

Date change

Webster County Fair to be held week earlier than expected.
Page A5

Renaissance racer

Robby Gordon frustrated by cancellation of Dakar Rally.
Page C6

Hastings
Tribune
SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR MORE THAN 100 YEARS

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School district makes offer on office building

ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICES MAY BE MOVED
TO SOUTHWEST
HASTINGS

DEANN STUMPE
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The Hastings Public Schools administrative offices may soon have a new location to call home. An offer of \$300,000 has been made and accepted for the purchase of an office building at 1924 W. A St. The offer is contingent upon several things, including a title search, environmental study and possibly a survey of the land. The tentative closing date is June 13,

2008. The Board of Education is expected to take formal action on the offer at its regular meeting Monday. Superintendent Craig Kautz said the metal building, which is on the southwest side of Hastings, will work well for the district. "With the space pattern, we think we can move in without any modifications," Kautz said. "We're not anticipating any major changes. There is a minor problem where there are two sets of stairs that will have to be made handicapped-accessible. "The interior of the building is very nice." The building is 8,100 square

feet, which is the minimal amount needed for the administrative office space, Kautz said previously. The assessed valuation of the property is \$253,670, according to the Adams County Assessor's Office. Brad Cabrera, HPS director of finance and operations, said the money to pay for the building will come out of the building and sites fund, which carries a balance of \$899,000. Cabrera and Kautz both said the building is a good investment for the district. The district had looked at leasing a property, but that was not the best option. "At the end of the day, we

have nothing to show for it," Cabrera said. "That really bothered the board." Cabrera said the board has been discussing its options during executive session over the last few months. He said the consensus was that it would be better to purchase property than to lease. "I think it's a nice property for the district to have indefinitely," Kautz said. Kautz also sees the purchase as a positive for the community. "I've heard from people on the south side of Hastings that they'd like more businesses to be located on the south side of



AMY ROH/Tribune
Hastings Public Schools has made an offer of \$300,000 to purchase the building at 1924 W. A St. for administrative offices.

Please see HPS/page B2



AMY ROH/Tribune
Angie Eckhardt (left) sets up an aisle of party goods today at Hometown Variety's new location at 620 W. Second St.

MAKING A MOVE

HOMETOWN VARIETY
CHANGES LOCATIONS IN
DOWNTOWN HASTINGS

DEANN STUMPE
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Behind plastic shrink wrap wrapped around shelving and retail hooks, dozens of pieces of Americana items are visible, waiting to be sold. It's not a new-wave merchandising trick, but rather the easiest way possible to move massive amounts of inventory in one step in a short amount of time. Dozens of shrink-wrapped merchandise units have been hauled down Second Street this week as Hometown Variety/Sherry's Cards and Gifts moves one block east. Formerly at 742 W. Second St., the long-time downtown destination store will open its doors Saturday at its new location, 620 W. Second St.

Please see MOVE/page B2



AMY ROH/Tribune
Elizabeth Borgeling and her brother Luke Borgeling move fabric while helping Hometown Variety move into its new location at 620 W. Second St. today.

Blue River basins
won't face new
restrictions in '08

ENVIRONMENTALISTS HAD WANTED
MORE PROTECTION FOR WILDLIFE
IN LOWER PLATTE BASIN

ANDY RAUN
araun@hastingstribune.com
The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources announced Wednesday that the Blue River basins, which include a large portion of Tribland, had been cleared for another year as not fully appropriated under state law. Under LB962, a law approved by the Nebraska Legislature in 2004, NDNR is charged with reviewing the state's river basins annually to determine whether groundwater consumption there is detracting from surface water flows. To date, the entire Republican River Basin has been ruled fully appropriated — meaning groundwater and surface water are on the verge of falling out of hydrological balance. The Platte River Basin has been designated as overappropriated upstream of Elm Creek and as fully appropriated on east and north to Columbus. The North and South Platte River basins also are designated as overappropriated. In overappropriated areas, groundwater consumption is considered to be reducing the surface water flows, and existing groundwater uses may be curtailed in the interest of trying to restore balance. In fully appropriated areas, restrictions may be placed on future development as a way of preserving the fragile balance considered to exist. Examples of control measures include restricting the drilling of new wells and the expansion of irrigated acreage.

Please see BASINS/page B2

New passport
verifies age of boy
who fled with
teacher to Mexico

OSKAR GARCIA
The Associated Press
OMAHA — The Mexican government has issued a passport for a boy who fled with his former teacher to Mexico, verifying his underage status and possibly weakening the defense strategy for the teacher accused of having sex with him. Lawyers for 25-year-old Kelsey Peterson, of Lexington, had argued that a birth certificate for the boy — who was 13 when the pair left Nebraska for Mexico — was not to be believed because it was provided by his family. The passport issued last week verified the date and place of birth listed on the birth certificate, but Peterson's lawyer, James Martin Davis, remained



Peterson

Please see TEACHER/page B2

Weather

Lo: 11
Hi: 22
Cold tonight and Friday. A 4 percent chance of snow Friday.



Art by Annie Mae Grealish, 9½, Longfellow School

TICKET SHREDDER

RACINE, Wis. — A little house-cleaning nearly cost the Rev. Walter Hermanns a seat at Sunday's National Football Conference championship game. Hermanns, who has multiple

Nation

sclerosis and uses a wheelchair, was getting some help from a friend Friday when he asked him to take care of a stack of papers left in a bin for shredding. When his friend got to four Green Bay Packers tickets bundled together with a rubber band, he

took off the band, put one in the shredder and then stopped short. Too late. The ticket was in shreds. They emptied the shredder, collected pieces of the ticket and put them in a plastic bag. A call to the Packers' ticket office remedied the situation.
The Associated Press

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Obituaries

GALEN E. BERNEY

Hastings resident Galen E. Berney, 56, of 1747 West 4th Street, died Monday, January 14, 2008, at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha.



Berney

Services are 10 a.m. Saturday, January 19, 2008, at First St. Paul's Lutheran Church with the Rev. Adam White officiating. Burial will be in Parkview Cemetery. Visitation is 1-9 p.m. today, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday at Livingston-Butler-Volland Funeral Home and one hour prior to services Saturday at the church.

Memorials may be given to the family.

Condolences may be sent to www.lbvfh.com.

Mr. Berney was born September 1, 1951, at St. Paul, Nebraska, to Loyal D. 'Charlie' and Irene L. (Galitz) Berney. He was baptized on October 14, 1951, and confirmed on May 30, 1965. He graduated from Wolbach High School, Wolbach, Nebraska, in 1969. He at-

tended Central Community College in Hastings for two years to pursue his welding career. On January 27, 1973, he married LaVonna D. Ackerman. He was a welder for Hastings Irrigation for eight years, Hastings Industries (Dravo) for two years and Thermo King for 26 years. He enjoyed all sports and everyone's company, especially children.

Mr. Berney was preceded in death by his parents, Loyal 'Charlie' and Irene Berney; grandparents, Peter and Bessie Berney and Henry and Louise Galitz.

Survivors include wife of 34 years, LaVonna (Ackerman) Berney of Hastings, Neb.; brother and spouse, Donald and Joyce Berney of Wolbach, Neb.; sisters and spouses, Virgie and Richard Cordes of Wolbach, Neb., Loyla and Ron Vogel of Davis, Calif., Kathy and Chuck Houtby of Wolbach, Neb.; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Nell and Willie Ackerman of Hastings; brothers in-law and sister-in-law, Larry and Donna Ackerman and Lonnie Ackerman all of Juniata; 13 nieces and nephews; numerous great-nieces and nephews.

RONALD D. DIXON

Grand Island resident Ronald Dean Dixon, 76, died Wednesday, January 16, 2008, at the Grand Island Veterans' Home.



Dixon

Services are 11 a.m. Saturday, January 19, 2008, at Berryman Funeral Home in Cozad with the Rev. Don O'Brien officiating. Burial with military honors will be in the Cozad Cemetery. Visitation is 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

A memorial has been established in his memory.

Condolences may be sent to berrymanfuneralhome.com.

He was born June 19, 1931, at Alma, Kan., to William and Millie Shields Dixon. He graduated from Cozad High

School. He was drafted into the U.S. Air Force in 1952 and served in Korea. Following his honorable discharge he attended UCLA where he studied communications. While residing in California he was employed with a telephone company where he specialized in installations. In the late 1960's he moved back to the Cozad area where he engaged in numerous professions. He enjoyed watching car races, especially watching his son race go-karts and mini-sprint cars. He was an avid card player. He loved hunting and fishing with his son.

Survivors include his son Jeffery (Lisa) Dixon of Hastings; and two sisters, Viola (Jack) Cannon and Audrey (Bill) Lauer, both of Wichita, Kan.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Peggy Tvrdy; and two brothers, Bob and Cecil.

MAURICE R. FLAVIN

Esbon, Kan., resident Maurice R. Flavin, 82, died Monday, January 14, 2008, in Esbon, Kan.

Vigil service is 7 p.m. Sunday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Esbon. Services are 2 p.m. Monday, January 21, 2008, at the church with Father George Chalbhagam officiating. Burial

will be in St. Peter and Paul Cemetery at Cawker City, Kan. Visitation is 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2-5 p.m. Sunday, all at Melby Mortuary in Mankato, Kan.

The family requests donations be made to the Catholic charities in memory of Maurice R. Flavin.

RALPH A. WOHLB

Franklin resident Ralph A. Wohleb, 90, died Saturday, January 12, 2008, in Franklin.

Services are 1 p.m. Monday, January 21, 2008, at the Con-

gregational Church in Franklin.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the American Cancer Association or to the charity of your choice.

GAROLD D. 'JAKE' MOSER

Hastings resident Garold D. "Jake" Moser, 73, of 1000 Oswego, died Wednesday, January 16, 2008, at his home.

Services are pending at Brand-Wilson Funeral Home and Cremation in Hastings.

Cruise biography hits stores, Internet

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A biography and 4-year-old video of Tom Cruise are calling attention to the actor's belief in Scientology.

Andrew Morton, author of "Tom Cruise: An Unauthorized Biography," published Tuesday by St. Martin's Press, alleges that the 45-year-old actor ranks second in command in the Church of Scientology.

"This is a fair, evenhanded treatment of Tom Cruise's life," Morton said Tuesday on NBC's "Today" show. "He's a man who deserves attention."

The church responded with a 15-page statement, calling the book "a bigoted, defamatory assault replete with lies" and saying Cruise "is a Scientology parishioner and holds no official or unofficial position in the

Rogers & Cowan, the publicity firm that represents Cruise, issued a statement criticizing Morton for not interviewing "one person who has known or worked with Tom" in the past 25 years. The statement also derides Morton for writing "outlandish and malicious lies to sell books."

The book's publication comes as a 2004 video of Cruise extolling Scientology's virtues made its way to the Internet. The video was still on gossip Web site Gawker.com on Tuesday.

Cruise is shown speaking in great detail about the religion. He discusses his faith while the soundtrack to his "Mission: Impossible" films plays in the background.

Morton has also written books about Princess Diana, Madonna and Monica Lewinsky.

FAITH HILL RECOVERING

NEW YORK — Faith Hill hasn't wasted time getting back to work following knee surgery last week.

Hill, 40, has been recuperating at her home in Nashville, Tenn., and keeping busy with her music engagements, the country star's publicist, Paul Freundlich, told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

The operation was "the result of an old knee injury suffered while playing softball in high school and normal wear and tear over the years," Freundlich said in an e-mail. He didn't say which knee had been repaired.

Afterward, Hill resumed recording her upcoming Christmas album, Freundlich said. She has also been preparing to perform at the Feb. 8 tribute to Aretha Franklin at the MusiCares Person of the Year event in Los Angeles.

"Who has time to slow down?" Hill said in a statement. "Doctors had told me to stay off my feet for a bit and now I'm following their rehab program. I intend to be back better and stronger."

Hill, who is married to Tim McGraw, has won numerous honors including Grammy, Country Music Association and Academy of Country Music awards. Her hits include "This Kiss," "Breathe" and "Mississippi Girl."

A SPECIAL GUEST

VIENNA, Austria — Dita Von Teese will attend Vienna's prestigious Opera Ball later this month as the special guest of an Austrian businessman.

Richard Lugner — a 75-year-old real estate and construction mogul who takes a celebrity to the glamorous gala every year — told a news conference Wednesday that Von Teese will attend the Jan. 31 ball with him.

Lugner keeps the Viennese in suspense each winter over who will accompany him to the ball. His past guests include Paris Hilton, Carmen Electra, Pamela Anderson and Sarah Ferguson.

Von Teese, whose real name is Heather Sweet, has gained attention as a retro fashion muse. She is the former wife of goth rocker Marilyn Manson.

The annual Opera Ball, which is broadcast live on national television, is attended by Austria's politicians and socialites, as well as foreign dignitaries. Tickets for the event are a hot commodity and sell out months ahead of time.

SYMBOLIC CEREMONY

LOS ANGELES — The wedding ceremony between Eddie Murphy and film producer Tracey Edmonds two weeks ago was only symbolic — and that's as far as they plan to go, they announced Wednesday.

Murphy, 46, and Edmonds, 40, traded vows on New Year's Day on a private island off Bora Bora in French Polynesia in a ceremony that was not legally binding.

"After much consideration and discussion, we have jointly decided that we will forgo having a legal ceremony as it is not necessary to define our relationship further," said a statement on behalf of both Murphy and Edmonds issued by publicist Arnold Robinson.

"While the recent symbolic union in Bora Bora was representative of our deep love, friendship and respect that we have for one another on a spiritual level, we have decided to remain friends," the statement said.

Murphy has six children from previous relationships. He and Edmonds, whose credits include "Dreamgirls" and "Beverly Hills Cop" began dating last year. They became engaged in July.

Ivanka Trump gets approval

WAYNE PARRY

The Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — She's hired.

The state Casino Control Commission gave final approval Wednesday to Ivanka Trump serving on the board of directors of Trump Entertainment Resorts, which operates three casinos here.

The 26-year-old daughter of Donald and Ivana Trump received temporary approval in July, pending completion of an investigation into her background and finances — a standard practice for pending casino board members.

"I'm very excited," she told The Associated Press on Wednesday. "I've been on the board for several months now, and this is an opportunity to continue to contribute. The company is at a point where we need to make a lot of important decisions, and I bring a voice of a different generation, and also a female voice to the debate."

Ivanka Trump serves as vice president of development and acquisitions of the Trump Organization LLC, and is assuming a greater role on "The Apprentice," the NBC reality show on which her father fires someone each week.

NewsMakers

Flying solo



KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/AP

Britain's Prince William gestures as he walks across the airfield at RAF Cranwell, Lincolnshire, England, today. The prince, an army officer with the Household Cavalry's Blues and Royals, is two weeks into a four-month attachment with the RAF to help William come to grips with the service's ethos, traditions and military role. The prince's father, Prince Charles, completed his flying training course at RAF Cranwell from March to August in 1971 and graduated that year as a flight lieutenant. While training with 1 Squadron of 1 Elementary Flying Training School, William will fly a propeller driven Grob 115E light aircraft, known as the Tutor. If successful he will move to 1 Flying Training School where he will get to grips with the faster Tucano T1 plane and finally progress to fly the Squirrel helicopter.

SAG AWARDS

LOS ANGELES — Matthew McConaughey and his two-time co-star Kate Hudson are among those set to present trophies at next week's Screen Actors Guild Awards.

SAG officials said Wednesday that McConaughey and Hudson will be joined at the Jan. 27 awards ceremony by Denis Leary and Burt Reynolds, who are set to present the guild's 44th life achievement award to Charles Durning. Reynolds is a longtime friend and collaborator of the 84-year-old actor, who co-stars with Leary on the FX show "Rescue Me."

McConaughey, who announced Tuesday that he is expecting a baby with his girlfriend, Camila Alves, has shared the screen with Hudson twice, in 2003's "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days" and the upcoming romantic comedy "Fool's Gold."

BIRTHDAYS

Actress Betty White is 86. Singer-actress Eartha Kitt is 81. Actor James Earl Jones is 77. Talk show host Maury Povich is 69. Former heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali is 66. Rhythm-and-blues singer William Hart (The Delfonics) is 63.

Rock musician Mick Taylor is 60. Rhythm-and-blues singer Sheila Hutchinson (The Emotions) is 55. Singer Steve Earle is 53. Singer Paul Young is 52. Actor-comedian Steve Harvey is 51. Singer Susanna Hoffs (The Bangles) is 49. Actor-comedian Jim Carrey is 46. Actor Joshua Malina is 42. Singer Shabba Ranks is 42. Actor Naveen Andrews is 39. Rapper Kid Rock is 37. Actor Freddy Rodriguez is 33. Actress Zooey Deschanel is 28. Singer Ray J is 27. Country singer Amanda Wilkinson is 26.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I am always ready to learn, but I do not always like to be taught."

— Winston Churchill, British statesman (1874-1965)

The Associated Press

FACT OF THE DAY

When James Earl Jones was a child he developed a stutter and refused to talk. A high school teacher finally helped him overcome it.

NUMBER OF THE DAY

26 — age of Al Capone when he became boss of the Chicago Outfit.
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Tribland

Vehicles reportedly driven by Don Pettengill, of 1134 N. Oswego Ave., and Jodi L. McLaughlin, of 1939 W. 10th St., collided Tuesday at 102 N. Denver Ave.

For your convenience, the Hastings Tribune now has a drive-up payment box in our north parking lot. This may be used for subscription and advertising payments. -Adv.

Vehicles reportedly driven by Nicole M. Hawkinson, of 823 N. Saunders Ave., Brittnee R. Warburton, of Glenvil, and Jillian P. Manthei, of Kenesaw, collided Tuesday at U.S. Highway 281 and North Shore Drive.

Gordmans 50-percent off Clearance Sale Friday, January 18, through Monday, January 21. Get an additional 50-percent off the lowest ticketed price on all clearance. Excludes maternity and shoes. -Adv.

Eagles, Friday, steak night 6:00 p.m. Sunday, Jim Barnes, 6:00 p.m.; cover. All welcome. -Adv.

United Way funding applications available for Non-Profit organizations. Application deadline is March 7, 2008. Awards will be based upon available funds, 402-462-6600. -Adv.

Samuel B. Zoucha, of 617 W. North Shore Drive, reported Tuesday that his debit card was taken from 801 W. Second St. and an unauthorized charge was made to his account on Dec. 21, 2007.

Harvard Lions Club spaghetti supper Sunday, January 20, 5:00 to 7:00, Harvard School. -Adv.

Reminder: reservations for "Jazz It Up with TeamMates" are due January 22. Live jazz group of Thalken, Tesdall and Thalken. 463-2237 for details. -Adv.

VFW bingo, Friday, 7:00; \$300 pig, 57 number bonanza. -Adv.

Area funerals

Friday, Jan. 18

◆ **Robin Mills**, 36, of Seward, 10:30 a.m. at Megrue-Price Funeral Home chapel in Superior.
◆ **Kenneth Locke**, 90, of Hastings, 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Hastings.
◆ **Roger Whiting**, 62, of Grand Island, 2 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Hastings.
◆ **Pearl Jameson**, 80, of Hastings, 2 p.m. at United Methodist Church in Minden.

Saturday, Jan. 19

◆ **Galen Berney**, 56, of Hastings, 10 a.m. at First St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hastings.

It was reported Tuesday that money owned by Highway 6 Auto Sales, 1136 W. J St., was taken from the business.

Tri City Street Rods Auto Show, Saturday and Sunday, Fonner Park, Grand Island. -Adv.

Joe Parr Band Friday night at Halftime Lounge. -Adv

Martin Luther King Jr. Day closings Monday, Jan. 21	
Post office	●
City building	●
Hastings Museum	●
Lied Super Screen Theatre	●
Public library	●
County offices	●
Workforce Development	●
Banks	●
Savings & loans	●
Public schools	○
Imperial Mall	○
Chamber	○
Tribune offices	○
City landfill	○
○ Open ● Closed ◐ Reduced Hours	
*Some banks and savings and loans have regular hours for tellers and drive-throughs. Call your location for more information.	

Buttons designed to match

You can match or make buttons to fit your hand-made garments. A few simple tips are:

◆ Make the buttonholes before you purchase the buttons. Be sure to include a couple of different types of buttonholes on your sample swatch of knit or crochet pattern or fabric sample. Then you can take the sample to the store and fit the buttons through the different buttonhole samples.

◆ Be sure the button fits the type of garment cloth, yarn or crochet thread. For example, big buttons need more support than finer, smaller buttons. Avoid putting a coat button on a delicate garment or using a small, delicate button for a bulky garment. The garment will not button correctly and you risk tearing a hole in the fabric of the garment using a larger button for small, delicate garments. Also, yarn or thread may not support the weight of larger buttons, which will cause the garment fibers to stretch over a period of time.

◆ Do the buttons need to match or complement the garment? If you look at many of the manufactured garments you will find that manufacturers will use one color/style of button on several different garments. I have a dark maroon jumper and a casual shirt that use brown/tan buttons. I will probably replace the buttons on the jumper with a more complementary color. But for manufacturers, the fewer button styles and colors to keep, the less cost for the inventory.

◆ Who says buttons on a garment have to be a perfect match? We all have that collection of one-of-a-kind, unusual buttons. Or, you have two buttons that match but need six for the garment. Mix and match the buttons.

◆ Use matching embroidery or quilting thread to sew on buttons. If you need to add extra support for the buttons, stitch an extra button on the wrong side of the fabric or yarn garment. (The inside button doesn't have to match the public side buttons.) This can be tricky on loosely knitted or crocheted garments. Stitch both buttons on at the same time.

◆ Technique books give several ways to make crochet or knit buttons. The advantage is that you can accurately match the buttons to the garment by using the same yarn from the garment to make the buttons.

◆ Can't find the right button? Use modeling clay to create your own buttons. This type of clay needs to be baked to harden the clay.

◆ Check out the care of the buttons. Some buttons can handle a run through a washer and dryer cycle while some buttons need special care. I used to have a garment that had special clips that slipped into the button shank. The buttons had to be removed each time that particular wool garment was dry cleaned.

Robin Stroot, of Hastings, is a columnist for the Tribune. Contact Stroot at 402-461-1252 or e-mail at tribune@hastingstribune.com.

Nation

MOUNT ST. HELENS
VANCOUVER, Wash. — Steam seeping from a fracture atop the lava dome in Mount St. Helens' crater and the mountain's first noteworthy seismic activity since 2004 have caught scientists' attention this week as signs that something is moving inside it.

The Associated Press

Companies launch gadget buyback service

PETER SVENSSON

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — We think a lot about getting new gadgets, but not so much about getting rid of old ones. The result: old cell phones, defunct laser printers and Pentium III computers gathering dust.

A couple companies want to help us clear out those old gadgets, while feeding our upgrade habit, helping the environment and making a buck for themselves.

Instead of being hit up for an extended warranty next time you buy a gadget, you may find yourself hearing a pitch from TechForward Inc., a Los Angeles-based company selling a "guaranteed" buyback plan for electronics.

For a fee paid when you buy a device — \$9 for an iPod, for instance — you get the right to sell it to TechForward at a predetermined price that depends on how long you keep it. If you sell

an iPod after a year, for example, you would get \$40; after another year, \$20.

In the financial world, this is known as a "put option" — the opportunity to sell a certain number of shares at a certain price at a certain date in exchange for an upfront fee. But Jade Van Doren, TechForward's chief executive, said his inspiration came from traveling in Asia, where gadget worship is even more pronounced and some consumers buy new cell phones every few months.

"I just started thinking about ways that you could build a company around ... encouraging people to live that lifestyle of temporary ownership," he said.

The trade-in prices don't look competitive with eBay auctions, but TechForward offers the convenience of free packaging and shipping. Its prices assume the item is in good condition. The company won't pay for an item

that's broken, though it will supply packaging, pay for shipping and arrange to recycle it.

In addition to trades TechForward accepts from customers its retail partners sign up when they buy electronics, the company lets owners of a limited range of gadgets sign up online to participate.

So far, TechForward's partners are small West Coast retailers. They get a share of the initial fee and can count on repeat business from customers who trade in their old gadgets.

"The fact that we're helping people upgrade more quickly is beneficial to the owner of the device but also beneficial to the retailer who's trying to sell the new product," said Marc Lebovitz, TechForward's vice president of operations.

Techforward claims participating stores are selling its guarantee with 12 percent of applicable gadgets.

NEW Corp., a much larger company that runs the extended warranty programs for Best Buy Inc. and Wal-Mart Stores Inc., plans to bring a slightly idea to stores in the second quarter.

The ecoNEW program — which amounts to a vast expansion of the trade-in programs some retailers run, mainly as promotions — won't charge upfront like TechForward.

It will provide store credit for old electronics in some categories, like computers, MP3 players and smart phones — with the dollar amount depending on the market for the particular equipment when it's traded in.

Some items, like printers and non-LCD monitors, won't qualify for credit, but users will be able to send them back to NEW for free for recycling. Other items, like cell phones, aren't eligible for credit or recycling. Dan Hulkower, vice president

of client management at NEW, said the Sterling, Va.-based warranty company hopes to bring in as many types of products as possible.

"We've got the green contingent in the company screaming for this solution and to make it as altruistic as possible," Hulkower said.

The program will be offered by retailers — NEW can't yet say which — so customers will go to their Web sites or stores to return things. With no receipt necessary, they will be able to return things bought from other stores.

Some manufacturers, like Apple Inc., Dell Inc. and Hewlett-Packard Co., run their own recycling programs, which generally rely on customers mailing in their old gear. In September, Sony Corp. started accepting discarded electronics at some Waste Management Inc. drop-off centers.

Police search for evidence that attack victims may have provoked zoo tiger

MARCUS WOHLSEN

The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — San Francisco police searched the car and cell phones of two brothers mauled by a zoo tiger, but haven't said if they found any evidence that the young men provoked the animal, which also killed their friend.

Sgt. Neville Gittens, a police spokesman, said Wednesday that officers were executing a search warrant, but that they would not announce their findings immediately because the investigation remains open.

As police looked through the phones and car belonging to Paul Dhaliwal, 19, and Kulbir Dhaliwal, 24, the city attorney's office and San Francisco Zoo officials went to Santa Clara Superior Court to gain their own access.

Judge Socrates Manoukian said he would not announce any decisions until Friday.

Attorneys for the city and the zoo say they need to conduct their own inspection of the items to prepare a defense against expected civil lawsuits over the Dec. 25 tiger attack, which killed 17-year-old Carlos Sousa Jr. and severely injured the Dhaliwals before police killed the animal.

Zoo officials have acknowledged that the wall separating the big cats from the public is only 12½ feet tall — 4 feet lower than the recommended minimum.

The city and the zoo contend in court documents that the car and phones may contain evidence that the young men from San Jose drank, used drugs and taunted the tiger the night of the attacks.

"We know that something happened out there in the zoo

that motivated this tiger," Deputy City Attorney Sean Connolly told reporters outside the courthouse.

A lawyer for the brothers called the city's attempt to examine his clients' personal property "unlawful."

"They didn't commit any crimes, and they didn't do anything to get those tigers to jump out," said Shepard Kopp, who is representing the Dhaliwals along with Mark Geragos. "There's nothing on those phones that's going to show these guys taunted or provoked this tiger in any way."

The phones and the car have been in San Francisco police custody since the night of the attacks pending the outcome of a criminal investigation, though the department has given little indication that it believes the young men did anything wrong. Police investigators have previously said the car contained an empty vodka bottle.

The search warrant issued Tuesday also allows them to examine the contents of the phones. The city attorney's office has argued that the phones may include photos, text messages and call logs that could help them reconstruct the night of the attacks.

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Tribland five-day forecast

Art by Annie Mae Grealish, 9%, Longfellow School



COLD TODAY

High: 22 Low: 11
Wind: West 10-15
Mostly cloudy and cold tonight.



SNOWY SUNDAY

High: 22 Low: 6
Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow.



SNOWY FRIDAY

High: 22 Low: -2
Wind: Northwest 10-20
Cloudy with a 40 percent chance of snow.



SNOWY MONDAY

High: 20 Low: 4
Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow.



COLD SATURDAY

High: 22 Low: 7
Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow Saturday night.

Today's weather records

High: 58 in 1986
Low: -18 in 1930

Local weather

◆ From 7 a.m. Jan. 16 to 7 a.m. Jan. 17

High Wednesday	33	Jan. 2007 precipitation	.19
High in 2007	22	Snowfall last 24 hours	1.50
Overnight low	5	Jan. snowfall	2.90
Overnight low in 2007	12	Jan. 2007 snowfall	3.90
Precipitation last 24 hours	13	Seasonal snowfall	15.30
Jan. precipitation	27	Seasonal snowfall 2006-07	4.50

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Don't make matters worse

Scripps Howard News Service

An unwelcome visitor to the economy is back — inflation.

The year-end figures for 2007 show an inflation rate of 4.1 percent, up from a relatively restrained 2.5 percent for 2006 and the highest in 17 years. And another index shows that the problem isn't over yet. The producer price index, which measures inflation at the wholesale level, went up 6.3 percent, the highest since the economically awful year of 1981.

If it is any consolation — and it is only to economists — the core rate of inflation rose only 2.4 percent last year. The core rate is price increases minus food and energy but outside the cost of shelter that's where ordinary people spend their money. Food price increases last year weren't too terrible, up 4.9 percent, but gas prices were up just shy of 30 percent.

The inflation was reflected in average weekly earnings, which fell on an adjusted basis 0.9 percent in 2007. All of this detracts from what consumers can spend on other things and it is consumer spending that drives the greater economy.

The inflation rate joins a number of other unhappy economic measures. Unemployment spurted to 5 percent at year's end. Retail sales are flat; so is factory output; and so was economic growth for the fourth quarter of 2007. Job growth is anemic. The market indexes are falling and there seems no end in sight to the woes of the housing industry and mortgage market.

The tame core inflation rate suggests that this bout of inflation is nowhere near as intractable as the unrestrained price increases of the '70s. But it also suggests that Congress should take care in enacting the inevitable stimulus package that it doesn't aggravate the problem instead.

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Opinion



Vice president choice strengthens ticket

No discussion about possible presidential nominees gets far without the words “vice president” turning up. John Edwards doesn't seem quite up to the task of beating Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama, but how about nominating him for vice president again (as in 2004)? Or, if Clinton is the nominee, might she feel obligated to name Obama instead (or vice versa)?

And, over on the Republican side, if McCain gets the Republican nomination, who should be his running mate? One may wonder whether Mitt Romney, or even Rudy Giuliani, would be willing to accept the second spot; and anyway having two white males on the ticket might seem too much of a muchness in 2008, especially if the Democrats are adventuresome. But how about Condoleezza Rice?

Don't kid yourself that the vice presidency is too trivial a post to contend for, however much a person may claim to spurn it. The average politician would kill for a chance at it. Serving four years in supremely comfortable surroundings while just one heartbeat from the presidency is the ultimate dream job.

For one thing, its sheer prominence laid the foundation for five vice presidents to go on to the presidency. And the death of the president, through ill health, an assassin's bullet or resignation put nine others in the Oval Office without even having to run for it. Added together, that's a third of America's presidents. It's true that some people (like Romney and Giuliani, mentioned above) have held political positions so high, or acquired reputations so formidable, that the



William Rusher

vice presidential nomination might at first seem too trivial for them to consider. But you can be sure that even they would think long and hard before declining the offer.

The first impulse, in considering who should receive the vice presidential nomination, is usually a sentimental inclination to choose the big loser for the top spot. Thus, as noted above, if Hillary wins the Democratic nomination, Obama springs immediately to mind for the vice presidency. Similarly, if McCain is the Republican choice, his chief rival — Romney, say — will be touted for second place. But these automatic reactions don't necessarily prevail.

Would the Democrats, having scored a first by nominating a woman for the presidency, be eager to double their bet on novelty by naming an African-American for the vice presidency? Or would they be wiser to pick a more conventional choice, like Edwards or Bill Richardson? The Republicans, conversely, if they name McCain or Romney for the presidency, may be on the lookout for a more original selection for vice president — perhaps Rice, as suggested above.

In any case, you can be sure that the two presidential nominees will have only one question on their minds: Who can add most to the strength of the ticket? Sentimentality (“Let's pick Joe — he was with us from the start”) will have nothing to do with it. Conceivably the job may have been bargained

away in the battle for the nomination, but this was likelier in the good old days of smoke-filled rooms than it is now, when primaries choose most of the delegates.

So the question of the vice presidential choice is almost sure to involve, in both parties, who can do the most for the ticket. In the case of the Democrats, however, there is certain to be a powerful inclination to give the spot to Obama — not because he fills that bill, or even because he was (in our hypothesis) the chief defeated contender for the nomination, but because, as an African-American, he represents such a powerful bloc in the Democratic Party. It is well known that African-Americans vote overwhelmingly Democratic, but it isn't always appreciated how large a force they are in a Democratic convention. A third, or even more, of the delegates are likely to be African-Americans.

The result may be that the Democratic ticket will seem, as already suggested, heavily tilted in favor of two of its biggest voting blocs: feminists and blacks. And that may not be an advantage in November.

For the Republicans, the problem will be how to add a little flavor to a ticket that otherwise may seem a bit too plain vanilla. Is there a woman or a “person of color” somewhere in the Republican portfolio who could do the trick? Clearly, in both parties, the selection of a vice presidential nominee is going to be an important consideration.

William Rusher is a Distinguished Fellow of the Claremont Institute for the Study of Statesmanship and Political Philosophy.

Voice of the People

NO ICE SKATING

One of my favorite winter activities when growing up in Hastings in the 1970s was to ice skate at Crosier Field's ice skating pond.

So, last year, in an attempt to give others and myself the opportunity to enjoy that winter activity again, I contacted the city parks department requesting that the ice skating pond be flooded.

Despite a lengthy cold snap at the time, I was informed that temperatures don't allow for that anymore. When I called and asked about the issue again, I was told that they couldn't do it because of the possibility of legal action if someone got hurt.

With this year's low temps, combined with the Legislature's law protecting cities from lawsuits by people on public property, I thought the time was right for another try.

Imagine my disappointment when I was once again told that temperatures will not allow for adequate ice formation, therefore the parks department would not be flooding the pond.

To hear this as we enter what is the coldest point of the year in mid- to late-January sounds more like an excuse than a legitimate reason for not doing something. If this city can build a dog exercise area, then certainly it can try to flood an ice skating pond that already exists for such purposes.

To say that I'm disappointed with park department leadership on this issue is an understatement.

Robert Kerr Hastings

CLINTON MOST QUALIFIED

Hillary Clinton is the most qualified of all the contenders to be president, and I believe she has proven she can take everything the opposition can hand out and still remain a lady.

We know they will dig up as much dirt as they can and make up the rest. She is a strong, intelligent woman with human emotions.

When asked by a reporter about being not very well liked, she said that hurt her feelings, to which Obama replied, “Oh, you're likable enough, Hillary.” How nice! Is he getting a bit egotistical?

The Clintons raised a very nice daughter —

no arrest, no MIPs, no smart mouthing. They must have done something right. Or maybe they just had good material to work with.

Marcella Kangas Clay Center

BUYER BEWARE

“Restaurants Serve Fake Grouper” (Hastings Tribune Jan. 5, page C7). This is only the tip of the iceberg, folks!

This kind of thing goes on all over the country and, yes, in Hastings. After more than 45 years in the meat business, let me assure you that I have seen more misrepresentations and out-and-out prevarication on the part of meat markets and restaurants in this town than you can imagine. Violations are not dealt with by our health department/consumer affairs division.

We have one restaurant that sells cooked meals with shrimp or scallops, but you cannot order deep-fried shrimp. It doesn't sell them! Why? They do not have any shrimp or scallops in the whole restaurant. They just use flavored pollock, an inexpensive fish that is mashed and formed into rolls.

This is the same thing sold in meat markets as imitation crab meat. The same kind of flavorings are used to flavor pollock to taste like shrimp, scallops and lobster in prepared meals at a much higher price, as if it were the real product.

Another restaurant where we had dinner had labeled scallops on the buffet line. That was just pollock cut out with a round cookie-cutter, so that they looked like scallops. This was an old meat cutter's trick!

A meat market in town sells frozen prawns (large shrimp) in the fresh meat case. At the end of the day's business, they are dipped in water and refrozen, resulting in as much or more frozen water than the prawn weighs. Say that you buy one for about three ounces at \$10-\$13 a pound, when you thaw it out at home and clean it, you may have only one ounce of shrimp that actually cost you \$30 to \$36 a pound. Are you angry yet?

I could go on and on, but you get the picture. Do all meat departments, markets and restaurants employ these practices? No; however, the ones that do should be stopped, in my humble opinion.

Last year, I called the local health department and spoke with a health inspector about these violations. The inspector remembered seeing a box of frozen scallops in the freezer at one of the restaurants. I told the inspector that was one of the oldest tricks of the trade and has been used for years. That same box would probably be in the freezer until the store was resold or closed.

The inspector needed to check the product in the meat cases, on the plates and the buffets of the restaurants. I was informed that the inspector's job was only to check for sanitation violations and that I should contact the health department in Lincoln.

I said, “If you pay my gas mileage and just 10 percent of the fines for these violations of the Health Department/Consumer Affairs Laws, I would do it.” The inspector curtly responded, “We do not levy fines. We only write warnings of sanitation laws.” Wow!

Our health department is funded by our tax dollars. There are no fines for violations and health department employees are not properly trained to do their jobs. Who protects the consumer in our meat markets, delicatessens or restaurants from being flimflammed, lied to and cheated?

Bottom line: No one.

John Voit Hastings

Letter Policy

The Hastings Tribune welcomes letters about issues of public interest. Here are some rules:

- ◆ Letters can be submitted by e-mail: tribune@hastingstribune.com
- ◆ Letters may be hand-delivered: 908 W. Second St. Or mailed: Voice of the People, P.O. Box 788, Hastings, NE 68902
- ◆ Letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. (The address and phone number will not be published.)
- ◆ Letters should be 250 words or less. Letters will be edited for length. They also will be edited for spelling, grammar, clarity and content.
- ◆ Letters should express an opinion or explain why something is important or in the public's interest.
- ◆ Thank you letters and form letters may be rejected.
- ◆ Letters submitted within 30 days by the same author on the same issue may be rejected.
- ◆ Letters of a political nature will not be accepted within seven days of an election.

Region

‘MOBILE OFFICE’

NELSON — A staff member from U.S. Rep. Adrian Smith’s office will be here Feb. 25 to meet with constituents on issues of importance to them.

The full-time staffer will be in the basement conference room at the Nuckolls County Courthouse from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

The staffer also plans to meet with officials in Nelson earlier that morning.

The visit to Nelson is part of an effort by Smith, R-Neb., to send a “mobile office” to communities around his 3rd Congressional District.

Constituents are invited to meet the staff member to discuss federal issues, provide input, learn about constituent services available through Smith or talk about individual issues they are having with federal agencies.

Smith has regular offices within the district located in Grand Island and Scottsbluff.

For more information, contact the Grand Island office, 308-384-3900.

State

SENATE CANDIDATE

LINCOLN — A Fremont man says he’ll be a Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate.

Larry Marvin says he intends to be “the David who defeats Goliath” in the campaign to replace Republican Chuck Hagel, who isn’t seeking re-election.

Marvin ran for the Legislature in 1998 but lost. He says he’s an Air Force veteran, property owner and longtime active Democrat.

He’s the first Democrat to declare.

Two Democrats have said they might run: Scott Kleeb, who lost the 2006 3rd District House race, and Tony Raimondo, a Columbus businessman and lifelong Republican who switched parties last month.

Two Republicans are running: Schuyler businessman Pat Flynn and former Nebraska governor Mike Johanns. Steve Larrick is the Green Party candidate.

PERFECT SCORES

BELLEVUE — Brian and Ross DeVol are a perfect match, genetically and academically: The identical twins earned perfect ACT scores.

The seniors at suburban Bellevue East High School both scored 36 on the college entrance exam, though Ross DeVol needed three tries. His first try netted a 35.

“We’re pretty competitive,” Ross DeVol said.

And grades are where Ross and Brian DeVol are most competitive, because neither is active in sports. The 18-year-old brothers are both in the running for valedictorian because they have maintained straight-As throughout high school.

Regardless of who wins valedictorian, the twins have already won household bragging rights because their older brother, John, earned a 33 the first time he took the ACT and didn’t try again.

Ross DeVol said his older brother had been joking about retaking the ACT since the twins earned their perfect scores.

The Associated Press

Calendar

HASTINGS

◆ **Alcoholics Anonymous**, noon, 5:15, and 8 p.m. Friday, 521 S. St. Joseph Ave.
◆ **Narcotics Anonymous**, 8 p.m. Friday, 401 N. Lincoln Ave.

Lotteries

WINNING NUMBERS

Wednesday
Powerball **9-18-19-38-47-PB11**
(Power Play: 5; Saturday’s jackpot: \$15 million)
Kansas Pick 3 **6-6-0**
Nebraska Pick 3 **3-4-4**
Super Kansas Cash **1-3-9-9-11**
(Super Cashball: 11)
Nebraska Pick 5 **20-29-30-31-32**
Jackpot: \$58,000
2by2 **Red 2-15, White 2-10**
Hot Lotto **2-3-25-26-29**
Hot Ball 8

Senators advance ‘safe haven’ law

ANNA JO BRATTON

The Associated Press

LINCOLN — Most state lawmakers agree that Nebraska needs to join the rest of the nation and come up with a law to keep new mothers from being prosecuted for leaving their babies at hospitals — a so-called “safe haven” law.

“It should be simple to save a few children,” and to let parents “leave them at a hospital instead of in a Dumpster,” said Sen. Arnie Stuthman of Platte Center, who introduced the bill.

But the Legislature is again struggling to agree on how best to join the other 48 states with safe haven laws, intended to save the life of children whose mothers

may panic and leave them uncared for. Alaska is the only other state that doesn’t have such a law.

Bullying

More Legislative action.
— Page B1

Debate focused on Stuthman’s amendment — which he later withdrew — that said if a mother didn’t reclaim a child within 48 hours, “she shall be presumed to have intended to leave the child and

consented to the termination of her parental rights.”

Sen. Gwen Howard of Omaha called the assumption “shocking” and “poor legislation,” and others agreed.

A mother in this situation “is scared out of her mind,” said Sen. DiAnna Schimek of Lincoln. “She’s very confused, and in a lot of cases, she doesn’t have anyone to lean on.”

Expecting her to understand that by leaving her baby, she’s given up all parental rights is “terrible,” Schimek said.

Senators have tried several times to adopt a safe haven law, but always run into technical difficulties and opposition

from longtime Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha. He called the version Stuthman was pushing Wednesday “gobbledy-goop.”

The bill finally moved forward after Chambers withdrew his opposition with the promise that Stuthman would consider changes. The measure will likely be back on the agenda later this month.

Stuthman’s amendment also shortened the timeframe in which a mother could drop off a child — to 72 hours from the originally proposed 30 days. He said he was willing to negotiate on the timeframe, as well as who would be protected.

Please see LEGISLATURE/page B1

Name released in industrial fatality

WILL VRASPIR

wvraspir@hastingstribune.com

Officials released the identity of a 36-year-old Hastings man killed in an industrial accident Wednesday morning at the Ag Processing Inc. vegetable oil refinery east of Hastings.

Robert G. Ervie died about 3:30 a.m. as employees of AGP, 2801 E. Seventh St., were moving rail tank cars into the railcar wash area, according to the Adams County Attorney’s Office.

Adams County Sheriff Gregg Magee said Ervie was standing on the lead railcar when it struck the railcar wash bay doors, which were closed. He was killed in the accident.

Emergency personnel were called to the scene to confirm the death and the sheriff’s office investigated Wednesday. Magee said no foul play is suspected and that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration will likely investigate.

Mike Maranell, AGP senior vice president for corporate and member relations, said Wednesday that the railcar wash is a system used to clean the inside of car tanks before being used to haul cooking oil to another plant to be bottled.

Omaha man accused of securities fraud

The Associated Press

OMAHA — An Omaha man accused of taking investment money from the elderly to support a lavish lifestyle is under investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The SEC says Bryan Behrens engaged in securities fraud through a company called National Investments Inc. He is accused of collecting \$6.5 million from about 20 investors. Investigators say he promised those investors — many of them elderly — that they would earn enough interest to provide a monthly income.

Instead, investigators say he took some of money from new investors to pay off early investors, and spent \$3.5 million to buy luxury vehicles and other items.

Behrens’ attorney said he and his client were scheduled to be in court today.



Tribune file photo

Raymond Cooper of Hyannis gets a rough dismount from Kickapoo during the bareback riding at the Webster County Fair in Bladen July 29, 2004.

Webster County Fair changes

NEW DATE MEANS
EVENT WON’T OVERLAP
WITH ADAMS COUNTY
FAIRFEST THIS YEAR

TONY HERRMAN

therman@hastingstribune.com

LADEN — The Webster County Fair will run a week earlier than originally planned here this summer so that organizers can ensure that a carnival will be operating on the grounds.

The Webster County Fair Board recently decided to move up the fair and secure the carnival’s services.

The fair now will run July 13-19 in Bladen. The fair previously had been scheduled for July 20-26, which happens to be at the same time as the Adams County FairFest.

Blue Amusements, with whom Webster County had worked in 2007 and had a contract for 2008, backed out in order to better serve a county in Iowa.

In 2007, Blue Amusements split its rides between Webster County and the Iowa county.

“That party said they had to have all the rides or they would drop it,” said

Duane Lienemann, extension educator for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in Webster County. “It is too big of a venue for them to lose, so he said ‘sorry,’ but he did try to help us. At least they contacted us six months ahead of time and not a few weeks.”

Now, the county will work with Moore’s Greater Shows, of Mercedes, Texas.

The accompanying rodeo has been rescheduled accordingly. Rodeo sessions now are planned for July 17-19.

Terry Plambeck, of Bladen, is the fair board member in charge of the rodeo. He said the rodeo’s rough stock company, JS Rodeo, of Webster, Minn., could either work with Webster County a week ahead or a couple weeks after the original dates.

Three of Plambeck’s five children are involved in 4-H. They primarily participate in livestock projects, and his daughters also are involved in the style revue.

He said moving the fair up by a week should not be an issue.

“Not really,” he said. “Last year, the steers and calves were about overdone. If we have a real hot summer, they won’t gain as well. One week shouldn’t deter that at all.”

Lienemann said even without the carnival, the Webster County Fair still

would have been a fairly good-sized event.

The fair wouldn’t have been complete, however, he said.

“There’s something about a carnival’s smells and lights that people miss if it’s not there, and it hurts attendance if it’s not,” he said.

Webster County had a similar experience a few years ago when a contracted carnival backed out, but that instance occurred just a few weeks before the fair.

The fair board tried to salvage the situation by setting up laser tag and inflatables.

“A lot of people complained to us about that,” he said.

One issue that county fairs in Nebraska have to deal with, Lienemann said, is a tax and inspection fee that can range from \$150-\$300 for each ride or amusement that comes across the border.

Those fees kept Webster County from being able to contract with certain carnivals that would be in Kansas around that time.

“With the price of fuel, they can’t afford that,” Lienemann said. “It makes it tough for a small county.”

The new fair dates are somewhat problematic because they occur at the same time as the state 4-H horse show,

Please see WEBSTER/page B1

Beard arraigned on cattle theft charges in Gage County

SUPERIOR MAN NOW FACES
CHARGES IN WEBSTER
COUNTY, ALSO

TONY HERRMAN

therman@hastingstribune.com

BEATRICE — A Superior man charged with three counts of cattle-related thefts in Gage County did not enter a plea during his arraignment Wednesday.

Jim Beard, 66, is charged with three counts of receiving stolen property over \$1,500. The charge is a Class 3 felony, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years’ imprisonment and a \$25,000 fine. He was arrested in Edgar Nov. 26, 2007.

“We’re alleging he took a number of cattle over three dates and sold them to a livestock barn here in Beatrice,” Gage County Attorney Randall Ritnour said.

The cattle were stolen from Beard’s son-in-law, Clinton Gunther, of Wichita Falls, Texas, Ritnour said.

The sales, for \$40,488.35, \$45,410.94 and \$14,572.89, respectively, allegedly occurred on March 12 and March 26, 2007. The first two transactions both were March 12.

Instead of entering a plea, Beard and his attorney, Roger Harris, of Beatrice, filed a motion for discovery to get reports.

Ritnour said the defendant indicated a

plea abatement, or plea in bar, to bar the action taken against him.

“His attorney said we don’t have legal basis for charging him,” Ritnour said this morning. “Obviously, I don’t agree with that position.”

Beard remains in custody in the Gage County Jail, where he is being held on \$100,000 bond. Harris filed a motion for bond reduction, which Gage County District Court Judge Paul Korslund denied.

Beard has a plea in abatement hearing scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Feb. 20.

He also now is in trouble for two transactions at the Blue Hill sale barn that allegedly took place about a month later

in Webster County.

He was charged with theft by deception and theft by unlawful taking, both Class 3 felonies. The charges relate to alleged incidents in which Beard purchased cattle, but did not pay.

The first sale allegedly occurred April 21, 2007. It involved 20 head of cattle sold for \$13,389.80. The second sale allegedly occurred a week later, on April 28, and involved 21 head of cattle sold for \$10,148.24.

Webster County Attorney Jerry McDole filed those charges Dec. 14. Beard does not have any court dates scheduled in Webster County at this time.

A6

Case lost over rail trails land

TIMBERLY ROSS
The Associated Press

OMAHA — Nebraska landowners whose property was used for railroad lines and later converted to rail trails could get a check from the government.

U.S. District Judge Lyle Strom ruled Monday that under the terms of some easements granted to the railroads for construction and use of rail lines, the now-abandoned land should have been returned to owners, not handed over for rail trails.

“It’s not about preventing the trails from coming in,” said attorney Cecilia Fex, who represented the landowners in the class-action lawsuit against the U.S. government. “It’s simply giving homeowners and private residents the ability to be compensated when their land is used.”

The summary judgment applies to private land that was used by railroads and later converted into rail trails, violating fed-

eral law. In 2003, the judge ruled in the same case that converting the easements to trails violated state law.

The lawsuit, first filed in 1998 in Kansas and transferred to Nebraska in 1999, covers 15 rail trails in 22 Nebraska counties — roughly 500 miles of abandoned rail lines.

Fex said notices were sent to almost 3,000 landowners who were thought to be affected, but she wasn’t sure how many would actually receive money from the government.

The amount of compensation has not been determined yet.

A U.S. Department of Justice spokesman declined to comment on the ruling because the case is still active. The court system still needs to determine compensation.

The Rails-To-Trails Conservancy was not named in the lawsuit, but joined the case to argue on behalf of the government. Its

attorney, Richard Allen, said the ruling disappointed him.

He said the easements that were granted to railroads under an 1875 federal act did not put restrictions on how the land could be used.

“It should encompass recreational trail use,” Allen said.

In the lawsuit, the Nebraska landowners argued that a federal law converting the abandoned easements into recreational trails was a violation of their Fifth Amendment rights, which prevents the taking of private property for public use with due process or just compensation.

Fex said a few similar cases have been filed in other states, including one in Idaho that covered an estimated 200 landowners and went on to the U.S. Court of Appeals. In that case, the appeals court ruled that government was liable.

NSAA all-state

HASTINGS TRIBUNE
tribune@hastingstribune.com

The Nebraska School Activities Association has named student recipients of the fall 2007 Academic All-State Awards.

The NSAA award program recognizes students who meet the criteria for nomination: they must be a varsity player or organizational leader and must have a minimum cumulative grade point average, in all curricular subjects, of 3.7 on a 4.0 point scale.

Each school may nominate two students for each NSAA-sponsored activity.

The following area students were recognized:

- ◆ **Adams Central:** Brandon Hollister, football; Kramer Lyons, boys tennis; Lindsey Colburn, girls golf; Elizabeth Urrutia, play production; Addison Heeren, play production; Alyssa Karr, softball; Brittany McWhirter, softball; Lindsey Sypherd, girls cross country; Brianna Knott, girls cross country; Justine Johnson, volleyball; Sarah Bohlen, volleyball; Kevin Lennemann, football
- ◆ **Blue Hill:** Bryan Adams, football; Chelsea Eckhardt, play production; Corey Willicott, boys cross country; Danica Olson, softball; Mara Gilbert, softball; Desirae Kohmetscher, volleyball; Nicole Berns, play production; Amber Himmelberg, volleyball; Travis Toefer, football
- ◆ **Bruning-Davenport:** Seth Williams, play production; Nicole Tegtmeier, play production; Jason Jagels, football; Seth Williams, football
- ◆ **Clay Center:** Ashley Boman, volleyball; Tony Roth, football; Mat Nolan, football; Kayla Essink, play production; Allison Griess, play production; Brendell Studnicka, volleyball

- ◆ **Doniphan-Trumbull:** Nicholas Williams, football
- ◆ **Exeter-Milligan:** Julia Vossler, play production; Justina Kassik, volleyball; Julia Vossler, girls golf; Trevor Odvody, football; Dean Kassik, football; Kayti Mark, volleyball
- ◆ **Fillmore Central:** Wade Kerl, football; Todd Wilson, boys cross country; Matthew Miller, boys cross country; Emily Pribyl, girls cross country; Levi Davenport, football; Mackenzie Thomsen, softball; Megan Baumann, softball; Matthew Miller, play production; Samantha Menard, play production; Abbi Adkisson, volleyball; Jordyn Taylor, volleyball; Christine Ochsner, girls cross country
- ◆ **Giltner:** Anastasia Ott, volleyball; Desiree Sukovaty, volleyball; Anastasia Ott, play production
- ◆ **Hastings St. Cecilia:** Jesse Soucek, football; Jim O’Keeffe, boys cross country; Morgan Dubas, girls cross country; Natasha Uerling, play production; Steven Wahlmeier, football; Kelsey Swanson, play production; Kendra Busboom, volleyball
- ◆ **Kenesaw:** Charlotte Schumacher, volleyball; Elise Lukow, volleyball; Trevor Stickels, football; Ethan Volzke, football
- ◆ **Lawrence-Nelson:** Ahren Grueber, play production; Chris Pohlmeier, boys cross country; Holly Wehrman, volleyball; Micaela Van Skiver, girls cross country; Rebecca Kathman, volleyball; Sam McCord, football; Ahren Grueber, football; Kaci Schroer, play production; Christa Ostdiek, girls cross country
- ◆ **Minden:** Audrey Jacobsen, girls cross country; Jarid Holliday, boys cross country; Max Anderson, boys cross country; Zach Hawthorne, play production; Sara Chavez, play production;

- Rachel Schnoor, girls cross country; Jenna Bontz, volleyball; Brianna Gillespie, softball; Brittany Sampy, girls golf; Allison Exstrom, girls golf; Brooke Choquette, softball; Spencer Choquette, football; Keith Weeces, football; Lindsey Sitorius, volleyball
- ◆ **Red Cloud:** Anna Eberly, volleyball; Katie Minnick, volleyball; Katie Minnick, play production; Tyler Deschane, football; Emilea Flesner, play production
- ◆ **Sandy Creek:** Adam Skrdlant, boys cross country; Brooke Soucie, volleyball; Tyler Fike, football; Cody Felber, play production; Jeff Shaw, play production; Danielle Harms, volleyball
- ◆ **Silver Lake:** Aurora Gibson, volleyball; Kevin Hall, football; Baili Klein, volleyball
- ◆ **Superior:** Jacki Bouray, play production; Jennifer Hershberger, play production; Jessica Wood, girls cross country; Evan Robb, football; Stacia Gebers, volleyball; Brittanie Simonsen, volleyball; Scott McKinney, football; Trista Sibert, girls golf
- ◆ **Sutton:** Courtney Sponberg, volleyball; Mackenzie Schlautman, volleyball
- ◆ **Thayer Central:** Blythe Wegener, softball; Melissa Bulin, softball; Jessica Kroll, volleyball; Destry Kenning, football; Jenna Wiedel, volleyball; Kirsten Van Cleef, play production; Haley Easton, play production; Nathan Seaman, boys cross country; Kesston Fink, boys cross country; Caleb Fangmeier, football
- ◆ **Wilcox-Hildreth:** Amaryah Fritz, play production; Kirk Harms, football; Matthew Gardels, football; Heidi Schneider, volleyball; Alex Jurgens, play production; Daniel Martin, boys cross country; Brandon Gardels, boys cross country; Logan Farley, volleyball

Sutton honor roll

HASTINGS TRIBUNE
tribune@hastingstribune.com

SUTTON — The following students made the honor roll for the second quarter and first semester at Sutton Junior/Senior High School:

Second quarter Honor roll

(93 grade point average, no grade below 81)

- ◆ **Seventh grade:** William Boehler, Mitchell Carlson, Alison Critel, Lyndsay Drudik, Tayler Erickson, Shelby Johnson, Alicia Kreutzer, Lakyn Mau, Stephanie Osterhaus, Tiana Peterson
- ◆ **Eighth grade:** Derek Bailey, Chyanne Barnhill, Michael Cox II, Kelli Green, Tyler Keenan, Megan Korb, Shelby Overturf, Wade Overturf, Dustin Scheidemann, Elizabeth Zoucha
- ◆ **Freshmen:** Claire Bergen, Elizabeth Brown, James Brown, Margarita Castaneda, Lacey Huber, Nels Johnson, Samuel Johnson, Jonathan Kingswood, Jessica Osterhaus, Lauren Simonsen, Jamie Van Kirk, Vanessa Van Kirk, Heather Walsh
- ◆ **Sophomores:** Hayley Brown, Amy Cox, Kevin George, Maddison Griess, Heather Jones, Kayla Korb, Andrea Ochsner, Heather Overturf, Morgan Rath, Mackenzie Schlautman, Shelby Yost
- ◆ **Juniors:** Benjamin Green, Amanda Hahn, Kyle Johnson, Jason Lemkau, Samantha Overturf, Jeri Schelkopf, Taylor Schluatman, Hailey Schmer, Courtney Sponberg
- ◆ **Seniors:** Marilee Boals, Jessica Chelewski,

Karen Dudding, Lance Gemar, Cory Greiss, Sabrina Heinacker, Troy Hofmann, Brooke Huber, Ashley Nunnenkamp, Justin Ochsner, Levi K. Ochsner, Rose Quail, Courtney Stone, Theresia Weber, Brooks Wiebe

Honorable mention

(93 to 90.5 average, no grade below 81)

- ◆ **Seventh grade:** Maryah Calkins, Aaron Cloet, Maria Van Kirk, Brody Yost
- ◆ **Eighth grade:** Bryce George, Dustin Hahn, Lance Sponberg
- ◆ **Freshmen:** Cori Ehmen, Connor Hall, Andrew Sheridan, Danielle Silva
- ◆ **Sophomores:** Dustin George, Jessica Johnson, Levi W. Ochsner
- ◆ **Juniors:** Matthew Drudik, Randa Rose, Chad Sheridan
- ◆ **Seniors:** Sylvia Bartell, Casey Beahm, Cody Critel, Stephanie George, Brandy Hale, Elizabeth Miller, Logan Rath, Lesley Ribbens

First semester Honor roll

- ◆ **Seventh grade:** Maryah Calkins, Mitchell Carlson, Lyndsay Drudik, Tayler Erickson, Alicia Kreutzer, Stephanie Osterhaus, Tiana Peterson
- ◆ **Eighth grade:** Derek Bailey, Chyanne Barnhill, Michael Cox II, Kelli Green, Tyler Keenan, Megan Korb, Sydney Olson, Shelby Overturf, Wade Overturf
- ◆ **Freshmen:** Claire Bergen, James Brown, Margarita Castaneda, Connor Hall, Lacey Huber, Nels Johnson, Samuel Johnson, Jonathan Kingswood, Jessica Osterhaus, Andrew Sheridan, Lauren Simonsen, Jamie Van Kirk,

Vanessa Van Kirk, Heather Walsh

- ◆ **Sophomores:** Hayley Brown, Amy Cox, Jessica Johnson, Heather Jones, Heather Overturf, Morgan Rath, Kevin George, Maddison Griess, Kayla Korb, Andrew Ochsner, Mackenzie Schlautman, Shelby Yost
- ◆ **Juniors:** Benjamin Green, Gary Griess, Amanda Hahn, Kyle Johnson, Jason Lemkau, Alan Nelson, Samantha Overturf, Jeri Schelkopf, Taylor Schluatman, Hailey Schmer, Courtney Sponberg
- ◆ **Seniors:** Sylvia Bartell, Marilee Boals, Jessica Chelewski, Karen Dudding, Lance Gemar, Stephanie George, Cory Greiss, Sabrina Heinacker, Brooke Huber, Ashley Nunnenkamp, Justin Ochsner, Levi K. Ochsner, Rose Quail, Logan Rath, Theresia Weber, Brooks Wiebe

Honorable mention

- ◆ **Seventh grade:** William Boehler, Alison Critel, Shelby Johnson, Lakyn Mau, Maria Van Kirk, Megan Wagoner, Brody Yost
- ◆ **Eighth grade:** Kenneth Emons, Tyler Fehr, Tyler Griess, Dustin Hahn, Dillon Ochsner, Dustin Scheidemann, Lance Sponberg, Jordan Wagoner, Reid Wiebe, Elizabeth Zoucha
- ◆ **Freshmen:** Elizabeth Brown, Lauren Griess, Roxann Griess, Danielle Silva, Sarah Winter
- ◆ **Sophomores:** Dustin George, Tanner Griess, Levi W. Ochsner
- ◆ **Juniors:** Matthew Drudik, Alex Koehler, Randa Rose, Chad Sheridan
- ◆ **Seniors:** Cara Bruner, Brandy Hale, Troy Hofmann, Elizabeth Miller, Courtney Stone, Savannah Svoboda

Shickley honor roll

HASTINGS TRIBUNE
tribune@hastingstribune.com

SHICKLEY — The following students made the honor roll for the second quarter and first semester at Shickley Public School:

Second quarter All A's

- ◆ **Seventh grade:** Hannah Coy, Taylor Houck, Alex Kluna, Dylan Lauenstein, Olivia Thomas, Makaleigh Yantzie
- ◆ **Eighth grade:** Emily Alfis, Marissa Hochstetler, Anna Lichti
- ◆ **Freshmen:** Derek Swartzendruber
- ◆ **Sophomores:** Wade Walters
- ◆ **Juniors:** Krista Swartzendruber, Stephanie Swartzendruber
- ◆ **Seniors:** Anna Brinkman, Emilee Doll, Jacob Erb, Jaron Nelson

A average

- ◆ **Eighth grade:** Amy Hendrickson, Cynthia

Mick, Whitney Walters

- ◆ **Freshmen:** Makenna Coy, Tyler Lauenstein, Michael Sheets
- ◆ **Sophomores:** Philip Hochstetler, Stacey O’Neal, Michael Reinsch, Luke Schweitzer, Landon Spurling
- ◆ **Juniors:** Megan Alfis, Bret Carlson, Jennifer Noel, Brett Sheffield
- ◆ **Seniors:** Justin Kennel, JoLynn Mosier, Kylee Schweitzer, Anne Troyer

A/B honor roll

- ◆ **Freshmen:** William Mick
- ◆ **Sophomores:** Nikki Kluna, Tim Peppie

First semester All A's

- ◆ **Seventh grade:** Hannah Coy, Taylor Houck, Alex Kluna, Dylan Lauenstein, Olivia Thomas, Makaleigh Yantzie
- ◆ **Eighth grade:** Emily Alfis, Marissa Hochstetler, Anna Lichti
- ◆ **Freshmen:** Tyler Lauenstein, Derek

Swartzendruber

- ◆ **Sophomores:** Luke Schweitzer, Wade Walters
- ◆ **Juniors:** Krista Swartzendruber, Stephanie Swartzendruber
- ◆ **Seniors:** Anna Brinkman, Emilee Doll, Jacob Erb, Justin Kennel, Jaron Nelson, Anne Troyer

A average

- ◆ **Eighth grade:** Amy Hendrickson, Cynthia Mick, Whitney Walters
- ◆ **Freshmen:** Makenna Coy, William Mick, Michael Sheets
- ◆ **Sophomores:** Philip Hochstetler, Nikki Kluna, Stacey O’Neal, Michael Reinsch, Landon Spurling
- ◆ **Juniors:** Megan Alfis, Bret Carlson, Jennifer Noel, Nicole Reinsch, Brett Sheffield
- ◆ **Seniors:** JoLynn Mosier, Kylee Schweitzer

A/B honor roll

- ◆ **Freshmen:** Caressa Reinsch
- ◆ **Sophomores:** Tim Peppie

Hastings College dean’s list

HASTINGS TRIBUNE
tribune@hastingstribune.com

The following area students made the dean’s list for the fall semester at Hastings College:

4.0 average

- ◆ **Blue Hill:** Joshua Berns, Kelsey Bonifas, Cameron Trumble
- ◆ **Carleton:** Bethany Beavers
- ◆ **Edgar:** Sara Ninabuck
- ◆ **Fairfield:** Hannah Jorgensen, Sara Kluver
- ◆ **Geneva:** Shad Eberhardt, Jeff Richards
- ◆ **Hardy:** April Christensen
- ◆ **Harvard:** Melanie Hiatt
- ◆ **Hastings:** Matthew Beachly, Abby Edwards, Starlight Fonseca, Megan Gartner, Sara

Hemberger, Mackenzie Hemje, Kelly Hogan, Hannah Kucera, Meggan Lloyd, Jessie Lugenbeel, Caleb Nabower, Dani Reineke, Sammantha Richstien, Desiree Rinne, Bree Robbins, Scottie Shaw, Michelle Smith, Amanda Thom, Kendra Tillemans, The Duc Vu

- ◆ **Inland:** Kirsten Kreutz
- ◆ **Juniaat:** Ben Jones, Amy Kroll
- ◆ **Lawrence:** Kim Faimon
- ◆ **Red Cloud:** Clint Shipman
- ◆ **Shickley:** Bobby Kempf
- ◆ **Superior:** Samantha Myers
- ◆ **Sutton:** Brittany Hall, Natalie Nuss
- ◆ **Trumbull:** Barry Graham

3.7 average

- ◆ **Campbell:** Brandon Jacobitz

- ◆ **Edgar:** Katy Rieger
- ◆ **Fairfield:** Kelsi Bradley
- ◆ **Hardy:** Jared Krenke
- ◆ **Harvard:** Dani Barnett
- ◆ **Hastings:** Anna Behmer, Michaela Breault, Ashley Coats, Kay Dobesh, Brad Harpham, Chris Hollister, Seth Hylden, Matt Kern, Joel Pedroza, Annie Peterson, Ashley Potrzeba, Nikki Rust, Terri Studley, Nathan Wigert, Levi Woodhead
- ◆ **Hebron:** Hannah Gillham
- ◆ **Juniaat:** Kayla Erickson
- ◆ **Kenesaw:** Maegan Blodgett
- ◆ **Lebanon, Kan.:** Rebekah Burgess
- ◆ **Shickley:** Jill Swartzendruber
- ◆ **Sutton:** Amanda Gasal, Rachael Van Kirk
- ◆ **Trumbull:** Aaron Rouse

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Bullying bill gets first-round nod from lawmakers

NATE JENKINS
The Associated Press

LINCOLN — Lawmakers are leaning toward a measure that would bully school districts into preventing bullying among students.

Supporters framed the bill (LB205), which got first-round approval Wednesday, as a way to thwart school-yard bullying that can leave permanent emotional scars.

“Those who are bullied end up with

some very angry attitudes and so some very angry things,” said Sen. Dwite Pedersen of Omaha.

“A child will take this out on himself and sometimes on others in society,” added Sen. Gwen Howard of Omaha, who introduced the bill.

But some questioned whether the bill is just a feel-good measure without the teeth to prevent a complex problem.

Should the measure get final

approval, it wouldn’t dictate what specific actions school districts would have to take — just that they have some sort of policy in place by summer 2009.

In the bill, bullying is defined as “any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal or electronic abuse,” on school grounds, in school vehicles, or at school-sponsored events.

Currently, just 20 percent of districts in the state have written policies

that specifically address bullying, according to Howard. But most — 90 percent, the lawmaker said — address bullying somehow in their codes of conduct.

“Who could be against a bill like this?” said Sen. Mike Friend of Omaha, acknowledging that questioning an anti-bullying bill may not win him or anyone else political points.

He suggested the bill would just add more rules onto districts that already

have plenty of them.

“To everyone who claims they want to streamline bureaucracy — if you pass this bill, you’re not doing it.”

But Sen. Tom White of Omaha said the bill could have some real consequences. Written policies could spur action from teachers who are now unsure of what they can do, if anything, to prevent bullying.

Plus, he said, children may get a message that bullying is not acceptable.

Legislature: ‘Safe haven’ law advances

Continued from page A5

Some senators suggested the bill be changed to let fathers and even baby sitters drop off children of any age and not be prosecuted for leaving them.

That doesn’t mean they couldn’t face other charges, such as if the child had been abused.

Stuthman also suggested removing fire stations as a possible safe haven after concerns were raised that firefighters aren’t medically equipped to care for newborns. Stuthman said the babies would end up in

hospitals anyway.

Under current law, a parent who abandons a baby can be charged with child neglect or abandonment, both misdemeanors, or child abuse, a felony.

Two recent cases have drawn attention to Nebraska’s lack of a safe haven law.

In July, a Lincoln woman was charged in Lancaster County District Court with misdemeanor child neglect for allegedly abandoning her baby 11 hours after giving birth at a Lincoln hospital. Charges were

dismissed, and she was given pretrial diversion.

Douglas County officials decided not to file charges against an 18-year-old Omaha woman who left her newborn in a bathroom at an Omaha hospital in September. The woman said she thought the state had a safe haven law and was scared because she didn’t know how she was going to care for the child. Her parents were given temporary custody of the boy, and the mother has since regained custody.

Webster: County fair moves up one week

Continued from page A5

slated for July 14-17 in Grand Island.

“It’s going to affect some of our kids, but we’re going to work with them the best we can,” Lienemann said.

For instance, to show an animal in the livestock show at the fair, an individual must show in showmanship. But if they’re competing in the horse show, then the state will relax that rule.

Officials also will allow sib-

lings to show animals if the contestant can’t make it back to the fair in time.

“They have to qualify for district, which makes scheduling more difficult,” Lienemann said.

The extension educator also sees positives to the move, which include keeping a quality carnival and rodeo and also not conflicting with Adams County FairFest. Now, though, the fair conflicts with the horse show and the fairs of nearby

counties.

The move will require schedule changes for certain projects.

“It could affect some of the garden stuff, sure, but I don’t think that will be too big of a factor,” Lienemann said.

“They’ll just have to get started a week earlier.”

Those showing animals will just have to gauge what they feed them.

“In beef, a week isn’t that big of a deal,” Lienemann said.

Federal officials seek connection between slaughterhouse illnesses

NEBRASKA OPERATION
USES SAME PROCEDURE
THAT MAY BE
CAUSING PROBLEMS

MARTIGA LOHN
The Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Federal health officials are investigating if there’s a link between illnesses reported by several workers at a pig slaughterhouse in Indiana and those seen recently in workers at a Minnesota pork plant.

All the employees work in areas where pigs’ heads have been processed using a technique in which compressed air is shot into their skulls until their brains spill out, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention spokeswoman Lola Russell said.

“It may be associated with this particular technique of using high-pressure air to remove the pig’s brain,” Russell said.

After the Minnesota slaughterhouse illness was reported, the

CDC looked into slaughtering practices in 25 large pork processing plants in 13 states, and found only two other plants — one in Indiana, the other in Nebraska — that used compressed air to remove pigs’ brains.

Minnesota health officials said the pork plants in all three states have voluntarily stopped the practice.

The Indiana workers’ symptoms included changes in sensation and weakness in their limbs, Russell said. Those symptoms are similar to a mysterious cluster of neurological symptoms reported last month among 12 workers at a pork slaughterhouse in Austin, Minn.

The number of sick workers in Indiana, details of their conditions, the name of the company and the company’s location were not disclosed.

Elizabeth Hart, a spokeswoman for the Indiana State Department of Health, said she could not comment until a meeting with a state epidemiologist set for Thursday morning.

In the Minnesota case, health officials initially suspect the workers were exposed to something in the brain tissue that triggered the illness. Officials are continuing to investigate, but so far they haven’t identified any viruses or bacteria that could be causing the disease. They’ve also ruled out chemical toxins.

Five of the 12 workers afflicted were initially diagnosed with chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, or CIDP, a rare immune disorder that attacks the nerves and produces tingling, numbness and weakness in the arms and legs, sometimes causing lasting damage. But Minnesota officials later backed away from that diagnosis, saying additional tests showed none of the workers fit the precise diagnosis.

Minnesota state epidemiologist Ruth Lynfield said the discovery of the Indiana illness could help her investigation. “That may help us figure out why these workers are getting sick,” she said.

Region

JAM SESSION

FAIRFIELD — The Fairfield City Auditorium will be host to the “Just For Fun Jam Session” 1:30-4 p.m. Sunday.

The event is a session for anyone with just a little talent to meet together and enjoy music. Most of the songs that will be performed are from the 1920s through 1960s.

The jam session is intended to be a way to revive those songs that might otherwise be forgotten. It’s also a way of learning songs by listening while others play and sing.

Some musicians planning to perform are from several area communities: Carleton, Aurora, McCool Junction, Spring Ranch, Clay Center, Harvard, Sutton, Blue Hill, Hastings and Fairfield.

Newcomer musicians and visitors who just want to listen and enjoy an afternoon of music are welcome.

Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, contact Dale Bauman, 402-726-2314.

Researcher: Skin cells offer ethical alternative

TIMBERLY ROSS
The Associated Press

OMAHA — A human genome expert says people who oppose embryonic stem cell research have an ethical alternative in skin cells.

“Even those who are most troubled by this science can find this morally justifiable,” said Francis Collins, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute.

Researchers studying embryonic stem cells in hopes of developing cures to diseases have come under fire because isolating the cells destroys embryos. Opponents in Nebraska and elsewhere believe embryos are the starting point of human life, and that destroying them is immoral.

Research using adult and umbilical stem cells has not been controversial because those cells are not derived from embryos.

Collins, who said his comments reflected his own beliefs

and not those of institute or the government, was referring to a recent breakthrough that showed stem cells from human skin can be made to act like embryonic stem cells.

There are “less moral problems and more therapeutic promise” using skin cells, said Collins, who spoke in advance of a Wednesday lecture on faith and science at an Omaha church.

But, he added, research using embryonic stem cells should continue as a way to learn more about how stem cells work.

His remarks echoed the opinion of researchers at the University of Nebraska Medical Center who are challenging a proposed Nebraska law that would ban reproductive cloning and the creation of embryos for stem cell research using a technique called somatic cell nuclear transfer. The bill was introduced last year in the Legislature and is expected to be revisited this session.

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Nation

POSTCARD

MYSTERY

STRATFORD, Conn. — Officials have a history mystery on their hands in the form of a cellophane-wrapped postcard mailed from a post office long closed to a town manager long dead.

The postcard mailed from East Sumner, Maine, was postmarked Aug. 14, 1957, and bears a 2-cent stamp. It was addressed to the late Town Manager Harry Flood, who served from 1945 to 1963, and was written by a woman who must have been a friend since she only used her first name — Alice.

“Hi, enjoying this rather fallish weather. It was 44 degrees yesterday. See you next week,” she wrote.

The post office in East Sumner no longer exists and Flood has been dead for nearly 40 years.

“It’s a history mystery and it’s fun to speculate,” Stratford Mayor James Miron said.

A postal spokeswoman said it’s possible that a collector sent the antique postcard to town hall. One clue is that it was tightly wrapped in cellophane.

Maureen Marion, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Postal Service region serving Connecticut, called it a “very, very rare and a true mystery.”

“The likelihood that this postcard has been sitting in a building for 50 years is very slim,” she said. “My guess is that some collector decided to send it to the town, or someone just found it in an old attic among a pile of letters or other documents and didn’t know what else to do with it.”

LAWMAKER KICKS PHOTOGRAPHER
DENVER — Carrying a family Bible, a state representative-elect kicked a photographer who took a picture of him during a statehouse prayer — then was sworn into office.

Douglas Bruce went to the House floor Monday morning as a guest of Rep. Kent Lambert, a fellow Colorado Springs Republican.

When Rocky Mountain News photographer Javier Manzano took his photo during the traditional morning prayer, Bruce, who was standing, brought the sole of his shoe down hard on the photographer’s bent knee.

“Don’t do that again,” Bruce told him.

Later, Bruce refused to apologize.

“I think that’s the most offensive thing I’ve seen a photographer do in 21 years,” he said. “If people are going to cause a disruption during a public prayer, they should be called for it. He owes an apology to the House and the public.”

UFO SIGHTINGS
STEPHENVILLE, Texas — In this farming community where nightfall usually brings clear, starry skies, residents are abuzz over reported sightings of what many believe is a UFO.

Several dozen people — including a pilot, county constable and business owners — insist they have seen a large silent object with bright lights flying low and fast. Some reported seeing fighter jets chasing it.

“People wonder what in the world it is because this is the Bible Belt, and everyone is afraid it’s the end of times,” said Steve Allen, a freight company owner and pilot who said the object he saw last week was a mile long and half a mile wide. “It was positively, absolutely nothing from these parts.”

The Associated Press

HPS: District makes offer

Continued from page A1
town,” he said. “I think it’s very positive that we will be located there.”

The school board will discuss the property further at its work session tonight in the district conference room. The board is expected to approve a contingent motion to purchase the property on Monday at its meeting at City Building, 220 N. Hastings Ave., at 7 p.m.

Peterson: New passport verifies boy’s age

Continued from page A1

skeptical. He claimed the passport was an attempt by the boy’s lawyers to parlay the criminal case into legal residency for the boy and his mother, who came to the U.S. illegally from Mexico.

“I don’t know that this document is any more valid than his mother’s Social Security card,” Davis said. “Immigration, or the U.S. attorney, or the FBI or the State Department has not come out with a genuine birth certificate — they still don’t have it yet.”

The boy’s lawyer, Amy Peck, helped him apply for the passport to verify his age and to help his effort to re-enter the country legally and reunite with his family in Nebraska. The boy turned 14 Wednesday.

A Mexican consulate official in Omaha with a copy of the passport said Wednesday that it

was valid. It was issued by government officials in the Mexican state of Baja California.

“We’ll look at the birth certificate and we know when we have a real birth certificate and when we have a fake certificate,” said Edgar Rebollar, the consulate official working on the boy’s case. “We can call directly to the vital records in Mexico where the birth certificate was issued in order to verify the information.”

It was unclear whether the new passport, which expires next year, would be admitted into court.

Federal prosecutor Jan Sharp would not comment on what evidence he had or was pursuing to show the boy’s age, but said he doubted the passport would be enough to show the boy’s age in court.

Move: Hometown Variety relocates

Continued from page A1

Jason Schreiner, new owner of the store, said the move has gone smoothly. He said the store closed at 3 p.m. Jan. 12 and moving began early Sunday.

Schreiner said employees have been packing up for several weeks, but some things didn’t need to be packed.

“Borley came down and shrink-wrapped these and used fork lifts to carry them down the street,” Schreiner said, referring to Borley Moving and Storage Inc., 138 S. Lincoln Ave. “It worked great.”

Other merchandise, such as breakables, was packed in boxes and totes and taken to the new location, by hand, car and shopping cart.

Before Wednesday, Schreiner said the weather had cooperated, but the blowing snow slowed the process a bit. As of Wednesday morning, though, he said about 70 percent of the merchandise had been moved.

Schreiner said the buildings are similar in size, so fitting everything shouldn’t be a big problem, although it won’t be set up exactly the same.

“It’s about the same size, but it’s laid out differently,” he

said. “We’ll probably be making adjustments for a couple of months, just getting product exactly where we want it.”

Hometown Variety is being moved because its original location was sold to Nelson Furniture, of Grand Island, before Schreiner purchased the business from Jim Guthmann. Schreiner said the move is positive for the business and downtown Hastings.

“It was really important for us to stay downtown,” he said. “I think our location here will be as good or better than before, and we’ll have a very large percentage of the store-fronts full.”

Schreiner expects the move to bring in a few new customers, as well. He said the curiosity about the new location has already caused several people to stop in.

“We’ve already had people coming in and trying to shop, but we’re not quite ready for that yet,” he said.

Schreiner said he’s looking forward to reopening Saturday and keeping a longtime Hastings store thriving.

“Jim’s built a really nice business over the last 30 years,” Schreiner said.

Woman loses spanking case

BRAD BRANAN

Fresno Bee

FRESNO, Calif. — A California appeals court has thrown out a \$1.5 million sexual harassment judgment for Janet Orlando, a Fresno woman who was spanked in front of co-workers.

The key issue should not have been whether Orlando — whose case drew national attention — was spanked, the 5th District Court of Appeal concluded Monday. Rather, the jury should have been instructed to find whether Orlando was spanked because she’s a woman.

The court ordered a new trial. The decision reverses an April 2006 jury decision in Fresno County Superior Court against Alarm One Inc.

The company admitted the spankings, but said they were simply used to motivate workers, male and female.

Orlando, a saleswoman who left the company in 2004, Wednesday referred questions to her attorney, Nicholas Wagner of Fresno.

Wagner criticized the appellate court’s decision.

“I’m kind of surprised that the court has taken the position that, if men and women are harassed the same way, then it’s OK,” said Wagner, adding that he hopes to bring the case back to trial this year.

But Fresno attorney K. Poncho Baker, who represented Alarm One at trial, called the ruling a “great decision.”

The former teacher and the eighth-grader were found Nov. 2 in Mexicali, Mexico, a week after they went missing. Peterson pleaded not guilty Nov. 29 to charges of crossing a border to have sex with a minor. She faces 10 years to life in prison if convicted.

Davis was hoping prosecutors would drop the federal charge and allow the former Lexington Middle School teacher to face state charges in Dawson County of kidnapping, child abuse and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Davis challenged the boy’s age in case a statutory rape charge were added. In Nebraska, the age of consent is 16.

“The age of this kid is unimportant to me except to the extent that if he’s over 16, my client’s not guilty,” Davis said.

Basins: No new restrictions

Continued from page A1

Although the Republican Basin is called fully appropriated and not overappropriated, it is regulated as if it is overappropriated, with water rationing in force, due to ongoing conflicts with Kansas over the interstate Republican River Compact.

On Oct. 16, 2007, NDNR issued a preliminary finding that the Missouri Tributary basins, the Blue River basins, the Lower Platte River Basin and a portion of the Lower Niobrara Basin were not fully appropriated.

The agency then accepted public comment on the preliminary finding prior to issuing its final ruling Wednesday.

In an article today, The Associated Press reported that NDNR’s decision concerning the Lower Platte Basin would concern environmentalists.

The state Game and Parks Commission had issued a study showing that if regulations weren’t enacted, threatened and endangered species that call the river home could disappear.

The commission will not appeal NDNR’s deci-

sion not to declare the basin fully appropriated, a Game and Parks official told the AP.

“From a legal standpoint, the department (of Natural Resources) is probably on solid ground,” said Kirk Nelson of the Game and Parks Commission. “From a commonsense perspective, you may want to think about it.”

Putting restrictions on the basin, he said, would be a “wiser move” to protect the species.

The Lower Platte River reportedly is used by two endangered species, the pallid sturgeon and least tern, and by one threatened species, the piping plover.

Ann Bleed, director of NDNR, told the AP decisions about whether river basins are fully appropriated aren’t considered formal actions when determining whether states are complying with laws relating to threatened and endangered species.

The Lower Platte Basin includes portions of about 10 counties, from Madison County southeast to Sarpy County.

Sitter charged with murder in toddler’s death

The Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — A baby sitter was charged with the murder of a toddler who police said was fatally injured when she swung him around in a sleeping bag for fun and his head smacked a door frame.

Police re-arrested 25-year-old Yalines Torres late Wednesday, a day after she was released after posting bond on charges of risk of injury to a

minor and reckless endangerment.

Torres was being held on \$1 million bond on the new charge, and was set to be arraigned today, Sgt. Edward Yergeau said. News of the new charge came as the toddler’s family gathered at his funeral.

An official with the public defenders’ office, which is representing Torres, said today that no one would comment about the case.

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Markets

Thursday's noon local markets		
Corn	4.78	
Soybeans	11.73	
Milo	4.67	
Wheat	9.50	

Stocks of local interest The following stocks of local interest were traded today:		
	Last	Chg.
BN Santa Fe	77.41	-.92
Berkshire Hathaway A	130,200	+3,800
Berkshire Hathaway B	4,322	+97.00
ConAgra	22.87	-.10
Eaton Corp.	81.412	-2.958
Ingersoll Rand	37.76	-1.53
Level 3	2.96	-.05
McDonald's	52.77	+.36
PepsiCo	72.90	-.64
TierOne	19.96	-.36
Tricon Global Restaurants	34.30	+.24
Union Pacific	111.45	-1.45
Wells Fargo	26.66	-.71
Williams Cos.	32.76	-1.12
Wal-Mart	47.49	NC

Soybean
board seeks
candidates

HASTINGS TRIBUNE
araun@hastingstribune.com
Tribland soybean producers interested in serving on their state commodity checkoff board have an opportunity to do so approaching. Prospective candidates for the District 5 seat on the Nebraska Soybean Board have until May 15 to submit petitions supporting their candidacy. District 5 includes Adams, Clay, Franklin, Hall, Kearney, Nuckolls, Webster and Buffalo counties.

Meanwhile, producers from anywhere in Nebraska also have until May 15 to submit a petition supporting an at-large candidacy.

A director for the District 5 seat will be elected via direct-mail ballot. The winner's three-year term will begin Oct. 1.

The at-large position will be filled by vote of the board itself at its November meeting.

Candidates for seats on the board must be Nebraska residents at least 21 years of age and must have raised soybeans for at least the previous five years. Their petitions must carry the signatures of at least 50 producers from their district.

Petitions forms must be obtained from the NSB state office in Lincoln. To get one, call 800-852-2326. The board's mailing address is 3815 Touzalin Ave. Suite 101, Lincoln, NE 68507.

The nine-member board collects and disburses Nebraska's share of funds generated by the national soybean checkoff. The money is invested in domestic and foreign market development.

Directors receive no salary but are reimbursed for expenses they incur in the course of board business.

Berkshire stake
in BNSF grows

JOSH FUNK
The Associated Press
OMAHA — Warren Buffett's company continues adding to its stake in Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corp.

Berkshire Hathaway Inc. now owns 17.8 percent of the nation's second-largest railroad.

Berkshire bought 948,800 more shares of BNSF stock on Monday and Tuesday, according to documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission Wednesday.

Berkshire has reported purchases of BNSF stock three times this month, and the Omaha-based holding company now owns 62.5 million shares of stock in the Fort Worth, Texas-based railroad.

The latest filings say Berkshire paid between \$77.69 and \$78.18 for the BNSF shares this week.

Berkshire officials do not typically comment on the company's stock holdings.

But Buffett and Berkshire vice chairman Charlie Munger discussed their interest in railroads at last year's annual meeting. They said railroads have become an appealing investment because they are healthier today than in past years, something Buffett and Munger said they were slow to realize because of past poor performance in the industry.

Last year Berkshire also invested in two other railroad companies, Norfolk Southern Corp. and Union Pacific Corp., but Berkshire reduced its investments in those two railroads in the second half of 2007.

Housing-start figure for 2007 nosedives

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The prolonged slump in housing pushed construction of new homes in 2007 down by the largest amount in 27 years with the expectation that the downturn has further to go.

The Commerce Department reported Thursday that construction was started on 1.353 million new homes and apartments last year, down 24.8 percent from 2006. It was the second biggest annual decline on record, exceeded only by a 26 percent plunge in 1980, a period when the Federal Reserve was pushing interest rates to post-World War II records in an effort to combat an entrenched inflation problem.

Many economists believe that the current slump in housing will rival the dive in the late 1970s and early 1980s when housing construction fell for four straight years before beginning to recover

after the severe 1981-82 recession. For December, construction fell by a bigger-than-expected 14.2 percent.

In other economic news, the Labor Department said the number of newly laid off workers filing applications for unemployment benefits dropped by 21,000 last week to 301,000. That marked the third consecutive weekly decline and occurred even though the government reported that the unemployment rate increased sharply in December.

Some economists believe the current housing troubles will push the country into another recession as consumers are staggered by the steep drop in housing — which has pushed home values down in many parts of the country. Consumers also have been faced with rising mortgage defaults and a severe credit crunch which has made loans harder to obtain.

Various recent reports have increased those worries including news that unem-

ployment in December shot up to 5 percent, rising by the largest amount in one months since the country was reeling from the 2001 terrorist attacks. Many large financial institutions have announced billions of dollars of losses due to the meltdown in subprime mortgages.

The drop in construction in December was bigger than economists had been expecting and reflected weakness in all parts of the country. Housing construction fell by 30.8 percent in the Midwest and was down 25.8 percent in the Northeast and 19.6 percent in the West. The decline in the South was a smaller 3.3 percent.

Economists said the weakness showed that the housing correction was getting worse since the turmoil in financial markets hit in August.

"Builders have finally thrown in the towel," said Ian Shepherdson, chief U.S. economist at High Frequency Economics. "This is a precondition for

recovery as it will eventually reduce the inventory overhang. But there is a long way to go."

For December, housing starts totaled 1.006 million units at an annual rate. In an ominous sign for the future, applications for building permits fell by 8.1 percent to an annual rate of 1.068 million units. That marked the seventh consecutive monthly decline and reflected the fact that builders have been slashing production plans in an effort to deal with a glut of unsold homes.

A survey of builder sentiment prepared by the National Association of Home Builders came in at the second-lowest level on record in January at a reading of 19. That was up slightly from the record low of 18 set in December. The index has been below 20 since October as builders struggle to deal with slumping demand, rising housing defaults and tighter lending standards.

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An activist from the environmental group Sea Shepherd prepares to hurl a butyric acid-containing bottle against the Japanese whaling vessel Yushin Maru No. 2 Tuesday in Antarctic waters.

The Institute of Cetacea Research/AP

Australia to pick up activists

ROHAN SULLIVAN
The Associated Press

SYDNEY, Australia — Australia said today it would send a ship to pick up two anti-whaling activists who jumped on a Japanese harpoon vessel from a rubber boat in Antarctic waters, offering a solution to a tense, two-day standoff on the high seas.

The protesters from the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society scored a victory with their stunt, bringing Japan's whale hunt to a standstill while officials scrambled to resolve the faceoff.

The Australian customs ship Oceanic Viking will pick up the two activists, an Australian and a Briton, and return them to their anti-whaling vessel as soon as the details can be arranged, Foreign Minister Stephen Smith said.

The offer came at the request of the Japanese government, and the head of the activist group said he agreed to the transfer as long as there were no conditions requiring him to stop harassing the whalers.

"We want to get them back," Paul Watson told Australian Broadcasting Corp. However, he added, "I'm not going along with any conditions."

The two sides in the dispute have traded accusations of piracy and terrorism since the activists' boarded the harpoon ship Yushin Maru 2 on Tuesday. Smith urged both sides to end their acrimony to allow a safe transfer of the pair.

Conservationists vow to continue fight against Navy's use of sonar

NOAKI SCHWARTZ
The Associated Press
LOS ANGELES — Conservationists vowed to return to court to challenge President Bush's decision to let the Navy continue using high-power sonar in its training off Southern California, a practice they say harms whales and other marine mammals.

The president's decision to exempt the Navy from an environmental law will not by itself allow the anti-submarine warfare training to go forward, because an injunction remains in place. But

the Navy believes it will significantly strengthen its argument in court.

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco had been expected to rule on the future of the Navy exercises on Friday. But after Bush's decision, the appeals court on Wednesday sent the issue back to the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles to consider.

Scientists say loud sonar can damage marine mammal brains and ears. It may also mask the echoes some whales and dolphins listen for when they use their own

natural sonar to locate food.

But much is still unknown about how sonar affects whales and other marine mammals. For example, the sound can hurt some species while not affecting others, and experts don't fully understand why.

The White House announced Wednesday that Bush signed the exemption a day earlier while traveling in the Middle East. In his memorandum, Bush said the Navy training exercises "are in the paramount interest of the United States" and its national security.



REED SAXON/AP

The flukes of a gray whale as it dives off the Southern California coast near the Palos Verdes Peninsula are seen Wednesday.

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OU pulls away to hand Nebraska first Big 12 loss

JEFF LATZKE

The Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — With her player of the year résumé, Oklahoma center Courtney Paris doesn't get to see many one-on-one matchups anymore.

She reminded Nebraska why Wednesday night, scoring three baskets in a decisive second-half surge that pushed the No. 11 Sooners to an 80-72 win.

Danielle Robinson scored 22 points, but it was Paris who led the way as Oklahoma (11-3, 2-1 Big 12) finally put away a persistent Huskers bunch that fought back to tie it after trailing by 12 midway through the first half.

Paris, who had 16 points and 11 rebounds for her 75th straight double-double, made three baskets in a 17-2 run that gave the Sooners a 66-50 edge.

"We kept getting her isolated at the block and you're going to have trouble guarding her one-on-one," Oklahoma coach Sherri Coale said.

Coale resorted to an offensive set with four players on the perimeter and Paris alone inside after Paris' twin sister, Ashley, went to the bench with foul trou-

ble. It ended up looking like sheer genius.

"We went to four out, one in and we were able to get some good looks off of it," Paris said.

Paris went 7-for-13 from the field to snap a stretch of six straight games in which she had failed to make more than half of her shots. Paris, a 6-foot-4 center who takes most of her shots from right around the basket, was 32-for-77 (42 percent) during a month-long shooting slump.

She was 3-for-4 during Oklahoma's big run, putting back her only miss and also setting up Robinson's layup that finished the run.

"I thought her rhythm was better than it had been all year. I felt like she slowed down and saw things and read things and attacked weaknesses and was just more relaxed and more intent," Coale said. "I thought her focus was very, very good."

Even with Oklahoma's offensive switch, Cornhuskers coach Connie Yori didn't intend for her team to have any defender isolated against Paris.

"I thought we kind of lost our defen-

sive focus. We didn't send the double team very quickly nor at all in some cases. Just like everybody, we're trying to double and we don't want to give her those one-on-one opportunities," Yori said.

"We've got a young team and we got lost a few times, and all of a sudden there's no double-team. She's looking at it going, 'Hey, I haven't seen this for a while.'"

Amanda Thompson added 15 points and eight steals, and Jenna Plumley scored 11 as Oklahoma bounced back after a 19-point loss to rival Oklahoma State.

Yvonne Turner led Nebraska (13-4, 2-1) with a career-best 18 points, and Danielle Page scored 12. Kelsey Griffin, the Huskers' leading scorer with a 12.3-point average, was held to seven points.

Nebraska committed a season-high 25 turnovers, which led to 32 Oklahoma points.

"Obviously their defensive pressure bothered us, but as a group we gave away plenty of those and it looked like a layup drill," Yori said. "And they made their layups."



SUE OGROCKI/AP

Oklahoma center Courtney Paris is fouled by Nebraska forward Danielle Page in the first half Wednesday in Norman, Okla.



TONY GUTIERREZ/AP

Texas Tech basketball coach Bob Knight reacts to a play on the court against Texas A&M on Wednesday in Lubbock, Texas. Knight earned his 900th career win in the 68-53 win over Texas A&M.

900 Knight picks up milestone win as Tech upsets Aggies

BETSY BLANEY

The Associated Press

LUBBOCK, Texas — Bob Knight didn't have No. 900 on his mind.

His Texas Tech team eased his thoughts just the same

Wednesday night with a 68-53 win over No. 10 Texas A&M that made him the first men's Division I coach to reach that figure.

"This thing never entered my mind," Knight said. "I could care less about this. I'm just happy to get it over with."

But he did go on to wax nostalgic just as he did when he surpassed former North Carolina coach Dean Smith for first place on the Division I career list last season with win No. 880. Like that milestone, Knight got his 900th victory on his second try.

"I'm happy that I've been able to coach this long cause I've basically enjoyed coaching probably 70-30, anyhow," he said. "That's a mark of longevity as much as anything so I'm just glad I've lived this long."

After the game fans chanted Knight's name as he walked off the court to a thunderous ovation.

"You folks being here, seats being full for a change, really made a difference tonight," Knight told the crowd before leaving the court.

The win was Tech's third straight over an Aggies team ranked in the top 10. Last season the Red Raiders beat A&M twice by a combined four points. The Aggies were ranked No. 6 going into each game and were on nine- and five-game winning streaks, respectively.

"Can't explain it," said Joseph Jones, who played in all three of the losses to Tech. "They got our number, like you said. They've got us the last two years."

Please see 900/page C3

Cocky Chargers ready for AFC championship

BERNIE WILSON

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Philip Rivers likes to yap.

Shawne Merriman likes to dance. Igor Olshansky gave the undefeated New England Patriots some billboard material, as if they needed any outside help in advance of the AFC championship game.

Have the San Diego Chargers simply regained their swagger, or have they become cocky trash-talkers?

Well, maybe ask Olshansky.

"Who? New England?" the defensive end said after the Chargers upset the Indianapolis Colts 28-24 on Sunday. "Seriously, I mean, they're more worried than we are, I promise you. Believe me. They know what's up."

"The way that we're playing now, nothing can stop us," he added.

Coach Norv Turner had words with Olshansky about his choice of words.

"I addressed that on Monday and I think in a weak moment Igor mis-spoke. I think our guys have handled this deal really well and we're just getting ready to play," Turner said.

Then there's Rivers, whose mouth seems to be making as much news as his injured right knee.

San Diego's quarterback has been caught on camera this year yapping at fans and opposing players.

On Sunday, Rivers had two exchanges with fans. When he was walking to the locker room for treatment, he could be seen telling someone, "I'll be back." Then, when Peyton Manning's final pass of the game fell incomplete, Rivers turned and was talking to fans behind the bench.

During a Christmas Eve win over division rival Denver, cameras caught the QB and teammates Shaun Phillips and Matt Wilhelm having an animated conversation with Broncos quarterback Jay Cutler.

Rivers tried to downplay that exchange, but some Broncos were infuriated.

During a home victory over Baltimore on Nov. 25 — which started the Chargers' current eight-game winning streak — Rivers yelled "shut up" to fans who booed on two straight plays.

Please see AFC/page C3

UNC survives Georgia Tech's upset bid

PAUL NEWBERRY

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — North Carolina usually does its best work at the offensive end.

This time, it was a defensive play that kept the top-ranked Tar Heels perfect.

With Georgia Tech poised to pull off a monumental upset, Tyler Hansbrough made a game-saving block in the closing seconds and the Tar Heels escaped with an 83-82 victory over the pesky Yellow Jackets on Wednesday night.

Hansbrough scored 27 points, bullying inside for shots and drawing one foul after another, but he saved his biggest play for

the end — getting a hand on Zack Peacock's shot that could have won it for the Yellow Jackets.

"Tyler was really something else," Tar Heels coach Roy Williams said.

Danny Green put North Carolina (18-0, 3-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) ahead by making one of two free throws with 22 seconds remaining.

Georgia Tech (7-9, 0-3) had a chance — a couple of them, in fact. Peacock retrieved the loose ball after Hansbrough's block and got off another shot with 3 seconds to go. It rimmed out, allowing North Carolina to escape.

Peacock insisted that someone hit his hand on the first shot, but

he made no excuses about the second attempt.

"It was the cleanest shot you'll ever get in a basketball game," he moaned. "Next time, it's going in."

Hansbrough finished 7-of-14 from the field and kept getting to the foul line, where he had more attempts (15) than Georgia Tech's entire team (10). The burly, 6-foot-9 junior made 13 free throws, and North Carolina needed every one of them.

"My face really got beat up," said Hansbrough, who also had 11 rebounds. "It was really, really rough."

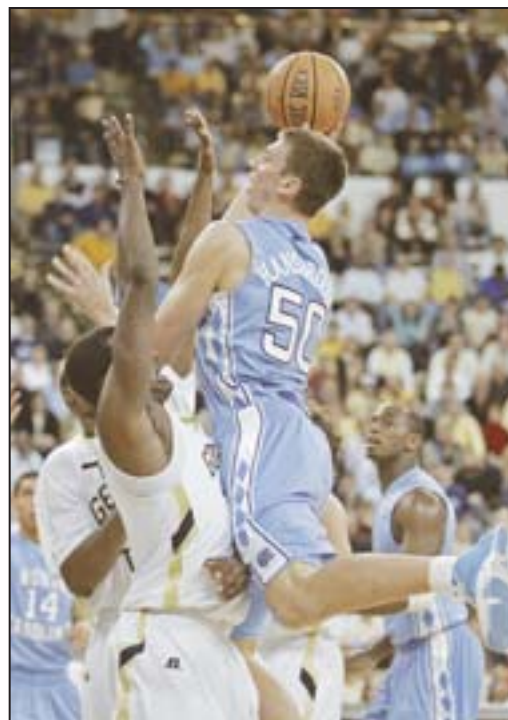
North Carolina is off to its best start since the 1985-86 team began

the season with 21 straight wins. Another encouraging sign for the Tar Heels: This is their first 3-0 start in the conference since 2004-05, and that team went on to claim the NCAA championship.

This season, they have won all but four of their games with double-digit blowouts. North Carolina came into Atlanta averaging 92.2 points and winning by an average margin of 22.1.

With snow covering the ground outside after a rare winter storm in Georgia, the Yellow Jackets almost pulled off an even bigger surprise. They put together an 11-2 run for their biggest lead of the game, 63-56.

Please see UNC/page C2



JOHN

BAZEMORE/

AP

North Carolina's Tyler Hansbrough (50) goes to the basket as Georgia Tech's Lewis Clinch defends during the second half Wednesday in Atlanta. North Carolina won 83-82.

Basketball

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	31	6	.838	—
Toronto	21	18	.538	11
New Jersey	18	20	.474	13½
Philadelphia	15	24	.385	17
New York	12	26	.316	19½
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	24	17	.585	—
Washington	20	17	.541	2
Atlanta	17	18	.486	4
Charlotte	15	23	.395	7½
Miami	8	29	.216	14
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	10	10	.500	—
Cleveland	20	18	.526	8½
Indiana	18	22	.450	11½
Milwaukee	16	23	.410	13
Chicago	15	22	.405	13½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	26	11	.703	—
Dallas	26	12	.684	—
New Orleans	26	12	.684	—
Houston	20	19	.513	6½
Memphis	10	28	.263	16
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	23	15	.605	½
Denver	22	15	.595	—
Utah	22	17	.564	1½
Seattle	9	29	.237	14
Minnesota	5	32	.135	17½
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	26	11	.703	—
Phoenix	26	12	.684	½
Golden State	23	17	.575	4½
Sacramento	15	22	.405	11
L.A. Clippers	11	23	.324	13½

Wednesday's Games

Chicago 126, Miami 96
Toronto 116, Sacramento 91
Indiana 125, Golden State 117
Charlotte 99, Orlando 93
Boston 100, Portland 90
New York 111, New Jersey 105
Milwaukee 87, Atlanta 80
New Orleans 123, Seattle 92

Thursday's Games

Cleveland at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
Utah at Denver, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

Friday's Games

Atlanta at Toronto, 6 p.m.
New York at Washington, 6 p.m.
Portland at Miami, 6 p.m.
Philadelphia at Boston, 6:30 p.m.
Seattle at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Utah, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.

College Men's Results

EAST

Albany, N.Y. 70, Boston U. 63
Army 53, Holy Cross 39
Bucknell 66, American U. 62
Drexel 58, Georgia St. 51
Fordham 66, George Washington 53
Lafayette 69, Colgate 68, OT
Mount St. Mary's, Md. 56, St. Francis, Pa. 44
Navy 79, Lehigh 69
Syracuse 81, Rutgers 59
Temple 78, Xavier 59
UMBC 66, Hartford 85
Vermont 75, Maine 58
Villanova 76, DePaul 69

SOUTH

Auburn 74, LSU 67
Charlotte 70, Saint Joseph's 66
Coppin St. 66, N.C. Central 62
Davidson 73, Furman 51
Duke 70, Florida St. 57
East Carolina 75, Marshall 62
Georgia 61, Alabama 54
Middle Tennessee 65, Troy 64

Mississippi 89, Florida 87
North Carolina 83, Georgia Tech 82
Old Dominion 79, James Madison 52
Richmond 75, St. Bonaventure 64
South Alabama 85, Fla. International 73
UAB 72, Southern Miss. 65
UNC Asheville 74, High Point 58
UNC Wilmington 61, Towson 68
Va. Commonwealth 60, Delaware 39
Virginia Tech 70, Virginia 69, OT
W. Kentucky 80, Florida Atlantic 62
William & Mary 55, Northeastern 53

MIDWEST

Drake 69, Bradley 68
E. Michigan 65, N. Illinois 61
Illinois 75, Michigan 57
Illinois St. 72, Wichita St. 51
Iowa St. 72, Missouri 67
Massachusetts 82, Dayton 71
Northwestern 65, Chicago St. 47
Purdue 67, Iowa 62
Toledo 72, Cent. Michigan 61
W. Michigan 71, Ball St. 45

SOUTHWEST

Houston 99, SMU 71
Memphis 77, Rice 50
South Carolina 70, Arkansas 66
Texas Tech 68, Texas A&M 53
Texas-Pan American 80, Huston-Tillotson 60
Tulane 67, Tulsa 65, OT

FAR WEST
Air Force 64, Wyoming 62, OT
CS Northridge 66, UC Riverside 62
San Diego St. 64, Utah 56, OT

Football

NFL Playoff Schedule

Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 12
Green Bay 42, Seattle 20
New England 31, Jacksonville 20
Sunday, Jan. 13
San Diego 28, Indianapolis 24
N.Y. Giants 21, Dallas 17

Conference Championships

Sunday, Jan. 20
AFC
San Diego at New England, 3 p.m. (CBS)
NFC
N.Y. Giants at Green Bay, 6:30 p.m. (FOX)

Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 3
Glendale, Ariz.

TBD

GPAC

Wednesday's Results

Women's Basketball
Morningside 77, Sioux Falls 48
Northwestern 80, Briar Cliff 70
Dakota Wesleyan 66, Dordt 53
Concordia 62, Midland Lutheran 60
Doane 65, Dana 62

Men's Basketball
Morningside 82, Sioux Falls 67
Briar Cliff 70, Northwestern 65
Dordt 62, Dakota Wesleyan 61

Wrestling
Dakota Wesleyan 25, Briar Cliff 21

Hockey

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
New Jersey	26	16	3	55
Pittsburgh	26	16	3	55
Philadelphia	24	15	5	53
N.Y. Islanders	23	18	5	51
N.Y. Rangers	22	20	5	49
Northeast Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
Ottawa	29	12	4	62
Montreal	23	14	6	54
Buffalo	19	19	6	44
Toronto	17	21	8	42

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts
Atlanta	23	22	2	48
Carolina	22	22	4	48
Florida	20	23	4	44
Washington	19	21	5	40
Tampa Bay	17	24	5	39

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
Detroit	33	10	4	70
St. Louis	22	16	6	50
Columbus	22	18	6	50
Nashville	22	19	4	48
Chicago	21	21	4	46

Northwest Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
Minnesota	26	17	3	55
Vancouver	25	17	4	54
Calgary	23	17	8	54
Colorado	25	18	3	53
Edmonton	21	22	4	46

Pacific Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
San Jose	25	13	7	57
Anaheim	25	17	6	56
Oakland	25	18	5	53
Phoenix	24	20	1	49
Los Angeles	18	27	2	38

Wednesday's Games

Philadelphia 5, Florida 3
N.Y. Rangers 2, Buffalo 1
N.Y. Islanders 3, New Jersey 1
Chicago 5, St. Louis 1
Calgary 3, Minnesota 2, SO

Thursday's Games

Montreal at Atlanta, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Boston, 6 p.m.
Edmonton at Washington, 6 p.m.
Vancouver at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Carolina at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Nashville, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Dallas at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

Friday's Games

Edmonton at Carolina, 6 p.m.
Florida at New Jersey, 6 p.m.
Atlanta at Buffalo, 6:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, 6:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Tribland

THURSDAY

Prep girls basketball: Wood River at Adams Central.....7:45 p.m.
Prep swimming: Columbus at Hastings High.....4 p.m.
Prep wrestling: Hastings High at McCook.....5:30 p.m.

Area Schedule

Prep girls basketball Rock Hills at PTL Tournament
Sandy Creek at Blue Hill Smith Center at MCL Tournament
Prep wrestling Bruning-Davenport/Deshler, Franklin
Smith Center at MCL Tournament
Superior at Sutton Harvard Clay Center, Kenosaw/Shelton, South
Prep boys basketball Central Unified District #5, Red Cloud/Blue
Sandy Creek at Blue Hill Hill at Twin Valley Conference Tournament

FRIDAY

Prep boys basketball: Grand Island Northwest at Hastings High.....7:45 p.m.
Prep girls basketball: Grand Island Northwest at Hastings High.....5:45 p.m.

Area Schedule

Prep girls basketball Doniphan-Trumbull at St. Paul
Lawrence-Nelson at Bruning-Davenport
Hampton at Clay Center Exeter-Milligan at Rising City
Harvard at Deshler Fillmore Central at Tri-County
Doniphan-Trumbull at St. Paul Loomis at Kenosaw
Exeter-Milligan at Rising City Holdrege at Minden
Fillmore Central at Tri-County Red Cloud at Silver Lake
Meridian at Gilmer Rock Hills at PTL Tournament
Loomis at Kenosaw Dorchester at Shickley
Holdrege at Minden Smith Center at MCL Tournament
Red Cloud at Silver Lake Wilcox-Hildreth at Axtell
Rock Hills at PTL Tournament
Dorchester at Shickley Fillmore Central, South Central Unified
Wilcox-Hildreth at Axtell District #5, Superior at Thayer Central
Invitational

Prep boys basketball Kenosaw/Shelton at Pender
Lawrence-Nelson at Bruning-Davenport
Hampton at Clay Center Sutton at David City Invitational
Harvard at Deshler Wilcox-Hildreth at Callaway Invitational

Thursday's TV broadcasts

College Men's Basketball
6 p.m., Vanderbilt at Tennessee ESPN
6 p.m., Marquette at Louisville ESPN2
8 p.m., Indiana at Minnesota ESPN
10 p.m., Arizona at Stanford FSN
Golf
8:30 a.m., European PGA Tour, Abu Dhabi Champ, first rd. TGC
2 p.m., PGA Tour, Bob Hope Classic, second round TGC
NBA Basketball
7:15 p.m., Cleveland at San Antonio TNT
9:30 p.m., Phoenix at L.A. Lakers TNT
Tennis
2 p.m., Australian Open, early round ESPN2
8 p.m., Australian Open, early round ESPN2
2:30 a.m., Australian Open, early round ESPN2

Friday's TV broadcasts

Boxing
7 p.m., Super middleweights, Simms vs. Cruz ESPN2
College Women's Basketball
7:30 p.m., Drake at Southern Illinois FSN
Golf
8:30 a.m., European PGA Tour, Abu Dhabi Champ, second rd. TGC
11:30 a.m., LPGA, World Cup of Golf, first round TGC
2 p.m., PGA Tour, Bob Hope Classic, third round TGC
5:30 p.m., Champions Tour, MasterCard Champ. first rd. TGC
NBA Basketball
6 p.m., Portland at Miami ESPN
8:30 p.m., Golden State at Chicago ESPN
Soccer
1 p.m., MLS Draft ESPN2
Tennis
2 p.m., Australian Open, early round ESPN2
9 p.m., Australian Open, early round ESPN2
2:30 a.m., Australian Open, early round ESPN2

Friday's radio broadcasts

Prep Boys Basketball
7:45 p.m., G.I. Northwest at Hastings High KHAS (1230 AM)
Prep Girls Basketball
5:45 p.m., G.I. Northwest at Hastings High KHAS (1230 AM)
USHL Hockey
6:45 p.m., Ohio Bluejackets at Tri City Storm KLIQ (94.5 FM)

Local

HC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Hastings College women's basketball team moved up three spots to No. 6 in the NAIA Division II poll released Wednesday. Northwestern is No. 2, with three of a possible 16 first-place votes. Morningside, the Bronco's opponent Saturday at 2 p.m. at Lynn Farrell Arena, is fourth. Concordia is No. 9 while Doane is 23rd.

HC MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Hastings College men's basketball team dropped seven spots to No. 22 in the NAIA Division II poll released Wednesday. Morningside (19-0), the Broncos' opponent Saturday at 4 p.m. at Lynn Farrell Arena, moved up one spot to No. 1 with all 16 first-place votes. Northwestern is seventh with Dakota Wesleyan at No. 17. The Broncos (16-4) have dropped four of their past five games.

REMMERDE SETS RECORD

Northwestern senior Deb Remmerde became the all-time leading scorer in NAIA Division II women's basketball history Wednesday evening in the Red Raiders' 80-70 victory over Briar Cliff. A two-point basket with 8:29 left in the first half gave Remmerde 3,327 career points, moving her into the top spot an the career scoring list. The record was previously held by Brittany Smart of Cedarville (Ohio) University. Remmerde finished the game with 23 points and now has 3,252 points for her career.

UNC: Tar Heels win

Continued from page C1

Anthony Morrow hit a 3-pointer falling down and Peacock completed the spurt with a basket on the inside.

In the unaccustomed role of playing from behind, North Carolina responded. The Tar Heels worked hard for second chances and pulled even at 70 on Ty Lawson's three-point play with 8:52 remaining.

But the Yellow Jackets kept matching North Carolina shot for shot. D'Andre Bell hit a jumper to reclaim the lead for the home team. Lawson scored on a fast-break drive to make it 72-all. Georgia Tech took off the other way for Peacock's dunk.

It was close to the end. Jeremis Smith hit two free throws with 1:13 remaining to make it 82-82, and Georgia Tech squandered a chance to go ahead when Morrow missed a jumper from the corner with the shot clock running down.

Green was fouled by Peacock on the rebound, and walked to the other end of the court to shoot two. Only one went in, but that was enough to give the Tar Heels another victory.

"I'd rather have the winning points than the winning point," Green quipped.

Smith led the Yellow Jackets with 15 points, Peacock had 14 and Morrow added 13. Freshman Gani Lawal also had 13 but fouled out with more than 5 minutes remaining.

Class A	
Bellevue West (13-0), 46.3077	
Ralston (12-0), 45.7500	
Omaha Central (11-2), 44.3846	
Omaha Creighton Prep (10-1), 43.8182	
Lincoln Southeast (10-1), 43.8182	
Papillion-LaVista South (9-3), 43.0000	
Omaha Benson (8-4), 42.8333	
Lincoln High (8-3), 42.6364	
Grand Island (9-4), 42.2308	
Kearney (9-4), 42.0000	
Bellevue East (10-4), 41.9286	
Omaha Bryan (8-5), 41.1538	
Omaha North (7-4), 41.0909	
Millard West (6-4), 40.8000	
Norfolk (8-5), 40.6923	
Lincoln Southwest (7-5), 40.6667	
Lincoln East (7-7), 40.2143	
North Platte (6-6), 40.1818	
Omaha Burke (5-6), 39.6364	
Lincoln Northeast (4-7), 38.9091	
Millard North (4-6), 38.6000	
Columbus (3-8), 38.4545	
Omaha Westside (2-10), 38.3333	
Lincoln North Star (3-9), 38.0000	
Omaha South (2-11), 38.0000	
Millard South (2-8), 36.7000	
Papillion-LaVista (2-8), 36.1000	
Omaha Northwest (0-11), 35.7273	
Fremont (0-13), 35.3077	
Class B	
Adams Central (12-0), 45.0000	
Beatrice (10-1), 44.3636	
Gretna (9-2), 43.8182	
Omaha Skutt Catholic (11-3), 43.6429	
Omaha Gross Catholic (7-4), 42.9091	
Elkhorn (8-4), 42.8333	
Alliance (9-4), 42.6923	
Fairbury (9-3), 42.5000	
Gering (7-4), 42.4545	
Crete (6-4), 42.3000	
Lincoln Pius X (6-5), 42.0000	
Waverly (7-4), 41.8182	
Norris (7-3), 41.6000	
Scottsbluff (8-7), 41.4667	
Holdrege (7-4), 41.3636	
York (6-3), 41.2222	
Plattsmouth (8-3), 41.0000	
Omaha Roncalli Catholic (4-7), 40.8182	
Sidney (6-5), 40.3636	
Hastings (5-6), 39.9091	
Schuyler (5-6), 39.6364	
McCook (6-8), 39.2857	
Northwest (6-8), 39.2222	
Ogallala (4-6), 39.0000	
Mount Michael Benedictine (4-8), 39.1667	
South Sioux City (2-8), 38.7000	
Lexington (3-8), 37.7273	
Seward (2-8), 37.5000	
Blair (3-7), 37.3077	
Aurora (1-10), 37.2727	
Nebraska City (2-9), 36.0909	
Platteview (2-10), 36.0000	
Class C-1	
Minden (10-2), 46.5000	
Wisner-Pilger (11-0), 46.1818	
Chadron (7-2), 45.6667	
Pierce (12-0), 45.6667	
Boys Town (8-2), 44.5000	
Boone Central (6-4), 44.4545	
Wayne (9-4), 43.3333	
Crofton (9-1), 44.3000	
Hastings St. Cecilia (11-1), 44.2500	
St. Paul (10-2), 44.2500	
O'Neill (8-1), 44.1111	
Battle Creek (8-3), 43.9091	
Bennington (11-0), 43.8182	
Kimball (9-2), 43.6364	

Concordia (7-7), 40.8571
Bayard (5-6), 40.6364
Lourdes Central Catholic (7-6), 40.5385
Cross County (5-7), 40.5000
Emerson-Hubbard (6-10), 40.4375
Perkins County (4-5), 40.3333
Cambridge (5-6), 40.2727
Stanton (3-7), 40.0000
Neligh-Oakdale (7-7), 39.9286
Malcolm (4-8), 39.9167
Franklin (5-5), 39.7000
Thayer Central (4-8), 39.5833
Palmyra (5-7), 39.5000
Leyton (4-5), 39.4444
Hartington Cedar Catholic (2-8), 39.4000
Superior (3-8), 39.3636
Aquinas Catholic (2-9), 39.3636
Elm Creek (6-7), 39.3077
Weeping Water (5-8), 39.3077
West Holt (3-9), 39.1667
Garden County (4-5), 39.1111
Blue Hill (5-7), 39.0833
Morrill (2-6), 38.7500
Homer (4-9), 38.6154
North Platte St. Patrick's (4-9), 38.3846
Omaha Christian Academy (4-7), 38.3636
Tri County (2-9), 38.3636
Winnebago (4-6), 38.0000
Amherst (3-9), 37.8333
Hemingford (3-8), 37.3636
Fullerton (3-9), 37.3333
Elkhorn Valley (1-10), 37.0000
Sandy Creek (2-11), 36.3846
Friend (1-13), 35.7875
Lyons-Decatur Northeast (0-11), 35.4545
Southwest (10-12), 35.0000

Class D-1

Archbishop Bergan (12-0), 47.5833
Hayes Center (11-0), 45.8182
Humphrey St. Francis (9-1), 45.7000
Mead (11-0), 45.3636
Elwood (11-1), 44.7500
Palmer (10-1), 44.7273
Freeman (10-3), 44.6923
Callaway (10-1), 44.0000
Bertrand (7-4), 43.9091
Maxwell (10-3), 43.6923
Omaha Nation (9-1), 43.5000
Pope John (10-2), 43.4167
Newman Grove (8-3), 43.3636
Kenesaw (9-3), 43.0000
West Boyd (9-3), 42.7500
Overtown (7-4), 42.6364
Pender (6-7), 42.6154
Stuart (10-3), 42.6154
Hay Springs (7-4), 42.3636
Burwell (6-4), 41.7500
Shelby (7-4), 41.6364
Osceola (7-4), 41.6364
Elgin (7-5), 41.4167
Bancroft-Rosalie (7-6), 41.1538
Arapahoe (7-7), 41.1429
College View Academy (6-3), 40.8889
Vauveta-Palaisade (5-6), 40.8182
Clay Center (6-5), 40.7273
Scribner-Snyder (4-8), 40.6667
Clarkson (6-5), 40.6364
Exeter-Milling (7-5), 40.5833
Exits-Farnam (5-9), 40.4545
Heartland Lutheran (5-6), 39.9091
Red Cloud (5-7), 39.7500
Pawnee City (6-6), 39.6667
Lawrence-Nelson (5-6), 39.2727
Medicine Valley (3-9), 39.2500
Humphrey (4-7), 39.0909
McCool Junction (6-7), 38.7500
Banner County (5-7), 38.5833
Harvard (5-7), 38.4167



BRENT McCOWN/Tribune

Doniphan-Trumbull's Jered Jones (34) shoots between Adams Central's Justin Drudik (left) and Tanner Hohlen (22) during their game Saturday at Adams Central.

Team Standings			
City	W	L	
Adams Central	9	3	
St. Cecilia	8	4	
Hastings High	6	7	
Tribland			
	W	L	
Sutton	11	0	
Minden	12	1	
Giltner	11	1	
Deshler	11	2	
Kenesaw	11	2	
Blue Hill	11	2	
Silver Lake	10	2	
Superior	8	3	
Exeter-Miligan	9	4	
Red Cloud	8	5	
Lawrence-Nelson	7	5	
Sandy Creek	8	6	
Smith Center	4	3	
Rock Hills	5	4	
Bruning-Davenport	7	7	
Harvard	4	9	
Clay Center	4	9	
Doniphan-Trumbull	4	9	
Fillmore Central	3	10	
Wilcox-Hildreth	2	10	
Thayer Central	1	10	
Franklin	0	11	
Shickley	0	11	

Tribland wrestling leaders

Winning Percentage			
Name, School	W	L	Pct.
Aaron Carlson, Sutton	25	0	1.000
Ethan Kahrs, Franklin	19	0	1.000
Brett Rupprecht, R. Cloud/Blue Hill	16	0	1.000
Colt Rogers, Smith Center	13	0	1.000
Steven Carlson, Sutton	24	1	.960
Travis Rempe, Smith Center	14	1	.933
Casey Beahm, Sutton	24	2	.923
Alex Rostvet, Adams Central	24	2	.923
David Gonzalez, Hastings High	23	2	.920
Sam Nelson, Doniphan-Trumbull	22	2	.917
Austin Wilson, St. Cecilia	22	2	.917

Consecutive Wins		
Name, School	Current streak	No.
Colt Rogers, Smith Center		51
Aaron Carlson, Sutton		25
Steven Carlson, Sutton		21
Ethan Kahrs, Franklin		21
Casey Beahm, Sutton		17
Brett Rupprecht, Red Cloud/Blue Hill		16
Ethan Rundle, Hastings High		11
Jake Johnson, Adams Central		7
Alex Rostvet, Adams Central		7
Richard Coats, Adams Central		7

Falls	
Name, School	Season Total
Sam Nelson, Doniphan-Trumbull	22
Aaron Carlson, Sutton	21
Casey Beahm, Sutton	19
Nick Lonowski, Adams Central	16
Jake Wetovick, Doniphan-Trumbull	16
Logan James, Franklin	15
Travis Hand, Doniphan-Trumbull	15
Steven Carlson, Sutton	15
Ethan Kahrs, Franklin	15
Mitch Nuss, Sutton	14
Austin Wilson, St. Cecilia	14
Jon Uden, Hastings High	14
Brett Rupprecht, Red Cloud/Blue Hill	14

Fastest Fall	
Name, School	Time
Sam Nelson, Doniphan-Trumbull	:08
Sam Nelson, Doniphan-Trumbull	:09
Brock Hansen, Red Cloud/Blue Hill	:09
Anthony Holroyd, Doniphan-Trumbull	:10
Brad Godtel, Sutton	:13
Aaron Carlson, Sutton	:15
Kyle Johnson, Sutton	:15
Trevor Rempe, Smith Center	:15
Riley Larsen, Adams Central	:17
Riley Larsen, Adams Central	:19
Cory Schlultz, Franklin	:19

Near Falls	
Name, School	Season Total
Austin Wilson, St. Cecilia	30
Richard Coats, Adams Central	29
Travis Rempe, Smith Center	28
Alex Rostvet, Adams Central	28
Nick Lonowski, Adams Central	27
Jake Johnson, Adams Central	26
Adam Joseph, Adams Central	25
Ethan Kahrs, Franklin	25
Steven Carlson, Sutton	24
Nathan Petska, Red Cloud/Blue Hill	22

Takedowns	
Name, School	Season Total
David Gonzalez, Hastings High	106
Aaron Davis, Franklin	63
Colt Rogers, Smith Center	60
Austin Wilson, St. Cecilia	46
Ethan Kahrs, Franklin	45
Alex Rostvet, Adams Central	37
Russel Walton, Franklin	37
Jordan James, Franklin	31
Casey Beahm, Sutton	34
Aaron Carlson, Sutton	33
Travis Rempe, Smith Center	33

Teams reporting: Adams Central, Doniphan-Trumbull, Franklin, Harvard/Clay Center, Hastings High, Minden, Red Cloud/Blue Hill, Smith Center, St. Cecilia, Sutton, Wilcox-Hildreth.

Team Standings			
City	W	L	
Adams Central	12	0	
St. Cecilia	11	1	
Hastings High	5	6	
Tribland			
	W	L	
Smith Center	7	0	
Deshler	11	1	
Minden	10	2	
Bruning-Davenport	11	3	
Rock Hills	7	2	
Kenesaw	9	3	
Sutton	8	4	
Giltner	7	4	
Exeter-Miligan	7	5	
Clay Center	6	5	
Franklin	5	5	
Lawrence-Nelson	5	6	
Doniphan-Trumbull	5	7	
Red Cloud	5	7	
Blue Hill	5	7	
Harvard	5	7	
Thayer Central	4	8	
Shickley	3	8	
Superior	3	8	
Sandy Creek	2	11	
Wilcox-Hildreth	2	10	
Silver Lake	1	11	
Fillmore Central	0	13	

Individual Scoring			
Player, School	Games	Pts.	Ave.
Ashley Dahl, Deshler	13	232	17.8
Lea Ann Jameson, Minden	13	189	14.5
Cecelia Catlett, Brun-Davenport	13	186	14.3
Rachel Walton, Franklin	10	141	14.1
Selena Longoria, Harvard	13	175	13.5
Ann Ahrens, Minden	13	169	13.0
Ashley Borman, Clay Center	13	166	12.8
Stasia Ott, Giltner	12	146	12.2
Gretchen Kreutz, Giltner	12	145	12.1
Charise Farmer, St. Cecilia	10	117	11.7
Individual Rebounds			
Player, School	Games	Rbs.	Ave.
Cecelia Catlett, Brun-Davenport	13	149	11.5
Deidra Ground, Kenesaw	13	131	10.1
Ashley Dahl, Deshler	13	130	10.0
Chelsie White, Giltner	12	97	8.1
Rachel Walton, Franklin	10	78	7.8
Katherine Roemmich, Fill. Central	12	94	7.8
Courtney Aspegren, W-Hildreth	12	94	7.8
Stasia Ott, Giltner	12	92	7.7
Jessie Sorensen, Clay Center	13	96	7.4
Emily Pohlman, Deshler	13	91	7.0
Jessica Kroll, Thayer Central	10	70	7.0
Individual Assists			
Player, School	Games	Asts.	Ave.
Anna Eberly, Red Cloud	12	60	5.0
Deidra Ground, Kenesaw	13	52	4.0
Julie Wehrman, Lawrence-Nelson	11	44	4.0
Abby Jackson, St. Cecilia	12	47	3.9
Jenni Kleinschmidt, F. Central	12	46	3.8
Megan Adams, Kenesaw	13	46	3.5

Tribland girls basketball leaders

Continued from page C1

The Aggies (15-2, 1-1 Big 12) looked frazzled and out of sync most of the game. A&M went 18-for-53 from the field in its worst shooting performance (34 percent) of the season and they turned the ball over a season-high 20 times.

"We were really bad," A&M Coach Mark Turgeon said. "That's the only way I can put it. I think Tech was really good and we were bad."

Knight lauded his team.

"That was about as good, in that context, as I think I've ever had a team play," he said. "It was obviously a really good win but there isn't any such thing as a bad win, I guess."

"I hope it's an indication to our

AFC: Chargers confident heading into coference title game

Continued from page C1

Rivers has become a flashpoint, particularly on talk radio.

"I'm aware of it," Rivers said. "I really don't get too caught up in it. It's kind of surprising, really, to be honest with you. But, again, I'm out there having a good time as I did in the backyard since I was 5 years old. I'm not saying anything out of line. There's no profanity being used. I know what I'm about. My teammates know, my family knows, everything else, I can't worry about."

"When it stops being fun, that's when I'll stop playing," said Rivers, who compared his talking to ribbing a buddy while playing in the backyard.

Some callers have even compared Rivers to Ryan Leaf, the bad-boy quar-

Selig hopes to decide discipline on Mitchell Report by spring training

ANDREW BAGNATO
The Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — One day after testifying before Congress, baseball commissioner Bud Selig told owners he hopes to complete his review of the players and executives mentioned in the Mitchell Report by the start of spring training in mid-February.

Selig did not say whether he would discipline San Francisco Giants officials for failing to report concerns about Barry Bonds' personal trainer, Greg Anderson.

"All he did was reiterate that he needs to review the individual players and the clubs and is going to try to do that as expeditiously as possible, and before spring training if at all possible," said Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer.

Individual Scoring			
Player, School	Games	Pts.	Ave.
Jens Scholl, Deshler	12	302	25.2
Steele Erickson, Franklin	9	165	18.3
Jared Mocaby, Smith Center	7	115	16.4
Brooks Wiebe, Sutton	12	192	16.0
Jordan Hakanson, Sandy Creek	13	197	15.2
Jake Hamburger, St. Cecilia	12	180	15.0
Lee Simon, Rock Hills	9	135	15.0
Anthony Mach, Harvard	11	161	14.6
Andrew Lyle, Hastings High	11	160	14.5
Zach Hunt, Adams Central	12	174	14.5
Individual Rebounds			
Player, School	Games	Rbs.	Ave.
Gavin Blum, Minden	12	164	13.7
Anthony Mach, Harvard	11	134	12.2
Philip Hochstetler, Shickley	11	125	11.4
Jared Mocaby, Smith Center	7	78	11.1
Brent Houchin, Bruning-Davenport	14	151	10.8
Jens Scholl, Deshler	12	128	10.6
Dan Werner, Deshler	12	120	10.0
Jake Engberg, Sandy Creek	13	128	9.8
Wes Olson, Red Cloud	12	107	8.9
Kelan Buhr, Doniphan-Trumbull	7	52	7.4
Individual Assists			
Player, School	Games	Asts.	Ave.
Spencer Choquette, Minden	12	63	5.1
Corey Blair, Franklin	9	41	4.5
Corey Loupin, Deshler	12	51	4.3
Seth Wiedel, Thayer Central	12	50	4.2
Brady Firley, Deshler	2	49	4.1
Riley Sholtz, Rock Hills	9	42	4.7
Lee Simon, Rock Hills	9	38	4.2

Tribland girls basketball leaders

Individual Scoring			
Player, School	Games	Pts.	Ave.
Danielle Nikkila, St. Cecilia	12	40	3.3
Khyia Shaff, Giltner	12	38	3.2
Charise Farmer, St. Cecilia	10	31	3.1
Jaycee Jacobitz, Lawrence-Nelson	11	34	3.1
Individual Steals			
Player, School	Games	Stls.	Ave.
Anna Eberly, Red Cloud	12	51	4.3
Megan Adams, Kenesaw	13	52	4.0
Charise Farmer, St. Cecilia	10	38	3.8
Cecelia Catlett, Brun-Davenport	13	49	3.8
Jill Kroll, Kenesaw	13	49	3.8
Abby Jackson, St. Cecilia	12	42	3.5
Katie Danehey, Red Cloud	12	40	3.3
Julie Wehrman, Lawrence-Nelson	11	35	3.2
Morgan Kleinschmidt, F. Central	12	36	3.0
Tara Herbek, Deshler	13	38	2.9
Individual Blocks			
Player, School	Games	Blks.	Ave.
Anne Boyd, St. Cecilia	12	30	2.5
Breanna Bohlen, Adams Central	12	21	1.8
Selena Longoria, Harvard	13	23	1.8
Jessie Sorensen, Clay Center	13	22	1.7
Jessica Kroll, Thayer Central	10	15	1.5
Field-Goal Percentage			
Player, School	FGM-FGA	Pct.	
Ann Ahrens, Minden	74-119	62.2	
Stasia Ott, Giltner	60-118	50.8	
Mackenzie McCartney, L-Nelson	36-71	50.7	
Cami Bruckman, Silver Lake	37-75	49.3	
Megan Adams, Kenesaw	47-100	47.0	
Lea Ann Jameson, Minden	71-152	46.7	
Jami Shaw, Silver Lake	27-58	46.6	

900: Knight picks up milestone victory

Continued from page C1

His first NCAA title came in 1976 when Indiana went undefeated, a feat no team has done since. In 1984, he coached the U.S. Olympic team to a gold medal in Los Angeles.

Two women's coaches have reached 900 wins: Tennessee's Pat Summitt has 961 and former Texas coach Jody Conradt retired after last season with 900.

The career victory leader in men's coaching is Harry Statham of McKendree University, an NAIA school. The 70-year-old coach has won 949 games in 42 seasons.

The Aggies used a 14-4 run to whittle the Red Raiders' lead to 39-31 with about 16 minutes remaining.

But Tech stiffened and went on a

AFC: Chargers confident heading into coference title game

Continued from page C1

Rivers sat out practice Wednesday to rest his knee but hopes to return by Friday.

"It's feeling pretty good. It's feeling better. I'm treating it like crazy. Obviously the goal is to be ready to play on Sunday, and I'm optimistic I'll be able to do that," he said.

"Philip gets a lot of exposure, but he doesn't talk nearly as much as they show him talking," Turner said. "Personally, he doesn't need to be turning around talking to some guy that has had 12 beers in the stands. He doesn't need to do that."

Turner said he and the fans like the energy and enthusiasm of players jumping around. "So I think obvious-

Selig hopes to decide discipline on Mitchell Report by spring training

pendent drug testing.

WADA's new president severely criticized baseball on Wednesday, saying the sport was resisting the recommendation by former Senate majority leader George Mitchell to transfer drug testing to an independent body.

New WADA boss John Fahey blistered the sport for loopholes in its drug-testing program and heightened tension between MLB and the drug body.

"Professional baseball's response to Sen. Mitchell's report is baffling," Fahey said in a statement. "To suggest that it might continue to keep its anti-doping testing program in-house ... is demeaning to Sen. Mitchell and the congressional committees who view doping as a serious threat to public health."

Baseball fired right back with its

Individual Steals			
Player, School	Games	Stls.	Ave.
Corey Blair, Franklin	9	41	4.5
Jens Scholl, Deshler	12	51	4.3
Corey Loupin, Deshler	12	49	4.1
Spencer Choquette, Minden	12	48	4.0
Kale Meyer, Deshler	12	40	3.3
Zach Hunt, Adams Central	12	35	2.9
Taylor Fjeldheim, D-T	12	30	2.5
Jordan Latta, Red Cloud	12	29	2.4
Riley Sholtz, Rock Hills	9	21	2.3
Jordan Hakanson, Sandy Creek	13	30	2.3
Individual Blocks			
Player, School	Games	Blks.	Ave.
Jake Engberg, Sandy Creek	13	53	4.1
Anthony Mach, Harvard	11	36	3.3
Jens Scholl, Deshler	12	36	3.0
Dan Werner, Deshler	12	54	2.8
Derek Worman, Harvard	11	24	2.2
Field-Goal Percentage			
Player, School	FGM-FGA	Pct.	
Blake Wright, St. Cecilia	51-70	72.9	
Jared Mocaby, Smith Center	49-72	68.1	
Morgan Robins, Sutton	50-82	61.0	
Derek Worman, Harvard	38-63	60.3	
Dan Werner, Deshler	72-120	60.0	
Todd Smidt, Adams Central	44-77	57.1	
Braden Wilson, Smith Center	40-72	55.6	
Jake Hamburger, St. Cecilia	45-82	54.9	

3-Point Field Goals			
(Average two attempts per game)			
Player, School	3FGM-FGA	Pct.	
April Wilton, Lawrence-Nelson	19-47	40.4	
Gretchen Kreutz, Giltner	18-45	40.0	
Charise Farmer, St. Cecilia	26-65	40.0	
Lea Ann Jameson, Minden	15-41	36.6	
Tara Herbek, Deshler	10-30	33.3	
Maddie Thurston, Silver Lake	8-25	32.0	
Jordyn Mlinar, Don-Trumbull	11-35	31.4	
Derek Sitorius, Minden	16-52	30.7	
Melissa Bulin, Thayer Central	8-26	30.7	
Kortney Hoover, Harvard	18-60	30.0	
Free-Throw Percentage			
(Average two attempts per game)			
Player, School	FTM-FTA	Pct.	
Jenni Kleinschmidt, Fillmore Central	35-45	77.8	
Caitlin Bruckman, Silver Lake	21-27	77.8	
Anna Eberly, Red Cloud	33-43	76.7	
Ashley Borman, Clay Center	45-62	72.6	
Deidra Ground, Kenesaw	26-36	72.2	
Lindsey Sitorius, Minden	27-38	71.1	
Lisa Lockmon, Giltner	17-24	70.8	
Kayla Gruener, Doniphan-Trumbull	30-43	69.8	
Kaleigh Chalupa, St. Cecilia	29-43	67.4	
Ashley Dahl, Deshler	62-93	66.7	
Emily Pribyl, Fillmore Central	20-30	66.7	
Teams reporting:			
Adams Central, Bruning-Davenport, Clay Center, Deshler, Doniphan-Trumbull, Fillmore Central, Franklin, Giltner, Harvard, Kenesaw, Lawrence-Nelson, Minden, Red Cloud, Silver Lake, St. Cecilia, Thayer Central, Wilcox-Hildreth.			

900: Knight picks up milestone victory

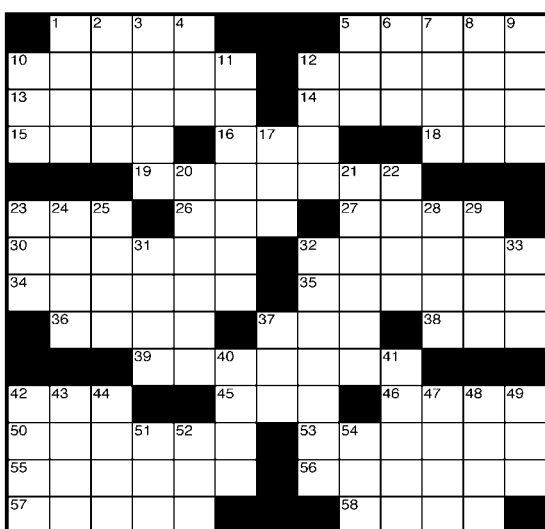
Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Swimming-pool loc.
5 Pursue relentlessly
10 Rugged range
12 Pointy beard
13 Beginning of growing season
14 Future resident
15 Informal wear
16 Novelist — Beattie
18 Tofu base
19 Druids and shamans
23 Maple syrup base
26 Flight dir.
27 Reduce to wreckage
30 Moves about stealthily
32 Daddy's sister
34 Financially solvent
35 Creepy-crawly
- DOWN**
- 1 Holy cow!
2 As it —
3 Hard but easily breakable
4 Son of Val and Aleta
5 Term of endearment
6 Mare's morsel
7 Sporty vehicles
8 Fiddling despot

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

GET MORE in the new "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" series from Quill Driver. Call 800-605-7176.



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Both mother and daughter are grieving for their dads

DEAR ABBY: I feel like I'm all alone. My daughter's father was recently murdered, and I can't seem to get over it. Even though we hadn't been close for months before his passing, he was all I have known since I was 13. I'm trying to move on, but it's so hard.

I don't know how to help my daughter with her issues because I'm still grieving for my own father, who was killed in Baghdad several years ago. Am I a bad mother for not talking to her enough about it? Frankly, I try to avoid the subject every chance I get. But it's eating me up inside, and I can't stop crying.

How will I ever move on to another relationship when I can't even get past the last one? How can I help my child when I feel like I can't even help myself? — DESPERATE FOR HELP IN NEW YORK

DEAR DESPERATE FOR HELP: Please accept my deepest sympathy for the double loss in your life - the death of your father and the tragedy that befell your daughter's father. If you are going to heal yourself and your girl, it is imperative that you find help for both of you. She needs to talk about her feelings so she can deal with them - and so do you.

Avoiding the subject, painful as it is, doesn't work, as you are finding out. I recommend that you find a grief-support group for you and for your daughter, a safe place in which to share your feelings of loss, pain and possibly anger. An excellent place to start would be to ask your clergyman. Please don't put it off because help is available.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 25 and my

boyfriend, "Dave," is 32. I love him dearly. He's my best friend, and I know we cherish each other, but I always feel like I'm No. 2, 3 or 4 in his life.

Dave has a 4-year-old son and is occupied with the boy three nights a week. On those nights I am not welcome. There are no phone calls, and I feel alienated and lonely. Also, he stays in a job he claims he hates because he can't afford to miss one payment to his estranged wife.

Dave refuses to get a divorce because it's expensive, and he is afraid that she will abuse him financially. Yet he gives her extra money on a regular basis despite his 50/50 custody (at present), and he's often broke because of some demand or another she had made. She has a great job as a nurse, but I know very little about her situation so I can't judge her.

I am frustrated. When I try to discuss it, Dave tells me he's sorry, "things will change" and eventually I'll be able to share his life with him and his son. But it's been more than a year, and nothing has changed. Should I hold on? This is driving me crazy. — LOSING PATIENCE IN CONNECTICUT

DEAR LOSING PATIENCE: Your boyfriend appears to be a conscientious parent, but he is married and not available for what you want. He may be satisfied with the status quo, which is why he has made no move to divorce or to further include you.

Dave is not your "best friend." Best friends discuss their problems and work out compromises. Please consider moving on, because if you allow this situation to drag on another year or two or three - and I suspect it will - you'd have to be crazy.

Pauline Phillips, a.k.a. **Abigail Van Buren**, and Jeanne Phillips are columnists for Universal Press Syndicate®. Write Dear Abby at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Astrograph



Your Birthday

FRIDAY, JAN. 18

Some transformations in your lifestyle will be foisted upon you in the year ahead, which you might at first resist. But as time unfolds, you will discover they are working to your benefit and ultimately be exactly what you would have wanted.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Adopting a poor attitude will make unpleasant tasks harder than they need be or make difficult jobs assigned to you impossible to complete. The only way to be productive is to maintain a positive bearing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) It would prove to be unwise to attempt to force any changes that aren't coming easy for you. Remain patient and bide your time until all the pieces of the puzzle start coming together on their own.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) A clever someone might impel you to accept an agreement that benefits him or her more than it does you. If you fall for this and make a commitment, honor your word so you are not branded as unreliable.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) It is apt to be one of those times when no matter how hard others try they won't be able to please you; however, unless you turn that around, you could damage a friendship or two. Be grateful instead of critical.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Be sure to share the credit and benefits equally with those who participated in the successful completion of an endeavor. If you attempt to take all the bows, there will be no one around to help the next time.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Once you begin a project, do everything possible to make certain you see it through to completion. If you lack the necessary tenacity and sense of purpose, you won't stick it out to any kind of successful conclusion.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) - Innately, you are a bold and assertive person, but you also have a tendency to become negative and withdrawn. If you don't take charge of yourself, this may be one of those times where you will be fearful of paper dragons.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) It is nice to be kind to those less fortunate than you, but if you allow a friend to get too far indebted, it could hurt the friendship. If your pal is avoiding you, it is because he or she doesn't have the funds to pay you back.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - It is much too easy to contribute to our own defeat by trying to do things that oppose our better judgment and if you are not careful, this may be the case for you. Be mindful not to function in this modus operandi.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Any problems with which you are now contending will be essentially due to your own making. It is apt to be because you see others as your adversaries instead of allies. Reverse this thinking.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) By dwelling on old errors, failures or unproductive activities, you will unconsciously repeat this behavior. Get your head turned around and live in the "now" or suffer the consequences of being negative.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Those upon whom you normally depend won't be around to bail you out just when you need them the most. The sooner you realize you are on your own, the better it will be for you.

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Rubes

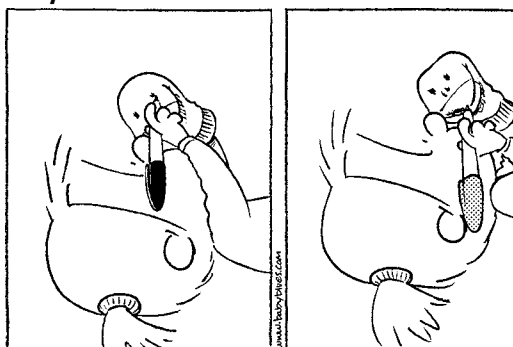
By Leigh Rubin

The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



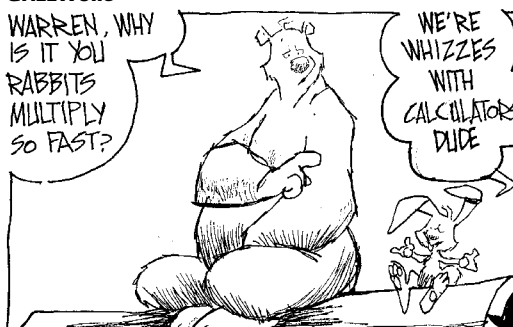
Baby Blues



The world's most effective water power.

By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

Grizzwells



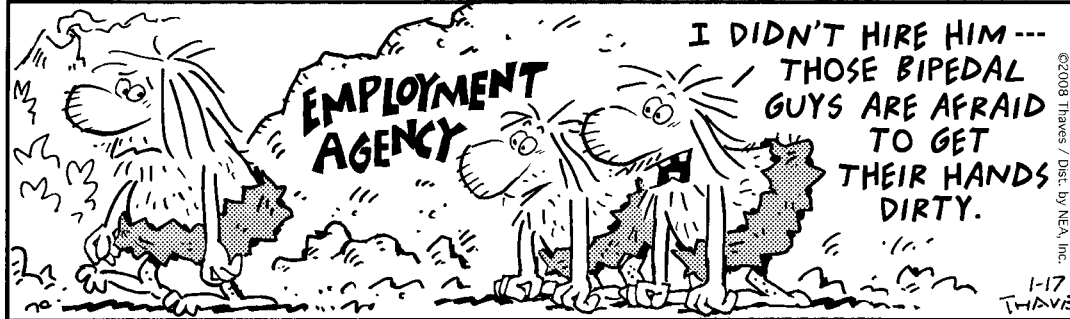
By Bill Schorr

Shoe



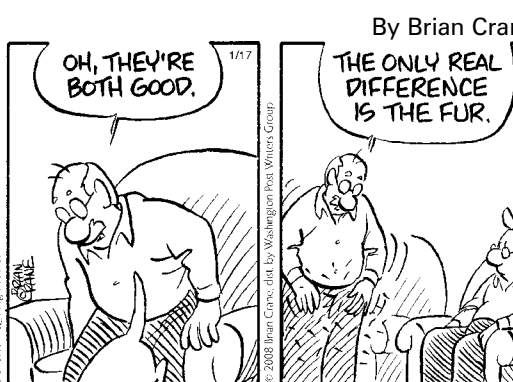
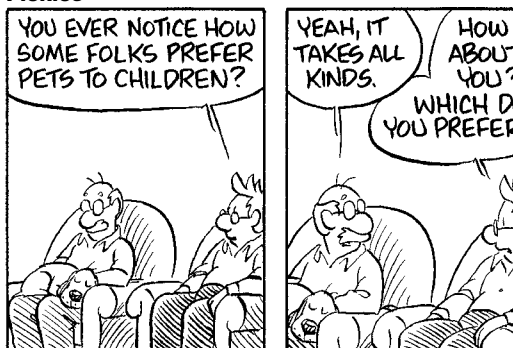
By Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins

Frank and Ernest



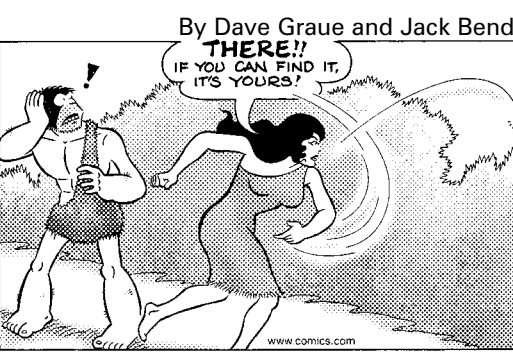
By Bob Thaves

Pickles



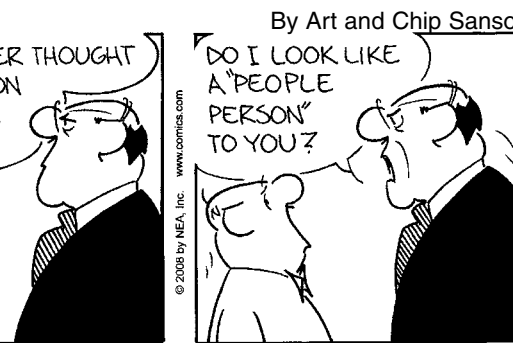
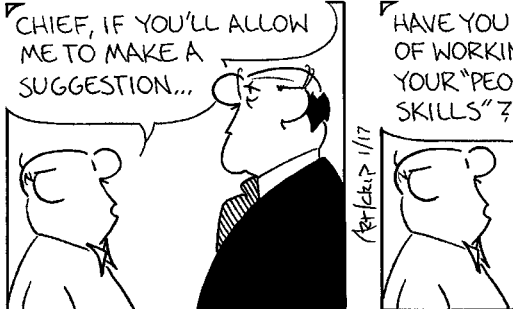
By Brian Crane

Alley Oop



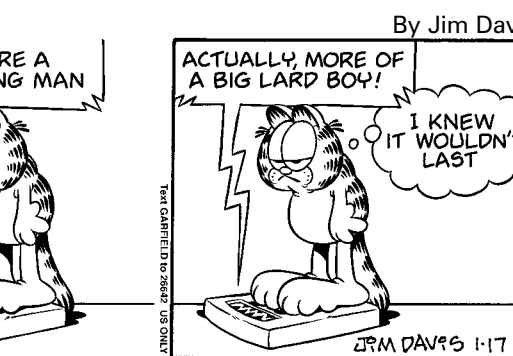
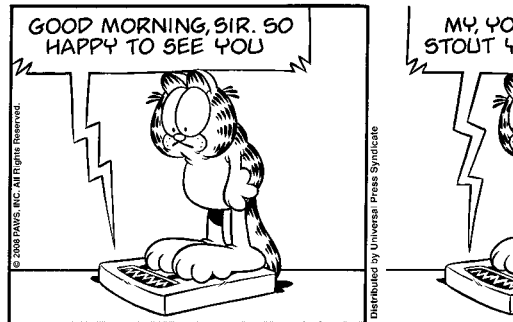
By Dave Graue and Jack Bender

The Born Loser



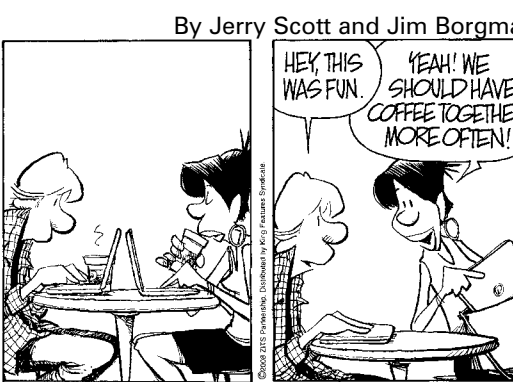
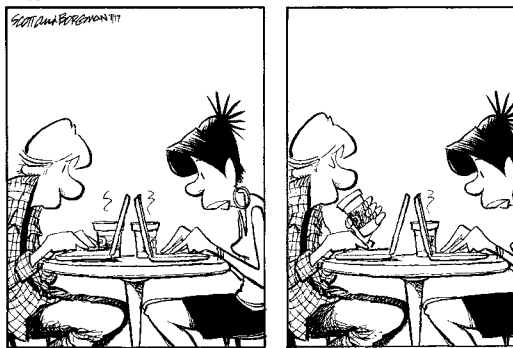
By Art and Chip Sansom

Garfield



By Jim Davis

Zits



By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman

Frugal Living — Get moving — without stressing out

BY SARA NOEL

United Media

Moving can be overwhelming and chaotic. The process will run more smoothly if you're well organized, plan ahead and recruit help. Readers share their best tips to save your sanity during a move. **SURVIVAL KIT:** Have either a box or a suitcase with a few changes of clothes for everyone and a box with anything you think you will need for the first night or two, so you don't have to sift through boxes the first night. — Pital213, e-mail ROOM BY ROOM: The more you pack, the more you have to unpack. Try and concentrate on a room at a time instead of tackling something here and there. Walking into room after room that is half-

packed and completely cluttered can make you feel overwhelmed. Take breaks to daydream about how beautiful everything will look. That will help to refresh your spirit. — Mel, Arkansas **SAFETY FIRST:** When you pack your boxes, don't list on the outside of them what's in them. Instead, just write a number, the room it goes into in the new home and whether it's fragile. Have a master list on a clipboard that has details of what is in each of the boxes. Keep it with you. This will help prevent theft. It's safer with movers not knowing what's in your house. We were warned the movers picked guys off the street to help, and to be sure to change our locks when we moved in. Don't forget to just leave the clothes in

the dresser. They can be moved as is. Other clothes can be used for packing material as well. — Jean, Canada **KEEP IN TOUCH:** If moving by yourself, make sure that someone has your itinerary and route and ETA at your new place, and don't forget to call them with updates. Charge your cell, make sure you have enough money put aside for "just in case" — extra gas, food or lodging along the way. Drive safely, stop if you're tired and always make sure your load is secure and your lighting/signals and brakes work well. — Shorty, Canada **KEEP KIDS HAPPY:** With kids, it's generally easier to pack their stuff last and to unpack it first. Give them spare boxes to play with. — justpeachy92, North Carolina

Television

‘AMERICAN IDOL’
NEW YORK — Fox’s “American Idol” returned as the nation’s most popular TV series, but with 4 million fewer viewers than the 2007 season premiere.

Tuesday’s debut was seen by an estimated 33.2 million viewers, down 11 percent from the 37.4 million who watched the first show, according to preliminary ratings by Nielsen Media Research.

That still ranks as the most-watched show of the TV season, excluding sports. The previous high was the 25.4 million who saw the season premiere of “CSI: Crime Scene Investigation” on CBS in the fall. More people were watching Fox in those two hours than the combined audience for ABC, CBS, NBC and the CW.

It was a noticeably nicer “American Idol” after producers were criticized last year for meanness during the audition rounds of the talent contest.

FAMILIAR FACES
NEW YORK — Three fan favorites are coming back to ABC’s “All My Children.”

Rebecca Budig returned Wednesday as Greenlee Smythe, a role she originated in 1999. Budig left the daytime soap opera in 2005.

The show recast the role last year with Sabine Singh, but — by popular demand — Singh stepped aside for Budig.

“Fans were quite vocal,” said “All My Children” spokesman Michael Cohen. “They wanted Rebecca back as Greenlee. ... When the timing is right, as it was now, Rebecca was available so we brought her back.”

Budig, who is married to Bob Guiney of ABC’s “The Bachelor,” hinted that her return could generate some couple shuffling if she has no chemistry with her character’s present beau, Aidan Devane (portrayed by Aiden Turner).

Darnell Williams and Debbi Morgan are also moving back to Pine Valley as married supercouple Jesse and Angie Hubbard.

Morgan returns Friday and Williams comes back Jan. 25. They first joined the show in the early 1980s. Williams left in 1988 after Jesse apparently died in Angie’s arms; Morgan departed in 1989.

“(Jesse) had to fake the death in order to protect his family,” Williams said.

Well, that answers that.
The Associated Press

Books

NOMINEES NAMED
SAN FRANCISCO — Joyce Carol Oates led a field of National Book Critics Circle finalists announced Saturday, with nominations in both fiction and autobiography categories.

Oates was nominated in fiction for “The Gravedigger’s Daughter,” along with Junot Diaz’s “The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao,” which was passed over for a National Book Award nomination last fall.

Other nominees were Marianne Wiggins’ “The Shadow Catcher,” Hisham Matar’s “In the Country of Men” and Vikram Chandra’s “Sacred Games.”

Missing from the list was Denis Johnson’s “Tree of Smoke,” a 600-page journey through the physical, moral and spiritual extremes of the Vietnam War, which captured the National Book Award.

The Associated Press

Baghdad gallery owner wages personal war

HAMZA HENDAWI

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — By all rights, the Hewar art gallery should be a casualty of war. Months go by without a single painting or sculpture being sold. The gallery’s cafe — once a noisy meeting ground for Baghdad’s intelligentsia — now sees just a few hardy regulars.

The owner’s balance sheet shows losses of up to \$400 a month — a sum considered a good monthly wage.

On the plus side: three sheep that were a gift from a friend in his native Anbar province to the west. They grazed on weeds and hedges outside the gallery in north Baghdad’s Waziriyah neighborhood.

But something keeps Qassim Sabti from locking the doors for good.

It’s part stubbornness, part nostalgia and a dash of belief that, just maybe, better times are ahead — the same recipe that kept a handful of other cultural guardians, such as book sellers, poets and theater troupes, from abandoning Baghdad during the years of fighting and upheaval.

Now, with violence on the wane, the city’s struggling artist community looks for signs that their patrons could someday return and the discussions in the coffee houses could again be about their latest works rather than the latest troubles.

Sabti’s gallery is a bellwether.

The Hewar, or Dialogue, is perhaps the best known cultural crossroads in Iraq.

After the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003, the two-story building became the main salon for debates and exhibitions basking in the heady freedoms that were long bottled up by the regime.

But as the insurgency took hold in Baghdad, the gallery’s fate mirrored the rest of the capital. People with some savings left for Syria or Jordan. Checkpoints and blast walls rose up in the gallery’s neighborhood. Sunni and Shiite artists — bound by lifetime friendships — took pains to avoid discussing the sectarian bloodletting.

“My gallery, like Baghdad, is under siege,” said the silver-haired Sabti, a Sunni Arab married to a Shiite. He still walks with a limp from childhood polio.

But Sabti, 54, has not stopped organizing exhibitions — 29 in all since 2003. “The Iraqis kept coming but none can afford to buy art,” he sighed.

Sabti arranges for financial support to artists from an association of painters he runs, and some of the artists who exhibit at Hewar have taken advances against the future sale of their work. Dozens of pieces are stored in back rooms under a layer of dust — like the rows of empty chairs in the gallery’s top floor where young people occasionally take music and painting classes funded by a private U.S.-based organization.



KHALID MOHAMMED/AP

Owner Qassim Sabti is seen at the entrance to the Hewar gallery in Baghdad, Iraq, on Jan. 7.

Both sides make textbook plays

John Hope Franklin, a professor of history at Duke University, said, “We must get beyond textbooks, go out into the bypaths ... and tell the world the glories of our journey.”

This deal features two textbook plays, one by a defender and one by declarer. What are they? South is in four spades, and West leads the club ace.

Note North’s two-no-trump response over West’s takeout double. Since North would redouble with a strong balanced hand, two no-trump is used to show (at least) a game-invitational raise in spades with four or more trumps.

Then, perhaps East should risk bidding three hearts because he has such promising distribution. But the vulnerable-

North ♦ A J 5 4 2 ♥ 8 5 ♦ K J 10 7 ♠ 9 4			
West ♦ 8 ♥ K J 10 7 ♦ ? 6 3 2 ♠ A K 8 2		East ♦ 7 ♥ 9 6 4 3 2 ♦ ? 5 ♠ Q J 7 6 3	
South ♦ K Q 10 9 6 3 ♥ A Q ♦ A 9 4 ♠ 10 5			

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South 1 ♠ 4 ♠	West Dbl. Pass	North 2 NT Pass	East Pass Pass
----------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------

Opening lead: ♠ A

ity is unfavorable; and five hearts doubled or five clubs doubled costs 500, more than the value of the North-South game.

First, at trick one, East should

play his club queen. This says that he has either the jack behind the queen or, much less likely, a singleton queen. West now knows that he may underlead his club king at trick two, and East will take the trick with his jack (or by ruffing). And that is exactly what West should do here, putting East on lead for a heart shift through South’s ace-queen.

Now we turn to declarer. At first glance, his contract depends on winning one red-suit finesse. Upon closer examination, though, South should see that he can guarantee 10 tricks. He wins with his heart ace, draws trumps, and exits with his remaining heart. Whoever wins the trick must either lead a diamond, finding the queen, or concede a ruff-and-sluff.

Phillip Alder is a columnist for Newspaper Enterprise Association.

Stones documentary to open festival

The Associated Press
BERLIN — “Shine a Light,” Martin Scorsese’s documentary on the Rolling Stones, will open the Berlin film festival next month.

Scorsese and the band will attend the Feb. 7 screening, organizers said Tuesday. The annual event, the first of the year’s major European film festivals, ends Feb. 17.

“We are extremely excited to have the world premiere of this magnificent film as our open-

ing gala,” festival director Dieter Kosslick said. “Martin Scorsese has captured the pure essence of an iconic band on the big screen.”

“Shine a Light” documents two concerts by the Stones at New York’s Beacon Theatre, on Oct. 29 and Nov. 1, 2006. It also includes rarely seen archive and behind-the-scenes footage, as well as interviews, the festival said.

Scorsese, 65, won an Oscar for directing 2006’s “The Departed.”



Tribune cartoon caption contest

Here are the other captions that did not win but are worth mentioning:

“OK, Einstein, do I yell “mouse” or “mush?”
Greg Robinson, Juniata

“The dogs were right. We need a vacation.”
Garrett Clark, Clay Center

“So, this is your idea of low-cost alternative fuel.”
John Voit, Hastings

See next Thursday’s Tribune for another cartoon caption contest.



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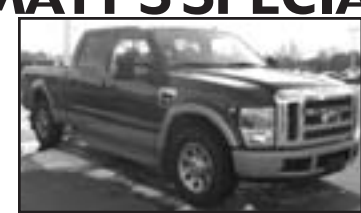
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BURNING ISSUES

◆ This marks the 50th Daytona 500. Lee Petty won the first one in 1959 in a photo finish with Johnny Beauchamp. Kevin Harvick won the most recent 500 in a photo finish with Mark Martin. So ... in that regard ... very little has changed. (Just kidding. Virtually everything has changed!)

◆ Why is it appropriate that NASCAR holds its biggest race to begin the season? Because all the teams are rested, and everything is in place. No one is running out of money. Every team is at its peak.

◆ This year, Jeff Gordon could zip past three drivers — Cale Yarborough, Bobby Allison and Darrell Waltrip — in career victories. Doing so would leave him in third place all-time.

◆ Who has the most incentive for a 500 victory? Tony Stewart, a superb restrictor-plate driver, who has never won it. Stewart has won Daytona's summertime race twice. A victory this year would give Toyota its first win in the sport's biggest race.

◆ Another significant outcome would be Dale Earnhardt Jr. winning the 500 in his first race with Hendrick Motorsports.

◆ The obvious sentimental choice would be Martin, who has never won the 500 and lost by a couple of feet in a controversial finish last year.

◆ Jimmie Johnson and crew chief Chad Knaus have cornered the market on strategy and performance. His teammate Gordon and Steve Letarte are just a tick behind, as racers are prone to say. They haven't been together as long. That's probably the only difference.

WHO'S HOT, WHO'S NOT

◆ **Who's hot** — The Toyota teams, particularly Jacques Villeneuve, performed well during the first Daytona test sessions, and here's a surprise: So did Hendrick Motorsports.

◆ **Who's not** — Among those whose test speeds were a bit disappointing were Martin Truex Jr., Clint Bowyer and Mark Martin. It's early, though.



Bowyer

Daytona testing results still dubious

MONTE DUTTON
NASCAR This Week

When teams in NASCAR's three major touring series test at Daytona International Speedway before the start of each season, they don't have to go through inspection.

This makes the results slightly suspicious, though not as much as in the past.

Once upon a time, when the cars weren't so much alike, it wasn't unusual for a team — and sometimes a manufacturer — to, uh, take it easy on purpose. Back in Bill Elliott's heyday, his team, based in Dawsonville, Ga., far

from the Charlotte-area home of most teams, was notorious for being notably mediocre in January and notably fast in February.

When a manufacturer introduced a slick new body style, it was often alleged that its operatives told the teams receiving its support to "sandbag," which is a cliché for "go slow on purpose."

Nowadays, the institutional strategy is invalid simply because the main difference between a Chevy, a Ford, a Dodge and a Toyota is the shape of the headlight decals, not the shape of the body.

There isn't much sandbagging any-

more. Now it's more likely to be the opposite. There are always a few suspicious times recorded, mainly by teams that have an incentive to look unnaturally better than they are.

During test sessions now, the inspection areas are open, but checking to see if a car is legal is optional until the teams return before the Budweiser Shootout and Daytona 500.

What advantage could be gained by installing a slightly less restrictive plate on the engine? Nothing related to performance in the 500. Teams that cheat these days are looking for money, not

speed. The late Banjo Matthews used to advertise the notion that "speed costs money," with the solicitous question added: "How fast do you want to go?" Now, though, speed sometimes makes money.

If one looks at the top of the speed charts during testing and there's an unfamiliar name at or near the top, chances are there's an incentive to get some publicity, not because unheralded teams are owned by media hounds, but because unheralded teams are often searching for sponsorship, and some impressive news comes in handy in the hunt.

ROBBY GORDON



JOHN CLARK/The Gazette

Robby Gordon answers questions during Media Day at Daytona International Speedway.

He'll drive anything

RACER FRUSTRATED
 BY CANCELLATION OF
 THIS YEAR'S DAKAR RALLY

MONTE DUTTON
NASCAR This Week

Compared to Robby Gordon, other NASCAR drivers are full of limitations. Even Tony Stewart, who competes in a variety of races on the side, limits himself to races consisting of laps.

Gordon's primary avocation is off-road racing, whether across Mexico's Baja California or in the annual Dakar Rally, which Gordon didn't get to run this year. Terrorist concerns forced can-

cellation of the annual trans-Africa test of speed and endurance.

Man, was the 39-year-old Gordon disappointed.

"From the time Homestead stopped (at the end of the 2007 Cup season) to Friday (Jan. 4) at 1 p.m. Portugal time, I know the NASCAR team has been working on this side, but the off-road team and myself have been just slammed testing and working out all of our systems. We built a really neat little race car, actually not one of them but two of them, and ... we were built to win this year.

"I'm extremely disappointed. I can completely understand their decision to not go to Mauritania or not want to put competitors in an awkward or dangerous situation. That, I understand 100 per-

cent, but for them ... not to have a back-up plan, a B-plan, a C-plan, a D-plan ... Why didn't we run 10 days in Portugal on the same course, something?"

This Renaissance man of racing must now concentrate on improving his Sprint Cup Series team. Gordon finished 26th in the 2007 standings. That may not seem impressive, but Gordon had the best showing of any driver not competing with a multicar team. He had one top-five and two top-10 finishes.

"When you come to Daytona, it's about a race team pretty much," said Gordon. "A driver has to make the right decisions late into the race, but stuff you learn at the test isn't going to help you make those decisions late in the race."

HE SAID WHAT?

◆ "I could probably run

backwards and run about the same as I do going forward. That's how close I feel like I am to figuring out Darlington."

— **Tony Stewart**

◆ "No, it's never hard going to the race track. That's like saying is it tough going to the golf course, or is it tough going fishing? I love it so much."

— **Kyle Petty**

◆ "Everybody equates the sport to what they know, which is driving up and down the interstate or driving on a country road, or whatever. Race cars don't drive that way."

— **Petty**
 ◆ "This has been a monkey-see, monkey-do sport for a long time." — **Jeff Burton, on the proliferation of international drivers in NASCAR.**

◆ "In the final lap of a restrictor-plate race, there are no teammates." — **Kurt Busch**

◆ "Restrictor-plate racing, for me, is maddening. You have to make the right decisions, but a lot of it is luck." — **Matt Kenseth**

LEGENDS AND LORE

KULWICKI'S STAR BRIGHT, FLEETING

Alan Kulwicki's entire Cup career consisted of only 207 races, but he won five of them and pulled off one of the more improbable championships in history in 1992. The sport lost a true champion when Kulwicki perished at age 38 in a plane crash on April 1, 1993. He won the first race at Phoenix International Raceway on Nov. 6, 1988, winning over Terry Labonte by a whopping 18.5 seconds.

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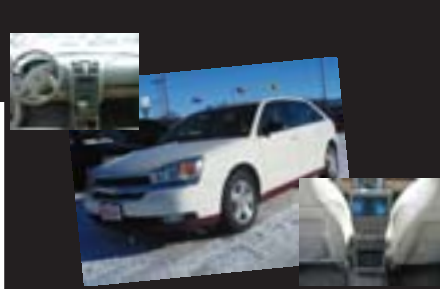
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Bush, Bernanke back economic rescue plan

JEANNINE AVERSA
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke today embraced calls for an economic stimulus package to avert recession. Bernanke said such a plan should be quickly implemented and temporary so that it won't complicate longer-term fiscal challenges.

The Fed chief, in testimony prepared for the House Budget Committee, did not embrace any specific provisions or a specific plan. Rather, he spoke to the general concept of an economic rescue package. It is likely that any such package would include tax rebates.

"Fiscal action could be helpful in principle" and may provide "broader

support for the economy" than the Fed can furnish alone through reductions in interest rates, Bernanke said in prepared testimony to the House Budget Committee. However, "the design and implementation of the fiscal program are critically important," he said.

"The president does believe that over the short term, to deal with the softening of the economy, that some boost is necessary," Bush spokesman Tony Fratto said.

Bernanke didn't recommend specific provisions or endorse a specific plan, but rather spoke to the general concept of an economic rescue package. It is likely that any package that emerges will include tax rebates.

Fratto's comments marked the first

White House confirmation that Bush, confronting a deepening economic crises that has shaken much of the nation, supports government intervention. Until now, the White House said the president was just considering some type of short-term boost.

Fratto would not divulge the details or what the stimulus would look like, other than to say all options are being considered.

Bernanke already had indicated earlier that he was open efforts to develop a rescue package, and reinforced that position Thursday.

The fragile state of the economy has gripped Wall Street and Main Street and is a rising concern among voters. The situation has galvanized politi-

cians — including those vying to be the next president — and poses the biggest test to Bernanke, who took over the Fed nearly two years ago.

With the economy suffering, one of Bush's first acts after returning to Washington Wednesday evening from the Middle East was to be a conference call Thursday with congressional leaders in both parties to discuss a possible short-term stimulus package.

The White House spoke up after watching a number of indicators of a battered economy. Consumer confidence has plummeted, economic woes have become the top concern of the American public, and the 2008 presidential contenders have scrambled to get in front of the issue.

Fratto said that Bush made the decision that a stimulus is needed while he was away from Washington on a Mideast trip that ended Wednesday.

But Fratto said that while Bush has decided to pursue some sort of boost, he suggested that he has not yet decided what he thinks it should contain. Listening to the congressional leaders' ideas is one step in that process, he said, as is "probably daily conversations" by Bush's economic team with people from the financial sector, business leaders and prominent economists, among others.

Fratto declined to say when the president could announce a package, or whether it would be before or after the State of the Union address later this month.

Sri Lankan jets destroy hideout

KRISHAN FRANCIS
The Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Sri Lanka's military said air force jets destroyed a hideout used by senior Tamil Tiger rebels today and soldiers captured a strategic stretch of road in a battle that left nine insurgents dead.

The offensives came a day after suspected insurgents killed 27 people in an attack on a civilian bus, an assault that coincided with the government formally ending a cease-fire that had been largely ignored in recent years.

Air force jets bombed a rebel hideout near Kilinochchi, the insurgents' de facto capital, military spokesman Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara said.

He said top rebel officials used the compound, but did not know who was there at the time of the attack. The pro-rebel TamilNet Web site said the jets had struck a civilian area and seven people had been wounded.

However, Nanayakkara said the military had no reason to target a civilian settlement.

"It was definitely an LTTE leaders' camp. They won't let civilians settle in that area," he said, referring to the rebels by the initials of their formal name, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

The military also said it captured a strategic stretch of road in northern Mannar district Wednesday after a battle that killed nine rebels. Commandoes then advanced into rebel territory in Mannar and destroyed a bunker, killing four female rebels, Nanayakkara said.

Nanayakkara said nine other rebels were killed during a clash elsewhere in Mannar on Wednesday.

Defense officials reported the deaths of seven rebels in several clashes across the north Wednesday. A lone rebel today exchanged gunfire with soldiers in northern Jaffna before committing suicide to avoid being captured, Nanayakkara said.

Rebel officials could not immediately be reached for comment on the clashes.

The violence came a day after a 45-pound roadside bomb destroyed a passenger bus as it traveled through the town of Buttala, about 150 miles southeast of Colombo. Gunmen then shot the panicked passengers as they tried to flee, witnesses said.

Twenty-seven people were killed — most of them from gunshots — and another 61 people were injured, Nanayakkara said. The assailants then retreated into the bush, shooting and killing six farmers along the way, he said.

The U.S. Embassy condemned the bomb blast, saying "it bears all the hallmarks" of the rebels.

President Mahinda Rajapaksa said although the attack on the bus was timed to coincide with the government's official withdrawal from the cease-fire, it simply mirrored other attacks by the separatist group in recent months.

Soon after the attack, a second roadside bomb struck an armored military vehicle in the same region, injuring three soldiers, Nanayakkara said.

Soldiers confronted a group of rebels in the jungles Thursday near the site of the bus bomb and one soldier was wounded in the clash, Nanayakkara said.



JOHN AMIS/AP

DeKalb County police personnel search an apartment grounds for evidence after two DeKalb police officers were killed overnight while working as security guards at the Glenwood Gardens Apartments Wednesday in Decatur, Ga.

Police chief: We're coming after you, too

*1 MAN ARRESTED,
OTHERS STILL SOUGHT
IN SLAYING OF 2
POLICE OFFICERS*

DANIEL YEE
The Associated Press

DECATUR, Ga. — Police arrested one man in the apparent ambush slaying of two officers at a crime-ridden apartment complex, and were still

looking today for other suspects, authorities said.

Herbie Deshawn Durham, 32, was charged with two counts of murder Wednesday night after a massive search that involved SWAT teams, police dogs and a helicopter.

"We have a significant amount of evidence ... he deserves every label that we're putting on him," DeKalb County Police Chief Terrell Bolton said. "For those out there who are still remaining, yeah, we're coming after you,

too. Your time on the street is not long. We're going to bring you into justice."

Officers Ricky Bryant Jr., 26, and Eric Barker, 33, were moonlighting as security guards at the complex and investigating a suspicious person when they were gunned down, police said. "They never had a chance," Bolton said.

One witness told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution the officers appeared to be frisking

someone right before the shooting early Wednesday.

Derrick Murchison, 38, told the newspaper he looked out his window into a parking lot and saw that both officers had pulled up in their personal vehicles.

"They had asked the dude for his license ... I looked out and he was on the hood like this," he said, demonstrating that the man was standing with his hands on top of the car.

Murchison said he went back

to playing a video game, but then his girlfriend heard shots and he pushed her away from the window.

One officer died at the scene; the other was pronounced dead at a hospital.

Witnesses reported seeing two males running from the scene, police said.

Officer Jonathan Ware, a police spokesman, said authorities were searching for "more than one" other suspect.

Out of jail, O.J. Simpson departs Vegas to return home to Florida

KEN RITTER
The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — O.J. Simpson boarded a flight to return home to Miami Thursday, a day after he received a blistering rebuke from a judge who doubled his bail but allowed him out of jail to await trial in his armed robbery case, a friend said.

Tom Scotto, who coordinated with four other friends to raise Simpson's bail, said he planned to meet Simpson when he arrives at Miami International Airport later in the day.

"He's on the flight," said Scotto.

Simpson, 60, posted bond and was released from jail just after 11 p.m. Wednesday. He walked out by himself,

got into a white Mercedes, and was driven away without speaking to the media.

The former football star was picked up Friday in Florida by a bail bondsman and taken back to Nevada for violating terms of his release.

He had been ordered to have no contact with co-defendants or witnesses after he was freed on bail in September on charges of orchestrating the armed robbery of two sports memorabilia dealers at a hotel room.

But he found himself before a judge again Wednesday because he mentioned co-defendant Clarence "C.J." Stewart while leaving a sputtering, foul-mouthed phone message two months ago for his bail bondsman, Miguel Pereira of You

Ring We Spring.

"I don't know Mr. Simpson what the heck you were thinking — or maybe that's the problem — you weren't," Glass said.

In the message, Simpson asked Pereira to tell Stewart how frustrated Simpson was about testimony during a preliminary hearing several days earlier.

"I just want, want C.J. to know that ... I'm tired of this (expletive)," Simpson said, according to a transcript. "Fed up with (expletives) changing what they told me. All right?"

Though there was no indication Stewart received the message, prosecutor Chris Owens suggested it was threatening. The judge merely said she didn't like the tone.



JAE C. HONG/AP

O.J. Simpson leaves the Clark County jail after he was released on bail in Las Vegas Wednesday.

FDA declares over-the-counter cold medicines too risky for tots

LAURAN NEERGAARD
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Parents may be left with only love and lots of liquid to give their sniffling babies and toddlers now that the government is declaring over-the-counter cough and cold medicines too risky for tots.

The Food and Drug Administration was issuing that warning Thursday to parents of children under 2.

It's a move expected for months: Drug companies last October quit selling dozens of versions of nonprescription cold remedies targeted specifically to babies and toddlers. That month, the FDA's scienti-

fic advisers also voted that the drugs don't work in small children and shouldn't be used in preschoolers, either — anyone under age 6.

The FDA still hasn't decided if OTC decongestants, antihistamines and cough suppressants are appropriate for older children, officials told The Associated Press. Expect a decision on that by spring, the deadline necessary to notify manufacturers before they begin production for next fall's cold season.

For now, FDA's first official ruling focuses on youngsters under 2, warning that "serious and potentially life-threatening side effects can occur."

FDA is worried that parents haven't gotten that message despite all the publicity last fall. They may still have infant-targeted drugs at home, or they may buy drugs meant for older children to give to tots instead, said Dr. Charles Ganley, FDA's nonprescription drugs chief.

"We still have a concern," Ganley said. "It falls out of people's consciousness. We're still in the middle of cold season right now."

Ganley was particularly struck by recent surveys that suggest many parents don't believe OTC remedies could pose a problem, especially if they've given them to an older child without harm.



PAUL SAKUMA/AP

Pedia Care Infant Drops Long-Acting Cough and Concentrated Tylenol Infants' Drops Plus Cold & Cough are shown in a medicine cabinet at the home of Carol Uyeno in Palo Alto, Calif., in this Oct. 11, 2007, file photo. Parents should not give babies and toddlers over-the-counter cough and cold medicines, the government will declare today.

Classified Ads

If you find an error in your classified ad, please call us before the next day's paper. The Tribune cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Claims cannot be considered unless made within three days from the first date of publication. No allowances can be made when errors do not materially affect the value of the advertisement.

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1 Card of Thanks

The family of Elaine Hatten want to thank the staff of Good Samaritan Village, Mary Lanning Hospital and Hospice, Brand-Wilson Mortuary, First St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Hastings State Bank East Branch, Brenda's Florals and her doctors for the care and help they gave to our mother and her daughters during the last three months of her life. Thanks also to all our friends for their love, prayers, support and memorial gifts.

4 Special Notices

The family of Frances Williams requests a card shower for her 80th birthday on January 26, 2008. send cards to:
Frances Williams
P.O. Box 321
Kenesaw, NE 68956

8 Happy Ads



Happy 85th Birthday, Dad

Please join us in honoring our father, **David Vanosdall**, born January 21, 1923. Best wishes may be sent to 617 Lane B, Hastings, NE 68901 Love, Sharon, Diana and Janet

Wishing our Hastings College professor, author, volunteer, Mary Kay consultant Gram a very happy birthday!



Much love from all of your family

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2004 CHEVY Cavalier: 4-door, 4-cylinder, automatic, full power, only 18,000 miles. **\$5,950.**
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1981 DATSUN: 720 King Cab, 2-wheel drive, 50,000 actual miles. Runs good. \$1,000. 402-469-6722.

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WE HAVE NEW and used windshields. Example: '99 Chevy pickup, new only \$99. Many others available. McMurray Motors, 462-6879.

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Turned down for a car loan? Let us help! Call Jeramie at Paul Spady Motors. 402-462-4105.

48 Business Opportunities

IF YOU want to change your lifestyle to your dream lifestyle in 6 months, then call me to get started working from home and do just that. Investment required. Call 308-962-4587.

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51 Professional

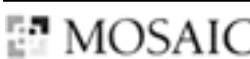
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Position Open

The Clay Center Housing Authority is accepting applications for the position of Executive Director. The position is full time at 20 hours a week. This applicant must be able to type, operate a copier, adding machine and have advanced computer skills. This position would be required to communicate with the Housing Board, the Mayor and City Council, Tenants, Applicants and oversee Maintenance Personnel. The position requires budget preparation, rent calculations, compiling tenant files, preparations of HUD regulations and reporting, as well as filing for grant monies, writing contracts and administering the grants. Applications may be picked up at the office of the Housing Authority, 114 East Division Street, Clay Center, NE, between the hours of 8-noon, Monday-Thursday or at the office of the City Clerk at 219 W. Fairfield, Clay Center, NE. Applications will be accepted until 2/8/08 and may be returned to the above addresses or mailed. For questions, call 402-762-3503

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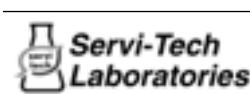
51 Professional



DIRECT SUPPORT MANAGER

MOSAIC is currently seeking a Direct Support Manager for our residential settings in Hastings. Duties to include coordinating and managing program operations while ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements along with the obligation to support and advocate for persons with developmental disabilities. Responsibilities also include: hiring, training, scheduling of staff, coordinating activities and appointments of individuals served, maintaining records and to be a responsible steward of resources in order to create an environment committed to quality. MOSAIC offers a competitive wage, benefits after three months, tuition reimbursement, Paid Time Off and much more.

Apply to:
MOSAIC
818 WEST 21ST STREET
HASTINGS, NE 68901
402-463-0518



Position available immediately
Chemist/Analytical Instrument Maintenance Technician

Conducts chemical and physical laboratory analysis of solid and liquid materials. Analysis primarily agricultural/environmental type samples.

•Must have a degree in chemistry (electronics also desirable).
•Must be able to analyze and monitor lab data.
•Must be somewhat knowledgeable in electronics and instrument repair.
•Must maintain analytical data records.
•Must maintain instrument repair and maintenance records.
•Must be self-motivated and able to work independently.
•Previous lab experience desirable but not required.
•Hours are 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
Excellent benefits including: 401k and health insurance.
Will take applications until January 25, 2008.

Apply to Mary Sue
P.O. Box 169
Hastings, NE 68902

53 Health Care

CNA

We are now accepting applications for full- and part-time CNAs on our evening and night shifts. SCMH offers a competitive wage program including a night differential and an excellent benefit package. Contact Penny McKenzie at 785-282-6845 if interested.

SMITH COUNTY Memorial Hospital is seeking full-time/part-time CNAs for evening and night shifts. SCMH offers a competitive wage program including a night differential and an excellent benefit package. Contact Penny McKenzie at 785-282-6845 if interested.

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54 Office/Clerical

EDGAR MOTOR Company is hiring a full-time (approximately 35 hours per week) office assistant. Applicant must have bookkeeping skills, be detail oriented and able to multitask. Please send your resume or call for an appointment. Edgar Motor Company, P.O. Box 486, Edgar, NE 68935; 402-224-3315.

THE ADAMS COUNTY FSA Office is hiring a full-time permanent Program Technician. Duties will include carrying out office activities and functions related to programs administered by FSA, operate various types of computer systems, maintain producer data, process automated forms, use a high degree of initiative and judgment in planning and carrying out assigned tasks. The Vacancy Announcement and application may be picked up between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Adams County Farm Service Agency, 2727 W. 2nd St., Ste. 103, Hastings, NE 68901-4608. Applications must be returned by January 28, 2008. FSA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

61 Office/Clerical
FULL-TIME SECRETARY position. Responsibilities include typing, dictation, computer skills, people skills, multi-tasking and organizational skills. Send resume to Box H, c/o Hastings Tribune, P.O. Box 788, Hastings, NE 68902.

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61 Office/Clerical

NEW ASC FACILITY (Kearney)

Now hiring LPN/CST. 24-30 hours per week. Current BLS or ACLS required. Please send resume to:
Central Plains Surgery
Attn: Nurse Manager
3712 28th Ave.
Kearney, NE 68845

61 Office/Clerical

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Now hiring LPN/CST. 24-30 hours per week. Current BLS or ACLS required. Please send resume to:
Central Plains Surgery
Attn: Nurse Manager
3712 28th Ave.
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53 Health Care

CMA NEEDED: 8 to 16 hours/week at women's health clinic. Hours vary. Send resume to: Executive Director, P.O. Box 288, Hastings, NE 68901

CNAs, LPNs and RNs: Pick your own hours, TLC Staffing, Inc. 866-852-9021.

53 Health Care

FULL- AND PART-TIME Medication Aide for night shift. Apply in person at The Homestead Assisted Living, 1116 Sycamore Ave., Hastings.

53 Health Care

NEW ASC FACILITY (Kearney)

Now hiring LPN/CST. 24-30 hours per week. Current BLS or ACLS required. Please send resume to:
Central Plains Surgery
Attn: Nurse Manager
3712 28th Ave.
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53 Health Care

61 Office/Clerical

PART-TIME RN needed to supervise med aides in assisted living facility. Call 402-463-6021.

53 Health Care

RN/LPN

We are now accepting applications for a full-time RN charge nurse on our 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. shift.

Benefits Include: Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Matching Retirement Program, Paid Time Off (PTO), Performance Based Pay Increases, Vacation.

If you are a professional nurse who enjoys working with a geriatric population in a homelike, resident centered environment, our facility may be just right for you. If you are interested in joining our healthcare team, please call Kris or Tina at Harvard Rest Haven. 402-772-7591.

SMITH COUNTY Memorial Hospital is seeking full-time/part-time RNs for day and night positions. New Float Nurse position available. Licensure as a Registered Nurse in Kansas is required and previous experience in Acute, ER and OB is preferred. New grads are encouraged to apply. SCMH is offering a \$2,000 sign-on bonus as well as a competitive wage program including a night differential and an excellent benefit package. Contact Sara Ragsdale at 785-282-6845 to request an application. SCMH is an EOE.

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SMITH COUNTY Memorial Hospital is seeking

60 General

GENERAL LABORER at United Suppliers Fertilizer plant. \$10.50 per hour. 402-463-3171, ask for Mike.

U.S. CELLULAR is currently hiring for full- and part-time positions. Apply at 3714 Cimarron Plaza by Wal-Mart.

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We are expanding...Come be a part of our team and make a difference!
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- Evenings, over nights and every other weekend shifts available
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818 W. 21st Street
www.mosaicinfo.org

61 Part Time

BABY SITTER after school and no school days. \$6.50/hour. Must be 16 or older. 461-3620 after 7 p.m.

DRIVER FOR Educational Service Unit #9 needed to transport preschool children in the Doniphan area. Must have or be able to obtain a small vehicle permit and CDL license. Applications close 1/21/08. Excellent benefit plan. Call Karen for application at 402-463-5611. Provide proof of driver's license and clean driving record with application.

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MAINTENANCE

Allen's is accepting applications for a part-time maintenance person, 3:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. Marvelous working conditions in our modern, clean store. Excellent starting salary plus valuable merchandise discount. Apply office.



1115 W. 2nd St., Hastings

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UPS is seeking a highly motivated, energetic self starter to work as a Part Time Data Processing Supervisor. This position requires extensive keyboarding and computer skills. The ability to work unsupervised, good communication skills, the ability to access and analysis reports, and knowledge of the Hastings area and streets. UPS offers an attractive wage and benefit package including tuition assistance. Work hours are 1:00 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. Monday-Friday. To apply go to UPS.jobs.com and complete an inquiry for a Shift Supervisor in Hastings. Email resumes ASAP to nfb1bao@ups.com EOE/M/F

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When placing an ad in person or on the phone, we will read all ads back to you for your approval. If you find an error in your classified ad, please call us before the next day's paper. The Tribune cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Claims cannot be considered unless made within three days from the first date of publication. No allowances can be made when errors do not materially affect the value of the advertisement.

61 Part Time

NOW HIRING: Part-time persons to work with developmentally disabled individuals both in day and/or residential services. Must have valid driver's license and good driving record. Apply at Mid-Nebraska Individual Services, 625 S. Ross, or call 402-462-5176. EOAAE.

70 Pets

\$12 VACCINATIONS for your pets. 3rd Saturday every month, Orscheln's, 1:30-8 p.m. Next clinic 01/19. www.drdoresh.com

ADORABLE FAWN Boxer pups, AKC, tails, dew claws, first shots. Asking \$350. 402-705-8040.

AKC BOXER puppy: Male, tail docked, 1st shots. \$350. 469-8434.

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Your WHIRLPOOL and TOSHIBA Dealer
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1035 S. Burlington
463-1345

79 Computers

COMPUTER REPAIR: House calls. Reasonable rates. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. 984-8001.

89 Lawn & Garden

GRASSHOPPER SALES AND SERVICE
Hi-Line Motors, Kenesaw
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www.hilinemotors.com

91 Good Things To Eat

RUSSET POTATOES: 50 lbs., \$10. Rollin Packer. 308-583-2252. Weekdays, 8-5; Saturdays until noon.

94 Miscellaneous

2-BURNER Sunbeam gas grill, \$50/best offer; John Deere 18-hp lawn tractor with bagger and fertilizer cart, \$3,000; 4-drawer chest of drawers, like new, \$30/best offer; new Cabela's propane smoker/grill, \$150/best offer. 460-1284.

KOZY HEAT free standing direct vent fireplace. Like new. 402-756-6500.

NEW AMERICAN Harvest Corn Stove, \$1,400, Corn Furnace, \$2,100. 402-462-6330.

96 Want To Buy

25 COIN dealers from 5 states buying, selling old coins. 3333 Ramada Rd., Howard Johnson, Grand Island, January 26, 27.

NEWER washers, dryers, stoves and refrigerators. Working or not. 462-6330.

100 Unfurnished Apartments

1- 2- and 3-BEDROOM apartments available. Appliances, parking. 463-6686 or 469-3382.

1-BEDROOM: Off-street parking. No pets. \$215. 402-461-4588.

100 Unfurnished Apartments

2-BEDROOM apartment in Juniata. All appliances, central heat/air. Tenant pays electric and gas. No pets. \$350/\$175 deposit. References. 402-751-2166

2-BEDROOM: Appliances, laundry hookups. \$350-\$450. No pets.
Embassy Square
462-4032

2-BEDROOM: New paint, carpet. 1 up, 1 down. 402-984-5346.

3101 VILLAGE DRIVE: Very nice 1-bedroom. No smoking/pets. References. 970-590-1611.

AVAILABLE 2/16: Nice 1-bedroom, appliances. No pets/smoking. Licensee owned. \$295. 469-4724.

BRENTWOOD MANOR

Large 2-bedroom, 2-bath, garage. No steps. Also fully furnished luxury unit on month-to-month basis. No pets. Agent. 463-0843.

CHATEAU IMPERIAL
Townhomes and Apartments
Call Jeff Today
402-463-4111

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT GROUP
402-461-4902

CLEAN 2-BEDROOM: North side. No smoking/pets. Garage. Deposit. 402-463-7749.

Downtown Location: 2-bedroom. \$400. Call Diane 463-8181, 469-4777.

DOWNTOWN: Upstairs. Very large, nice 1-bedroom. \$395. 984-9001.


Equal Housing Opportunity

All real estate advertising in the Fair Housing Act makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1 (800) 669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1 (800) 927-9275.

100 Unfurnished Apartments

CALIFORNIA PINES and South Pine Apartments offer room to spread out! 2- and 3-bedroom duplexes. Lawn care provided. VISA/MasterCard. Call for availability and your tour today! 402-469-0830.
www.perryreid.com

2- and 3-BEDROOM. The Townhouses. 945 West H Street. Offering newly refurbished apartments with great local management. These spacious apartments offer refrigerator, stove, central air, off-street parking, basement, and washer/dryer hookups. No pets. 463-5953. 🏠

GOLDBECK TOWERS
Two-bedroom apartments available. Affordable housing with income based rent for those age 62 and older. Utilities included. Call Sylvia at 402-460-3227.



HERITAGE MANOR
Affordable housing for elderly and disabled. 1-bedroom units. Utilities paid. Pets allowed. For information, call 463-5953. Equal Opportunity Housing.

NICE, CLEAN 1-bedroom: Refrigerator, stove, central air. 402-519-1010.

PARKLANE APARTMENTS (MALL AREA)
Very nice 2-bedroom apartments with appliances, central air/heat, \$495. Garages available, \$40. No pets. 461-4100.

ONE MONTH FREE and only \$99 SECURITY DEPOSIT! Regency Heights Apts. Large floor plans, complete kitchens, on-site laundry, controlled entry. You pay only electricity! VISA/MasterCard. New manager, Patti at 1-800-322-4781, will be glad to give you a tour.
www.perryreid.com

Rentals of All Types
Rader Real Estate
463-2323 • 463-1165

VERY NICE 1-bedroom: Appliances, spacious, washer/dryer hookups. \$330. 402-984-6995.

VERY NICE 1-bedroom: Great location. References. No smoking/pets. 970-590-1611.

101 Furnished Apartments

\$149.95/WEEK
Rainbow Motel
402-463-2989, 926-6252
TV, HBO, telephone, microwave, refrigerator, wireless internet, in-room coffee, hairdryer, maid, restaurant nearby. No credit check/deposit. Pets allowed. Clean. Low daily/monthly rate available. 1000 West J, Hastings
CLEAN 1-BEDROOM: Utilities. Garage. No smoking/pets. \$375. 462-6103.

102 Duplexes For Rent

1-BEDROOM: \$320 plus utilities. No smoking/pets. 463-1890.

102 Duplexes For Rent

2-BEDROOM: Appliances, off-street parking. Partial utilities. No smoking/pets. References. \$395/deposit. 402-463-4177.

2-BEDROOM: Garage. 400 S. Woodland. 402-469-4087.

LARGE 1-BEDROOM: No stairs. Storage, laundry, garage. 402-984-7756.

LOVELY 2-BEDROOM+: Garage, great location. References. No smoking/pets. 970-590-1611

103 Town Houses For Rent

MEADOWS TOWNHOUSES: Winter special! 3-bedroom, 1 1/2-bath, dishwasher, walk-in closets, washer/dryer hookups, attached garage. No pets. \$475/\$450. 344 and 348 Walden Circle. NIFA guidelines. EHO. Housing vouchers welcome. A must see! 402-984-9663 U.S. Property.

104 Houses For Rent

1130 W. 6TH: \$625; 835 N. Minnesota, \$825. Agent owned. 402-463-1131.

2 3-BEDROOMS: 522 E. 5th and 2210 W. 6th. No pets. Deposit. 463-9748.

2-BEDROOM, 2-bath: No pets. \$490/\$490. References. 463-3096.

2-BEDROOM: 522 S. Sewell. Appliances, air. No pets. References. \$400. 463-0688.

2-BEDROOM: Off-street parking. No pets. \$375/\$375 deposit. 462-5297.

3- and 4-BEDROOM: Rent to own. Air, garage. \$650-\$950. 402-461-3213.

3-BEDROOM: 606 S. Boston. \$500/\$500 deposit. 462-2660, 402-519-1728.

3-BEDROOM: High efficiency furnace/air/windows. Appliances. \$550/\$550. 469-3752 or 463-6375.

5-BEDROOM: 818 Ash. Close to college. 2 baths, appliances, garage. \$650. 402-984-1026.

801 N. COLORADO: 2-bedroom, big kitchen, dining room, living room, laundry hookups, bath with tub/shower. \$425 rent/\$425 deposit. Available now. 402-462-5552.

NEW 3-BEDROOM ranch for rent with option to buy. Clay Center, near golf course. 402-224-1423.


Kayton Electric, Inc. is accepting applications for a materials management person at its Grand Island location. Applicant must have a broad knowledge of the electrical industry and material supply chain, including commercial and industrial applications. A minimum of two years related experience is required. Duties will include material pricing, purchasing, and general support of project administration. Attractive compensation package. Contact Kayton Electric, Inc. at 308-995-4462. All replies held confidential. Pre-employment drug screening.
Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

HUMAN RESOURCE COORDINATOR

For our Hastings, NE Store

- Requires a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resource Mgmt. This position requires an individual with exceptional analytical, organizational and communication skills.
- Responsibilities include interviewing, recruiting, training, Team Member development, scheduling, and payroll and benefits coordination.
- To apply, mail your resume to us at:


Attn: Operations Human Resources
5136 Old Mill Plaza
Eau Claire, WI 54703
We are a Drug-Free Workplace!


Cooperative Producers, Inc.
NOW HIRING

- Giltner - Outside Grain/Fertilizer ASE Certified Mechanic Service Station Technician
- Holstein - Custom Applicator
- Juniata - Outside Grain/Fertilizer
- Prosser - Bookkeeper
- Sutton - Elevator Superintendent
- Trumbull - Outside Grain/Fertilizer Custom Applicator
- Wood River - Tender Truck Driver

Apply now to join a leader in agriculture serving 27 communities in South Central Nebraska. CPI knows what it takes to get extraordinary employees and we are willing to do what we can to get you. If you are reliable, hardworking individual apply today at any CPI location or call Brooke at 402-463-5148.

BENEFITS:

- Health, life and dental insurance
- Two separate retirement plans
- Competitive wages
- Paid Vacations and Holidays.

EEO/M/F
Chemical testing required

116 Houses For Sale



COLLEGE AREA: 3-bedroom, fireplace, new furnace/air/roof. 1106 University. \$69,900. 461-1785.



COMPLETE REMODEL
200 Ringland, Heartwell Park area, corner lot, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, attached garage, large dining, sprinklers, new kitchen, bath, paint, flooring, appliances. Only \$78,000! 463-8830

FOR SALE By Owner: Great floor plan with view of lake, 6-bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 fireplaces. 463-8181 or 469-4777 to see.



IT'S ALL NEW! Kitchen, appliances, bath, flooring, paint, fixtures. 2-bedroom, 1-bath, single garage. Great floor plan. Perfect starter home for only \$76,000. Must see! 1935 W. 7th. 463-8830.

LET US design and build a new home for you or see our existing homes in Hastings' finest areas.



Your "GREEN" Builder
2727 West 2nd - 461-4100

MUST SELL: House in Clay Center. 3-4 bedroom, 1 bath, with garage on corner lot. Asking \$12,000/ furnished, \$10,000/unfurnished. Call 402-469-2323

730 N. 6TH AVE.: Ranch. Joyce Schlachter, Broker, 402-462-5794.

REMAX FIRST CHOICE
402-462-2525
www.hastingsremax.com

HUSKER AUCTION & REAL ESTATE, INC.
Ron Skidla, Broker 463-5995

ADVANCED REALTY INC
Kathy Tessman, Broker, 463-3555

SOUTH SIDE: 1-bedroom, utility/dining rooms. Leave message. 751-2320.


Attn: Scot Davidson
5136 Old Mill Center
Eau Claire, WI 54703
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CLASSIFIEDS
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CLASSIFIEDS
Experienced heavy equipment operator needed with agriculture knowledge. Ability to work independently; survey; decision making; advancement possible; home nights; excellent pay/ benefits. 402-395-2301. EOE.

FARM STORE manager for store specializing in farm seeds and fencing. Ag background required. Contact Arrow Seed, Broken Bow, for more information. 800-622-4727 or info@arrowseed.com.

SERVICE MANAGER for world-class John Deere dealership. Modern facility. Equipment knowledge and management experience preferred. Superior wages, benefits, incentives. Send resume to Vacin, 1093 Road "W", Clarkson, NE 68629.

DRIVERS: YOUR new career starts here, tuition reimbursement available! Possible \$40k 1st year! \$5,000 sign on with 1 year OTR. www.ffeinc.com. Call FFE, Inc., 800-569-9232.

DRIVER: No gimmicks, just goals. Knight Transportation. Overloaded with freight & that means miles for you! Knight in KC, KS, is a #1 carrier. Call recruiting to apply, 888-562-7783. Select spots will go quickly. www.knighttrans.com. Class-A CDL/ 4 months OTR required. 800-437-5907 O/O.

DRIVERS: CALL today! Bonus & paid orientation, 36-43cpm. Earn over \$1,000 weekly, excellent benefits, Class A and 3 months OTR required. 800-635-8669.

DRIVERS: WE pay more! Reefer average \$954 - \$1,492/ wk, excellent network, late model equipment, 401k, Blue Cross insurance. 800-771-6318, www.priminc.com.

\$2,000 BETTER Business Bureau Foundation Student of Integrity Award Scholarships. Application deadline 2-29-08. www.bbbnebraska.org or 402-898-8526 / 800-649-6814 #8526.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS! For \$195/25 word classified you can advertise in over 170 Nebraska newspapers. For more information contact your local newspaper or call 1-800-369-2850.

BANKRUPTCY: FAST relief from creditors. Statewide filing. No office appointment necessary. Affordable rates. Call Steffens Law Office, 3 0 8 - 8 7 2 - 8 3 2 7 . www.steffenslaw.com. We are a debt relief agency, which helps people file bankruptcy under the bankruptcy code.

GUN SHOW Jan. 26th - 29th. Modern & Muzzle loading Gun Show / Trade Fair. Ag Hall, State Fair Park, Lincoln, NE. Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4, admission \$4.00.

HOT TUBS, floor models, 20 new tubs & 10 trade ins at bargain prices. \$995 - \$4,995. Call 1-800-869-0406, for full information package, goodlifespas.com and osthottubwarehouse.com.

AIRLINES ARE hiring - train for high paying Aviation Maintenance career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified - job placement assistance. Aviation Institute of Maintenance, 888-349-5387.

ALL CASH candy route. Do you earn \$800 in a day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 machines and candy all for \$9,995. 1-888-755-1356.

At Your Service

Computer Repair

COMPUTER REPAIR: In-home service. Reasonable rates. Virus, Spyware removal; tuneups; upgrades. 9 a.m-9 p.m. daily. 984-8001.

Counseling

COUNSELING: Alcohol/ drug evaluations for adults, minors. Individual counseling. Intensive outpatient weekend program. Peg Mohlman, 462-5556.

Firewood

QUALITY MIXED hard woods, sold by pickup load. 402-746-2886.

Gutters

HYLDEN CONSTRUCTION. Gutters, siding, trim, windows, doors. Call Steve at 402-462-5439.

Handyman

HANDYMAN: Decks, fences, drywall, remodeling. 40+ years. Small jobs welcome. John Cummings, 402-469-4697.

Handyman

HANDYMAN: Roofing, concrete, painting, home repairs, snow removal. Insured. 10 years experience. Reasonable. 462-2660/460-6756.

Home Improvement

CHUCK'S BUILDING AND REPAIR. Chuck Wiseman. No job too small. 402-751-2443; cell, 402-984-2544.

STEVE'S CONSTRUCTION. Interior/exterior, new and remodels. Quality work. Insured. Member of the Better Business Bureau. 463-3094.

Painting

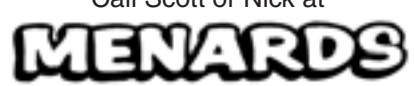
HONEY DO'S. Specializing in painting, interior and exterior. Free estimates. 402-463-7054. Tim and Hank Yurk, owners.

Tax Preparation

TAX RETURN Preparation. Northern Bookkeeping. \$7.00 per hour. 105 North Hastings Avenue, Room 207. Telephone 402-469-6086.

BE YOUR OWN BOSS

We are looking for an aggressive and responsible person to own and operate their own CLASS "A" CDL Guest delivery truck for the new HASTINGS, NE store. Super security with a growing company. Don't wait, this could be your opportunity of a lifetime!!

Call Scott or Nick at

(715) 876-4000


T-L Irrigation Co.
Manufacturer of irrigation equipment is hiring for all divisions plant wide. Full-time, year-round employment.

Benefits Include
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Paid Vacation & Holidays
Overtime Hours
401k Pension Plan

Apply at T-L Irrigation Co.,
P.O. Box 1047
East Highway 6, Hastings, NE,
402-462-4128
Pre-Employment Drug/Alcohol Test Required EOE/AEE

Legals

Notice

In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska Estate of EVELYN R. TAUTE, Deceased. Estate No. PR08-06

Notice is hereby given that on January 11, 2008, in the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Rebecca Spady and Judy Nabower, whose address is 630 West 2nd Street, Hastings, Nebraska 68901, were informally appointed by the Registrar as

Legals

Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before March 18, 2008, or be forever barred.

Thomas J. Hawes
P.O. Box 95
Hastings, Nebraska
68902-0095
Arthur C. Toogood
#14229
305 North Hastings,
Suite 207
Hastings, Nebraska
68901
(402) 463-9888
January 17, 24, 31, 2008

Legals

Notice

In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska Estate of DARYL L. GARBER, Deceased. Estate of PR08-04

Notice is hereby given that on January 4, 2008, in the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a Written Statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Ronald D. Walburn, whose address is 3126 South 101st East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74146, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the estate.

Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this Court on or before March 11, 2008, or be forever barred.

/s/Tom Hawes
Clerk of the County Court
500 West 4th Street
Hastings, Nebraska
68901

Charles W. Hastings, #15409
DUNMIRE, FISHER & HASTINGS
202 Heritage Bank Building,
800 West 3rd
Hastings, Nebraska
68901
(402) 463-1383
January 10, 17, 24, 2008

Save up to 30%!

BY PREPAYING YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS.
461-1241

Legals

Notice of Meeting

The Little Blue Natural Resources District Legislative Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 24, 2008, at the Little Blue NRD Office in Davenport, Nebraska, for the purpose of discussing current legislative proposals. The agenda for this meeting is kept continually current and is available for public inspection during regular office hours at the Little Blue NRD.
January 17, 2008

Notice of Renewal of Retail Liquor License

Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 53-135.01 that a liquor license may be automatically renewed for one year from May 1, 2008 for the following retail liquor license:

Larmore, Inc.
1307 North Juniata Avenue
Juniata, Nebraska
68955

Notice is hereby given that written protests to the issuance of automatic renewal of license may be filed by any resident of the Village on or before February 10, 2008, in the office of the Village Clerk and that in the event protests are filed by three or more such persons, hearing will be had to determine whether continuation of the license should be allowed.

Vicki Struss
Juniata Village Clerk
January 17, 2008

Legals

Notice of Trustee's Sale

TS No.: 07-55395 TSG No.: 07-6-246626A The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder in the lobby of the Adams County Courthouse, 500 West 4th Street, Hastings, Nebraska, on the February 04, 2008, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (11:30 a.m.): Lot Thirty-Four (34), Block Two (2), Hastings Heights Subdivision in the City of Hastings, Adams County, Nebraska, according to the recorded plat thereof. All subject to any and all: (1) real estate taxes, (2) special assessments, (3)

Notice to Contractors

Call Order 410
Federal Project No. NH-6-4(121)
Location: U.S. 34/U.S. 6, Kearney/Adams County line East

Countries: Adams
The Nebraska Department of Roads will receive sealed bids in Room 104 of the Central Office Building at 1500 Highway 2 in Lincoln, until 1:30 p.m. on January 31, 2008. At that time the bids will be opened and read for Grad, Seed, Br, GDRL, Elec, Bit

Bidding Proposal Forms will be issued and a contract awarded to a contractor who is qualified for: Bituminous
Length: 10.0 miles
Start Date: March 31,

Legals

easements, covenants, restrictions, ordinances, and resolutions of record which affect the property, and (4) unpaid water bills, (5) prior mortgages and trust deed of record and (6) ground leases of record. The purchaser is responsible for all fees or taxes. This sale is made without any warranties as to title or condition of the property. By: Kevin Clark, Team Member ReconTrust Company, Trustee 2380 Performance Drive, RGV-D7-450 Richardson, Texas 75082. Phone: (800) 281-8219, Fax: (805) 553-6392 ASAP# 958521 December 27, 2007, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 2008

2008. Working Days: 120

Price Range: \$3,000,000 to \$6,000,000
This Project Contains a DBE Goal of 4.0%
Plans and specifications may be seen beginning January 08, 2008, at the Lincoln Central Office and January 14, 2008, at the District Engineer's Office at Grand Island. Additional letting information may be found at the Nebraska Department of Roads Web Site at <http://www.dor.state.ne.us/letting>
This project is funded under the Federal-Aid Highway Act, all appropriate Federal requirements will apply.

January 10, 17, 24, 2008

Legals

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE OF NAME OF Anugrah Sengar, a minor child.
BY Ashvini Sengar (Father) and Manjari Sengar (Mother)
3303 Fisherman Lane, Hastings, Nebraska 68901
FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO Neel Anugrah Sengar

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that Ashvini Sengar and Manjari Sengar have filed a Petition to Change the Name of their son, a minor, Anugrah Sengar to Neel Anugrah Sengar in the above-referenced Court on the 14th day of February, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. Objections may be filed by any person who can show the Court a good reason against the name changes.
January 17, 24, 2008

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that J & R PERRIE CUSTOM SERVICES, L.L.C., a Nebraska Limited Liability Company is organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, with its registered office at 726 East Side Boulevard, Hastings, Nebraska. The general nature of its business is to engage in and to do any lawful act concerning any and all lawful business, other than banking or insurance, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of Nebraska; and for all other purposes authorized by law, to the same extent as natural persons might or could do. The limited liability company was formed on December 21, 2007, having perpetual existence from December 21, 2007. Its affairs shall be conducted by the Members pursuant to an Operating Agreement duly adopted by the Company.

Members:
/s/ Phillip J. Perrie
/s/Rachella R. Perrie

Les Seiler, #13759
Seiler & Parker, P.C., L.L.O.
P.O. Box 1288
726 East Side Boulevard
Hastings, Nebraska 68902-1288
Attorney at Law
January 3, 10, 17, 2008

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

OF

ADAMS COUNTY FEED, L.L.C.

A Nebraska Limited Liability Company
Notice is hereby given that Adams County Feed, L.L.C., a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, with its registered office at 3000 North Wanda Avenue, Kearsaw, Nebraska 68956. The registered agent at such address is Gregory E. Smith.

The general nature of the business to be transacted by the limited liability company is to engage in and do any lawful act concerning any and all lawful business for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, other than the business of being a financial institution.

The affairs of the limited liability company shall be conducted by its Members until such time as their successor or successors are selected pursuant to the Operating Agreement. The private property of the Members shall not be subject to the payment of limited liability company debts to any extent whatsoever.

This limited liability company came into existence on the 19th day of December, 2007, and has perpetual existence.

DATED this 24th day of December, 2007.

GREGORY E. SMITH, Member
BRAD MONCRIEF, L.L.C.
1239 North Burlington Avenue, Suite 200
Hastings, Nebraska 68901
(402) 462-5353
January 3, 10, 17, 2008

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FOR ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES
FOR CITY OF HASTINGS SOLID WASTE LANDFILL
OPERATIONAL PERMIT APPLICATION RENEWAL
725 SOUTH SOUTHERN HILLS
HASTINGS, NEBRASKA 68901
FACILITY ID # NE0055140
Request For Proposals**

The City of Hastings is seeking an engineering consultant to provide all necessary services in the preparation of the 5 year operational permit required by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality.

Project Schedule

All Firms submitting proposals must be prepared to initiate work on this project within 30 days of "Notice to Proceed." The City wishes to submit completed permit package to NDEQ no later than June 1, 2008. Only those Firms able to perform the necessary work activities within this schedule should respond to this RFP.

Submittal

In order to facilitate review of the project proposals by the Consultant Selection Committee, the following information must be included in the proposal in the order listed:

1. Listing of members included in the Project Team. This discussion should include the primary areas of responsibility of each member.
2. The name, qualifications, experience, and availability of the project manager. This section should include a discussion of similar projects the project manager has worked on.
3. A brief discussion of project understanding and proposed approach to the project.
4. A project schedule outlining the time frame and an estimated completion date of the major tasks, deliverables and proposed meetings with NDEQ and City.
5. A Discussion of similar projects the members of the Project Team have completed in the last five years. This listing should be limited to the three most applicable projects and should include or whom the project was done and a reference for contact.
6. A listing of the key members of the Project/Team and a brief listing of their qualifications and related experience. This section should include an outline of responsibilities referenced to each member based on the proposed project approach.

All Consultants must include an acceptable Drug-Free Workplace Policy in their submittal.

Submittals must include a letter of interest, resumes of key personnel, and all required information as listed above.

Selected Consultant shall provide five (5) complete copies of permit application sent to NDEQ and two (2) complete copies with electronic version to the City.

Consultant shall implement any or all required changes into the new application as per NDEQ or the City.

Cost Estimate

Submittals shall include project costs with a "not to exceed" total price for a completed project submitted to NDEQ.

Proposals will be Scored on the Following Criteria
Proposals will be reviewed, evaluated, and ranked (e.g.: 1, 2, 3) in accordance with the City's selection process and procedure.

1. Qualifications of Key Personnel (25 points)
2. Past performance on similar projects (20 points)
3. Location of office where majority of work will be performed/Familiarity with the City of Hastings (15 points)
4. Clarity, conciseness, and organization of proposal (10 points)
5. Approach to project (20 points)
6. Resources of the firm to conduct and complete this project in a satisfactory manner (10 points)

Protocol

Proposals must be at the City of Hastings City Clerk's office no later than 12:00 noon, February 15, 2008. Please provide three (3) copies of your proposal in an envelope clearly marked on the exterior as containing "Proposal for Engineering Consulting Services for Landfill Permit Renewal."

Connie Hartman
City Clerk
220 North Hastings Avenue
Hastings, Nebraska 68901

Firms interested in submitting proposals should contact Jack Newlun, Solid Waste Department at (402) 461-2308.

Proposals must remain firm for sixty (60) days from the proposal due date. The City of Hastings reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to select the proposal that is deemed to be in the City's best interest, at its sole discretion.

January 17, 24, 2008

Whether Buying or Selling Call
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TOWN & COUNTRY REALTY OF HASTINGS, INC.
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CAR & PICKUP • SHOP EQUIPMENT
• TOOLS • HOUSEHOLD
• ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES • GUNS
• (50) CROCKS-REDWING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2008
11:00 A.M.
Paul Reynolds Sr. Estate & Others - Owners
Paul Reynolds Jr. - PR, Gary Hogg - Attorney
Odessa, Nebraska
Sale To Be Held Inside Phelps Co. Ag Center, Holdrege, NE
SELLING: 1995 Ford F-150 pickup, auto, air, runs good; 1973 Cadillac Sedan Deville, 4 door car, auto, leather, runs good (collector); Browning 16 ga. auto shotgun; Remington 12 c. 22 cal. pump rifle, hex barrel; SW 22 mag 6 shot revolver; Uberti 45 cal 6 shot revolver in box; claw footed piano stool; wainscoted pie cupboard; adv. items; 50+ Redwing crocks (all sizes); Mallard duck TV lamps; kitchen cupboard; pitcher pump; Craftsman 10" radial arm saw; Craftsman 10" table saw; Power Kraft 4" jointer; Craftsman router table; matching couch and loveseat (nice); 50-75 pieces of crystal glassware; MTD 5 hp rear tine tiller (nice); Roper 18 hp 42" riding mower; Huskee 38" lawn sweep; JD pull behind spreader (new); Plus several more guns, antiques & collectibles, household, lawn equipment and hundreds more hand tools, shop equipment and power tools. **Large auction. Make plans to attend.** Lots of inside seating with restrooms and lunch available.
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Steve Kucera • Mel Parker • Auctioneers
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135 Livestock

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BY THE COURT:
Tom Hawes

January 17, 24, 31, 2008

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash or certified funds in the lobby, at the South door of the Adams County Courthouse, Adams County, Hastings, Nebraska, on February 25, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

LOT 87, A.M. GHOST'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF HASTINGS, ADAMS COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

subject to any and all (1) real estate taxes, (2) special assessments, (3) easements, covenants, restrictions of record, and (4) prior mortgages and trust deeds of record and (5) ground leases of record. The highest bidder is required to deposit a minimum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) of the successful bid at the time of the sale in the form of cash or certified funds and is further required to deliver cash or certified funds for the balance of the bid to the undersigned by the close of business on the day of the sale, except this requirement is waived when the highest bidder is the beneficiary. The purchaser is responsible for all fees and taxes, including the documentary stamp tax. This sale is made without warranties as to the title or condition of the property.
DATED: January 17, 2008.

Thomas J. Young,
Successor Trustee
Law Office of Thomas J. Young, Esquire
2433 South 13th Circle
Omaha, Nebraska 68144-2528
January 17, 24, 31, February 7, 14, 2008

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Hastings until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, January 31, 2008, at which time they will be opened and read in the Council Chambers, 220 North Hastings Avenue, Hastings, Nebraska, for the furnishing and delivering f.o.b. Hastings the following equipment:

Vehicle, Gas-Hybrid Electric, Utility Type (SUV) 4-door, 5 passenger, front-wheel drive

A 5% bid bond must accompany bids for the sale of vehicles or equipment to the City of Hastings submitted by bidders located outside of Adams County, Nebraska.

Bids for the sale of vehicles or equipment to the City of Hastings submitted by bidders located within Adams County, Nebraska, need not be accompanied by a bid bond, but any apparent successful bidder must submit a 5% bid bond within 24 hours after the awarding of the bid. The bid bond may be in the form of cash, cashier's check, certified check or surety bond.

The bid bond of any successful bidder shall be retained by the City until the vehicle or equipment has been delivered and accepted by the City.

Specifications may be obtained at the Office of the City Clerk, 220 North Hastings Avenue, Hastings, Nebraska 68901.

The City of Hastings reserves the right to select the bid(s) which best suits its needs, whether the price is the lowest or not, and also reserves the right to reject all bids or waive informalities.

A tax-exempt certificate will be submitted to the successful bidder, therefore, all bids shall be on a net basis. Questions concerning specifications may be directed to Captain Gene Boner, Police Services Division Commander, 317 South Burlington Avenue, Hastings, Nebraska 68901 or (402) 461-2380. Email: gboner@hastingspolice.org

Connie Hartman
City Clerk

January 17, 24, 2008

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