans.

Heritage has also released the Mandate for Leadership series, offering the new administration a path to balance the federal budget, a comprehensive policy agenda, and a guide to presidential and Cabinet-level priorities to achieve a conservative long-term policy vision. It should be a cornerstone of the 2017 agenda for the White House.

There is also important work in the days and months ahead to unite the conservative movement so that we can build a nation where freedom, opportunity, prosperity, and civil society flourish.

Making these advancements a reality is going to be a challenge, but nothing could be more challenging than the last eight years we've weathered. We have the opportunity to bring morning to America once more. I hope you will join us.



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# Texas Announces Its First Locally Transmitted Zika Case

DALLAS (AP) — Texas on Monday reported its first case of Zika virus that likely came from a mosquito bite within the state.

Florida is the only other state in the U.S. with locally spread Zika. Health officials say that the woman who was infected in Texas is a resident of Brownsville, located on the border the state shares with Mexico. But health officials said she reported no recent travel to Mexico or any other country with ongoing Zika outbreaks.

Until the Florida cases, all the cases in the U.S. were connected to travel to countries with outbreaks, mostly in Latin America and the Caribbean.

“We knew it was only a matter of time before we saw a Zika case spread by a mosquito in Texas,” Dr. John Hellerstedt, commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services, said in a news release. “We still don’t believe the virus will become widespread in Texas, but there could be more cases, so people need to protect themselves from mosquito bites, especially in parts of the state that stay relatively warm in the fall and winter.”

The Texas health department



**This is the Zika Ranch in Blue Rapids, Ks. It is owned by the U.S. Corps of Engineers and they have no plans to clean the old Blue River bed. As the Zika virus moves from Texas to Kansas it will be places like this owned by the U.S Corps of Engineers that will bring on the problems for the State of Kansas.**

said there are currently no other homegrown cases, but health officials continue to watch for them. Zika is transmitted to people primarily through the bite of an infected mosquito, though sexual transmission can occur.

The Texas case was confirmed last week by a lab test. Officials say testing indicates the virus can no longer be spread from her by mosquitoes.

The woman is not pregnant. Infection during pregnancy can

lead to severe brain-related birth defects.

Chris Van Deusen, a spokesman for the state health department, said the woman had fallen ill and gone to her doctor, who ordered the Zika

test. Van Deusen said six members of the woman’s household were also tested and do not have the virus.

Most infected people don’t get sick. It can cause a mild illness, with fever, rash and joint

pain.

Health workers will be going door-to-door in the area around the patient’s home to educate the public, help people reduce potential mosquito breeding habitats and collect voluntary urine samples to find out if there are other infections.

Health officials for the state and Cameron County are working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to investigate the case. State officials say further investigation is necessary to try to figure out how and where the woman was infected.

Officials have been trapping and testing mosquitoes to learn more about activity near her home. Brownsville has recently sprayed for mosquitoes in the area and will continue to work on reducing the mosquito population.

Through last week, Texas has had 257 confirmed cases of Zika virus disease. Until now, all cases in Texas had been associated with travel, including two infants born to women who had traveled during their preg-

## Letter.. 500 million people infected by mosquitos

### Dragonflies and Swamps

The city of Blue Rapids has, for some time, been asking the US Army Corps of Engineers to “drain the swamp” close to the city fairgrounds due to concerns over dangerous mosquito populations and the Zika virus. So far, these requests have denied for a variety of reasons and the whole issue has been seen as a possible over reaction to lake water and bugs. For a better review of the facts, we might take a second look at the reasons why folks think this is a much bigger threat than just a few pesky mosquitoes.

First of all, more people worldwide are killed by mosquitoes than any other animal. It is estimated that in 2016 there were 500 million people infected and 1 million deaths (World Health Organization). The Aedes Aegypti is the carrier of Zika and is probably the most dangerous of all species. We act like this is some new scare to the US? Hardly- they have been around for 210 million years! Females lay 300 eggs every 3 days in only 1 inch of water. In just days, the pupae turn into flying mosquitoes. Cold weather? No problem -

.they can even hibernate in ice.

What else can these “super-predators” do?

They can track you down just by following the long trail of CO2 plume from your breath and if this is not enough, they can detect the 340 chemical odors that your body emits in your sweat. To find the best capillaries to feed on, they detect the heat from your blood. Most mosquitoes bite at night. Not these guys! Aedes Aegypti is one of the few killers that bites during the day and indoors as well.

So, you here we have a heat-

seeking missile with the nose of a bloodhound and a mouth full of killer viruses. While they feast on your blood, they inject you with a needle thinner than a human hair. You might just swat them and go about your business, or you may be one of the 2 million that die from these diseases:

(Maybe the folks in Blue Rapids do have some important concern after all.)

We are given lots of excuses about why we cannot solve this dreaded problem that has killed more people than all the world wars. We have heard it will cost

too much or that other birds and mammals depend on mosquitoes for food, or we can’t possibly kill all the mosquitoes in the world. (South Carolina recently goofed this up by trying to spray for Zika mosquitoes and killed 2.5 million honey bees.) How about a smart, cheap and effective way of doing this by using nature as a friend instead of an enemy? The two main mosquito predators are fish and dragonflies

Some towns in Maine release dragonflies every summer as a natural form of mosquito control. . Gambusia, or mosqui-

tofish, feed on mosquito larvae and are used all over the world to help control mosquito populations. Dragonfly larvae, called nymphs, eat mosquito larvae, and adult dragonflies prey on adult mosquitoes. And... keep in mind that K-State has a well-developed entomology (insect) department that might want a grant to raise thousands of dragonflies and Milford has a great fish hatchery and might want to stock special fish that eat mosquito larvae.

Steve Pfister- Manhattan KS

## Pleas pile up for Kansas presidential electors

Hutchinson (AP) Republican Ashley McMillan Hutchinson of Concordia responded to some of the emails flooding her inbox until they crashed the email server last weekend.

Kansas Republican Party Chairman Kelly Arnold and outgoing State Rep. Mark Kahrs, R-Wichita, have received more than 25,000 emails - apiece.

They are among the six Kansans who will cast presidential and vice presidential Electoral College votes in the State Capitol shortly after noon on Dec. 19. Across the country, other presidential electors will gather in a designated place in their state to vote Dec. 19 - the “first Monday after the second Wednesday in December” following the November presidential election.

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton won

more total number of votes Nov. 8 than Republican candidate Donald J. Trump, but Trump won states that, combined, gave him the winning number of electoral votes. And it’s the electoral votes that ultimately matter.

There are 538 electors, and Kansas’ six is based on the state’s combined seats in the U.S. Senate and in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Because electoral votes have not yet been cast, some people see an opportunity to shape history. A www.change.org petition drive trying to persuade electors to switch to Clinton had more than 4.6 million followers as of Saturday.

“I receive around 500 emails an hour, 20 pieces of snail mail a day (this has slowed), phone calls, texts, Facebook messages, and linked-in messages,” Hutchinson wrote in an email

response to The News Saturday.

Well over 20,000 emails flowed into Kahrs’ State House of Representatives’ email account, and senders found other online addresses for him, too. “I’m getting dozens of actual letters, too,” he also said.

Arnold said the messages represent a mixed bag: Some urge him to vote for Clinton or to abstain or to vote for another Republican, such as 2012 GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney or for Ohio Gov. John Kasich.

“I can’t figure it out,” Arnold said. Some want to send the election to the U.S. House of Representatives for resolution, but Republicans control the House, so it’s a moot point, he said.

Topeka Republican Helen Van Etten, another elector, said some of those sending communications are from Kansas, but

99 percent are not Republicans. Van Etten has been an elector before, and many Democrats wanted her to vote for Obama, she said.

Because the Trump-Pence ticket won 57 percent of the vote in Kansas, it’s the Republican slate of electors that will cast the state’s electoral votes. Electors in some states risk a penalty if they defect from the candidate who won the popular vote in their state. In Kansas, electors are not bound by law or under threat of penalty if they switch, and that makes them ripe for petition circulators.

However, the Kansas electors are not an easily moved. “The party selects as its slate of electors only people who are 100% reliable to vote for the winner of the state’s popular vote,” said Kansas Republican Party Executive Director - and an elector - Clayton Barker.

The other electors’ titles:

Arnold is chairman and Hutchinson is vice chairman of the Kansas Republican Party; elector Ron Estes ran successfully as Republican to be Kansas State Treasurer; and Van Etten and Kahrs are the state GOP’s national committeewoman and committeeman, respectively.

“Absolutely, unequivocally, without question,” said Kahrs, he will be voting for Tump.

Kahrs expects if Clinton had carried Kansas, the presidential electors of the Kansas Democratic Party would be just as committed to voting for Clinton.

Kansas statute spells out that an elector will be paid \$3. Mileage will be compensated at 15 cents a mile, the statute says.

Arnold was an elector before, and he can’t remember if he cashed his check or kept it as souvenir.



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KU's red shirt freshman Carter Stanley (9) is taken down by Trey Dishon (99) and Jordan Willis (75) for Kansas state. That is 558 lbs. on top when he hits the ground.

## K-State beats Kansas 34-19 to give Bill Snyder win No. 200

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — Bill Snyder was doused in ice water as the final seconds ticked off the clock on his 200th career win, then carried off the field by his celebrating Kansas State players after their final home game.

Then, Snyder promptly brought everyone back to reality.

"You know, I probably don't sound in a pretty good mood," he said, "but I'm responsive to how we played and we played rather ugly today. I don't feel good about that, I assure you."

Alex Barnes ran for 103 yards and a touchdown, Winston Dimel had two scores on the ground and the Wildcats managed to overcome penalties, turnovers and miscues for a 34-19 victory over Kansas on

Saturday that allowed their 77-year-old coach to join some rarified company.

Snyder became the 26th coach to achieve 200 wins and the sixth to do so spending his entire career at one school, joining Joe Paterno, LaVelle Edwards, Tom Osborne, Chris Ault and Vince Dooley.

Snyder has 161 more wins than the second-winningest coach in Kansas State history.

"It's something you appreciate being part of," said Kansas State linebacker Elijah Lee, who had eight tackles and an interception, "doing something special for Coach Snyder."

The Wildcats (7-4, 5-3 Big 12) went through three quarterbacks because of injuries, though Joe Hubener managed to return to the game. Jesse Ertz

went down early in the second half, though Snyder said he doesn't believe the undisclosed injury is serious.

"I haven't talked to the trainers and doctors yet," he said, "but it was my understand he's fine."

Carter Stanley threw for 302 yards and two touchdowns for the Jayhawks (2-10, 1-8), but the freshman quarterback spent the entire game taking wicked blows behind a beat-up offensive line.

Stanley also made a crucial mistake when he threw an interception that Donnie Starks returned for a touchdown to set the tone early in the game. The pick-six followed a touchdown run by Barnes early in the second quarter and gave Kansas State a 20-3, and it eventually

grew to 27-3 early in the second half.

"They certainly did a good job today of doing what they needed to do," Kansas coach David Beaty said. "There were way too many mistakes for us to overcome."

The Jayhawks' biggest highlight came when Stanley, who assumed the starting job a few weeks ago, connected with LaQuionte Gonzalez for a 95-yard touchdown pass — the third-longest in school history. Stanley also found Michael Zunica with a short TD pass early in the fourth quarter.

Stanley also fumbled with about 2 minutes left to prevent any sort of comeback.

"I take my hat off to Carter Stanley. He's a tough dude, man. He kept getting up off the

floor and he got hit in a bunch of different ways today," Beaty said. "He's never rattled and that's something you want in your quarterback."

### THE TAKEAWAY

Kansas was coming off an overtime win over Texas, its first Big 12 win in two years, and aiming for back-to-back victories for the first time in five years. But the Jayhawks still have a long way to go to catch up to their biggest rival, which has won 21 of the past 25 meetings.

Kansas State was far from perfect. There was a muffed on-side kick, an extra point that was blocked, a fumble by Hubener in the closing minutes and five penalties that left Snyder miffed on the sideline.

### LOOKING FORWARD

Kansas running back Ke'aun Kinner thinks the Jayhawks are moving in the right direction, even if the senior won't be around to see it. "We came closer. The class of young guys on this team is spectacular. They got a lot of talent," he said, "and as long as they keep jelling together and getting better every day ... they're going to be a force next year."

### K-STATE GROUNDED

The Wildcats piled up 342 yards and four TDs rushing, the fifth straight game they've gone over 200 yards. But their three quarterbacks combined to go 6 of 11 for 99 yards, and Snyder lamented the lack of balance in the offense. "I'm not overly enthused," he said. "We have to get better."



K-State's Winston Dimel (38) had two scores on the ground.



K-State's Dante Barnett (22) takes the legs out from under KU's Denzell Evans (23).



Photos by  
**Jon Brake**  
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17th Year of K-State  
Football

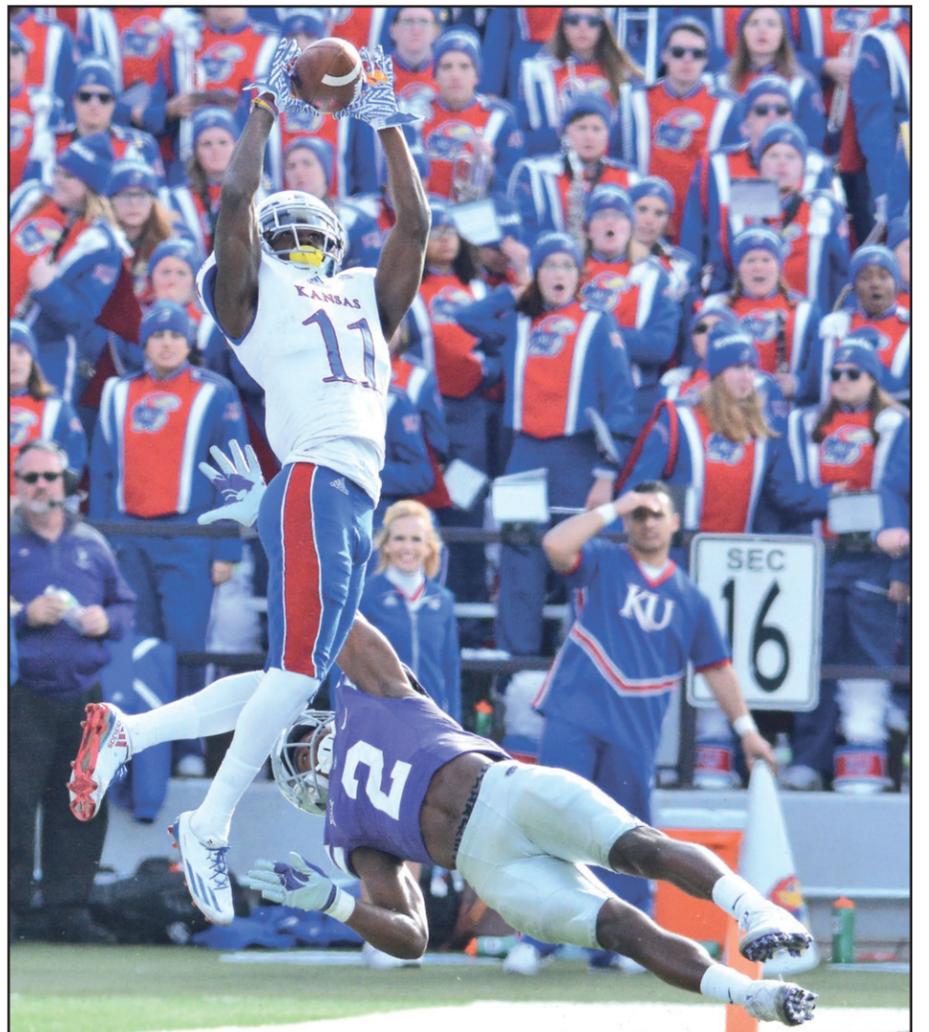
# K-State beats Kansas 34-19 to give Bill Snyder win No. 200



Kansas State's running back Alex Barnes (34) reaches for the goal for a touchdown.



KSU new President Richard Myer gives Coach Bill Snyder the 200 win game ball.



KU's Steven Sims Jr. (11) goes high for the ball in the end zone.



Winston Dimel (38) picks up another touchdown.



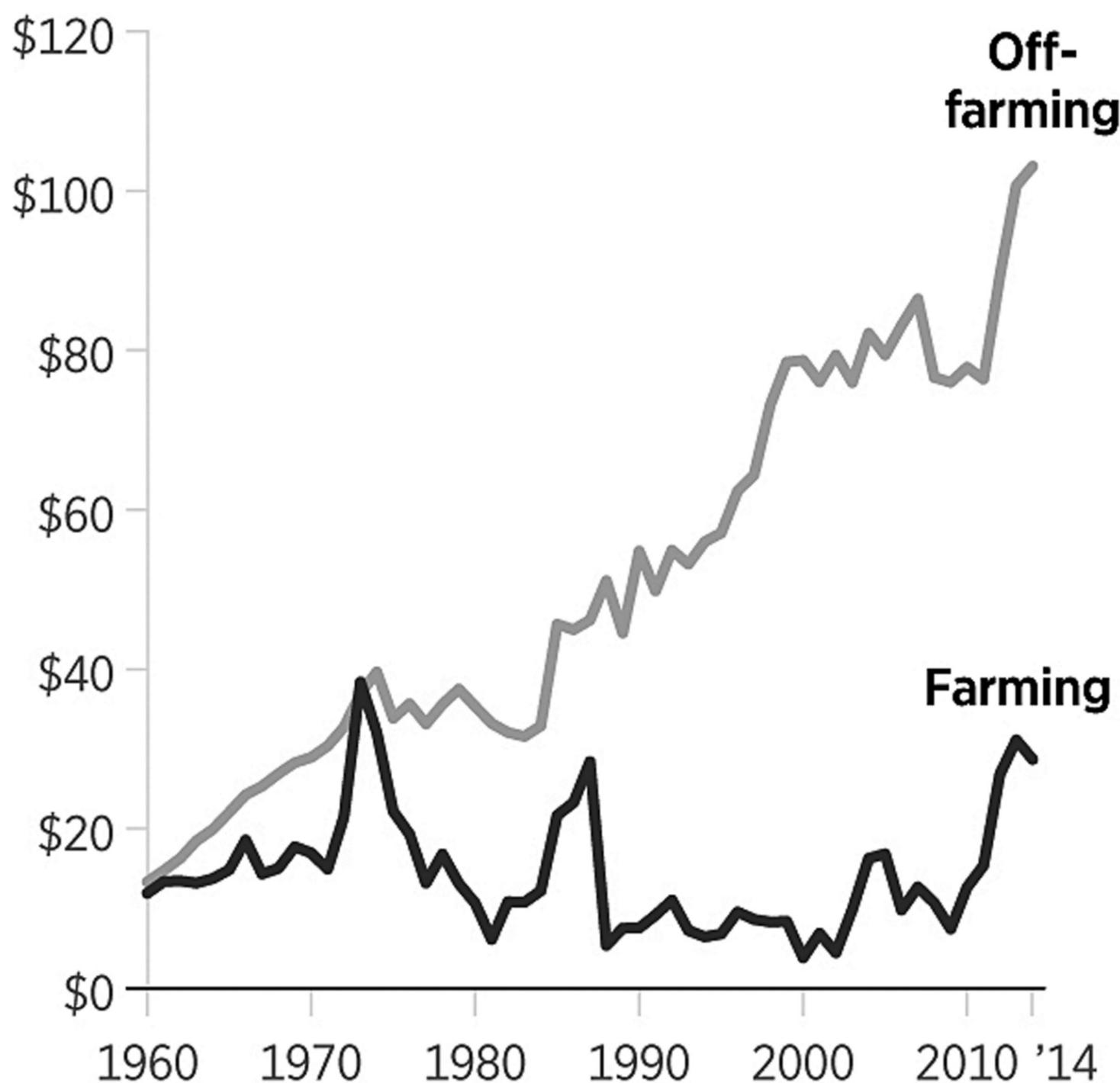
## Ben Brake

Free Press  
Photographer  
16th Year of K-State  
Basketball

CHART 4

# Average Farm Household Income by Source

IN THOUSANDS OF 2014 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS



**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, "Historic Data on Mean and Median Farm Operator Household Income and Ratio of Farm Household to U.S. Household Income, 1960-2014," <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/farm-household-income-and-characteristics.aspx> (accessed January 5, 2016).



# Free Press Big 12 Sports

## Big 12 Standings

School	Big 12	Overall
Oklahoma	8 - 0	9 - 2 .818
Okla State	7 - 1	9 - 2 .818
West Virginia	6 - 2	9 - 2 .818
Kansas State	5 - 3	7 - 4 .636
TCU	4 - 4	6 - 5 .545
Baylor	3 - 5	6 - 5 .545
Texas	3 - 6	5 - 7 .417
Texas Tech	3 - 6	5 - 7 .417
Iowa State	2 - 7	3 - 9 .250
Kansas	1 - 8	2 - 10 .167

## Kansas State Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/ TV
Friday Sep. 2	at Stanford	Loss 13 - 26
Sat. Sep. 10	OFF	
Sat. Sep. 17	Florida Atl.	Win 63 - 7
Sat. Sep. 24	Missouri State	Win 35 - 0
Sat. Oct. 1	at West Virginia	Loss 16 - 17
Sat. Oct. 8	Texas Tech	Win 44 - 38
Sat. Oct. 15	at Oklahoma	Loss 38 - 17
Sat. Oct. 22	Texas	Win 24 - 21
Sat. Oct. 29	at Iowa State	Win 31 - 26
Sat. Nov. 5	Oklahoma State	Loss 37 - 43
Sat. Nov. 12	--- OFF ---	---
Sat. Nov. 19	at Baylor	Win 42 - 21
Sat. Nov. 26	Kansas	Win 34 - 19
Sat. Dec. 3	at TCU	TBA

## Kansas Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/ TV
Sat, Sept. 3	Rhode Island	Win 55 - 6
Sat, Sept. 10	Ohio	Loss 21 - 37
Sat, Sept. 17	at Memphis	Loss 7 - 43
Thu, Sept. 29	at TT	Loss 19 - 55
Sat, Oct. 8	TCU	Loss 24 - 23
Sat, Oct. 15	at Baylor	Loss 7 - 49
Sat, Oct. 22	Okla. St.	Loss 20 - 44
Sat, Oct. 29	at Oklahoma	Loss 3 - 56
Sat, Nov. 5	at West Virginia	Loss 21 - 48
Sat, Nov. 12	Iowa State	Loss 21 - 34
Sat, Nov. 19	Texas	Win 24 - 21
Sat, Nov. 26	at Kansas State	

## Big 12 Football Schedule

Date	Home Team	Away Team	Location	Time (CT)	Media
* Sat, Dec 03	Oklahoma	Oklahoma State	Norman, Okla.	TBA	Live Stats
* Sat, Dec 03	West Virginia	Baylor	Morgantown, W. Va.	TBA	Live Stats
* Sat, Dec 03	TCU	Kansas State	Fort Worth, Texas	TBA	Live Stats

## Big 12 Standings

School	Big 12	Overall
Baylor	0 - 0	3 - 0 1.000
Iowa State	0 - 0	3 - 0 1.000
Kansas State	0 - 0	3 - 0 1.000
Okla State	0 - 0	3 - 0 1.000
TCU	0 - 0	3 - 0 1.000
Texas	0 - 0	3 - 0 1.000
Texas Tech	0 - 0	3 - 0 1.000
West Virginia	0 - 0	3 - 0 1.000
Oklahoma	0 - 0	3 - 1 .750
Kansas	0 - 0	2 - 1 .667

## Kansas State Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/ TV
Sun, Nov 20 vs	Hampton	6:00 PM ET
Tue, Nov 22 vs	Robert Morris	8:00 PM ET
Fri, Nov 25 vs	Boston College*	7:00 PM ET
Wed, Nov 30 vs	Green Bay	8:00 PM ET
Sat, Dec 3 @	Saint Louis	8:00 PM ET
Tue, Dec 6 vs	Prairie View A&M	8:00 PM ET ESPN 3
Sat, Dec 10 vs	Washington State	8:00 PM ET ESPN 3
Sat, Dec 17 vs	Colorado State*	3:00 PM ET CBS Sports
Wed, Dec 21 vs	Gardner-Webb	8:00 PM ET ESPN 3
Fri, Dec 30 vs	#21 Texas	8:00 PM ET ESPNews
Tue, Jan 3 @	#3 Kansas	9:00 PM ET
Sat, Jan 7 vs	Oklahoma	3:00 PM ET ESPNews
Tue, Jan 10 @	Texas Tech	9:15 PM ET ESPNews
Sat, Jan 14 vs	Baylor	4:30 PM ET
Wed, Jan 18 @	Oklahoma State	9:00 PM ET
Sat, Jan 21 vs	#20 West Virginia	4:00 PM ET
Tue, Jan 24 @	#24 Iowa State	9:00 PM ET

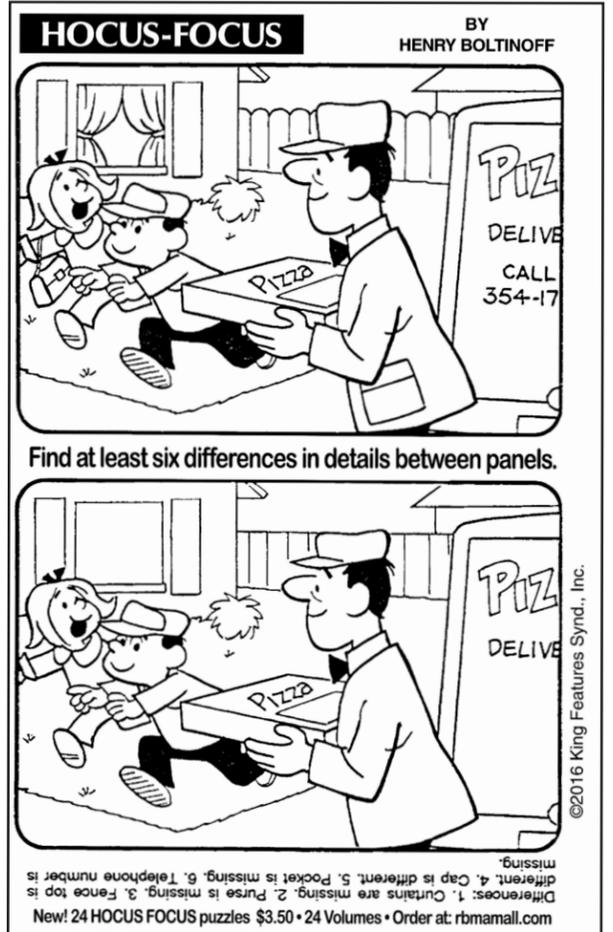
## Kansas Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/ TV
11/18/2016	Siena	Lawrence, Kan. 7 p.m.
	CBE Hall of Fame Classic	
11/21/2016	UAB	Kansas City, Mo. 8:30 p.m.
11/22/2016	Georgia or George Washington	
	Kansas City, Mo. TBA	
11/25/2016	UNC Asheville	Lawrence, Kan. 7 p.m.
11/29/2016	Long Beach State	Lawrence, Kan. 7 p.m.
12/3/2016	Stanford	Lawrence, Kan. 2:30 p.m.
12/6/2016	UMKC	Lawrence, Kan. 7 p.m.
12/10/2016	Nebraska	Lawrence, Kan. 2:15 p.m.
	Jayhawk Shootout	
12/17/2016	Davidson	Kansas City, Mo. 6 p.m.
12/22/2016	UNLV	Las Vegas, Nev. 8 p.m.
12/30/2016	TCU	Fort Worth, Texas 8 p.m.
1/3/2017	Kansas State	Lawrence, Kan. 8 p.m.
1/7/2017	Texas Tech	Lawrence, Kan. 6:15 p.m.
1/10/2017	Oklahoma	Norman, Okla. 8 p.m.

## Big 12 Men Basketball Schedule

Date	Home Team	Away Team	Location	Time (CT)	Media
Thu, Dec 01	Iowa State	Cincinnati	Ames, Iowa	8:00 p.m.	ESPN
Fri, Dec 02	Texas	Alabama	Austin, Texas	8:30 p.m.	ESPNU
Sat, Dec 03	TCU	Arkansas State	Fort Worth, Texas	TBA	Live Stats
Sat, Dec 03	Maryland	Oklahoma State	College Park, MD	TBA	BTN
Sat, Dec 03	Wisconsin	Oklahoma	Madison, Wis.	12:00 p.m.	BTN
Sat, Dec 03	Virginia	West Virginia	Charlottesville, VA	1:00 p.m.	ESPNU
Sat, Dec 03	Texas Tech	Rice	Lubbock, Texas	1:00 p.m.	FSSW
Sat, Dec 03	Kansas	Stanford	Lawrence, Kan.	2:30 p.m.	ESPN
Sat, Dec 03	Baylor	Xavier	Waco, Texas	2:30 p.m.	ESPN2
Sat, Dec 03	Saint Louis	Kansas State	St. Louis, Mo.	7:00 p.m.	FSMW
Mon, Dec 05	Iowa State	Omaha	Ames, Iowa	7:00 p.m.	
Tue, Dec 06	Kansas	UMKC	Lawrence, Kan.	7:00 p.m.	ESPN3
Tue, Dec 06	Kansas State	Prairie View	Manhattan, Kan.	7:00 p.m.	FSKC
Tue, Dec 06	Michigan	Texas	Ann Arbor, Mich.	8:00 p.m.	ESPN2

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## King Crossword

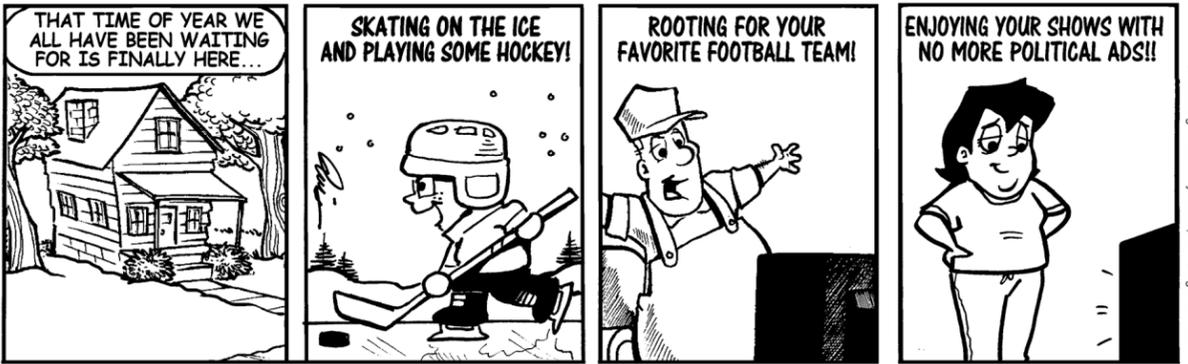
- ACROSS**
- 1 Timber wolf
  - 5 U.K. television option
  - 8 Lily variety
  - 12 Opposed to, slangily
  - 13 Always, in verse
  - 14 Mimicked
  - 15 Get bigger
  - 16 Banner
  - 18 "— Street"
  - 20 Leads
  - 21 Edges
  - 23 Adam's mate
  - 24 Recklessly
  - 28 Book after Joel
  - 31 Sphere
  - 32 "SNL" alumna Cheri
  - 34 Debt notice
  - 35 Seniors' dance
  - 37 Vexing situation
  - 39 By way of
  - 41 Use scissors
  - 42 Offering a nice view
- DOWN**
- 1 Trails behind
  - 2 Shrek is one
  - 3 Life stories, for short
  - 4 Ahead
  - 5 Huge monster
  - 6 Spelling contest
  - 7 Rugged cliff
  - 8 Digestive aid
  - 9 Widespread illness
  - 10 Kelly or
  - 11 Rhyming tributes
  - 17 Payable
  - 19 Venus de —
  - 22 Old daggers
  - 24 Bounce
  - 25 Blunder
  - 26 Especially
  - 27 Baby-sitters, often
  - 29 Partner of aah
  - 30 Take to court
  - 33 Personal (Pref.)
  - 36 Paid heed to
  - 38 Attraction
  - 40 Atmosphere
  - 42 Thin wedge
  - 43 Relinquish
  - 44 Buffalo Bill's last name
  - 46 Capri, e.g.
  - 47 Siestas
  - 48 Sudden rush of wind
  - 50 Individual

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Answers page 2

## Amber Waves



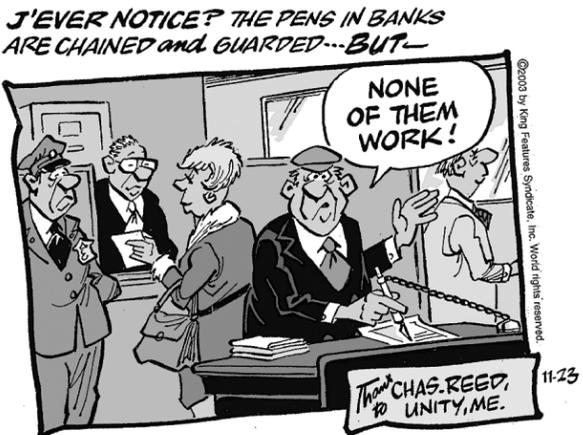
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## Bowl Games a One-of-a-Kind Experience for K-State Fans

### KSU Sports Information

Within about half an hour of receiving the email, Matthew Rivera, Ashley VanGilder and Sam Miller — three people with little in common — made a choice based on one similarity: their love for K-State football.

After K-State topped Baylor two weeks ago to become bowl eligible for the seventh-straight season, pre-order opportunities for the postseason became available to Wildcat fans.

Rivera, one of the first three people to place a pre-order, grew up Junction City and attended K-State for three years before taking a job in the banking industry. He now lives in Dallas, Texas, and is still a season-ticket holder for K-State football, which he's traveled to watch play in its last four bowl games. It's a streak he showed zero hesitation in extending.

"I got the email and I just figured I wanted to jump on the opportunity. It was probably within the first 30 minutes," said Rivera, who enjoys the unique passion within K-State's fan base. "To me it's about, like Coach Snyder says, it's family. When you see it on the stadium and you see it everywhere you go, it's that unity. I always wear my K-State polo when I travel for work and I'll have people who go by and say, 'Go Cats.' It's that feeling that we're all family and we always stay well connected."

VanGilder and her husband both graduated from K-State, where they played in the Pride of Wildcat Land Band. Both attended a pair of bowl games with the K-State marching band, a tradition they have continued within their family.

"My husband really wanted to go to the bowl game. He enrolled as soon as it showed up on his email or Twitter feed... probably within the first couple of minutes of it being announced," said VanGilder, a second-generation K-State graduate who teaches in Westmoreland. "It's a one-of-a-kind experience. The camaraderie you have there with the other fans, as well as the chance to maybe travel somewhere that you've never traveled to before, is really worth the experience."

For Miller, who grew up in Indiana but followed his parents' footsteps to K-State, it's something he's never been able to enjoy until this season.

"It's just something that I haven't experienced and something not every school gets the chance to experience," he said. "I just wanted to be part of that."

Pre-ordering bowl tickets can be accomplished a few different ways, all of which are explained at K-State's bowl game page of its website. Ahearn Fund members earn priority points for pre-ordering for the bowl at which the Wildcats play. Any fans who preorder tickets can do so for all of K-State's possible bowl destinations or only select games, and they will only be charged if the Wildcats are selected to one of the bowls they chose. Ticket preorders that are submitted to the ticket office by Friday, December 2 receive seating priority ahead of any tickets that are purchased following the bowl announcement on Sunday.

Wherever the Wildcats end up, thousands of fans like Rivera, VanGilder and Miller will follow. K-State has averaged just less than 20,000 fans



per game in 18 bowl trips, including at least 35,000 in six games.

VanGilder was at one of those six games, when K-State beat Syracuse at the Fiesta Bowl in 1997 in front of 45,000 Wildcat fans, which is still a school record for bowl attendance.

"There was actually very little orange in the stands. Most of the fan base was purple," she recalled. "There was a tiny little spot of orange with just this whole ocean of purple in the stadium, which was pretty amazing."

Rivera started his bowl experiences with the Wildcats' third trip to Fiesta Bowl, a 2013 matchup with Oregon with 40,000 K-State fans in atten-

dance. This passionate following continues to impress him.

"It amazes me every time I go to an away game or a bowl game is how many K-State fans and alumni are there," he said. "It's really neat to get everyone else's perspective. They're kind of shocked when they see that much purple. Even on the flights, it's pretty cool to talk to different people who realize what K-State's all about when they see how many of us travel to support our football team. It's a really cool experience."

Miller, making his first bowl trip, said he's eager to join the club.

"I'm looking forward to interacting with other K-State fans from around the country. I

know we have people from around the country who come to our home games, but it's definitely a wider range of fans that go to bowl games," he said. "I've enjoyed the people at K-State and how pretty much everyone at the school rallies around the team. I'm from a college town and that's certainly not the case with the team where I'm from, so it's just been a unique experience."

The experience can be made easier, said Terin Walters, Director of Development Programs and Travel at the K-State Alumni Association, by taking advantage of the Alumni Association's bowl travel package.

"The Alumni Association bowl travel package is the ideal experience for any K-State fan.

Our goal is to take care of all of the details — big and small — so that our fans can relax and enjoy the camaraderie of attending a bowl game with their fellow K-Staters," she said, adding that exclusive experiences and opportunities come with the bowl package. "Fans that attend bowl games leave with so many memories in addition to just attending the game. The pep rally is a great experience, and getting a chance to listen to Coach Snyder and the team captains express their appreciation for the fans reminds us what K-State is all about. The excitement of the players as they see the sea of purple in attendance makes it all worthwhile."

## At Least Seven Big 12 Teams Are Going Bowling

### Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl

Friday, Dec. 23 3:30 p.m. Fort Worth, Tx  
Big 12 vs. Navy / AAC ESPN

### Cactus Bowl

Tuesday, Dec. 27 9:15 p.m. Phoenix, Ariz.  
Big 12 vs. Pac-12 ESPN

### Russell Athletic Bowl

Wednesday, Dec. 28 4:30 p.m. Orlando, Fla.  
Big 12 vs. ACC/Notre Dame ESPN

### AdvoCare V100 Texas Bowl

Wednesday, Dec. 28 8 p.m. Houston, Texas  
Big 12 vs. SEC ESPN

### Valero Alamo Bowl

Thursday, Dec. 29 8 p.m. San Antonio, Tex  
Big 12 vs. Pac-12 ESPN

### AutoZone Liberty Bowl

Friday, Dec. 30 11 a.m. Memphis, Tenn.  
Big 12 vs. SEC ESPN

### CFP - Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl

Saturday Dec. 31 tba Atlanta, Ga.

Nat'l Semifinal ESPN

### CFP - Fiesta Bowl Dec. 31

tba Glendale, Ariz.  
Nat'l Semifinal ESPN

### Allstate Sugar Bowl

Monday, Jan. 2 7:30 p.m. New Orleans, La.  
Big 12 vs SEC ESPN

### CFP National Championship

Jan. 9 7:30 p.m. Tampa, Fla.  
Semifinal Winners ESPN

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