

Leader's silence on Bush plan raising questions about crackdown

STEVEN R. HURST
The Associated Press
BAGHDAD, Iraq — President Bush called a crackdown on Shiite militias critical to success in Iraq, but Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki has been noticeably silent — perhaps because Bush's plan would mean attacks on the Shiite radicals who have helped his Shiite coalition expand its political dominance. In announcing a new Iraq policy Wednesday night, Bush said earlier efforts to tame the sectarian bloodshed in Baghdad had

been snarled by "political and sectarian interference (that) prevented Iraqi and American forces from going into neighborhoods that are home to those fueling the sectarian violence. It's the third time since May that a joint U.S.-Iraqi program to calm the capital has been announced. "This time, Iraqi and American forces will have a green light to enter those neighborhoods," Bush said. "Prime Minister Maliki has pledged that political or sectarian interference will not be tolerated."

However, al-Maliki, a devout Shiite, hasn't said anything nearly so straightforward, at least in public. He's issued instead vague assurances that anyone illegally carrying weapons would be dealt with harshly. Announcing his vision of the new security plan last Saturday, al-Maliki said he would fight against "safe haven for any outlaws, regardless of (their) sectarian or political affiliation." He has been saying that to Iraqis for months — including in October when he ordered U.S.

forces in October to stop all attacks on Sadr City, headquarters of the Mahdi Army, a violent Shiite militia headed by his key political backer, radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. Al-Maliki instead has encouraged the Americans to go after rival Sunni insurgents, especially in the territory west of Baghdad where few Shiites live. Experts say that even if al-Maliki assures Bush of support, his behavior illustrates that he's not as Bush described, a man whose primary concern is

bringing peace and prosperity to his country. "The Bush administration has one view of Iraqi reality in which Maliki is ... an honest broker," said W. Patrick Lang, a former head of Middle East intelligence at the Defense Intelligence Agency. "In my view, Maliki is one of any number of Shiite Arab activists who are seeking to consolidate Shiite control." The radical Shiites already were predicting Bush's plan was doomed. "We reject Bush's new strategy

and we think it will fail," said Abdul-Razzaq al-Nidawi, a senior official in al-Sadr's office in the Shiite holy city of Najaf. "We call upon the American people to oppose sending more of their sons to Iraq so that they will not be flown back in coffins," he said. Al-Maliki, who first outlined a new Iraqi-led security plan to Bush when they met in Amman, Jordan, in November, has never sought an increased U.S. military footprint in Iraq. **Please see IRAQ/page B3**



BJ FICTUM/Tribune
Margo Carlson (left) tells her husband, newly elected District 38 Sen. Tom Carlson of Holdrege, to stand still while she takes his picture on the morning of the start of the legislative session at the State Capitol. Friends and family of Nebraska legislators were allowed on the floor of the Legislative Chamber before the Unicameral convened on Jan. 3.

STILL SETTLING IN

New senators absorb significance of their new roles

SHAY BURK
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It's been more than a week since the 100th session of the Nebraska Legislature began, and the new senators still settling in. For state Sen. Russ Karpisek of Wilber, the new title of senator is quite an adjustment. "I was mayor for 12 years and never got used to that title, either," he said Wednesday. Karpisek is one of 22 new senators to join the Legislature this year. He is one of three new senators whose districts include portions of Tribland. The other two are Sens. Tom Carlson of Holdrege and Annette Dubas of Fullerton. Dubas was unavailable for comment. The returning Tribland senators are Carroll Burling of Kenesaw and Joel Johnson of Kearney. While the adjustment for the

freshmen senators has been challenging, they haven't had much time to adjust. Since the start of the session Jan. 3, senators had just 10 business days to introduce any bills they wanted to introduce for the entire session. And while they have until Wednesday because of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, all proposals had to be submitted to the bill drafter's office by Friday. "It's just a little hurried and frustrating at times," Karpisek said. "It's a little frustrating because some bills I've wanted to carry have already been turned in." Prior to the session's start, Karpisek told the Tribune he planned to introduce several bills, including one to establish a safe-haven law, one providing for hand recounts for elections, and another excluding military retirement benefits from income taxation.



BJ FICTUM/Tribune
District 32 Sen. Russ Karpisek of Wilber talks with another newly elected senator, Annette Dubas of Fullerton, while waiting for results of a committee chairmanship vote on the opening day of the 100th Nebraska Legislature on Jan. 3 in Lincoln. Karpisek and Dubas are two of 22 new senators in the Legislature this year. Of these bills, both the safe-haven law and tax deferment for military benefits already have been introduced by other senators. The only bill Karpisek has introduced allows for election recounts to be done manually. While he still has some bills he might introduce, Karpisek

said he already is looking to next session when he will have more time to prepare his bills. This way, he will be able to introduce them within the first few days of the 2008 session. Like Karpisek, Carlson is feeling overwhelmed by the bill introduction process. **Please see UNICAMERAL/page B3**



SHAY BURK/Tribune
Jeff Soukup, with Tobacco Free Nebraska, spoke about smoking policies during a forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters Friday at the YWCA Adams County.

State, local officials discuss smoking bans

SHAY BURK
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Health risks and economic ruin have become the two biggest concerns surrounding discussion of smoking bans. "We're not just talking about a nuisance. We're not talking about something that makes our clothes smell bad," said Jeff Soukup, with Nebraska Health and Human Services System's Tobacco Free Nebraska program. "We're talking about a toxic health problem that's within indoor places. Soukup was part of a panel discussion on smoking policies organized by the Hastings League of Women Voters Friday. Communities across the nation, including Lincoln and Omaha, have adopted policies that prevent people from smoking in many public places including restaurants and bars. One of the main reasons for these policies is the effect that secondhand smoke has on nonsmokers, Soukup said. According to a 2006 report by the U.S. Attorney General, secondhand smoke is a major cause of disease, including lung cancer and coronary heart disease, in healthy nonsmokers. Soukup said secondhand smoke is made up of more than 4,000 chemicals, including formaldehyde, arsenic, lead and ammonia. "There is no risk-free level of exposure to second hand smoke," he said. "The only known protection is by making this a smoke-free environment." **Please see FORUM/page B3**

Kenesaw loses power due to blown generator

COMMUNITY TO RECEIVE ANOTHER GENERATOR, TRANSFORMER BY THIS MORNING
NANCY FOSTER
nfoster@hastingstribune.com
Kenesaw residents lost power again Friday after its generator malfunctioned, Kenesaw Mayor Larry Streff said. The community of about 900 residents lost power at about 9 p.m. Friday, Streff said. He said the turbo on the side of the diesel engine blew, causing the outage. He said Southern Public Power was supposed to send someone to unhook the blown generator, so the community could prepare for a new one. A bigger generator was being sent from Bertrand, while a transformer was being sent from York, Streff said. **Please see OUTAGE/page B3**

Weather

Hi: 13
Lo: 6

Chance of measurable snow 60 percent today and 70 percent tonight.

Art by Michael King, 10, Sandy Creek Elementary

Nation

MISSING BOYS FOUND
BEAUFORT, Mo. — A 13-year-old boy who vanished from the gravel road near his home five days ago was found alive Friday about 60 miles away in a suburban St. Louis home, along with a 15-year-old boy missing since 2002, authorities said. Sharp-eyed police and suspicions about a white truck led police to the Kirkwood apartment of Michael Devlin, 41, who has been charged with one count of first-degree kidnapping, Sheriff Gary Toelke said. The sheriff said both boys appeared unharmed. William Ownby, who goes by Ben, appeared somewhat dazed as he walked inside the sheriff's department, where he was reunited with his family who had been searching for him since Monday. "His eyes lit up like silver dollars," said the boy's uncle, Loyd Bailie. *The Associated Press*

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Obituaries

ROBERT L. UHRMACHER

Hastings resident, Robert L. Uhrmacher, 83, of 322 West 'C' Street, died Friday, January 12, 2007, at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital in Hastings.

Services are 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at First St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hastings with Pastor Adam White officiating. Burial with military rites will be in Parkview Cemetery in Hastings. Visitation is 5-9 p.m. Sunday and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday at Butler-Volland Funeral Home and Cremation Center in Hastings and one hour prior to services Tuesday at the church.

Memorials may be given to First St. Paul's Lutheran Church.



Uhrmacher

Condolences may be sent to www.lbvfh.com. ***

Mr. Uhrmacher was born March 21, 1923, in rural Adams County to William and Amanda (Kothe) Uhrmacher. He attended Hastings High School and served in the U.S. Army during World War II from January 27, 1943, until January 12, 1946. He worked at Hastings Industries as a welder. He was a member of First St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Mr. Uhrmacher was preceded in death by his parents; seven brothers; and two sisters.

Survivors include brother, Harold Uhrmacher of Superior; sisters-in-law, Vernabelle Uhrmacher of Schuyler, Bonnie Uhrmacher of Fairbury; and Flossie Uhrmacher of Hastings; and many nieces and nephews.

MICHAEL CARRUTHERS

Minden resident Michael Carruthers, 54, died Thursday, January 11, 2007, at Kearney County Health Services Hospital in Minden.

Rosary is 7 p.m. Sunday at St. James Catholic Church in Kearney. Services are 10 a.m.

Monday at the church with Father Michael McDonald officiating. Graveside services are 4 p.m. Monday at St. Patrick Cemetery in Battle Creek. Visitation is 3-5 p.m. Sunday at Layton-Craig Funeral Home in Minden.

ELSIE M. MCPARTLAND

Red Cloud resident Elsie Mildred (Vavricka) McPartland, 88, died Friday, January 12, 2007, at Heritage Care Center in Red Cloud.

Services are 10:30 a.m. Mon-

day at Williams Funeral Home chapel in Red Cloud with the Rev. Richard Fairbanks officiating. Burial will be in Red Cloud Cemetery.

President Ford called Carter a 'disaster'

The Associated Press
GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — In 25 years of interviews with his hometown paper that could only be released upon his death, former President Ford once called Jimmy Carter a "disaster" who ranked alongside Warren Harding, and said Ronald Reagan received far too much credit for ending the Cold War.

"It makes me very irritated when Reagan's people pound their chests and say that because we had this big military buildup, the Kremlin collapsed," Ford told The Grand Rapids Press.

The best president of his lifetime, Ford said, was a more moderate Republican: Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Harry Truman "would get very high marks" for his handling of foreign crises, Ford said. He also praised Richard Nixon as a foreign policy master, despite the Watergate scandal that drove him from office.

Ford considered John F. Kennedy overrated and Bill Clinton average. He admired George H.W. Bush's handling of the Persian Gulf War and had mixed opinions of Carter, who defeated Ford in 1976.

In 1981, Ford said: "I think Jimmy Carter would be very close to Warren G. Harding. I feel very strongly that Jimmy Carter was a disaster, particularly domestically and economically. I have said more than once that he was certainly the poorest president in my lifetime."

But two years later, he praised Carter's performance on the Panama Canal treaty, China and the Middle East. And in 1998, he said Carter "will be looked on as a better president than some comments we hear today."

"He was a very decent, fine individual," Ford told the paper. "There were no major mistakes. There just weren't a lot of exciting results."

Ford's gave the interviews on the condition that his remarks be withheld until after his death. According to the newspaper, Ford declined to rate George W. Bush, saying he did not know him well enough.

Ford said Reagan, who challenged him unsuccessfully for the GOP nomination in 1976, was "a great spokesman for attractive political objectives" such as a balanced budget and defeating communism, "but when it came to implementation, his record never matched his words."

Reagan was "probably the least well-informed on the details of running the government of any president I knew," Ford said. In a separate interview, he said Reagan "was just a poor manager, and you can't be president and do a good job unless you manage."

Ford contended his own negotiation of the Helsinki accords on human rights did more to win the Cold War than Reagan's military buildup. Other key factors were the Marshall Plan that helped rebuild Europe after World War II and the establishment of NATO, he said.

"When you put peace, prosperity and human rights against poverty, a massive unsuccessful military program and a lack of human rights, communism was bound to collapse," he said. "No president, no Democrat or Republican, can claim credit for those programs. I'll tell you who deserves the credit — the American people."

Ousted Miss Nevada USA finds new \$2 million-plus job

The Associated Press
LAS VEGAS — Dethroned Miss Nevada USA Katie Rees has quickly rebounded from her public firing by pageant owner Donald Trump.

Rees has signed a two-year, \$2 million-plus deal to host a revival of an "estrogen-heavy" variety show at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, Jeff Beacher, promoter of the club night known as Beacher's Madhouse, announced Friday.

Miss USA officials, including

Trump, last month stripped Rees of her tiara and the chance to compete in the national pageant after provocative photos of her partying and posing in various stages of undress emerged on the Internet.

Her new gig could involve similarly raucous behavior. Beacher's Madhouse boasts of "live monkeys, the world's oldest male stripper ... and the hottest chicks in Sin City" and bills itself as "Cirque du Soleil meets Girls Gone Wild."

NEW ZEALAND PRETEENS TO PERFORM WITH TENACIOUS D

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — Jack Black turned his "The School of Rock" role into reality when he plucked two preteen musicians from obscurity and asked them to perform with his rock band.

Black played a teacher who turns his class into a rock band in the 2003 comedy, directed by Richard Linklater.

The 37-year-old actor-musician was touring New Zealand's South Island with his two-man band, Tenacious D, when he spotted the boys performing for money in central Christchurch on Monday.

Impressed, Black asked the young duo to open Tenacious D's Christchurch gig on Tuesday, according to media reports.

Drummer Max Tetley, 11, and guitarist Alex Philpott, 10, said they didn't sleep the night before the concert and had practiced their song — Bob Dylan's "All Along the Watchtower" — only about 10 times before the performance.

"We'll be scoring heaps of chicks," Christchurch's The Press newspaper quoted the duo as saying.

DOCU-SERIES ABOUT PAULA ABDUL'S LIFE

PASADENA, Calif. — Straight up — Bravo says it's making a TV series about the life of Paula Abdul.

"Hey Paula," set to debut sometime later this year, will follow Abdul, 44, as she films a new season of Fox's "American Idol," works on "Bratz: The Movie" and develops her own perfume and cosmetics line.

"It fits the Bravo mandate to show what's going on in the culture of the moment," said Bravo President Lauren Zalaznick.

The pop culture network has hits with "Project Runway" and "Top Chef," and announced Friday that the upcoming fifth season of "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" will be its last. It makes a similar docu-series with comic Kathy Griffin, who mocks her life on "Kathy Griffin: My Life on the D-List."

Besides showing the frenzy of life in Hollywood, "Hey Paula" will offer "an intimate glimpse at the real woman behind the headlines," Zalaznick said.

Bravo hasn't decided whether that will include mention of Corey Clark, the 2003 "American Idol" contestant who accused Abdul of coaching him and initiating an affair. Fox, a unit of News Corp., cleared Abdul of any wrongdoing.

"What we want it to be is the current Paula," Zalaznick said. "We're not a biographical or historical channel."

SURPRISE GUEST AT RETIREMENT PARTY

DAYTON, Ohio — Wright State University President Kim Goldenberg received a surprise at his retirement bash — a visit from Mr. Spock of "Star Trek," aka actor Leonard Nimoy.

Nimoy greeted Goldenberg with the Vulcan salute, usually paired with the well-wishing, "Live long and prosper."

Goldenberg, 59, said he and his wife, Shelley, are Trekkies.

"We don't collect the paraphernalia and all that," he said. "We like the show for its philosophies."

Goldenberg will retire Jan. 31 after nine years as president of Wright State.

About 200 people attended the celebration Thursday night at the Dayton Art Institute.

Nimoy, 75, starred in the original "Star Trek" TV series, which ran from 1966-69, and in numerous "Star Trek" movies.

NewsMakers

Masters of jazz



FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

Jazz singer Nancy Wilson poses with Slide Hampton (background) and other National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters during the 34th annual International Association for Jazz Education conference Friday in New York.

FORMER BRITISH GLAM ROCKER MAY GET EARLY PRISON RELEASE

HANOI, Vietnam — Former British glam rocker Gary Glitter, convicted of molesting two Vietnamese girls, may be released early from his three-year sentence, a prison official said Wednesday.

Glitter, 62, is on a list of inmates being considered for early release as part of next month's Lunar New Year celebrations, said Tran Huu Thong, director of the Thu Duc detention center, where Glitter is being held. Vietnam traditionally reduces the terms of inmates with good prison records at that time of year.

If his sentence is reduced, Glitter could be released as early as May.

Glitter, whose real name is Paul Francis Gadd, was convicted in March 2006 of committing "obscene acts with children." The incidents involved two girls, ages 10 and 11, from the southern coastal city of Vung Tau.

Under Vietnamese law, prisoners can be nominated for early release if they have behaved well and their fellow inmates recommend it. Nearly everyone in the jail voted for Glitter's early release, Thong said, and nearly all the prisoners recommended for early release receive it.

"He meets all the criteria," Thong said of Glitter, whose crowd-pleasing anthem "Rock and Roll (Part 2)" is still played at sporting events.

Glitter was arrested in November 2005 in Vung Tau, where he had been living for about six months.

He was convicted in Britain in 1999 of possessing child pornography, and served half of a four-month jail term.

He later went to Cambodia but was expelled from that country in 2002. Cambodian officials didn't specify a crime or file charges against him.

BIRTHDAYS

Country singer Liz Anderson is 77. Actress Frances Sternhagen is 77. Actor-director Charles Nelson Reilly is 76. Comedian Rip Taylor is 73. Actor Billy Gray is 69. Actor Richard Moll is 64. Rock musician Trevor Rabin is 53. Rhythm-and-blues musician Fred White is 52. Actor Kevin Anderson is 47. Actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus is 46. Rock singer Graham "Suggs" McPherson (Madness) is 46. Country singer Trace Adkins is 45. Actress Penelope Ann Miller is 43. Actor Patrick Dempsey is 41. Actress Traci Bingham is 39. Actor Keith Coogan is 37. Actress Nicole Eggert is 35. Actor Orlando Bloom is 30.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The force that rules the world is conduct, whether it be moral or immoral."
— Nicholas Murray Butler, American educator and Nobel Peace laureate (1862-1947)

The Associated Press

Tribland

Adams County Judge Jack Ott Friday sentenced Tyler Blair, 21 of York, to seven days in jail, a \$400 fine and a six-month drivers license revocation for driving under the influence of alcohol Aug. 16, 2006. Blair pleaded no contest Sept. 15, 2006, and prosecutors dismissed a charge of refusing a preliminary breath test. DUI is a Class W misdemeanor punishable by up to 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

Need extra clothes storage space? Mission-style, five drawer chest only \$118 at Bruce Furniture, Hastings...open Saturday, 9:00 to 5:00 and Sunday, 1:00 to 5:00. -Adv.

Karaoke at Wanda's, Saturday, January 13, 9:00 p.m.; music by Mike's Music. -Adv.

Hogan's Shoe Clearance: men's, women's, kids' 20-30-40-percent off thru January. -Adv.

Korky Lightner Auction, 213 South Woodland...new items, Monday, January 15, 5:30. -Adv.

The following couples recently applied for marriage licenses at the Adams County Clerk's Office: Scott David Kober and Justine Burgess Larsen, Sang Duong Liu and Muoi Thi Pham, and Alexander Lee Griess and Maranda Jo Weiss, all of Hastings, and Christopher David Anderson, of Palmer, Alaska, and Emily Anne Wilsey, of Grand Island.

A vehicle reportedly driven by Ashley D. Clarke, of 1100 E. South St. No. 35, Thursday struck a mailbox owned by the U.S. Postal Service, 300 N. Kansas Ave., on Second Avenue near South Street.

Former Nebraska Cornhusker, now Kansas City Royals, Alex Gordon, signing autographs 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Monday, January 15, Video Kingdom, Cimarron Plaza. -Adv.

Long wearing, easy clean, micro-fiber sofa and loveseat only \$898 for both pieces at Bruce Furniture, Hastings...open Saturday, 9:00 to 5:00 and Sunday, 1:00 to 5:00. -Adv.

Vehicles reportedly driven by Dale C. Michels, of Superior, and Gary L. Baumart, of Kearney, collided Wednesday at North Shore Drive near U.S. Highway 281.

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.

Silver Angelfish \$2.99, large birds 50-percent off, pups. Dan's Pet Palace, 710 West 2nd -Adv.

The Hastings Tribune delivery deadlines are 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. Saturday morning. If you have delivery problems please call 402-461-1221 or 1-800-742-6397. -Adv.

Take an extra 25-percent off half-priced men's and ladies clothing. Allen's, 1115 West 2nd Street. -Adv.

Gary Wathen, formerly of Uerling's, now at Nelson Furniture of Grand Island. -Adv.

It was reported Thursday that a puppy owned by Patricia Jensen, of 1247 N. Pine Ave., and a puppy owned by Daphne Hays, of 611 S. Kansas Ave., were taken in the 600 block of South Kansas Avenue.

United Way funding applications available for Non-Profit organizations thru February 1. -Adv.

Congratulations to December Keno winners of \$267,605 at Hastings Keno Sports Bar. -Adv.

Area funerals

Today
◆ **Oscar Bartels**, 95, of Franklin, 11 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Franklin.
◆ **Erma Shill**, 95, of Superior, 2 p.m. at Megrue-Price Funeral Home chapel in Superior.
Monday, Jan. 15
◆ **Elsie McPartland**, 88, of Red Cloud, 10:30 a.m. at Williams Funeral Home chapel in Red Cloud.
Tuesday, Jan. 16
◆ **Robert Uhrmacher**, 83, of Hastings, 10:30 a.m. at First St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hastings.

Freezing weather grips much of midsection

JUSTIN JUOZAPAVICIUS
The Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Freezing rain fell in the nation's midsection Friday, and temperatures plunged from Minnesota to Las Vegas as a storm rolled in that could leave several states coated in ice.

At least two deaths have been blamed on the storm, some schools closed early Friday, and dozens of flights were delayed.

"It could definitely be a paralyzing storm. This is going to be a long-term event," said Max Blood, a senior forecaster with the National Weather Service in Tulsa, where at least two airlines, Southwest and Atlantic Southeast, canceled all afternoon flights.

Several inches of ice was expected in parts of Kansas by the end of the weekend. A 16-year-old boy riding to school Friday was killed in the Kansas City, Mo., suburb of Lee's Summit when the pickup truck he was in slid on ice and overturned, police said.

In Oklahoma City, a lumber truck flipped on an icy Interstate 44 exit ramp Friday, killing the driver, the state high-

way patrol said.

Utility crews were bracing for another round of bad weather as they working to restore power to irrigation systems, stock wells and oil wells, which sustained significant damage during back-to-back blizzards a few weeks ago. In the Oklahoma Panhandle, power was restored late Thursday to the final 15 homes hit previously, Tri-County Electric Cooperative reported.

Oklahoma Department of Transportation crews and city crews were in the field Friday working to prevent icing on bridges and overpasses, which are typically the first portions of

roadway to freeze over.

In Tulsa, 50 spreaders loaded with salt and sand were prepared to hit the streets by late Friday.

"The way it looks, we'll be running all weekend, maybe longer," said Dan Crossland, the city's street maintenance supervisor.

Forecasters warned for freezing temperatures and up to 2 inches of snow in southern Nevada.

In Minnesota, the temperature dropped to 24 below zero around dawn Friday in Hallock, in the state's northwestern corner, the National Weather Service said. Winds up to 25 mph made it feel closer to 40 below zero in much of western Minnesota.

Tribland six-day forecast

Art by Michael King, 10, Sandy Creek Elementary



SNOWY TODAY
High: 13 Low: 6
Wind: North 10
Chance of measurable snow 60 percent.



PARTLY CLOUDY TUESDAY
High: 18 Low: 1
Mostly clear at night.



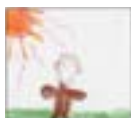
SNOWY SUNDAY
High: 15 Low: -1
Wind: North 10-15
Snow accumulation of 1-2 inches likely.



SUNNY WEDNESDAY
High: 25 Low: 1
Mostly clear Wednesday night.



COLD MONDAY
High: 14 Low: -1
Partly cloudy Monday night.



SUNNY THURSDAY
High: 32 Low: 8
Mostly clear Thursday night.

BUYERS MEET SELLERS
EVERYDAY IN THE CLASSIFIED PAGES OF THE TRIBUNE

cold-weather blowout

Sunday & Monday only!



50% off
Misses' Relativity sweaters. Assorted styles and colors. Similar styles in Petites' sizes. Orig. \$34-\$40, **sale \$17-\$20.** Similar styles in Women's sizes. Reg. \$48, **sale \$24.**



60% off
Boots for her. Take your pick from a wide selection of styles. Orig. \$69-\$110, **sale 27.60-\$44.**



60-75% off
Fall outerwear for him. Wide selection of styles and colors. Orig. \$60-\$450, **sale 19.99-179.99. Also save 50%** on Men's cold-weather accessories. Reg. \$7-\$85, **sale 3.50-42.50.**



29.99 your choice
Down-alternative comforter sets. 233-thread count cotton cover with three embroidered frames in contrasting colors. Polyester fill with end-to-end box construction to prevent shifting. Full/queen and king sizes. Reg. \$220-\$240. Set includes: Comforter and two shams.

Non-Invasive, Non-Surgical Technology Designed To Treat Herniated Discs And Severe Back & Leg Pain

Grand Island—If you have considered or tried pills, therapy, injections, massage, stretching or surgery for your severe back, buttock or leg pain and failed? It can certainly make you wonder if your severe back pain will ever go away? If you'll ever be able to have a "normal" life again? The frustration of chronic daily pain combined with a long line of failed treatment can be enough to drive even the most well grounded folk over the edge...

- They told you to take more and more pills
- They told you to stop bending.
- They told you to stretch
- They told you to go to therapy
- They told you to do exercises
- They told you to stop doing the things you love most
- They told you to try injections
- They told you "Try surgery or just live with it.

And not just one, but many may have failed you...

Only if you are serious about eradicating your severe back pain should you read any further... because there is a back pain technology that your doctor may not even know about that is non-invasive, non-surgical and has been designed to treat severe low back, buttock and leg pain along with herniated and slipped discs.

If you are wondering if there is anything at all that can be done even though every treatment you've tried has failed? Grand Island Doctor... Dr. Jeff Uhrmacher, a Doctor of Chiropractic, has just released a complimentary guide entitled, report entitled, *"The Severe Back, Sciatica, And Disc Pain Guide"*.

Discover why your back treatments may have failed and a technology relatively new to Grand Island that may provide a solution. For a free copy of the guide, call 1-888-764-2954 (Toll-free 24 Hour recorded message) ...or go to: www.mydiscpainhelp.com
NuSPINE Rehabilitation

clip these coupons and save even more!

Sunday & Monday, Jan. 14 & 15, 2007

extra 20% off
a single sale price apparel item

or, take an **extra 15% off**
a single sale price fine jewelry, accessory, footwear, intimate apparel, ladies' or men's outerwear or suit, or men's tailored clothing item

or, take an **extra 10% off**
a single sale price home store or luggage item

Herberger's

A0000010UC3

Cannot be used in conjunction with any other coupon or special offer. Some exclusions apply as listed in the newspaper.

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Herberger's

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Schools and nonprofit groups: Sign up today for our March 3 Community Day Event! By selling coupon booklets for \$5 each, community organizations like yours have raised over \$38 million companywide. For more information or to sign up, visit our website www.communitydayevent.com or contact your local store.

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Martin Luther King Day observed

Scripps Howard News Service

The acceptance of Martin Luther King Day as a national holiday is now complete. It is in danger of being taken for granted with only passing attention paid to the reason that it is a holiday.

In a way, that is a backhanded compliment showing how far both the day and the country have progressed. It wasn't always thus.

A young black congressman introduced a bill four days after King was assassinated in 1968 to make the civil-rights leader's birthday a national holiday. As a measure of how time has passed, the sponsor, John Conyers of Michigan, is now chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, one of the most powerful posts in Congress.

It would take 15 grudging years before Congress acted. One of the more curious objections, that King's Jan. 15 birthday was too close to the Christmas holidays, was resolved by moving it to the third Monday in January.

President Ronald Reagan, originally opposed, said he would sign it "since they seem bent on making it a national holiday." The first observance was in 1986. Then-Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young said, "People are not sure what to celebrate. A lot of people are thinking back on the '60s as if it was the Civil War and their town lost."

It was Reagan himself who put the national stamp on MLK Day by hosting a weeklong series of events leading up to it, peaking at the capital's Martin Luther King Elementary School and welcoming Coretta Scott King to the White House. There was a political calculation there, to be sure, but it was also one great orator honoring another.

While King Day was now a federal holiday, the states had to also bless it, and that came in fits and starts. But by 1991, every state but Arizona had made it a holiday. Faced with boycotts that cost it the Super Bowl, Arizona came around the following year.

There were still some loose ends to wrap up. In 1991, Civil Rights Day in New Hampshire and, in 2000, Human Rights Day in Utah officially became Martin Luther King Day.

And on this, the day's 21st observance, King's writings — especially I Have A Dream, Letter from Birmingham Jail, I See the Promised Land — are an integral and respected part of the canon of American ideals that define who we are as a people.

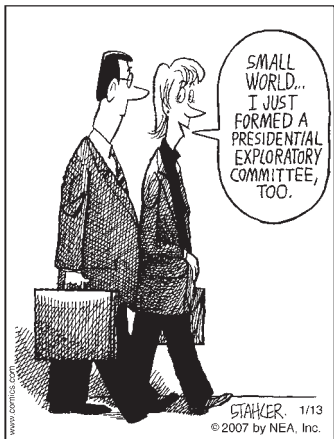
There's still that problem of becoming just another three-day weekend. To prevent that, people are urged to dedicate the day to community service and, under the slogan "A day ON, not a day OFF," the U.S. government will tell you how at www.mlkday.gov.

We've got a ways to go, but then we've come a long way.

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.



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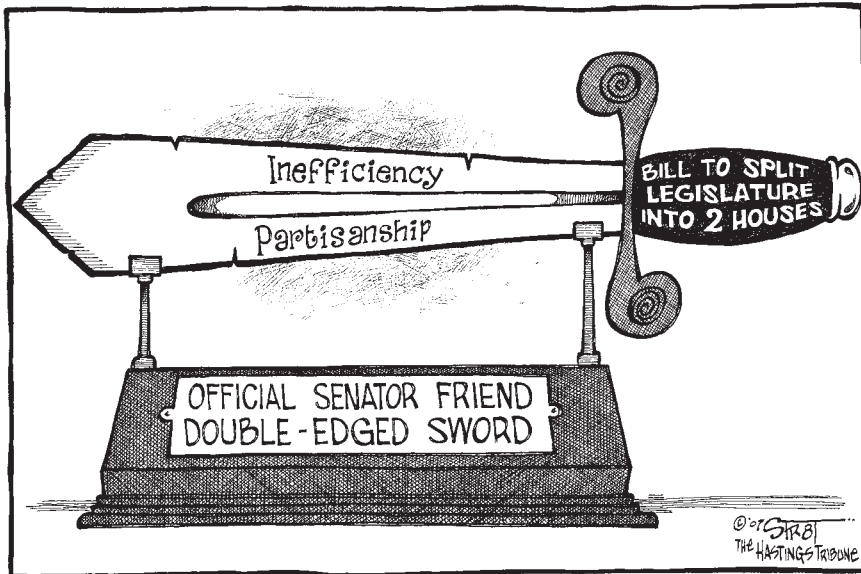
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Opinion



Yesterday

2006 — Brothers Bob and Chuck Danskin, owners of Evelyn's Restaurant in Superior, announced plans to open a Hastings restaurant in the Courtyard Bar and Grille in the Imperial Mall.

1997 — The city of Hastings decided to buy for \$39,000 a vacant house at 1139 N. Baltimore Ave. which would have been in the way of future improvement of 12th Street.

1987 — Hall, Adams and Buffalo counties were among 30 recipients of grants for tourism promotion totaling \$77,000 that had been awarded by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

1977 — The proposal by Mayor Bob Allen that a regional airport be built to serve Buffalo, Hall and Adams counties was not economically feasible, the Grand Island mayor said.

Happiness may be closer than you think

Is happiness all in your head? No. But we may be able to influence our own happiness more than we, well, think. I first came across the academic study of "happiness research" when reading "The Progress Paradox," a book by Gregg Easterbrook. The paradox, he writes, is that in the West we have ease of life, health, prosperity and leisure time unimaginable to previous generations. Yet our depression rate had gone up by 10 times since the 1950s.

Yes, a good deal of this is due to better reporting, better recognition and less social stigma surrounding depression. But most experts believe there also has been a significant increase in actual cases of depression during the last 50 years.

What's going on? Easterbrook looked at the work of Martin Seligman, a psychologist at the University of Pennsylvania who has pioneered the new interest in happiness research, in his 2003 book. He says Seligman believes that reasons for our rising depression rates include our country's rampant individualism (if our setbacks become all about us, they take on huge significance), an overemphasis on self-esteem (there must be something wrong with me if I'm not happy at this moment), the teaching of "victimology and helplessness," and runaway consumerism.

Well, Seligman and his colleagues were back in The New York Times magazine this week in a spread entitled "Happiness 101," by D.T. Max, who is writing about the increased interest in positive psychology — particularly on college campuses.

Max describes research into the "hedonic treadmill," the situation in which feeling



Betsy Hart

good only creates a hunger for more pleasure, whereas (ital) doing (end ital) good, presumably then being "other" focused, is what can lead to lasting satisfaction. He recounts a class on positive psychology taught at George Mason University in Virginia. The students were first asked to do something they themselves found pleas-

urable. Then they were asked to do "good." They gave blood, collected clothes for a battered woman's shelter and so on, and generally reported more long-term satisfaction with the latter course of action. The professor then went on to focus on gratitude and forgiveness, close relationships and love.

Such courses are being replicated around the country. "Positive psychology brings the same attention to positive emotions (happiness, pleasure, well-being) that clinical psychology always has paid to negative ones (depression, anger, resentment)," wrote Max.

Can such an emphasis lead to more personal happiness? Certainly common sense, as well as the early research, seems to say "yes." Neuroscientist Jeffrey Schwartz shows in his 2002 book, "The Mind and the Brain," that while it's long been known that what we (ital) do (end ital) can physically affect our brains, new research is actually showing that what we choose to (ital) think (end ital) about can affect the physical wiring of our brains, too.

So, for instance, Schwartz found that people who only thought about carefully playing a piece of music on the piano over time

had the exact same physical changes in their brains, as measured by CT scans, as people who physically practiced the same piano piece over time. Schwartz determined with similar studies that we can sometimes choose to think differently about things, change the physical wiring of our brain and, in doing so create, a kind of "upward spiral" for ourselves.

None of this is to minimize the seriousness of depression, by the way, or to suggest that there aren't real physical causes of it that often need to be addressed. But it does seem our creative human fullness may be more at play in determining our own happiness than we thought. As the article in the Times suggested, the growing study of human happiness suggests it is appropriate for us to deliberately focus our thoughts on what broadens us, elevates us and connects us to others. And the result may be that focus helps bring us the greatest satisfaction and happiness.

But, is this really news? Almost 2000 years ago the apostle Paul wrote, as he instructed Christians to be joyful in all things, "Whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — meditate on these things." (Philippians 4:8.)

No wonder. Scripture also tells us there is nothing new under the sun.

Betsy Hart is a columnist for the Scripps Howard News Service.

Advertising causes dents in male psyches, too

Ah, so Madison Avenue has now managed to pry open, meander around in and warp men's brains, too, just as it's done with women. Experts tell us the self-images of not only women, but now men, too, are suffering from an overexposure to perfect physiques. One could say what's fair is fair, but this goes much deeper than payback. After all, played out to an extreme, this is capitalism wreaking havoc on the American psyche.

Researchers are finding the media in general, and advertising in particular, are having a discernible impact on men's body images, something we have known about women for so long that it's become ho-hum. But that men feel a similar level of self-consciousness is downright newsy.

The obesity and anorexia / bulimia epidemics have all been blamed, at least in part, on exaggeratedly-thin models used to sell fashionable clothes and all manner of commercial goods to young female consumers. We've heard little about how men's magazines, male models on runways in Milan and "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" are making men self-conscious about their bodies.

Much as this is news, there also are fascinating differences between the way men and women internalize messages about standards to which their own bodies should adhere.

Women want to be tall, thin-waisted and large-breasted. Men's souls aren't consumed,



Bonnie Erbe

on the other hand, by washboard stomachs and bulging biceps in the same way that Madonna's body or Beyonce's physique consumes young women's images as prototypical perfection. Instead, media images of men get men thinking about, you'll never guess, sweat, body hair and body odor.

"Asking men about just weight or size misses the boat," researcher Deborah Schooler of Brown University tells the Associated Press. "Men," she says, "are more concerned about other 'real-body' factors, such as sweat, body hair and body odor."

Sweat, hair and body odor? Excuse me for asking, but how exactly does that work? According to experts, media images of men, particularly on prime time TV and in music videos, display hairless, sweatless (and of course, odorless because they're on TV, the Internet or in magazines) tend to make young men more self-conscious about having body hair and sweating than about potential lack of musculature or imperfect weight.

Seedmagazine.com quotes Schooler and another researcher, L. Monique Ward of the University of Michigan, who interviewed 179 male undergraduates at Michigan:

"According to Schooler, she and Ward predicted that average guys would feel scrawny

and inadequate in the face of pictures of sculpted, muscle-bound men. But this was, surprisingly, not the case. The students' feelings about personal size and physique didn't seem to be affected by media.

"However, students who consumed more media than average, particularly music videos and prime-time TV, were uncomfortable with one aspect of their physique — their 'real bodies.' This discomfort ... appeared to increase the chances of guys to take sexual risks, such as engaging in unprotected sex."

So, by extension, can we now blame prime time television and music videos, at least in some small part, for the increase in STDs among young Americans and perhaps even the AIDS epidemic?

Whatever, it's rather pointless to expect Madison Avenue, Hollywood and the music industry to change. As long as hyper-sexualized images of men and women continue to sell clothes, music and movie tickets, we can only expect those images to increase. My only hope is that at some point American consumers will begin to get bored with it. Maybe some healthy ennui will set in and young people will be turned off, rather than turned on, by these images. Then, and only then, will media moguls stop using them.

Bonnie Erbe is a columnist for the Scripps Howard News Service. Her e-mail is bonnieerbe@CompuServe.com.

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Enough to make one blush

When Madonna and her bevy of look-alikes appear on stage or in public, I have questioned their time management skills. If they had started dressing sooner, maybe they would have been able to finish.



Joyce Ore

Their undergarments are on display for the world to view. How embarrassing.

It doesn't seem all that long ago when I would have died, just simply died, if my bra strap — I mean my undergarment strap — was seen peeking out from the side of a sleeveless blouse.

Now I find that I am the one out of sync. Not only is it acceptable for a bra strap — I mean undergarment strap — to show, they are being designed to be seen. I saw an undergarment the other day with a rhinestone clip in the middle. Beside it was a lacy, corset-like affair studded with tiny jewels appropriate for the likes of the court of King George VIII.

"These do not look very comfortable," I told the store owner.

"They are not meant to be comfortable," she told me.

It is enough to make me blush, except no one does that anymore. There is little in our society that can bring about a natural pink tinge to the cheek.

What is acceptable in public has come a long way since the days when a newspaper would not run a photo of a pregnant woman, or television would not show a married couple together in one bed, but put them separately in twin beds.

It even is acceptable to use the term bra, which tends to make the tips of my fingers tingle when I type it. I am still the farm girl who has had little more than a glimpse of Gay Parie via the media. There are times when even that is way too much.

Joyce Ore of Hastings is a columnist for the Tribune. Contact Joyce at (402) 461-7327 or e-mail at jore@alltell.net

Calendar

HASTINGS

◆ **Sunday Sundaes**, 2-3 p.m. Sunday, College View Assisted Living, 1100 N. Sixth Ave. Open to public ages 55 and older.

◆ **Alanon**, 8 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Monday, First United Methodist Church, and noon Monday, The Kensington.

◆ **Alcoholics Anonymous**, noon and 8 p.m. Sunday; and noon, 5:15 and 8 p.m. Monday, 521 S. St. Joseph Ave.

◆ **"Flushed Away"**, 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Lied Super Screen Theatre at Hastings Museum.

◆ **Gamblers Anonymous**, 6:30 p.m. Monday, basement at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital Education Building, Room D.

◆ **Narcotics Anonymous**, 8 p.m. Monday, 401 N. Lincoln Ave.

◆ **Overeaters Anonymous**, 5-6 p.m. Monday, basement of Mary Lanning Medical Center.

◆ **Chorus of the Plains**, 7:30 p.m. Monday, ballroom of The Kensington. Barbershop-style music, open to men of all ages.

◆ **Panic and Anxiety program**, noon to 1 p.m. Monday. Call (732) 940-9658 for details.

Lotteries

WINNING NUMBERS

Friday
Kansas Pick 3 5-9-8
Nebraska Pick 3 7-8-8
Nebraska Pick 5 6-7-16-19-32
Jackpot: \$54,000
2by2 Red 2-8, White 3-15

Murder conviction overturned by state Supreme Court

NATE JENKINS

The Associated Press

LINCOLN — The state Supreme Court on Friday overturned the conviction of an Omaha man whose misaimed bullet killed a pregnant woman and her unborn child in 2003.

William C. Floyd Jr. was given a mandatory life sentence in 2005 for killing Destiny Davis, and an additional 20 years for the manslaughter death of her unborn child. The gunfire through a living room window was meant for Davis' sister, Shawntelle Vickers, who was Floyd's estranged girlfriend.

But the state high court ruled

that the trial judge abused his discretion by failing to grant Floyd's motion for a new trial on the basis of improper communication between the bailiff and jurors.

The high court ordered a new trial on the murder and manslaughter charges.

Floyd's sentence of 20 years in prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm, however, was affirmed by the justices.

The improper communication occurred in 2005 between a bailiff and a juror.

The juror testified that as the jurors left one day, she asked the bailiff how long they would be

required to continue deliberations. According to the juror, the bailiff responded that the judge would "keep sending the jury back until you reach a unanimous decision" and that deliberations "could last the rest of the week," according to the court records.

In an affidavit, the juror said that the bailiff's comment was the main factor that motivated her to change her vote from not guilty to guilty. Another juror confirmed the exchange between the bailiff and first juror.

The bailiff testified that she recalled an exchange between herself and three or four jurors at

the end of the day on May 24, 2005. But the bailiff testified that after a juror asked whether there was a time limit to deliberations, she said "there's no time limit."

The bailiff then testified that another juror asked whether the jury could be required to deliberate until Friday and that she replied, "You could be."

"Whether the bailiff in this case told jurors that they would be required to deliberate until they reached a unanimous verdict or whether she told them that there was no time limit to deliberations, either statement, combined with her statement that the jurors could be required to deliberate

the rest of the week, was an improper communication," Justice Lindsey Miller-Lerman wrote in the court opinion. "The communication went beyond simple administrative matters. The jurors' questions regarding continued deliberations should have been referred to the court, and the bailiff should not have attempted to give any direct answer to the question."

The misconduct, the court concluded, denied Floyd a fair trial because it occurred when the jury was not yet unanimous on the charges of first-degree murder and manslaughter of an unborn child.

Fire destroys rural family's longtime home

WILL VRASPIR

wvraspir@hastingstribune.com

Fire destroyed the home of a rural Hastings family last week, and now the owners are considering what to do next.

The house, at 5315 E. 42nd St., was owned by James and Kaye Becker.

"I'm guessing we'll probably rebuild," Kaye Becker said. "We're still talking with the insurance people."

Trumbull Fire Chief Paul Jensen said the fire started around 10 a.m. Jan. 6 and was caused by wood too close to an improperly installed chimney.

Becker said she was the only one home at the time and didn't realize the fire had started. She said the living room started filling with smoke, but she couldn't find the source, even though she checked the wood-burning stove the family was using for heat.

"We were out of electricity, so we were using the wood burner," she said. "If this would have happened at night, there's no doubt it would have killed us."

Becker said she called the fire department around noon because she couldn't find the source of the smoke. She said she was going to try to get some things out of the house to avoid smoke damage, but heard glass breaking and decided against returning to the house.

Four minutes after her initial call, the house was fully engulfed in flames.

"We had 6- to 8-foot flames shooting out of the roof," she said. "It was hot."

Because the fire had spread so far, Jensen said, it took about two hours to extinguish the blaze.

"It was basically toast before we got there," he said. "When it's that far advanced, it's pretty hard to knock it down."

Becker said the family was forced to leave the house they had lived in since 1972, and temporarily move into a friend's extra cabin.

She said it was tragic for her children to lose the house they thought of as home and irreplaceable items, like pictures and inherited furniture from her grandmother.

"The firefighters were able to save part of the pictures," she said. "They were very helpful."



BRENT McCOWN/Tribune

Hastings Community Theatre board member Jim Caba on Wednesday stands next to an area where bricks can be dedicated and added to the sidewalk.

A special performance

Community Theatre hosts show to raise funds for building

'THE LAST FIVE YEARS' TO STAR
BRYCE WIEBE,
ERIN MUNDUS

JOHN HUTHMACHER
johnh@hastingstribune.com

Every other year, the Hastings Community Theatre teams up with the Hastings Symphony Orchestra to present a fundraising performance to help cover some of the group's annual expenses.

It is rare, however, that an event is planned to exclusively benefit the theater building, 515 S. Fourth Ave.

But after winterizing all of the building's exterior windows and installing new front doors and windows in the box office — both within the last year — HCT's to-do list still has a few energy-related projects left to complete its upgrades. With this in mind, the theater has scheduled a special event to help fund the remaining work.

"We're seeking funds to help with our current basic maintenance on the 60-year-old building," said Lorraine Teller, HCT publicity committee member. "It has worked great for us, but it leaks air and some of our utility bills have run as high as \$3,000 per month.

We're not complaining, but we have to find some ways to maintain the building. We're just a small theater with a small bank account."

"The Last Five Years," a two-person romantic musical comedy drama, is the first fundraiser planned solely on behalf of HCT in more than five years, Teller said. The show, starring Bryce Wiebe and Erin Mundus, will run Jan. 18-19-20 at the theater.

Sarah Nottage-Tacey will direct the performances, with piano accompaniment by Jim Fritzier.

Written by award-winning composer Jason Robert Brown, the show chronicles a young couple's romance

from opposite perspectives: his from when they first meet, hers at the end of their relationship.

A 6:30 p.m. social hour will precede each of the 8 p.m. performances at the theater. Tickets may be obtained by calling (402) 463-1500; by mail at P.O. Box 922, Hastings, NE 68902; or at the door.

The special performance comes at the midway point of HCT's regular season. Its next regularly scheduled offering, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" is on the calendar for March.

For information, contact Teller at (402) 462-5229.

Ongoing projects key for chamber

TONY HERRMAN

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Some of the biggest priorities in the new year for the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce include completing or continuing ongoing projects.

Like the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which recently released its goals for the 2007 legislative session that began Jan. 3, the Hastings chamber has several goals for the new year.

Working with government officials is always a big part of Chamber of Commerce business, no matter at what level, said Tom Hastings, president of the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce.

"Their goal is to continue to do what's best for the business community in Nebraska," Hastings said of the state chamber. "That's what we try to do in our community."

Goals of the state chamber for the new legislative session are to grow the Nebraska econ-

omy, create new jobs, improve workforce recruitment, enhance customized job training, reduce the high cost of workers' compensation programs, making health coverage more affordable, and ensuring strong agricultural production.

The Hastings chamber has seven goals for the new year, which were created during the annual planning session of the chamber's Board of Directors in October 2006.

"We go through the things we've accomplished to see how we're doing on the goals already set and set goals for new years," Hastings said.

The planning session is open to any Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce member.

"We look at input from the entire membership on things they would like to see us do in the upcoming year and years," Hastings said. "We're here to serve members and enhance business in Hastings, and we need to know what we can do to help them."

One of the goals for 2007 already has been met.

"Chambers can be accredited, every five years you have to be re-accredited," Hastings said. "We are accredited right now but our accreditation was going to expire in March. One of our goals was to get that paper work sent in (to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce). That's one goal already completed."

Many of the Hastings chamber's goals for 2007 involve ongoing projects.

Among the Hastings chamber's goals include continuing communication with the membership and community, a staff reorganization and work on the Government Affairs Committee.

It wants to "remain active on the Retail Oversight Committee," which was formed last year and focuses on retail promotion, growth, development, enhancement and retention of businesses both new and existing.

Please see CHAMBER/page B1

Sex offender notification

Hastings Tribune

The Nebraska State Patrol issued public notification Friday of a Level 3 sex offender who has a new address in Franklin County.

Albert George Bean II, 38, lives in Campbell. He is 5-feet, 1-inch and weighs 180 pounds with brown hair and green eyes. His alias is Albert Bean Buck.



Bean II

He was convicted of sexual misconduct in Town Court in Machias, N.Y., according to the sex offender registry Web site.

The Nebraska Sex Offender Registry is intended to protect members of the public from potential harm. Level 3 offenders are people released from incarceration whom the State Patrol considers a high risk to reoffend.

The Tribune has established

the policy to publish information about a registered offender in Nebraska who has recently moved in the newspaper's coverage area; however, there are other Level 3 sex offenders residing in the area whose addresses are unchanged.

According to the State Patrol Web site this morning, there are 18 Level 3 sex offenders registered under Adams County. Others are registered in the following area counties: Clay (5), Fillmore (3), Franklin (3), Kearney (3), Webster (2), Nuckolls (4), and Thayer (2).

A complete sex offender registry is available on the Internet: www.nsp.state.ne.us/sor/

The State Patrol states on this Web site that sex offender registry information should not be used to retaliate against registrants, their families or their employers in any way. Vandalism and verbal or written threats of harm are illegal and will result in arrest and prosecution.

Ten Bensel: ‘I could only pray something like this would happen’

PROPOSED BILL WOULD
LAUNCH LOCAL
ARTIST’S SONG
TO STATE SONG

SHAY BURK
sburk@hastingstribune.com

A Hastings woman's song about her love for Nebraska has an opportunity to become the new state song.

On Friday, state Sen. Carroll Burling of Kenesaw introduced a bill in the Nebraska Legislature to change the state song to “I Love Nebraska.”

The song, written and performed by Ginger ten Bensel, would replace “Beautiful Nebraska,” which has been the

state song since 1967.

In an interview Friday, Burling said he has heard “I Love Nebraska” several times and really enjoys it.

“I’ve received several comments that ‘That ought to be our state song instead of the one we have,’ ” he said.

It was with that thought in mind that Burling decided to introduce LB345.

“It’s got people’s attention. I don’t know where it will go from here, but it’s got people’s attention,” he said of the bill.

Burling recently heard the song performed live when ten Bensel sang at the governor’s ball for Gov. Dave Heineman on Jan. 5.

Ten Bensel said she was

excited to learn that her song had been selected for such an honor.

“I could only pray something like this would happen,” she said in an interview Friday.

“Part of the goal was for this song to touch the lives of people all throughout the state of Nebraska.”

Burling said the only possible hurdle to making “I Love Nebraska” the state song would be its popularity, or lack thereof.

“If it’s going to fly, we’ve got to figure out a way to familiarize people with the song,” he said.

“Ginger ten Bensel’s very excited about it, and I’m sure she will help promote it in any way she can.”

Ten Bensel said the song is rather easy to remember and said people likely would catch onto it.

“What’s really neat is if it becomes a state song, every little fourth-grader in the state will be singing the song,” she said.

“That is the best thing in the world.”

Burling said he did not write the bill without first looking into the history of the state song.

“Beautiful Nebraska” was written in 1960 by Jim Fras, a Russian refugee who came to Lincoln in 1952.

According to the secretary of state’s Web site, Fras said he was “lying in a pasture and words just came to me.”

Burling said Sen. Dick Marvel of Hastings introduced a bill in 1967 to have “Beautiful Nebraska” become the state song.

“I like ‘Beautiful Nebraska,’ ” Burling said.

“That’s kind of my era, but I think Ginger’s song ‘I Love Nebraska’ probably fits today’s culture a little bit better.

“I don’t have a problem with the one we have now, but it’s been 40 years, so maybe it’s time to change it.”

Ten Bensel said performing at the Governor’s Inaugural Ball in Lincoln on Jan. 5 was an exciting and humbling experience.

During the performance, ten Bensel said her adrenaline was

rushing as the audience clapped and cheered for her.

Ten Bensel said she even had to move closer to her monitor to hear the music because there was so much energy and noise in the room.

“People were clapping and yelling so much, I felt like I was at a rock concert,” she said.

“It was quite an experience.”

In the days after the ball, ten Bensel said she received several phone calls from different people saying they cried when they heard her song.

“It just meant so much to them to hear a song about the state of Nebraska that was written just for our state and nothing else,” she said.

Police investigate list found in backpack

The Associated Press

OMAHA — Omaha police are investigating a list of names found in an eighth-grader’s backpack to determine whether it was a hit list.

Roseanne Williby, principal of St. Thomas More Catholic School in Omaha, said the list contained names of students and a teacher.

“Right now, there is no indication whatsoever of any intent to do harm,” she said.

“It definitely was not a serious threat.”

The list was found Tuesday, and Williby said students were interviewed by police on Wednesday.

According to Omaha Police Sgt. Teresa Negron, an investigation is under way, but no report has been filed yet.

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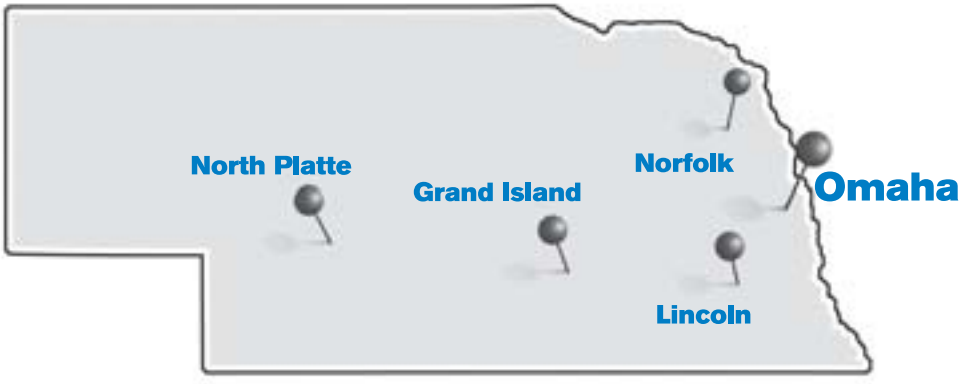


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Local

ADAMS COUNTY
BOOKMOBILE

- Tuesday**
- ◆ Holstein School, 9:15-10 a.m.
 - ◆ Silver Lake Elementary (Bladen), 10:30 a.m.
- Wednesday**
- ◆ District No. 15, 8:45-10:45 a.m.
 - ◆ 800 block of West 11th Street, 11-11:30 a.m.
 - ◆ District No. 60, 1:15-2:50 p.m.
- Thursday**
- ◆ 700 block of North Lincoln Avenue, 9-9:30 a.m.
 - ◆ Ayr School, 10-11:20 a.m.
 - ◆ Zion Lutheran School, 1:15 p.m.
 - ◆ 900 block of Glenwood Avenue, 2:30 p.m.

AC BOARD TO MEET

The Adams Central Public School Board will discuss the cost estimate report for a new track at its meeting Monday.

At the board's December meeting, board members voted to have a geotechnical report done underneath the current track to see if the soil could support a new track.

The board also will hear reports on new legislation and the superintendent's evaluation.

The board will receive staff resignations, which may include action on early retirement benefits. The board also will discuss a personnel matter.

The board meets at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the District Conference Room.

Markets

Friday's closing local markets

Corn	3.64
Soybeans	6.44
Milo	3.65
Wheat	4.71

Stocks of local interest

The following stocks of local interest were traded Friday:

	Last	Chg.
Alltel	61.79	-0.39
BN Santa Fe	73.96	+0.68
Berkshire Hathaway A	110,000.00	0.00
Berkshire Hathaway B	3,667.80	-2.15
ConAgra	27.05	-0.39
Eaton Corp.	74.52	+0.24
Ingersoll Rand	40.6	+0.19
Kinder Morgan	105.97	+0.18
Level 3	6.60	+0.12
McDonald's	44.22	-0.29
PepsiCo	64.70	-0.25
TierOne	31.31	+0.39
Tricon Global Restaurants	59.87	-0.13
Union Pacific	91.96	+1.46
Wells Fargo	35.51	-0.03
Williams Cos.	25.83	+0.47
Wal-Mart	47.98	+0.38

'Bowl for Kids' Sake' kickoff set for Tuesday

JOHN HUTHMACHER
johnh@hastingstribune.com

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hastings will launch its 16th annual "Bowl For Kids' Sake" fundraiser with a media event featuring board members at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at Pastime Lanes in Hastings.

The event will include opportunities for teams to register for the organization's largest fundraising event of the year, which rolls into action Feb. 23-24 and March 2, said Bryce Wiebe, Big Brothers Big Sisters executive director. The kickoff coincides with National Mentoring Month.

"Our board members are coming together to bowl and sort of kick off the whole month-and-a-half of pledging," Wiebe said. "We're encouraging people to sign up. We want to bring people's attention to mentoring and how important it is in the lives of kids."

Those interested in becoming a mentor during the local program's 50th anniversary year are invited to learn how at the kickoff event, Wiebe said.

"We always hope to get a few more mentors out of everything we do," he said.

More than 30 teams participated in last year's event, which

raised \$22,000 locally, Wiebe said. Teams of four or five bowlers participate by collecting pledges, then bowl for one hour on Feb. 23-24 and March 2 just for the fun of it.

Teams are not required to bowl in order to participate in the drive. Company sponsorships are available.

The local program now has 116 mentor-youngster matches, Wiebe said. The Hastings agency served 202 children in 2006.

Mentors looking to enroll in the agency's school-based program must be at least 16 years of age or older, while the traditional community-based program welcomes mentors 18 years and older. The volunteers commit to spending an hour or two each week with their little brother or sister.

The weekly get-togethers can vary in scope from attending ballgames or other outings to simply spending time together hanging out at a park or library. The important thing, Wiebe said, is simply making time for a youngster in need of a friend and mentor.

"It's a wonderful way to make a big difference in the lives of kids, which isn't really difficult to become involved in," Wiebe said. "Basically, you get to spend time



JOHN HUTHMACHER/Tribune
Nine-year-old Dacey Hampton points at the pins while her mentor, Terry Ebers, watches while the two spend time together bowling at Pastime Lanes on Jan. 19, 2006. Hampton and Ebers were paired up by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hastings.

out in the community doing things that you like to do and

forming a connection and bond with kids who often don't have a

lot of those connections." For details, call (402) 463-5652.

Plastrglas pleads guilty to hiring illegal immigrants

The Associated Press

OMAHA — The personnel director of Plastrglas, Inc. and the company itself pleaded guilty Friday to several charges related to hiring and recruiting illegal immigrants, U.S. Attorney Joe Stecher's office announced Friday.

The charges stem from a federal investigation that ended with a raid of the Omaha-based company by Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials Dec. 5. Officials arrested 30 people on suspicion of being illegal immigrants during the raid.

Donna Lake, 46, of Honeycreek, Iowa, pleaded guilty to engaging in a pattern and practice of hiring and recruiting illegal immigrants for employment in the U.S., Stecher's office said. She is facing up to six months imprisonment, a \$3,000 fine per illegal immigrant, a \$50 special assessment and up to five years of probation.

Plastrglas pleaded guilty to concealing, harboring or shielding illegal immigrants from detection knowingly or in disregard of knowledge that the immigrants had entered or were in the U.S. illegally, Stecher's office said.

Plastrglas is facing a \$500,000 fine and a \$400 special assessment.

Stecher's office said federal agents recorded a conversation between Lake and an illegal immigrant who worked at the company, during which the worker-turned-government informant allegedly asks Lake to change his work identity for a third time.

Lake refused to change the

number, told the worker she would ignore their conversation and asked the informant to come back after obtaining legal status, Stecher's office said.

Plastrglas manufactures architectural shapes from plaster that is reinforced with glass fibers and distributes them nationally.

According to the government complaint, the investigation of Plastrglas started when someone who interpreted for Spanish-speaking workers tipped immigration officials to conversations between Lake and employees about changing names and Social Security numbers on employment records.

Chamber: Goals set for 2007

Continued from page A5

"We're figuring out ways to come up with promotional material," Hastings said. "We want to create a package for people already in business here and people looking to come to the community. We're working with local marketing groups to have the best possible information we could have."

About six months ago, the chamber began enhancing its Web site, linking it to other local, public entities. It is the chamber's goal to complete the process in 2007.

"So, if anyone wants to know anything about what is going on

in the community, it won't matter what entity they go to, because it will all be linked," Hastings said.

The chamber is addressing diversity through its Diversity Committee, which was formed more than a year ago and works with different groups working with minorities, to address issues and meet needs involving things like police, education, health and financial issues.

"It's something you continue to work on," Hastings said. "It's not something you can have two meetings about and say, 'Oh, we're done.'"

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Blezek to step down from LEAD post

ANDY RAUN
araun@hastingstribune.com

Allen Blezek, longtime director of the Nebraska LEAD Program, has announced his plans to retire Sept. 1.

Blezek has headed the program, which offers leadership development experiences for Nebraska's agricultural producers and agribusiness workers, for 25 years. He has held a faculty appointment at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for 31 years and is a former president of the UNL Faculty Senate.



Blezek

LEAD, or Leadership Education/Action Development, is operated by the Nebraska Agricultural Leadership Council Inc., a non-profit organization that represents a partnership of Nebraska colleges and universities with the business community and interested individuals.

Up to 30 individuals are selected each year to begin the 18-month program. Experiences include numerous seminars around the state, plus national and international travel-study seminars.

LEAD fellows pay a participant fee, but most program expenses are covered by sponsors.

Soon, more than 750 people will have graduated from the program since its founding in 1981.

Blezek announced his retirement to the public in a news release. He cited his own retirement comments to the NALC Board of Directors, in which he said the program was on solid ground.

"I believe that all would agree, with the present sense of momentum in the program, that we are on an all-time high with respect to the large number of applicants, a solid financial base, a number of endowments in place or in the process of being finalized, highly recognized efforts in public relations, and raving program reviews at all levels," Blezek told the board.

The program will be accepting applicants for LEAD Group XXVII this spring. The new group will begin its LEAD experience in September.

Blezek's work with the program has won him acclaim around and beyond Nebraska. Just a month ago, he was presented with the Silver Eagle Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation.

In announcing his retirement, Blezek promised no let-down in moving the LEAD program forward, with business as usual between now and his departure.

UNL's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources provides the LEAD program director. Jerry Stahr of York, chairman of the NALC board, said the board would begin working with university officials immediately to find a suitable successor for Blezek.

Man receives death sentence



Rob Bryant, husband of Lisa Bryant, who was shot and killed during a bank robbery in Norfolk in 2002, talks with reporters Friday in Madison after the sentencing hearing of Erick Vela. Lisa Bryant's mother Coni looks on.



NATI HARNIK/AP
This file photo from Sept. 27, 2002, shows Erick Vela being escorted by an unidentified sheriff deputy at the county court in Madison following his bond hearing. Erick Vela was sentenced Friday to die for helping kill five people at a U.S. Bank bank in Norfolk in 2002. District Court Judge Patrick Rogers of Madison called Vela a "full-blooded killer" and sentenced him to death on each of five counts of first-degree murder.

Norfolk bank killer Vela sentenced for role in killing 5 people

The Associated Press

MADISON — Erick Vela on Friday was sentenced to die for helping kill five people at a U.S. Bank branch in Norfolk in 2002.

District Court Judge Patrick Rogers, of Madison, called Vela a "full-blooded killer" and sentenced him to death on each of five counts of first-degree murder.

He also gave Vela 48 to 50 years on each of five counts of use of a deadly weapon.

A four-day sentencing hearing for Vela was held last month.

Three judges — Rogers, Sandra

Dougherty and Donald Rowlands — decided the fate of Vela, who had pleaded guilty to five counts of first-degree murder.

Vela's lawyer had argued that Vela was forced to participate in the plot.

Attorney Jeffrey Pickens said during the hearings that Vela "didn't want to do it. He was scared and confused."

As a result of vocalizing his disagreement, Vela was beaten to unconsciousness by Jorge Galindo and Jose Sandoval, two of Vela's co-defendants.

But Madison County Attorney Joe Smith disputed the notion that Vela was a victim and that Vela's guilty plea was not a sign of altruistic remorse.

Smith said Vela felt no remorse for killing Travis Lundell in August 2002, just a month before the U.S. Bank murders. Vela has not been charged in Lundell's death, but separate juries found Vela and Galindo eligible for the death penalty in part because they believed the evidence showed the two helped kill Lundell, giving them histories of violent crime.

"He killed Travis Lundell to prove that he could do it, to show he was in agreement with the other guys," Smith said of Vela.

Juries found Vela, Sandoval and Galindo eligible for the death penalty. Earlier this year, a judge ruled that Vela

is not mentally impaired and could face the death penalty.

Sandoval and Galindo both have been sentenced to five death sentences. Rodriguez was sentenced to five consecutive life sentences.

"These crimes committed constitute one of the worst cases in Nebraska's criminal history," Judge Rogers said Friday during the reading of Vela's sentence.

Vela didn't show any emotion after his sentence was read.

The five victims were bank customer Evonne Tuttle and bank employees Jo Mausbach, Sam Sun, Lola Elwood and Lisa Bryant.

Cultural, ethnic diversity could be added to aid eligibility

NATE JENKINS

The Associated Press

LINCOLN — A financial carrot used for more than a decade to draw more blacks, American Indians and Hispanics to colleges in Nebraska could soon be used to lure in rural white students, among others.

Sen. Ron Raikes of Lincoln, at the request of post-secondary education leaders in the state, introduced a bill (LB375) Friday that would broaden a legal definition so colleges would be obligated to create "greater racial, ethnic and cultural diversity" with a state-funded scholarship program.

Currently, the endowed scholarship

that contains a mix of public and private dollars is targeted at blacks, American Indians and Hispanics.

The endowed scholarship fund carried from year to year currently contains about \$2.9 million for the University of Nebraska system and community colleges. Forty-seven students are benefiting from that pool of money this school year.

The three state colleges have additional money.

The suggested definition change follows recent court cases that have knocked down race-based admissions and financial aid programs.

"It's something we need to do," said

Craig Munier, financial aid director at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. "We're having to redefine diversity on this campus much broader," because of court decisions, he said.

One such decision was made in 2003, when the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a general affirmative action policy at the University of Michigan's law school, but struck down the school's undergraduate admissions formula. It awarded points based on race.

Now, said Munier, the definition of diversity has changed to include students who are the first in their families to attend college, and also has a geographic component — students from

rural areas that have disproportionately low representation on campus, for example.

Inclusion of such students is fine with James Freeman, as long as it isn't done at the expense of minority groups with traditionally low college-attendance rates.

The Michigan case and others, "cause some headaches," said Freeman, director of multicultural affairs at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

"There's no options for us to say we need particular minority students to diversify," Freeman said. "We can't do that. That bothers me."

Bare-bottom burglar sentenced to three to five years in prison

The Associated Press

OMAHA — Two things made Christopher Willever's drunken theft of a Tobacco Hut even worse as he crawled across the store floor — a lousy belt and his camera-loving backside.

Omaha's bare-bottom bandit

was sentenced to three to five years in prison Friday for his March crime that earned him the fitting distinction.

"You were an ass in every true sense of the word in this crime," Douglas County District Judge Thomas Otepka

told the 22-year-old Willever.

Tired of being poor, Willever drank a fifth of rum and decided to rob the store, said his public defender, Kelly Steenbock.

He was drunk enough not to realize that his pants had fallen down, exposing his bottom to

cameras that eventually fed the surveillance to TV shows across the country.

"He was pretty humiliated and embarrassed," Steenbock said. "He showed his bottom to whoever turned on the TV."

Steenbock pleaded the judge

to sympathize with Willever's youth, no prior felony charges and participation in an alcohol treatment program.

Otepka said Willever was an adult who is still supported by his mother and does not have a high school diploma.

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Forum: YWCA panel discusses smoking bans

Continued from page A1

Hastings City Councilwoman Kathy Peterson spoke about the economic impact of smoking bans on communities across the country, including Lincoln.

Lincoln voters approved a comprehensive smoking ban that prohibited smoking in workplaces, bars and restaurants in 2004. The ordinance took effect in January 2005.

Soukup said many people predicted most of the bars and restaurants in Lincoln would close down when smoking was prohibited.

"That hasn't been the case," he said. "People are still eating and drinking in Lincoln."

Peterson said she had found information stating that revenues for bars and restaurants in Lincoln actually had gone up since the ban was established.

Mike Nevirvy, owner of Hastings Keno Sports Bar & Grill, 1216 W. J St., spoke out against Peterson's statement, saying he was actually aware of more than 20 bars and restaurants in Lincoln that have closed since January 2005.

He said businesses in the communities around Lincoln and Omaha have benefited from the smoking bans by gaining more customers and more revenue, simply because they allow smoking.

Nevirvy said a ban only in Hastings would push customers to other communities. And the case would be the same if there were a Tri-City ban.

In fact, he said, the best solution would be a statewide ban, which would allow for an even playing field for bars and restaurants in the state.

Peterson said she disagreed that a smoking ban would hurt the community. She said the ban would take the smoking out of businesses but allow the businesses to continue to operate.

Soukup said the community bans are a sort of pilot program to help Tobacco Free Nebraska and all Nebraskans to determine what the impacts of a statewide ban would be.

"Voluntary policies only get us so far," he said. "Smoking policies don't protect everyone, including those that work in restaurants and bars."

"All employees deserve protection from this toxin."

Peterson said the Hastings City Council planned to talk about a smoking policy in the future. However, she said no action would be taken quickly, and that the key would be for people to continue to discuss the issue.

Outage: Kenesaw loses power again

Continued from page A1

Both were to arrive sometime before this morning, according to the Adams County Emergency Management.

An automated telephone message at Southern Power said it was working to restore the service and that there was no estimated time of power restoration.

Kenesaw first lost its power on Dec. 30, 2006, after a heavy ice storm struck the area. Its power was finally restored through the generator at about 8 p.m. Jan. 6.

Without power again, Streff said residents were wanting to hook up their individual generators again.

"They don't know what to do," he said.

He said he told residents to trip their main breaker, so they could hook up their own generators again.

"Because it could be all night," he said of not having power, "and it's supposed to get really cold tonight. So it could be worse than it was before."

Adams County Emergency Management encouraged residents to shut down the main breaker of their fuse box and use extension cords in order to use their own generators.

Christ Lutheran School near Prosser was opened as a warming station for Kenesaw residents, Adams County Emergency Management said.

Friday's low temperature was supposed to be about 1 degree, according to the National Weather Service, with a wind chill value between minus-9 to minus-14 degrees.

There also was a 40 percent chance of snow after 3 a.m., with a nighttime snow accumulation of up to 1 inch possible.

Unicameral: New senators settle in



BJ FICTUM/Tribune

District 32 Sen. Russ Karpisek and his son Tyler watch the tally board during roll call for the first session of the 100th Nebraska Legislature on Jan. 3 at the State Capitol in Lincoln. Karpisek is one of 22 new faces in the Legislature this session.

Continued from page A1

Carlson introduced two bills on Tuesday, both of which would extend benefits to military personnel and veterans.

He said the 10-day limit for introducing bills was hurried and would catch many citizens off guard. He said he was expecting to hear from people wanting issues addressed after the bill introduction period is over.

One major frustration Carlson already has experienced is taking his bills to the fiscal office for the monetary issues to be laid out. There, the staff determines how much the bill would cost to institute.

"In business, up front it's a cost," he said. "Then it's a little more difficult to determine what the long-term profitability or revenue will be from either a bill or a business. You have to be willing to take a plunge to make anything happen."

But no matter what the task, both Karpisek and Carlson have been keeping themselves busy in the last two weeks.

"For some reason, working 12 or 14 hours at the meat market didn't seem as hard as working eight hours here," Karpisek said. "And you think it would be the other way around."

Karpisek owns a meat market in Wilber.

And while the two have been busy, they have taken a few minutes to absorb the significance of the place where they work.

"It's sobering when you begin to realize the responsibility that is here," Carlson said.

"To be part of it is overwhelming," Karpisek said. "If I stop to think about it, I still get a little dizzy and a little upset stomach. It's unreal. It's like a dream."

Superior auditorium's future draws crowd

ARCHITECTS FORESEE
GOOD THINGS FOR
HISTORIC BUILDING

DONNA CHRISTENSEN
araun@hastingstribune.com

SUPERIOR — The Superior City Auditorium is a versatile building that could be returned to usefulness and restored to its status as a regional asset, speakers told a crowd at a meeting here Thursday.

"A new building couldn't give all the opportunities that this structure affords," said James Dyck, a registered architect with The Architectural Partnership P.C. of Lincoln, a firm hired by the city to prepare plans for a possible project.

About 60 people turned out for Thursday's meeting, where Dyck discussed renovation prospects for the 70-year-old auditorium that is owned by the city but now stands idle. Plans for the building have been a topic of discussion in the community for several years.

The main focus of the architects' study is to preserve the building and restore it to usefulness. When a local resident asked Dyck about the soundness of the structure, Dyck said he would give it a "10."

The committee involved with the auditorium project has met several times recently: Nov. 3 and 17, 2006, then again on Dec. 8 with acoustical consultants and Dec. 29.

On Jan. 3, a preliminary design was addressed. The following day, a diversified design was considered. Omaha Stage Equipment took part in the Jan. 4 session.

"There is value, historically, in preserving this structure," said Deb Hansen, a former Superiore resident and now an associate of Dyck's. "It can be a drawing card for the community when it is once again useful."

Local resident Stan Sheets, former owner of Valley Building Center, gave a brief history of the building. Sheets moved with his family to Superior in 1934, when he was 7 years old, and has been watching the auditorium ever since it was in the planning and building stages all those years ago.

Construction of the building was a federal Works Progress Administration project in the 1930s. The building cost around \$80,000 to build and accommodated large crowds for events like big-name dances, sports events, and fashion and craft shows.

Sheets said he remembered Les Brown and Harry James as two of the many bandleaders who brought their groups to Superior for dances in the auditorium.

His grandfather, Ira Sheets,

who owned a Superior lumber yard in the 1930s, provided the brick and other building materials for the construction.

Tim Schmidt, a Superior lawyer who also serves as Nuckolls County attorney, said he could see a variety of potential uses for a rehabilitated auditorium.

"It can fill a niche that no present facility can accomplish," Schmidt said. "And it can be a drawing card for the community, much the same as the opera house in Red Cloud."

He went on to mention some of the potential uses for the building, which would include serving as an indoor venue for events during the annual Lady Vestey Victorian Festival.

Because seating on the main floor would be removable, the building could be used for a variety of community activities. One participant in Thursday's meeting wondered if it would provide unwelcome competition for the new Meyer Winery, which has become a venue for receptions, celebrations and other meetings.

Dyck said the Meyers already had been consulted, and that they sensed no threat associated with a reopened auditorium.

"Our meeting rooms are great for receptions and more intimate groups," said Randy Meyer, one of the winery proprietors, who attended Thursday's meeting. "But for larger events which would involve large public gatherings, we would not be able to accommodate the numbers."

Hansen highlighted some of the opportunities and benefits of preserving and renovating the auditorium. She said the building would provide space for larger meetings than the Red Cloud Opera House can hold, and that being able to stage events on the first floor also would be an advantage.

Hansen predicted the auditorium would serve multiple purposes for a multi-county area in Nebraska and Kansas.

"It would provide an economic impact for attracting visitors," she said, "and enable us to be involved with the performing arts on a large scale."

Dyck said a proposed renovation would use materials already in the building to the greatest extent advisable. Building stones would be cleaned and replaced as needed, but not to the extent that the general appearance of the structure would be altered.

"There are some requirements to be met, because all the codes have changed," he said. "We will need a sprinkler system and fire/smoke alarms, for example."

Features for handicapped-accessibility would be added in doorways and restrooms, but an

elevator would not be necessary because of the way the building is laid out, Dyck said.

Guidelines from the Historic Preservation Office of the Nebraska State Historical Society would need to be met.

The stage and acoustical systems are being studied, but the sound system is quite adequate as it stands, Dyck said.

A thrust stage, fly space and accessibility lift would be added to benefit the theatrical productions. Rigging and curtains that raise and lower, rather than being drawn, would enhance the stage area and provide for greater ease in presentations.

"Acoustics are already great in the original building," Dyck said, "and our sound manager assures me that only modern techniques, we've discussed, will be needed."

The present maple flooring on the main level would be removed, and a heated floor unit would be installed and covered with concrete.

Dyck said the concrete could be stained to look much like the old maple covering.

Thursday's meeting provided time for questions and answers. Responding to one of the questions, officials said the Superior schools had plenty of gymnasium space already, so the auditorium would not be needed for sports activities.

The old jail on the third floor would be left where it is and ignored.

Dyck and Hansen said a staff member might be needed for the building in the future, and that plenty of space for an office would be available.

Following the meeting, Dyck said he thought it had gone well — but he acknowledged that most of those in attendance were advocates of a renovation project.

The architects will meet again with the Superior City Council on Feb. 26 and again in April.

Iraq: Silence raises questions

Continued from page A1

He has argued for the Americans increasingly to pull out of the cities and leave security to the Iraqi Army, which is 80 percent Shiite. The Americans would respond only when needed.

An Iraqi general told The Associated Press earlier this week that the army intended to put 9 brigades on the streets of Baghdad, or a total of about 27,000 men.

The force would be commanded by a Shiite, Lt. Gen. Aboud Gambar, who was taken prisoner of war by U.S. forces during the 1991 Gulf war and will report directly to al-Maliki.

The military officer, who spoke anonymously, said for the most part, the Iraqi force would not be directed against the Shiite militias. The majority of fighting against the Mahdi Army in Sadr city would be left to the Americans in tandem with the Iraqi Special Operations Command.

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HHS girls down McCook for fourth win of season

GENE RAY

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The Hastings High girls basketball team jumped to a 10-point lead at the end of the first half and survived a third-quarter McCook rally to secure a 52-43 victory over the Bison Friday night.

The Tigers host Class B No. 4 Holdrege tonight.

HHS rode the scoring of Melanie Patrick late in the first half and relied on her again in the second half to spark the Tigers to their fourth win in 11 contests this season.

"That was one of our better halves in the past two years," HHS coach Jason Cafferty said about the Tigers' first-half performance. "We had a little lull in the third quarter when we got tired. (McCook) outthrustled us at that time."

Patrick closed with a game-high 20 points, including seven each in the third and fourth quarters. She caught fire late in the first half with two straight 10-foot jumpers to lead the Tigers to a 29-19 halftime advantage.

The 10-point bulge came despite foul troubles for the Tigers. Starter Rikki Lay got whistled for three fouls

in the first quarter and played sparingly the rest of the half. Starter Nicole Wojahn picked up her third foul in the second quarter. The Tigers' aggressiveness on the defensive end showed up in the first-half foul column. HHS committed 10 personals compared to McCook's three fouls.

Hastings came out strong in the third quarter with an 8-0 run, capped by Lay's old-fashioned three-point play, as the Tigers took a 37-19 lead.

HHS enjoyed a 40-24 margin midway in the third quarter. But McCook went on an offensive charge to cut the

margin to 40-35 with under a minute left. The Bison got help from nine Tiger turnovers in the third period and from Hastings' defense that lost its intensity. HHS stopped the McCook run with 26 seconds remaining when Patrick stole the ball and went in for a layup.

"We knew they'd make a run on us at some point," Cafferty said. "We realized then that we had to play hard the whole way."

The Tigers regained the momentum early in the last quarter, thanks back-to-back layups by Lay and Patrick.

HHS got some breathing room in the

final period with six unanswered points and a 52-39 lead. Patrick led the flurry with five points, including a layup off a lob pass from point guard Sadie Martin. Hanna Rundle added a free throw.

Patrick scored on driving layups on three separate occasions in the second half, maneuvers that Cafferty has come to expect from her.

"She's very strong and quick to the basket off the dribble," Cafferty said. "And she can finish strong with contact at the basket."

Please see HHS/page C2

PATRIOTS' DAY

AMY ROH/
Tribune

Fillmore Central's Sean Hoarty dribbles against Adams Central's Zach Hunt in the first quarter Friday in Geneva.

AMY ROH/
Tribune

Adams Central's Jodi Nikkel moves the ball against Fillmore Central's Kali Reinsch (left) and Paige Chaney on Friday in Geneva.



AC boys, girls beat Panthers

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GENEVA — On a night with temperatures nearing the zero degree mark, it took the Adams Central offense three quarters to get warmed up.

The AC boys picked just right time to get toasty as they blew open a close game with a 26-point fourth quarter explosion on their way to a 62-41 victory over Fillmore Central on Friday.

The win snapped a three-game losing skid for Adams Central and improved the Patriots to 6-5 while Fillmore Central dropped to 5-5 with the loss.

"Having lost three games in a row, it feels really good to come in here and get a win," AC coach Jim LaMaster said. "We've had some fits here over the last couple of years so it's nice to pick up a win here."

The Patriots got a game-high 20 points from Todd Smidt and senior Kyle Stine added 12 and freshman Nathan Arlt 10 as the Patriots picked up their first win since a Dec. 28 victory over Broken Bow.

"Last week we said we were going to come in and win these two games and that was our goal," Stine said. "We knew we had to win these two and we got a big one tonight."

Fillmore Central struggled with Adams' Central full-court pressure all game, committing 23 turnovers — nine of which came in the critical fourth quarter.

The Panthers also struggled on the glass as the hustling Patriots held a distinct 36-20 advantage on the glass that included 14 offensive rebounds.

"When you turn the ball over and you don't rebound, you aren't going to win," Fillmore Central coach Mark Wragge said. "We turned it over and we didn't rebound so that makes this a real tough loss to swallow."

Please see AC/page C3



AMY ROH/Tribune

Adams Central's Nathan Arlt is fouled by Fillmore Central's Dustin Hinrichs in the first half Friday in Geneva.

Strong second half propels Silver Lake to win over Harvard

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ROSELAND — Going into halftime with only a two-point lead, the Silver Lake girls basketball team used a 16-0 run in the third quarter to take control en route to a 45-32 win over Harvard on Friday.

It marks the fifth straight win for the Mustangs (7-4) after starting the season 2-4.

"I thought we had a good game plan going in the first half," Harvard coach Jami Lipker said. "But they made a couple of changes and we couldn't turn up the heat."

The Cardinals showed some fire in the first half, forcing 12 turnovers before intermission — six of which happened in the final three minutes of the first quarter as Harvard went on an 8-2 run to tie the game 15-15.

Harvard extended its run to 10-2 early in the second quarter as it took its only lead of the game at 17-15. Still, the Cardinals trailed only 21-19 at halftime.

"The biggest thing we have done in the first half was work together as a team," she said. "I was impressed with our effort. We were great on defense, which led us to be great on offense."

Silver Lake head coach Keith Crowe said the big key to his team's struggles in the first half was how intense the Cardinals played.

"They played extremely hard and that was the key to their success," Crowe said. "We came out flat and they came out and played well."

The Mustangs got back on track early in the third quarter when they went on their 16-0 run to open up the game. Sparking Silver Lake's run was Olivia Grigg, who scored 12 of the team's 19 third-quarter points.

"We did a nice job getting the ball back into Olivia's hands," Crowe said.

"We just needed to come out in the third quarter and execute our offense."

The Cardinals, who struggled to get any shots down in the second half, got a three-pointer from junior Jordan Harms with 1:26 left to play in the third. Despite the three-point shot, Harvard was held to 1-of-11 shooting in the period.

After digging themselves into a 40-23 hole going into the final quarter, the Cardinals couldn't recover as the Mustangs outscored Harvard 9-4 in the fourth quarter to win the game.

Please see SL/page C2

Royals Caravan coming to Hastings

FORMER HUSKER
ALEX GORDON AMONG
THOSE MAKING STOP

HASTINGS TRIBUNE

sports@hastingstribune.com

Former Nebraska baseball player Alex Gordon will be among those stopping in Hastings on Monday as part of the Kansas City Royals Caravan.

The caravan will be stopping in Hastings from 4-5 p.m. Monday for a meet-and-greet at Video Kingdom, 3609 Cimarron Plaza Suite 205.

Joining Gordon will be pitcher Ryan Braun and first baseman Ryan Shealy as well as Royals Hall of Fame second baseman Frank White. Broadcaster Ryan Lefebvre and Sluggerr, the Royals' mascot, also will be in attendance.

In addition to Hastings, the trip will be stopping in Beatrice and Kearney on Monday, with stops in Grand Island, York and Lincoln on Tuesday and stops in Omaha and Nebraska City on Wednesday. In all, the annual event is making stops in more than 30 Midwestern cities.

Gordon, a graduate of Lincoln Southeast High School, was named the minor league player of the year by Baseball America and Topps following his season with Class AA Wichita last year in which he hit .325 with 39 doubles, 29 home runs and 101 RBIs.

Gordon also was named the Baseball America college player of the year in 2005, making him the first player ever to earn the publication's college and minor league honor in back-to-back seasons. Gordon was taken as the second overall pick in the 2005 draft.

Creighton gets big road win over N. Iowa

The Associated Press

CEDAR FALLS, Iowa — Nate Funk scored 24 points and Anthony Tolliver added 17 as Creighton beat Northern Iowa 62-54 Friday.

Creighton (11-5, 5-1 Missouri Valley) led the entire game, opening a 16-point lead midway through the first half and holding the Panthers to two baskets in the game's first 9 1/2 minutes.

Northern Iowa (13-4, 4-2) trailed 28-15 at halftime and started the second half on a 10-2 run. Grant Stout, who scored 10 points, hit a jumper with 16:52 left to pull Northern Iowa within 30-25. Adam Viet's 3-pointer with 11:42 left cut Creighton's lead to 39-27.

Creighton recovered with a 10-4 run, capped by Dane Watts' layup with 4:25 left, that extended its lead to eight points.

Northern Iowa came within four points with 20 seconds left before Funk sealed the win with four free throws.

Eric Coleman and Brooks McKown led the Panthers with 13 points each.

Basketball				
NBA Standings				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	17	20	.459	—
New Jersey	16	19	.457	—
New York	16	22	.421	1½
Boston	12	22	.343	4
Philadelphia	10	26	.278	6½
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	24	11	.686	—
Washington	20	15	.571	1½
Miami	16	19	.457	5½
Atlanta	11	23	.324	10
Charlotte	11	23	.324	10
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	22	13	.629	—
Detroit	20	14	.588	1½
Chicago	20	17	.541	3
Indiana	20	17	.541	3
Milwaukee	19	20	.484	6½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	30	8	.789	—
San Antonio	26	11	.703	3½
Houston	23	13	.639	6
New Orleans	14	22	.389	15
Memphis	9	28	.243	20½
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	24	11	.686	—
Minnesota	18	16	.529	5½
Denver	17	16	.515	6
Portland	12	23	.395	10½
Seattle	13	25	.342	12½
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	27	8	.771	—
L.A. Lakers	23	13	.639	4½
Golden State	18	20	.474	10½
L.A. Clippers	17	19	.472	10½
Sacramento	14	19	.424	12
Friday's Games				
Dallas 115, Indiana 113, OT Philadelphia 110, Milwaukee 97 Atlanta 99, Detroit 93 Toronto 95, Boston 86 Charlotte 126, New York 110 Minnesota 116, Memphis 110 New Orleans 104, Washington 97 Portland 95, Sacramento 87 Miami 118, Golden State 96 Utah at Seattle, late Houston at Denver, late Orlando at L.A. Lakers, late				
Saturday's Games				
Philadelphia at Charlotte, 6 p.m. Boston at Detroit, 6:30 p.m. Washington at San Antonio, 7 p.m. New Jersey at Minnesota, 7 p.m. Memphis at Chicago, 7:30 p.m. New Orleans at Milwaukee, 7:30 p.m. Miami at Utah, 8 p.m. Orlando at Phoenix, 8 p.m. Houston at Sacramento, 9 p.m. Cleveland at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.				
Prep Boys Results				
Adams Central 82, Fillmore Central 41 Alliance 44, Chadron 49 Arapahoe 50, Elwood 40 Archbishop Bergan 84, North Bend Central 56 Ashland-Greenwood 48, Raymond Central 32 Bancroft-Rossale 64, Allen 54 Banner County 59, Crawford 28 Battle Creek 58, West Point Central Catholic 41 Bayard 67, Hemingford 45 Bennington 55, Fort Calhoun 53 Bertrand 76, Southwest 51 Blue Hill 73, Red Cloud 36 Boone Center 49, Madison 42 Boys Town 52, Auburn 63 Bridgeport 71, Kimball 67, 2OT Butte 61, Niobrara 40 Centennial 50, Columbus Lakeview 39 Central City 60, Aurora 49 Centura 61, Broken Bow 42 Chambers 54, Orchard 46, OT Cheyenne East, Wyo. 93, Scottsbluff 76 Clay Center 54, Shickley 38 Cody Kligore 74, Hyams 20 Coleridge 68, Wausa 33 Columbus Scottus 50, Lincoln Christian 44 Concordia 48, Nebraska Lutheran 35 Concordia Bluffs St. Albert, 100, Bishop Neumann 49 Crofton 53, Neigh-Oakdale 36 David City 64, Cross County 47 Deshler 46, Heartland 43 Dodge 54, Clarkson 40 Dundy County 50, Medicine Valley 30 Elkhorn 52, Lincoln Plus X 33 Elmwood-Murdock 55, Cedar Bluffs 25 Eustis-Farnam 47, Alma 42 Ewing 41, Elgin 37 Franklin 90, Cambridge 47				

Fremont 59, Lincoln Southwest 55 Garden County 45, South Platte 27 Gibbon 42, Doniphan-Trumbull 31 Gothenberg 55, Chase County 42 Grand Island Central Catholic 54, Aquinas 27 Hartington 46, McCool Junction 41, OT Hartington 50, Osmond 48 Harvard 54, Silver Lake 45 Hastings 52, Southeast Valley 42 Hayes Center 70, Brady 44 High Plains Community 69, Giltner 29 Homer 53, Newcastle 48, OT Humphrey 61, Cleaverstar 59 Kearney 56, Lexington 46 Kenesaw 58, Axtel 53 Keya Paha County 54, Loup County 44 Laurel-Concord 50, Creighton 43 Leigh 62, Humphrey St. Francis 54 Leyton 67, Potter-Dix 50 Lincoln Lutheran 61, Wilber-Clatonia 55, OT Lincoln Northwest 69, Grand Island 60 Lincoln Southeast 88, Lincoln North Star 50 Loomis 85, Wilcox-Hildreth 43 Loup City 40, Wood River 36 Lynch 85, Verdigris 69 Manikato, Kan. 61, Lawrence-Nelson 42 Maxwell 44, Callaway 40 Maywood 65, Arthur County 54 McPherson County 64, Arnold 60 Mitchell 79, Morrill 43 Omaha Valley 82, Nebraska SE Consolidated 24 Norfolk 52, Lincoln High 43 Norris 44, Fairbury 32 North Platte 54, McCook 48 Oakland-Craig 73, Omaha Nation 47 Omaha Brownell-Talbot 44, Omaha Christian Academy 38 Omaha Grass Catholic 46, Hastings 44 Omaha Northwest 62, Omaha Creighton Prep 60 Omaha Roncalli 62, Elkhorn Mount Michael 42 Omaha Skutt 72, Plattevieuw 37 Pender 67, Lyons-Decatur Northeast 66 Pierce 58, Hartington Central Catholic 38 Plainview 68, Elkhorn Valley 49 Pleasanton 65, Armerst 50 Pope John 65, Stuart 50 Ravenna 82, Shelton 62 Rising City 57, Dorchester 54 Sandhills 63, Thedford 37 Sargent 37, Arley 33 Schuyler 54, Seward 43 Scotcher-Snyder 60, Logan View 35 Shelby 51, Friend 36 Sidney 90, Ogallala 55, OT Spencer-Naper 66, St. Mary's 27 St. Paul 61, Ord 31 Stanton 61, Tekamah-Herman 46 Stapleton 76, Mullen 64 Sutherland 70, Hershey 56 Sutton 56, Thayer Central 38 Ti County 45, Millard 42 Twin River 53, Osceola 29 Wakefield 44, Winside 39 Wallace 56, Paxton 20 Waueta-Palisade 49, Perkins County 36 West Holt 58, Randolph 57 Wesner-Riger 52, Heywood 41 Wynot 53, Winnebago 40 York 54, Crete 53 Yutan 56, Malcolm 41	Giltner 53, High Plains Community 32 Grand Island Central Catholic 46, Aquinas 38 Greely-Wolbach 59, Cedar Rapids 26 Hartington 49, Osmond 23 Hartington Cedar Catholic 56, Pierce 27 Hastings 52, McCook 43 Hastings St. Cecilia 68, Southern Valley 41 Hayes Center 63, Brady 26 Heartland 43, Deshler 38 Homer 55, Newcastle 52 Howells 47, Wisne-Pilger 39 Keya Paha County 39, Loup County 35 Laurel-Concord 53, Creighton 51, OT Lexington 43, Kearney 30 Leyton 46, Potter-Dix 42 Lincoln Christian 39, Columbus Scottus 34 Lincoln Lutheran 57, Wilber-Clatonia 32 Lincoln Northwest 67, Lincoln North Star 47 Lincoln Southeast 50, Fremont 30 Loomis 47, Wilcox-Hildreth 44 Lynch 56, Verdigris 45 Lyons-Decatur Northeast 58, Pender 46 Maywood 47, Arthur County 20 McCool Junction 58, Hampton 27 McPherson County 74, Arnold 50 Millard 51, Ti County 40 Mitchell 43, Morrill 38 Nemaha Valley 82, Nebraska SE Consolidated 21 Norfolk 49, Lincoln High 43 Norfolk Catholic 70, Wayne 44 Oakdale-Craig 44, Omaha Nation 34 Ogallala 57, Sidney 43 Omaha Marian 86, Omaha Northwest 35 Omaha Skutt 76, Plattevieuw 45 Overtown 51, North Platte St. Patrick's 43 Paxton 33, Wallace 31 Perkins County 64, Waueta-Palisade 58 Pleasanton 58, Amherst 36 Ponca 66, Emerson-Hubbard 47 Pope John 58, Stuart 50 Randolph 56, West Holt 49 Ravenna 56, Shelton 39 Rock County 33, Answorth 23 Shelby 32, Friend 17 Shickley 60, Clay Center 17 Silver Lake 45, Harvard 32 South Sioux City 81, Ralston 36 Southwest 69, Bertrand 40 St. Mary's 53, Spencer-Naper 44 St. Paul 56, Ord 31 Stapleton 63, Mullen 48 Omaha Marian 86, Omaha Northwest 35 Sutton 59, Thayer Central 27 Syracuse 48, Arlington 40 Theodore 56, Sandhills 42 Twin River 57, Osceola 39 Wood River 57, Loup City 36 Wynot 65, Winnebago 29 Yutan 53, Malcolm 43	Cross County Tournament Papillon-LaVista South 81, Omaha Bryan 19 East-West Shootout Bellevue West 57, Millard 45 Omaha Burke 63, Omaha South 53 MUDECAS Class A Tournament Consolation Semifinal Sterling 42, Humbolt/Table Rock-Stenauer 34 Tecumseh 49, Nebraska City Lourdes 42 This Place Exeter-Millingen 38, Southern 35 Championship Falls City Sacred Heart 42, Freeman 40 MUDECAS Class B Tournament Consolation Semifinal Meridian 45, Parkview Christian 25 Palmira 53, Lexington 37 Third Place Johnson-Brook 44, Dille-Odd 38 Championship Bruning-Davenport 33, Pawnee City 23 Savannah, Mo. Tournament Third Place Falls City 50, Cameron, Mo. 33 Suburban Tournament Bellevue East 51, Papillon-LaVista 44 TVC, S.D. Tournament Consolation Semifinals Bloomfield 55, Freeman Academy, S.D. 26
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Football				
NFL Playoff Schedule				
Divisional Playoffs				
Saturday, Jan. 13				
Indianapolis at Baltimore, 3:30 p.m. (CBS) Philadelphia at New Orleans, 7 p.m. (FOX)				
Sunday, Jan. 14				
Seattle at Chicago, noon (FOX) New England at San Diego, 3:30 p.m. (CBS)				
Conference Championships				
Sunday, Jan. 21				
AFC game, TBA (CBS) NFC game, TBA (FOX)				
Super Bowl				
Sunday, Feb. 4				
Miami				
AFC Champion vs. NFC Champion, 5 p.m. (CBS)				

Golf				
Sony Open Results				
Second Round				
Luke Donald	63	66	—	129
Paul Goydos	66	63	—	129
Chad Campbell	66	63	—	131
Charles Howell III	69	63	—	132
Will MacKenzie	65	68	—	133
Jim Furyk	65	68	—	133
Robert Allenby	67	66	—	133
Jerry Kelly	69	65	—	134
Steve Stricker	67	67	—	134
Heath Slocum	66	68	—	134
Paul Azinger	68	66	—	134
Ted Purdy	67	68	—	135
K.J. Choi	64	71	—	135
Rich Beem	69	66	—	135
Jason Dufner	67	68	—	136
Byeol Imada	68	70	—	136
David Brandshaw	67	69	—	136
Jesper Parnevik	66	70	—	136
Shane Bertsch	66	70	—	136
John Rollins	69	67	—	136
George McNeill	69	68	—	136
Andrew Buckle	70	66	—	136
Boo Weekley	69	67	—	136
John Daly	69	68	—	137
Red Pumping	71	66	—	137
Kenny Perry	71	66	—	137
Trevor Immelman	67	70	—	137
Troy Matteson	69	69	—	137
Craig Kanada	72	65	—	137
Johnson Wagner	70	67	—	137
Craig Lie	70	67	—	137
Bubba Watson	71	66	—	137
Brian Gay	68	69	—	137
Tad Fujikawa	71	66	—	137
Hockey				
NHL Standings				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
New Jersey	26	14	4	58
N.Y. Rangers	22	19	4	48
N.Y. Islanders	21	19	3	45
Pittsburgh	18	17	4	43
Philadelphia	11	29	4	26
Northeast Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
Buffalo	31	10	3	65
Montreal	25	14	5	55
Ottawa	25	19	2	52
Toronto	20	19	6	46
Boston	20	17	4	44
Southeast Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
Atlanta	24	14	8	56
Carolina	24	18	4	52
Tampa Bay	22	21	4	46
Washington	19	18	7	45
Florida	16	21	9	41
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Central Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
Nashville	30	11	3	63
Detroit	27	12	5	59
Chicago	17	21	5	39
Columbus	16	23	5	37
St. Louis	15	21	7	37
Northwest Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
Calgary	23	14	4	50
Vancouver	24	19	1	49
Minnesota	23	19	4	49
Edmonton	21	19	4	46
Colorado	21	19	3	45
Pacific Division				
	W	L	OT	Pts
Anaheim	30	9	7	60
San Jose	29	15	0	58
Dallas	26	18	1	53
Phoenix	20	21	2	42
Los Angeles	16	23	6	38
Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.				
Friday's Games				
New Jersey 2, Atlanta 1 Nashville 2, Columbus 0 Minnesota 4, Edmonton 2				
Saturday's Games				
Montreal at Ottawa, 1 p.m. Los Angeles at St. Louis, 1 p.m. Boston at N.Y. Rangers, 1 p.m. Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 1 p.m. Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 6 p.m. Chicago at Detroit, 6 p.m. Atlanta at Carolina, 6 p.m. Vancouver at Toronto, 6 p.m. Nashville at Columbus, 6 p.m. New Jersey at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m. Washington at Florida, 8:30 p.m. San Jose at Phoenix, 8 p.m. Colorado at Anaheim, 9 p.m. Edmonton at Calgary, 9 p.m.				

Transactions				
Baseball				
American League				
BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Traded RHP Rodrigo Lopez to Colorado for RHP Jim Miller and RHP Jason Burch. Agreed to terms with RHP Todd Williams on a one-year contract. BOSTON RED SOX—Agreed to terms with RHP Kyle Snyder on a one-year contract. KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Agreed to terms with INF Alex S. Gonzalez on a minor league contract. NEW YORK YANKEES—Agreed to terms with RHP Jeff Nelson on a minor league contract and announced his retirement. TEXAS RANGERS—Acquired C Chris Stewart from the Chicago White Sox for RHP Johnny Lujan. Designated INF Drew Meyer for assignment.				
National League				
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Agreed to terms with RHP Juan Cruz and RHP Jorge Julio on one-year contracts. CHICAGO CUBS—Agreed to terms with INF Tomas Perez on a minor league contract. HOUSTON ASTROS—Agreed to terms with OF Richard Hidalgo on a minor league contract. NEW YORK METS—Agreed to terms with OF Oliver Perez on a one-year contract. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Agreed to terms with LHP Randy Flores on a two-year contract. SAN DIEGO PADRES—Agreed to terms with SS Khalil Greene on a one-year contract. WASHINGTON NATIONALS—Agreed to terms with RHP Jerome Williams on a one-year contract and LHP Brandon Claussen on a minor league contract. Named Lee Kuntz athletic trainer.				
Basketball				
NBA—Suspended Minnesota F-C Eddie Griffin for five games, without pay, for violating the terms of the NBA's anti-doping program, and Rodney Mcnt, NBA official, three games, without pay, for making an obscene gesture toward a fan and also using inappropriate language. Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) LWN—Announced the retirement of G Tynesha Lewis.				
Football				
CLEVELAND BROWNS—Signed OL Kelly Butler to a two-year contract extension. KANSAS CITY CHIEFS—Agreed to terms with TE Tony Gonzalez on a five-year contract extension. PITTSBURGH STEELERS—Signed WR Rashied Marshall, DB Grant Mason and DB Harrison Smith to reserve/future contracts. WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Signed OL Kil Lefotu, WR Steven Harris, WR Ryan Hoag, LB Anthony Trucks, DT Lorenzo Alexander, DT Vaka Manuana, OL Calvin Armstrong, DE James Greer, QB Casey Bramlett, WR Cedric Bonner, DT Jared Clauss, DB Jerrell Poppers, DB Chip Cox, TE Eric Edwards, OL William Whittaker and DE Chris Wilson.				
Hockey				
ANAHEIM DUCKS—Recalled LW Curtis Glenness from Portland of the AHL. ATLANTA THRASHERS—Activated F Scott Melanby from injured reserve. DALLAS STARS—Assigned RW Chris Conner to Iowa of the AHL. DETROIT RED WINGS—Assigned G Joey Macdonald to Portland of the AHL. MINNESOTA WILD—Recalled D Shawn Belle from Houston of the AHL. NEW YORK RANGERS—Claimed C Jason Krog off waivers from Atlanta. OTTAWA SENATORS—Assigned C Josh Hennessy to Birmingham of the AHL. PHOENIX COYOTES—Assigned C Joel Perrault to San Antonio of the AHL. ST. LOUIS BLUES—Assigned D Matt Walker to Peoria of the AHL. SAN JOSE SHARKS—Recalled D Matt Carle from Worcester of the AHL. WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Re-signed G Brent Johnson to a two-year contract extension.				
Lacrosse				
NATIONAL LACROSSE LEAGUE COLORADO MAINTHOUS—Signed T Scott Davidson to a one-year contract. Released F Gary Birning.				
Soccer				
Major League Soccer COLORADO RAPIDS—Acquired D Greg Vanney and a 2008 third-round draft pick from FC Dallas for 2007 and a 2008 second-round draft pick. COLUMBUS CREW—Acquired F Andy Herron from Chicago for F Ryan Coizer and a 2007 first-round draft pick.				
College				
PHILADELPHIA—Named Kerry Cahill assistant baseball coach and Steve Larson pitching coach. TENNESSEE TECH—Named Justin Shannon assistant football coach.				

Tribland

SATURDAY

USHL Hockey: Tri-City Storm at Columbus Junior Blue Jackets 1:05 p.m. College men's basketball: Hastings College at Northwestern College 4 p.m. College women's basketball: Hastings College at Northwestern College 2 p.m. Prep boys basketball: Adams Central at Doniphan-Trumbull 8 p.m. Prep girls basketball: Holdrege at Hastings High 7:45 p.m. Prep wrestling: Hastings High at Scott City Classic 8 a.m. Prep wrestling: St. Cecilia at Schuyler Invitational 9:

AC: Fourth quarter propels Patriots over Fillmore Central

Continued from page C1

Leading just 36-29 after three quarters, Adams Central quickly took control of the game in the fourth.

A deep three-pointer by Stine on the Patriots' first possession in the fourth turned the seven-point lead back to 10 and put momentum back on the Patriots' bench.

"They started coming back, they put the press on us and that three-pointer was huge because it gave us a 10-point lead again," Stine said. "The first half we had problems executing what we wanted to do and Coach talked about that at halftime. We came out in the fourth quarter and handled business."

Adams Central turned the ball over just three times in the final eight minutes, hit 9-of-14 shots from the field and converted on 7-of-9 free throws.

The Patriots were 13-of-23 from the field in the second half after hitting just 8-of-25 before intermission.

"I think the first half we were a lit-

tle frustrated," LaMaster said. "We were doing a lot of good things. But for every one thing we did good, we did two things not so good and we kept shooting ourselves in the foot.

"In the second half our defense really ratcheted things up. Especially in the fourth quarter, our press started to be more effective — we forced some turnovers and we converted on those."

Smidt played a big role in the Patriots' second-half offensive resurgence, hitting all six of his field-goal attempts in the second half.

The 6-foot-4 junior finished 10-of-13 from the field and also grabbed seven rebounds.

"Todd has been pretty solid for us this year," LaMaster said. "Tonight when we got the ball inside, he was patient, he didn't fade away, he didn't try to force things; he took good shots and knocked them down."

As efficient as the Adams Central offense was in the final 16 minutes, it was the Patriot defense that had

LaMaster most pleased.

Using a full-court trapping defense throughout the game, LaMaster used his deep bench to keep his team fresh for the final quarter.

LaMaster substituted liberally from the start as 12 different Adams Central players saw action throughout the game.

"We try to control the tempo with defense," LaMaster said. "We don't run all that well and we don't always run our half-court offense as well as I'd like, but we can always set a tone with our defense. I thought tonight was a good example of that."

Austin Reinsch led Fillmore Central with 18 points and senior forward Sean Hoarty added 12 points and a game-high eight rebounds for the Panthers.

Hoarty, the Panthers' biggest offensive threat, scored five of his 12 in the game's first three minutes and managed to get off just four more shots the rest of the way.

"We didn't run much offense. Their

pressure took us away from running our offense," Wragge said. "We'd come down and at times, we shot too quickly. When you have pressure like that, it's necessary to slow it down and be patient at times. We just didn't execute on offense."

Fillmore Central (41)

Luke Parde 0-2 1-2 1, Roby Taylor 1-6 0-2 2, Sean Hoarty 4-6 2-4 12, Austin Reinsch 8-15 2-2 18, Mike Baumann 0-5 0-0 0, Riley Bohlen 2-3 1-1 5, Dustin Hinrichs 0-3 3-4 3, Cody Chaney 0-1 0-0 0, Team 15-41 9-15 41.

Adams Central (62)

Tanner Hohlen 2-8 2-2 6, Andrew Bohlen 0-2 0-0 0, Kyle Stine 3-6 4-5 12, Todd Smidt 10-13 0-0 20, Justin Drudik 1-3 1-2 3, Nathan Arlt 1-1 8-10 10, John LaMaster 0-0 0-2 0, Kramer Lyons 2-3 2-2 7, Jordan Barrett 0-6 0-0 0, Zach Hunt 2-5 0-0 4, Shawn Hachtel 0-1 0-0 0, Team 21-48 17-23 62.

Adams Central (6-5) 9 16 11 26 — 62
Fillmore Central (5-5) 7 8 14 12 — 41
Three-point goals — AC 3-17 (Hohlen 0-3, Stine 2-5, Lyons 1-2, Barrett 0-4, Hunt 0-3), FC 2-12 (Hoarty 2-2, Taylor 0-3, Reinsch 0-1, Baumann 0-3, Hinrichs 0-3). Rebounds — AC 36 (Smidt 7, Barrett 7), FC 20 (Hoarty 8). Turnovers — AC 17, FC 23. Personal fouls — AC 18, FC 21. Fouled out — None. Technical fouls — AC (Hunt), FC (Reinsch).

GIRLS

The Adams Central girls basketball

team improved their season record to 4-7 with a 52-38 victory over Fillmore Central Friday night.

Leading just 15-12 after the first quarter, the Patriots outscored Fillmore Central 14-7 in the second to take a 29-19 lead into the half.

Adams Central put the game away in the third, stretching its lead to 19 after three quarters.

The Patriots had three players reach double figures, led by junior Jodi Nikkel with 12.

Sophomore Breanna Bohlen added 11 and Jade Hodson had 10 points for the Patriots.

Fillmore Central was led by sophomore Emily Pribyl's 15 as the Panthers fell to 5-7 on the year.

Adams Central (52)

Lindsey Colburn 7, Jami Fowler 5, Shaina Lay 5, Breanna Bohlen 11, Jenna Smidt 2, Jodi Nikkel 12, Jade Hodson 10.

Fillmore Central (38)

Connie Jones 4, Morgan Kleinschmidt 4, Katherine Roemmich 2, Emily Pribyl 15, Kali Reinsch 3, Chrystal Pribyl 4, Paige Chaney 2, Maribeth Capek 2.

Adams Central (4-7)15 14 14 9 — 52
Fillmore Central (3-8)12 7 5 14 — 38

St. Cecilia 68
Southern Valley 41

OXFORD — St. Cecilia defeated Class C-1 No. 9 Southern Valley 68-41 Friday night.

Alyssa Farmer led St. Cecilia with a game-high 29 points and Morgan Dubas had 14.

Alex Brosnihan added 13 points for St. Cecilia.

Melanie Murdock led Southern Valley with 10 points.
STC (10-2) 24 18 10 16 — 68
SV (7-3) 10 13 10 8 — 41

St. Cecilia (68)

Alyssa Farmer 29, Morgan Dubas 14, Alex Brosnihan 13, Riley Rundle 4, Kaleigh Chalupa 2, Anne Boyd 2, Nicole Osten 2, Danielle Nikkila 2.

Southern Valley (41)

Melanie Murdock 10, Trisha Siebels 8, Hennessy Hageland 8, Emily Witte 5, Alyssa Steele 4, Cassie Gustafson 2, Amy Bowers 2, Jessie Sadd.

Giltner 53
High Plains 32

GILTNER — The Giltner girls basketball team defeated High Plains Community 53-32 Friday.

Natalie Harmon led the Hornets with 20 points and Stasia Ott added 13 points and

eight rebounds.
High Plains (2-8) 11 4 6 11 — 32
Giltner (8-3) 18 7 16 12 — 53

Giltner (53)

Alex Hosier 2, Kassidi Burson 2, Chelsea Stallings 2, Natalie Harmon 20, Gretchen Kreutz 6, Jenny Lockmon 2, Jordan Ashby 2, Stasia Ott 13, Chelsie White 4.

High Plains (32)

Tara Tonniges 7, Brooke Engel, Haley Strobel 3, Alison Veburg 3, Hana Lundburg 2, Sarah Hammond 8, Denice Carlstrom 4.

Shickley 60
Clay Center 17

SHICKLEY — The Shickley girls basketball team defeated Clay Center 60-17 Friday.

Andrea Schweitzer led the Longhorns with 28 points and Kylee Schweitzer added 16.

Ashley Boman led Clay Center with seven points.
Clay Center (3-10) 3 2 6 6 — 17
Shickley (9-2) 18 7 18 17 — 60

Shickley (60)

Kylee Schweitzer 16, Andrea Schweitzer 28, Arielle Brinkman 9, Stephanie Swartzendruber 7.

Clay Center (17)

Jill Baxa 2, Stephanie Hoyt 3, Ashley Boman 7, Brendell Studnicka 5.

Heartland 43
Deshler 38

HENDERSON — The Deshler girls basketball fell to Heartland 43-38 Friday.

Ali Turan and Ashley Dahl

each scored 15 points to lead the Dragons.
Deshler (10-2) 2 11 10 15 — 38
Heartland (8-3) 9 10 10 14 — 43

Heartland (43)

Whitney Hiebner 10, Mackenzie Dick 8, Erica Lundstrom 4, Courtney Janzen 2, Angela Goertzen 2, Lauren Klute 6, Amber Block 11.

Deshler (38)

Alli Turan 15, Ashley Dahl 15, Hannah Schardt 8.

Lawrence-Nelson 48
Rock Hills 37

MANKATO, Kan. — The Lawrence-Nelson girls basketball team defeated Rock Hills 48-37 Friday.

Mackenzie McCartney led the Raiders with a double-double, scoring 14 points and grabbing 14 rebounds.

Abby Newell led the Grizzlies with 13 points.

L-N (8-4) 8 11 17 12 — 48
Rock Hills 4 3 16 14 — 37

Lawrence-Nelson (48)

Jaycee Jacobitz 9, Mackenzie McCartney 14, Julie Wehrman 4, Elizabeth Stempier 7, Deidre Schendt 3, Kayla Hoeltling 3, April Wilton 3, Rebecca Kathman 5.

Rock Hills (37)

Hillary Callaway 1, Amanda Fleming 1, Rachel Duffy 8, Abby Newell 13, Bret Colson 5, Brandi Jensen 8, Ashley Bauer 1.

Blue Hill 45
Red Cloud 21

BLUE HILL — The Blue Hill

girls basketball team defeated Red Cloud 45-21 Friday.

Raelene Buschow led the Bobcats with 13 points and Christina Hubl added eight. Rachel VanBoening had 10 rebounds.

Anna Eberly led Red Cloud with 11 points.
Red Cloud (7-4) 4 4 10 3 — 21
Blue Hill (10-2) 6 12 13 14 — 45

Blue Hill (45)

Aubrey Meyer 2, Christina Hubl 8, Elizabeth Lipker 6, Kelsey Bonifas 6, Page Kohmetscher 2, Megan Himmelberg 2, Raelene Buschow 13, Rachel VanBoening 6.

Red Cloud (21)

Hannah Bayler 1, Katy Moline 3, Anna Eberly 11, Holly Rasser 2, Katie Danehey 4.

Gibbon 56
Doniphan-Trumbull 38

DONIPHAN — The Doniphan-Trumbull girls basketball team fell to Gibbon 56-38 Friday.

Christy Kathman led the Cardinals with 13 points and Jordyn Mlinar added nine.

Gibbon (8-3) 18 8 11 19 — 56
D-T (11-1) 14 6 10 8 — 38

Gibbon (56)

Sadie Van Matre 7, Brittany Slater 11, Brittany Gilming 7, Chelsey Hartman 5, Olivia Dwiggingas 4, Nichole Cooper 10, Lauren Jader 7, Brandi Horacek 2, Becky Rahmann 3.

St. Cecilia 56
Southern Valley 42

OXFORD — St. Cecilia defeated Southern Valley 56-42 Friday.

Jake Hamburger scored 11 of his game-high 17 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Bluehawks.

Matt Sterup added 10, Justin Small recorded nine and Riley Nikkila had eight in the win.

St. Cecilia (12-0) 13 13 12 18 — 56
Southern Valley 8 8 13 13 — 42

St. Cecilia (56)

Aaron Esch 5, Riley Nikkila 8, Jake Hamburger 17, Blake Wright 5, Zane Anstine 2, Justin Small 9, Matt Sterup 10.

Southern Valley (42)

Jacob Becker 8, Matt Hoxmeier 15, Gaen Fults 3, Brock Enspahr 2, Taylor Lueking 2, Jared Maruhn 12.

Omaha Gross 46
Hastings High 44

OMAHA — The Hastings High boys basketball team fell to Omaha Gross 46-44 Friday.

Andrew Lyle led the Tigers with 16 points and Jordan Clancy added 12.

Hastings High 6 9 7 22 — 44
Omaha Gross 9 12 9 16 — 46

Omaha Gross (46)

Joe Carney 8, John Dostal 2, Tony Nelson 3, Nick Dinan 11, CJ Zimmerer 5, JP Baker 5, Jake Mueller 12.

Hastings High (44)

Andrew Lyle 16, Jordan Clancy 12, David Cooke 3, Brett Herbek 3, Mike Mankin 4, Chris Hollister 6.

Deshler 48
Heartland 43

HENDERSON — The Class

C-2 No. 6 Deshler boys basketball team defeated C-2 No. 5 Heartland 48-43 in a battle of unbeatens Friday night.

Going into the final quarter with a one-point lead, the Dragons outscored Heartland 13-9 in the final quarter to secure the win.

Dan Werner led Deshler with 16 points and Landon Freitag added 15. Cuyler Henry had 10 rebounds for the Dragons.

Deshler (11-0) 6 17 12 13 — 48
Heartland (9-1) 7 11 16 9 — 43

Deshler (48)

Jens Scholl 7, Landon Freitag 15, Brady Firley 5, Cuyler Henry 5, Dan Werner 16.

Heartland (43)

Eric Ehmen 11, Kellen Goertzen 7, Rory Vandergren 7, Ned Goertzen 13, Colten Chrisman 5.

High Plains 69
Giltner 29

GILTNER — Giltner lost to High Plains 69-29 Friday.

Nathan Most and Brock Hinrichs led the Hornets with six points each.

High Plains 22 12 20 15 — 69
Giltner 7 6 3 13 — 29

High Plains (69)

Derek Rodine 4, Justin Blase 6, Trevor Labarge 2, Robert Klingsporn 2, Nick Gustafson 2, Isaac Samuelson 10, Logan Glasser 9, Todd Schuly 5, Marcus Bender 19, Joe Dittloff 6, Cody Means 2, Joe Fowler 2.

Giltner (29)

Ben Harmon 5, Justin Happold 5, Nathan Most 6, Brock Hinrichs 6, Jacob Harmon 1, Shay Hinrichs 5, Dan Busch 1.

Blue Hill 73
Red Cloud 36

BLUE HILL — Zach Herz

scored 21 points to lead Blue Hill past Red Cloud 73-36 Friday.

Herz scored 15 points on 8-of-10 field goals and 5-of-6 free throws in the game.

Tyson Jordening added 18 points, including 11 in the first quarter.

Wes Olson led the Warriors with 13 points on 6-of-15 shooting. Aaron Wescotat added 12 points in the loss.

Red Cloud 14 3 10 9 — 36
Blue Hill 15 13 27 18 — 73

Blue Hill (73)

Jeff Hubl 5, Bryan Adams 6, Tyson Jordening 18, Travis Lowery 5, Zach Herz 21, Travis Toepfer 2, Trent Ockinga 4, Jacob Bachman 3, Travis Witte 1, Shawn Hastings 5, Corey Willcott 3.

Red Cloud (36)

Justin Goodell 2, Kasey Ord 3, Parker Gilbert 3, Jon Schrinier 1, Aaron Wescotat 12, JayDee Snell 2, Wes Olson 13.

Sutton 56
Thayer Central 38

HEBRON — Sutton defeated Thayer Central 56-38 Friday.

Jake Bergen led the Mustangs with 19 points. Brooks Wiebe added 16 and Micah Veleba had 10 in the win.

Trevor Wit and Drew Onnen led the Titans with seven points each.

Sutton 16 15 15 10 — 56
Thayer Central 10 6 8 14 — 38

Sutton (56)

Matt McElfresh 6, Justin Hultman 1, Micah Veleba 10, Brooks Wiebe 16, Jake Bergen 19, Justin Ochsenr 4.

Thayer Central (38)

Michael Elting 6, Trevor Wit 7, Chris Long

6, Michael O'Neill 4, Jordan Winn 4, Evan Meyer 2, Micah Mumm 2, Drew Onnen 7.

Harvard 54
Silver Lake 45

ROSELAND — Harvard defeated Silver Lake 54-45 Friday.

Anthony Mach led the Cardinals with 16 points. Pedro Gabriel added 15 and Paul Callahan had 11 in the win.

Josh Oles led the Mustangs with 15 points. Shaun Fisher scored all 11 of his points in the second half. Jordan Grabill also had 11 in the loss.

Harvard 13 16 8 17 — 54
Silver Lake 8 10 17 10 — 45

Harvard (54)

Anthony Mach 16, Richard Jarzynka 8, Pedro Gabriel 15, John Ray 4, Paul Callahan 11.

Silver Lake (45)

Josh Oles 15, Shaun Fisher 11, Sam Kosse 4, Derrick Shaw 4, Jordan Grabill 11.

Loomis 85
Wilcox-Hildreth 43

WILCOX — Wilcox-Hildreth fell to Loomis 85-43 Friday.

Mike Jelken, Jeff Brummer, Austin Gardels and John Harris led the Falcons with six points each.

Loomis 25 25 16 19 — 85
Wilcox-Hildreth 8 6 10 19 — 43

Loomis (85)

Sean Jauken 16, Chappell Adams 22, A.J. Lindstrom 2, Brian Szekely 3, Lance Shore 15, Charlie Saffer 8, Tim Miller 3, Ryan Sanger 9, Cory Martin 7.

Wilcox-Hildreth (43)

Mike Jelken 6, Matt Nelson 3, Tyler Guthrie 4, Jeff Brummer 6, Austin Gardels 6, Payden Artz 2, Nate Gardels 1, Rhett Young 2, John Harris 6, Macache Casper 4.

Tribland Wrestling Roundup

MINDEN INVITE

MINDEN — Franklin finished third with 115 points at the Minden invitational Friday.

Minden was 10th with 23 points. Central City won the team title with 162 points.

Franklin finished with two individual champions, three second-place finishes and one fourth-place finish.

Franklin's individual champions were Ethan Kahrs at the 130 pounds and Justin Weaver at 140 pounds. Teammates Simon James (112), Cody Dorn (135) and Russell Walton (160) finished second. Garrett Rubendall

(125) was fourth.

Minden's Dan Pesek (112) and Brandon Lewis (189) finished fourth.

Team Results

1, Central City 162; 2, Phillipsburg 142; 3, Franklin 115; 4, Cozad 106.5; 5, Grand Island Central Catholic 98.5; 6, Gothenburg 78; 7, Broken Bow 73; 8, Holdrege 69; 9, Centura 49; 10, Minden 23.

RED RAIDER INVITE

SUPERIOR — Red Cloud/Blue Hill finished first at the Red Raider invitational Friday, scoring to 162.5 points to beat Medicine Valley by one-half point. Sutton was third with 113 points. South Central was seventh with 58 points.

Bruning-Davenport/Deshler was 11th with 43 points. The Hastings High JV team was fifth with 65.5 points and the Adams Central JV team was tied for seventh with 58 points.

Individual champions for RC/BH included Brett Rupprecht (135), Chase Henderson (145), Nathan Petska (152) and Sam Krueger (160). Teammate Clinton Small (140) finished second. Taylor Premier (103) and Brock Hansen (112) finished third.

For Sutton, Evan Carlson (103) and Aaron Carlson (112) finished first. Kyle Johnson (119) and Casey Beahm (135)

were second while Michael Wahlegemuth (125) was third.

South Central's Nate Baker (130) was third.

John Lindblad (152) and Garratt Ross (171), both of Adams Central (152), were third.

Bruning-Davenport/Deshler's Brody Renz (160) and Brock Renz (171) were second.

Results from weight classes heavier than 171 pounds were not available.

Team Results

1, Red Cloud/Blue Hill 162.5; 2, Medicine Valley 162; 3, Sutton 113; 4, Aurora 73; 5, Hastings 65.5; 6, Southern 61; 7, South Central 58; 7, Adams Central 57; 9, Phillipsburg 57; 10, Republic County 51.5; 11, Bruning-Davenport/Deshler 43.

Nowitzki scores 43 in Mavericks' win

The Associated Press

Adopt a gargoyle to save Shakespeare's church

SUE LEEMAN
The Associated Press
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, England — Adopt a gargoyle. Sponsor a spire. It could help save the 800-year-old Holy Trinity Church, where William Shakespeare was baptized and where he lies buried with his wife, Anne Hathaway. Church officials hope fans of the Bard around the world will help raise \$6.3 million needed to repair a cracked spire, broken windows and eroding bricks — and address damage from years of dry rot and death watch beetle. “It’s absolutely desperate,” said Josephine Walker of the Friends of Shakespeare’s Church, which is in charge of fund raising. “It’s raining, and as we speak, rain is pouring in through

the clerestory windows.” It’s a common story in the parishes of England, where hundreds of medieval churches need frequent loving care. The Church of England estimates some \$680 million worth of repairs are under way or urgently needed, and few of the crumbling churches have connections to anyone as famous as Shakespeare. The Friends of Shakespeare’s Church already has an American fund raising arm — but church officials are concerned by the drop in Britain’s tourist numbers following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks as well as the July 7, 2005, suicide assault on London’s transit system and more recent terrorism alerts. Catherine Penn, one of the trustees of the Friends, said

urgent work had been done to repair the crumbling parapet, but donations from tourists have dropped for other repairs at the church, located in Stratford-upon-Avon, 120 miles northwest of London. She urged supporters to “sponsor a gargoyle” to help the fund. Shakespeare was baptized at Holy Trinity on April 26, 1564, and the church’s burial register lists him as “Gulielmus, filius Johannes Shakspeare,” (William, son of John Shakspeare.) After a career writing and staging his plays in London, Shakespeare retired to Stratford in 1611, and was buried in the chancel — an area near the altar — on April 25, 1616, two days after his death. Some 100,000 people visit

Holy Trinity every year to view his resting place, with its inscription, “Will Shakspeare, Gent.” The memorial was erected a few years after his death, and the plump-looking likeness on the gravestone is considered a good one. “People say he looks like a well-fed pork butcher,” said church warden Bill Hicks. Shakespeare’s prominent burial spot was not in honor of his supreme literary skill, but because in 1605 he bought privileges in the church which, among other things, obliged him to keep the chancel in good repair. But within a few years of his death, the structure was in danger of becoming one of the “bare ruined choirs where late the sweet birds sang” mentioned in Shakespeare’s Sonnet 73.

Church officials say repairs now are needed to the spire, the chancel, the north and south aisles, and the north and south transepts. On the north transept, the orange stone buttresses are badly weathered and stained-glass windows are decaying. Stone on the south transept — which is missing a cross — is similarly weathered and shows signs of damp. “It’s a wonderful place with a wonderful heritage,” said the Rev. Martin Gorick, the church vicar. “For 800 years this has been a meeting place and we want to keep it that way.” And just in case anyone might think of moving his remains, Shakespeare’s gravestone offers a curse, written by the Bard himself.

‘Who lets so fair a house fall to decay’
—Sonnet XIII

The 800-year-old Holy Trinity Church, where William Shakespeare is buried, needs repair and officials are asking for \$6.3 million to save the building.



BRITAIN
Stratford-upon-Avon
London

Shakespeare's birthplace
Stratford-upon-Avon
Shakespeare's burial place
Holy Trinity Church

SOURCES: “Sonnet XIII” by William Shakespeare; ESRI; Google Earth

You have two lines, if you see them

The Senior Life Master was ready to start his next lesson. With snowflakes blowing in a strong, biting wind, outdoor activities had lost their appeal, so the room was packed. “When you are declaring,” began the SLM, “obviously you want to take the best line of play. But try to have a backup plan available in case the distribution suddenly turns nasty.” Look at the North-South hands in my first diagram (continued the SLM). How would you play in three no-trump after West leads the heart queen?



Phillip Alder

The original declarer (resumed the SLM after a pause) could see eight top tricks: four ace-king combinations. The ninth winner would have to come from spades or clubs. And South knew that 3-2 clubs was almost twice as likely as 3-3 spades — 67.8 percent vs. 35.53 percent. Also, remembering that if one must lose a trick to establish a suit in no-trump, it is usually best to lose it quickly, declarer won the first trick and played a low club from both hands. West won and persevered with the heart nine. South ducked, won the next heart, and cashed his club king. East’s diamond-queen discard was a painful blow. The contract could no longer be made. If the spade ace were in the South hand, this play would have been sensible. Here, though, declarer should have taken his club king and played a club to dummy’s ace. If the missing clubs split 3-2, South would play a third club and take at least 10 tricks. But when East pitches, South turns to spades, ducking a round there. And when they do divide 3-3, the contract is revived.

North
♠ A 7 4 3
♥ 8 5
♦ 6 2
♣ A 6 5 3 2

West
♠ Q 10 8
♥ Q J 10 9 7
♦ 3
♣ Q J 10 9

East
♠ J 9 6
♥ 6 4 2
♦ Q J 10 9 8 5
♣ 8

South
♠ K 5 2
♥ A K 3
♦ A K 7 4
♣ K 7 4

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

	South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	3 ♣	Pass	
3 ♦	Pass	3 NT	All pass	

Opening lead: ♥ Q

Phillip Alder is a columnist for Newspaper Enterprise Association.



PAUL SAKUMA/AP

American Idol judges Paula Abdul (left) and Randy Jackson ponder a question at a news conference during taping auditions of the show in San Francisco in this Sept. 28, 2005, file photo.

‘American Idol’ music cred still growing

NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
The Associated Press
NEW YORK — When “American Idol” made its debut five years ago, it was decried by some as another vapid reality show attempting to create another vapid pop star — and at first glance, the critics seemed to be right. There were geeky contestants warbling cheesy ballads, dramatic divas over-singing their way through a song, and it’s panel for judging talent included Paula Abdul. Enough said. “Season One, you couldn’t take the show seriously,” says Jessica Shaw, an Entertainment Weekly senior writer who wrote this month’s cover story on the show. “Someone like (runner-up) Justin Guarini, you knew this was never going to be someone who was destined for music superstardom.” But as America’s most popular prepares to kick off its sixth season Tuesday, it’s getting harder and harder for music snobs to deny its cultural import. “American Idol” has consistently churned out multi-platinum stars, Grammy-nominated artists and engaging

celebrities (and, just maybe, an Oscar nominee in “Dreamgirls” star and “Idol” alum Jennifer Hudson). “There were a lot of naysayers,” says Randy Jackson, who along with Abdul and Simon Cowell are the judging trifecta of “Idol.” “(But) it validates itself every season because somebody great comes out of it every season and does really well.” “At a certain point, whether it’s respectable or not it just becomes undeniable,” says music journalist Alan Light, who has written for publications including The New York Times. “For a few years, there was a sense of novelty, but after a while, there’s more of a sense of institution.” Last year certainly seemed to put the exclamation point on

how venerable “Idol” has become — not only as a television phenomenon, but a music industry beacon. Its fifth season was its most popular, as established stars like Shakira and Rod Stewart vied for the attention of “Idol” fans with guest appearances and saw their album sales boom; even highly respected stars like Mary J. Blige and Prince made an appearance on the show’s finale. And while that season’s contestants were battling to become the next “Idol,” the show’s veterans were showing why the title was so coveted. Kelly Clarkson won two Grammy awards for her breakthrough, multi-platinum second disc, “Breakaway,” while

Grammy-nominated Carrie Underwood became one of country music’s biggest stars with her debut album, which has sold more than four million copies; she even beat out established veterans for awards (much to Faith Hill’s apparent televised dismay). Fantasia, another multi-platinum former winner, had her own TV biopic and released another critically acclaimed disc in the fall. Season five “Idol” finalist Chris Daughtry put together the band Daughtry and released a smash album, and Kellie Pickler had success with her country debut. And Hudson, a season three contestant, is now nominated for a slew of awards — including

a Golden Globe for best supporting actress — for her dazzling turn in the film “Dreamgirls.” “The show has proven it has a valid way to pick talent and a proven way to sell records,” says Harvey Mason of the production team The Underdogs, who have worked with Clarkson, Guarini, Fantasia, Ruben Studdard and other “Idols” alumni. “There are still some people who feel it’s not the exact road to a long career, but some people have already realized that this is a very important way to market artists and I think the artists who have come off the show have proven that they are long-standing artists.”

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Conceptis Sudoku

by Dave Green

			9	5		3		
	5						8	
9				2				
				6				7
3		4				5		2
1				3				
				9				6
		3		7	1			

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★
Sudoku

1/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9-by-9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 box contains the same number only once. There is only one solution to each puzzle. The difficulty level of the puzzle increases from Monday to Saturday. Answers to each day's puzzle will appear in the next edition of the Tribune.

FRIDAY'S ANSWERS

7	4	1	5	8	9	6	2	3
6	3	8	7	1	2	4	5	9
2	5	9	3	6	4	7	8	1
9	2	6	1	7	3	5	4	8
5	7	3	4	9	8	2	1	6
1	8	4	2	5	6	9	3	7
3	6	7	8	4	5	1	9	2
4	9	2	6	3	1	8	7	5
8	1	5	9	2	7	3	6	4

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

1/13

Paramount president steps down

The Associated Press
LOS ANGELES — Paramount Pictures Corp. President Gail Berman has stepped down, effective immediately, the film studio said Wednesday.
Berman's departure comes 18 months since she joined Paramount with a mandate to turn the ailing studio around.
Paramount did not specify why Berman was stepping down, nor who would take over her duties in the near term.

In a statement, Brad Grey, Paramount's chairman and CEO, said a "reorganization of the studio's production structure" would be announced shortly. The statement did not elaborate on what changes might be made.
"Gail's dedication in the last 18 months has been invaluable during this important and historic time at Paramount," Grey said. "We respect and appreciate her contributions in reshaping the direction of Paramount Pictures."

The New York Times Crossword Puzzle

ANSWERS NEXT SATURDAY

SPELLCHECK BY ASHISH VENGSAKAR/ EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

- 1 Cross, maybe
6 Met expectations?
11 Refuge
20 Nitrogen compound
21 TV exec
22 Last czarina of Russia
23 "Absolutely, ambassador"
25 Colonies, e.g.
26 Frigid
27 Southern group address
28 Alliance dissolved in 1977
29 "Wonderful!"
30 Pulitzer Prize subj.
32 Continental capital
34 Starter: Abbr.
36 Island with a Hindu majority
39 Like some unpopular leaders
45 Computer pioneer Lovelace and others
48 The Huskies of the N.C.A.A.
50 Fraternity letters
51 Captivate
52 Antivenins, e.g.
53 Award-winning TV host
56 Charles Lindbergh, once
58 Buzzer
59 Blue-pencil
60 Advance
62 Academy head
63 Follower of mars
64 Modern greeting
66 Narrow the gap with
67 Marine mammal
70 Advantageousness
71 Fair fare
72 Friends
73 Went downhill
74 "___ ramparts!"
75 St.-Tropéz's Place des ___
76 Bingo call
77 Cuneiform discovery site
79 Cartesian conclusion
82 "It's dark in here!"
84 x
86 Ad time
87 Main international airport of Japan
91 Width measure
92 Holy text
93 Reason d'___
94 1 + 1 = 2, e.g.
97 Great American Ball Park team
98 Death on the Nile cause, perhaps
100 "Brave New World" drug
101 Usher in
103 ___-Boy
105 Keep an ___ the ground
109 Some Wall St. deals
112 Daughter of Zeus
116 Claim
118 Weighty issue?
120 Scoots over
121 Prudential competitor
122 Female demon
123 Nickname for Tasmania
124 Waste
125 City on the Rhone
DOWN
1 "Apocalypso" subject
2 Like some pros.
3 Wink in tiddly-winks, e.g.
4 "Take your pick"
5 Sainted pope of 682
6 Airport sign abbr.
7 Classic theater name
8 Seat of Allen

- County, Kan.
9 Shaker leader
10 Shut off
11 Dirge
12 Natural balm
13 Relief provider, for short
14 Out
15 Capital once known as Thang Long ("Ascending Dragon")
16 Cuckoo bird
17 Streaming content
18 Composer Dohnányi
19 Ambassador or Statesman of old autodom
24 Campus 100 miles NW of L.A.
31 Hip
33 Oysters ___ season
35 Molotov cocktail component
36 Onion, for one
37 Teen trouble
38 Treasure-trove
40 Not built up
41 Tiny time unit: Abbr.
42 Capacitance measure
43 Richard of old westerns and action films
44 Pentagon fig.
46 Playground retort
47 It's a wrap
49 Most gutsy
54 ___ Circus (where St. Peter was crucified)
55 Enter
57 Fictional knight named for a bird of prey
60 Carriage
61 Fabulous monster
63 Property recipients, say
95 Talk on and on, Down Under
96 Get wind of
99 Intrinsically
102 Ringlike formation
103 Priest of the East

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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- 69 Rare ex-prisoner
70 Classic Jaguar
71 Some horns
73 Brooking no dissent
74 Lead-in to bow or hike
76 Show pride, in a way
78 Memory: Prefix
79 About
80 Just barely
81 Much of Colo.
83 "Mad TV" rival, for short
85 Marin and Sonoma's region
88 "I'll get this"
89 Chinese "way"
90 Two bags of groceries, say
95 Talk on and on, Down Under
96 Get wind of
99 Intrinsically
102 Ringlike formation
103 Priest of the East
104 "Pronto"
106 Longfellow's bell town
107 Paraguay and others
108 Cleaver or lever
110 Numerical prefix
111 RR stops
113 Sailor's saint
114 Ruhr refusal
115 Latin 101 verb
117 Reef dweller
119 Not abroad

ANSWERS TO LAST SATURDAY'S PUZZLE

R	C	A	I	D	A	R	E	U	N	D	A	C	T	F	O	R									
L	E	A	N	B	A	R	B	E	R	L	I	E	E	O	S	I	N	E							
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Arkin discusses art of character acting, 'Little Miss Sunshine'



SETH WENIG/AP

Actor Alan Arkin poses in New York Dec. 20, 2006. Arkin has been nominated for an Independent Spirit Award as best supporting actor for his role as Grandpa in the indie film "Little Miss Sunshine."

JAKE COYLE
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Alan Arkin's role as Grandpa in the indie smash "Little Miss Sunshine" may be a supporting role, but there was nothing minimal about his approach to the character.
Arkin fleshed out a considerable back-story for Grandpa, envisioning him as a second-rate saxophone player who deserted his family by performing in strip joints where he picked up a drug habit and a fondness for the ladies — until the life caught up with him.
"It's not enough for me to just be a personality and go up there and say lines nicely," he says in his unmistakable voice that by its very tone suggests a total impatience for pretense. "I want to tell a story with a character."
There are hardly any references to Grandpa's history in "Little Miss Sunshine," but that attention to detail is nothing new for Arkin, who long ago honed the art of the character actor. For over

four decades, the 72-year-old actor has been richly populating the peripheries of films.
After joining Chicago improv comedy troupe Second City in its infancy, Arkin burst into film with an Oscar nomination in his first performance: 1966's "The Russians are Coming, the Russians are Coming."
Since, he has appeared in films as varied as "The In-Laws," "Catch-22," "The Lonely Hunter," "Wait Until Dark," "Glengarry Glen Ross" and "Edward Scissorhands." Lately, his career has flourished with independent fare like 1998's underrated "Slums of Beverly Hills," 2001's "Thirteen Conversations About One Thing" and the Steven Soderbergh-directed section of 2004's "Eros."
"Little Miss Sunshine" slowly became one of the most beloved films of 2006, and now finds itself a dark horse contender for the Oscars. It was recently released on DVD.

The part of Grandpa — which Arkin was flattered to have originally been turned down for because the studio said he was too "virile" — has lead to some Oscar buzz for the actor, who has twice been nominated. In a recent interview with The Associated Press, Arkin said indifferently: "Whatever happens, happens."
AP: You were born in New York. It's hard to imagine your voice coming from anywhere but Brooklyn.
ARKIN: Hey! (in a Brooklyn accent) We moved to L.A. when I was about 11, but it never rubbed off. I never felt comfortable there. I understand it (in New York) more. There's anger in both places, but it feels much more lethal in L.A. than it does here.
AP: What do you like about living in Santa Fe, N.M.?
ARKIN: It's a small town. I go to restaurants there and I know everybody in the restaurant. I know all the artists who are waiting on us.

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Business Review

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Before

After

If you want to change the kitchen layout, or if your cabinets are of poor construction, Kitchen Tune-Up offers new custom kitchen cabinets. We bring our showroom directly to your home. Based upon the home visit the kitchen designers design a “dream kitchen” at no charge to the customer. Since we are a national franchise system of over 300 franchises, our buying power is substantial and you will be surprised at how affordable our custom cabinets are.

Kitchen Tune-Up also offers a full line of kitchen organizing accessories, drawer liners, lazy susans, cabinet hardware, pullout trays, appliance garages and countertops. We are America’s #1 home improvement franchise.

Call Kitchen Tune-Up for a free no obligation estimate and consultation, 308-384-4992 or 800-832-1992. Kitchen-Up is owned by Bill and Doris Klinginsmith and have been in business for ten years and a member of Better Business Bureau.

Dealing with Difficult People and their “Real Colors” National Curriculum & Training Institute, ® Inc.

This one day workshop is designed to help you know and understand your temperament, as well as those in the people around you. Participants will complete an assessment designed to identify ones’ “Color” and give them the opportunity to help toehrs understand twhat its like to live and function as any one of four colors. Participants will also experience what its like to be another color, and become more flesible in understanding otehrrs temperaments.

Course Objectives:

Devine the four tempereaments by studying the “Real Colors” philosophy; Complete a temperament assessment, and identify ones own temperament; List the most common characteristics of ones own color; Discuss the similarities and differences among the four colors; Participate in activities designed to enhance one’s

knowledge of their own color as well as those of the people around them; Discuss ways of working with people of different temperaments in various situations; Develop an action plan to use when working with difficult people; Central

Community College; Grand Island Campus; Room 901; CIT Building; Thursday, February 15; 8:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; \$89.00 per seat.

Central Community College; Grand Island Campus; Room 901, CIT Building; Thursday, February 15; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; \$89.00 per seat.

Thursday, February 15; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; \$89.00 per seat.

To reserve your seat, for Real Colors, please contact: Sue Carlson; scarlson@cccneb.edu; (308) 398-7527 OR (877) 222-0780 ext. 7527.

Is There Help for your Back Pain

Just The Facts You Have Always Wanted To Know?

You’ve probably seen the newspaper ads that “hype” Spinal Decompression Therapy asking you to call some unknown doctor’s office in order to receive a free report in the mail. Dr. Widhelm does not believe anyone should have to do that.

His website at widhelm.com/dts/ will give you the complete facts about Spinal Decompression Therapy including several clinical trials that reported the treatment to be highly effective. This is what one patient said, “I had back surgery about two years ago and the same pain was starting to come back. I started being treated with spinal decompression and the pain is almost gone.” F.S. You can also review actual case studies.

In addition, their widhelm.com/dts/ website has answers to the following “Frequently asked questions” about Spinal Decompression Therapy:

How does the Triton Spinal Decompression Therapy System work? How is

Spinal Decompression Therapy different from regular traction? Who can benefit from this treatment? Who is NOT a candidate for Spinal Decompression Therapy? Are the treatments painless and how long does each session take?

At widhelm.com/dts/ he also detail the approximate treatment cost, which is \$1,900 for 20 sessions. He decided to give that information because his motto is “Quality Care with Integrity” and by being 100% candid , you will be better able to make an informed decision about your treatment options. Plus, their fee for Spinal Decompression Therapy is a small fraction of the \$5,000.00 amount that other doctors are charging.

At widhelm.com/dts/, you will also learn that his Triton DTS Spinal Decompression System is the most advanced unit in the world. No doctor or clinic, and he means no one, has newer, more modern, or a more technologically advanced spi-

To make it easy for you to learn if you are a candidate for Spinal Decompression Therapy, just bring this article on your first visit and you will receive a complete evaluation, including consultation, history, orthopedic, neurological testings, X-rays (if indicated), and report of findings, for only \$59.

For additional information, please call Widhelm Chiropractic Clinic at 402-463-6797 and ask to speak to the doctor. That’s right, he’ll talk to you personally in order to help you determine if this treatment is right for you. Located at 2727 West 2nd St., Hastings, NE.

nal decompression system.

If you are suffering with a herniated disc in your neck or low back, or know someone who is, then safe and effective Spinal Decompression Therapy utilizing the advanced FDA cleared Triton DTS system should definitely be considered.



Young men of the Islamic militia prepare to burn confiscated cannabis Nov. 23, 2006, in the Somali capital Mogadishu.

Child soldiers in hiding after recent fighting

**MOHAMED OLAD HASSAN
AND ELIZABETH A. KENNEDY**
The Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia — Adirisaq Khalid Ahmed was shining shoes in Mogadishu's labyrinthine marketplace when a soldier from the country's Islamic movement approached, asking him to join up. Ahmed, all of 16 years old, said yes. Two months later, the Islamic militia has been driven from power and an unknown number of young soldiers like Ahmed are hiding in and around the capital, some of them wounded and too frightened to leave their homes. Interviews with boys as young as 14 who said they fought in the recent weeks of violence in Somalia lend credence to accusations that children have been recruited for battle in this chaotic Horn of Africa nation. The government and the Islamic movement have denied recruiting child soldiers, but Christian Balslev-Olesen, UNICEF's Somalia representative, said Friday that witness accounts suggest otherwise. "I fought with the enemy and was shot," Ahmed told The Associated Press from his home, where his uncle is helping him recover from gunshot to his back and thigh. "But I am still ready to fight when I recover from my wounds." The teenager spoke on condition

that he not be photographed for fear of reprisals from the government, which with the help of Ethiopian troops drove the Islamist movement from the capital. He also fears Somalis who resent the strict interpretation of Islam that had been imposed by the Islamic movement, known as the Council of Islamic Courts. Balslev-Olesen said there was evidence of child soldiers being recruited by both sides in Somalia, "but we have to say the (Islamic courts) have been much more public in recruiting child soldiers." He added that it was impossible to estimate the number of young soldiers due to continuing volatility in Somalia. The U.N. estimates 300,000 child soldiers are involved in conflicts worldwide, and child soldiers have fought in many African wars. "If you have young people and children experiencing that kind of fighting and killing, that influences their mentality and thinking and mind set for the rest of their lives," Balslev-Olesen said. In a statement Friday, UNICEF and Save the Children demanded "that all children associated with armed forces or groups must be immediately released from their ranks, or from detention centers where they might currently be held." Somalia has not had a functioning

government since clan-based warlords toppled dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991 and then turned on each other, sinking the Horn of Africa nation of 7 million people into chaos. The Islamic courts seized control of the capital and much of the south six months ago, bringing a semblance of stability but terrifying residents with threats of public executions and floggings of criminals. Somali troops, backed by the Ethiopian military, routed the Islamic militia two weeks ago and allowed the U.N.-backed government to enter the capital for the first time since it was established in 2004. Most Islamic militiamen have dispersed, but a few hardcore members have fled toward the Kenyan border and the Indian Ocean. Leaders of Somalia's Islamic movement have vowed from their hideouts to launch an Iraq-style guerrilla war, and al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden's deputy has called on militants to carry out suicide attacks on Ethiopian troops. Awale Sheik Osman, 14, said he killed several "hostile" soldiers — he didn't know if they were Ethiopian or Somali government troops — in Idale, 35 miles southwest of the government base of Baidoa. Now back in Mogadishu and living with his mother, he's frightened to leave the house.

Some SMU faculty members don't want Bush's library on campus

ANGELA K. BROWN
The Associated Press
DALLAS — Negotiations to build George W. Bush's presidential library at Southern Methodist University have divided the campus, pitting the administration and some alumni against members of the liberal-leaning faculty who say the project would be an embarrassment to the school. Some professors have complained that the combined library, museum and think tank would celebrate a presidency that unnecessarily took the country into a war.

The fear is that the library "will continue to espouse the philosophy and practice of the Bush administration, which has seriously divided our nation and has brought the ire of other countries," said William McElvaney, a retired professor at SMU's theology school and co-author a November opinion piece in the campus newspaper titled "The George W. Bush Library: Asset or Albatross?" SMU emerged as the front-runner in the competition last month when the library site selection committee said it was entering further discussions

with the 11,000-student, private university in one of Dallas's wealthiest neighborhoods. The project will be financed with a private fund drive aimed at raising at least \$200 million. Bush connections to SMU run deep. First lady Laura Bush is a graduate and is on the board of trustees. Vice President Dick Cheney previously served on

the board. Presidential adviser Karen Hughes and former White House counsel Harriet Miers are both graduates. SMU officials said the project is unlikely to be derailed by the faculty opposition, and said the professors opposed to it are in the minority. Brad Cheves, vice president for external affairs and develop-

ment, said the library could help recruit students, attract visitors and increase giving. "It raises the profile of SMU no matter how people feel about President Bush," he said. White House spokeswoman Dana Perino declined to comment. As for the students, Luis

Arango, a 21-year-old junior and political science major, said on campus Friday: "This school has a very conservative vibe, and most of the students like Bush. The only people who don't seem to be the faculty. I know for a fact that some are real liberal and I don't think should be teaching here."

HOLIDAY SPECIALS

Free Polish (Selected Colors)
with Pedicure Purchase

Free Paraffin Hand Dip
with Manicure Purchase

Free Eye Brow Wax with
Facial Purchase

Do you miss that Summer Tan??
We have spray Tanning!!!
Safe alternative to Sun Beds

Full Body Spray \$17.95-Call for Details

*All Services provided by
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licensed instructors.*

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Colleges of Beauty

HOURS:
M-F 8:30 - 4:30

Expires: 1-31-07

Gift Certificates Available

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Your Entertainment Guide For Things To Do In Hastings

If you have any arts and entertainment events, including concerts, plays, shows, performances or other related events that are open to the public, please submit them to the Hastings Tribune by 5 p.m. February 2.

Submit events to the Tribune at ebuderus@hastingstribune.com; by fax, (402) 462-2184; or mail; Hastings Tribune, Spark Editor, PO Box 788, Hastings, NE 68902.

Calendar is free of charge.
Tribune reserves the right to edit.

Publishes Friday, February 23, 2007

Hastings
Tribune

MAKE A LIFELONG DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

BE A CASA VOLUNTEER.

Training to begin in February.
**CALL TO DISCUSS YOUR ROLE
IN BECOMING AN ADVOCATE
FOR CHILDREN**

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

First meeting: February 6, 6:00 p.m.
2727 W. 2nd, Suite 410, Hastings

**Volunteers needed in Adams & Clay Counties.
Call 463-1030 or go to www.nebraskacasa.org**

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3811 29th Ave., Kearney • 308-236-8500

Classified Ads

Open 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday
We reserve the right to reject, edit or reclassify any advertisement accepted by us for publication.

402-461-1241 800-742-6397
Fax: 402-461-4657

We accept cash, check or money order
VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER or AMERICAN EXPRESS.

Deadlines for Classified Line Ads

RUN DAY	DEADLINE	RUN DAY	DEADLINE
Monday	Noon Friday	Thursday	10 a.m. Wednesday
Tuesday	10 a.m. Monday	Friday	10 a.m. Thursday
Wednesday	10 a.m. Tuesday	Saturday	9 a.m. Friday

1 Card of Thanks

The family of Ralph Struss would like to express many thanks for all of the cards, calls, food, memorials, prayers and love. Thank you to Peace Lutheran pastors for a very special service and to Tet-suya Sugita for the music. Thank you to the Peace Shalom ladies and all who furnished food and helped serve such a wonderful lunch. God's Blessings.

Pat Struss and the Ralph Struss Family

5 Easy Ways to Place

A Classified Ad
•Call 402-461-1241 (voice mail after office hours)
•Stop in: 908 W. 2nd (parking in rear)
•Fax 402-461-4657
•Mail: P.O. Box 788

•E-mail:
class@hastingstribune.com
Call for confirmation
Our office is open
Monday-Friday,
7:45-5:00

8 Happy Ads

Happy 95th birthday on the 17th
ROBERT BABCOCK

Please send cards to :
P.O. Box 2149, Room 406A
Hastings, NE 68901

Love, Your children:
Dave and Donna, Roberta, Dorothy and Kenny, and Colleen; Your grandchildren: Gene and Kristy, Beth and Rob; Lee and Tara, Ken, Lori and Don, Julie and Blair; Your great-grandchildren: James, Jessica, Jake, Maggie, McKayla, Nicole and Chelsea.

ADVERTISE 16 words for 27 days in the At Your Service section of the Tribune and 4 weeks in the Encore! for only \$45 monthly. Call (402) 461-1241 for details.

8 Happy Ads

The family of **Dorothy Sanford**, formerly of Ayr, requests a card shower in honor of her 90th birthday, January 20.

Please send cards to:
Brentwood Estates, #344
1111 S. 70th
Lincoln, NE 68510

Surprise that special friend or relative today! Place your Tribune "Happy Ad". It's a low \$14.95. Bring in your picture and what you wish to say TODAY. Make someone you know SMILE. Call 402-461-1241.

Hastings Tribune Classified
908 West 2nd • 461-1241

8 Happy Ads

You made it to 60,
Dad

Please send cards to:
Dale Curtis
Despite us four children!!
Love,
Jim, Chonny,
Kent, Tara,
Brandon and Junae Curtis

SELLING YOUR Car, truck, boat or van? Ask about our Statewide and Worldwide advertising Network. Then call 461-1241 and talk to one of our sales people. We can help sell your item fast. Open 7:45 to 5:00 Monday through Friday.

Tribune Classified
908 West 2nd • 461-1241

13 Garage Sales Southwest

Giant Garage-Antique-Flea Market Sale
Saturday, March 3, 9-3
Adams County Fairgrounds
Table space is limited, so call today!
(\$19.50 reserves 2 tables; extra tables, \$9 each, four table limit.)
Deadline for table reservations is February 23, 2007.

Looking For A "New" Place To Live?

There are some prime rental possibilities in our rental classifications 100-113. Want to place your rental ad there? Call our Classified Department at 402-461-1241 or 1-800-742-6397.

20 Automobiles

KERSHNER'S AUTO KORNER
ALL AUTOS AVAILABLE
www.kershnersauto.com

'06 LaCrosse CX: pewter, 3800, 14,xxx miles. Nice! \$16,575. Cash.....\$14,975
'06 PT Cruiser: blue, like new, 7,xxx miles. Books at \$13,975. Cash.....\$11,275
'06 Mustang: V-6, blue, 22,xxx miles. Nice! Books \$20,750. Cash.....\$16,975
'06 Pontiac Torrent: maroon, 3,xxx miles, AWD. \$22,950. Cash.....\$17,975
220 West South Street
402-461-3161

NORTHSIDE AUTO
16th/St. Joe • 463-8008
www.northsideautoinc.net

1986 HONDA Civic DX 2-door hatchback, automatic, 2 sets of rims with tires. \$1,000 or best offer. 402-460-6851. Leave message

1999 DODGE Stratus: 74,000 miles on V-6. Fully loaded with sunroof. \$4,750. 462-6051.

20 Automobiles

1999 PLYMOUTH Voyager: Special.....\$2,995
1996 FORD Taurus: Local trade. Special.....\$1,995
Many more to choose from

Hoskins Auto Sales
We Buy, Sell and Consign Hwy. 6 and Hastings Ave. Hastings, NE 463-1466
Trumbull, NE 743-2255

2001 FORD F-550: Crew cab, 4x4, flatbed.....\$12,500
2003 DODGE: Crew cab, 3/4-ton, 4x4.....\$12,900
2002 FORD F-250: Crew cab, long box, 4x4, 73,000 miles.....\$9,500

Deveny Motors
1013 S. Burlington
402-462-2719

Bramble's Auto Sales
903 S. Burlington
462-4849

JERRY SPADY
www.spady.com
402-463-4000

20 Automobiles

KENESAW MOTOR CO.
"Honest Dealership" at "Honest Prices"

Hajny's AUTO SALES
1999 FORD: 1/2-ton, extended cab, quad door, 4x4, big V-8, full power, topper. Nice truck. **\$8,950.**
2001 CHEVY Cavalier: 2-door, automatic, sunroof, 78,000 miles. **\$4,150.**
463-2636

Juniata Motors
1997 GMC: 1/2-ton, extended cab, short box, 4x4. Runs super. **\$5,200.**
1995 FORD: Extended cab, short box, 4x4. **\$4,000.**
1992 FORD: Regular cab, long box. **\$1,850.**
402-751-2610, Juniata

Jackson's Car Corner
See our selection of FUEL ECONOMY cars at jacksonscarcorner.com

92 Health Care Supplies

LIFT RECLINER chair for shorter person, used 4 months. Excellent condition. Paid \$900. Will take \$500/best offer. 462-8797.

94 Miscellaneous

CHECK OUT our cornstoves! All major credit cards accepted. Stine's Pool and Spa, 463-4792.

KOZY HEAT free standing direct vent fireplace. Like new. 402-817-4279.

TWO CEMETERY plots for sale in Sunset Memorial Gardens in Hastings. Call 402-852-2271 or write to 418 11th Street, Apartment #106, Pawnee City, NE 68420.

96 Want To Buy

NEWER washers, dryers, stoves and refrigerators. Working or not. 462-6330.

WANTED: Used/Scrap car, truck and tractor batteries. Paying \$2/each; motorcycle and mower \$0/each. Bring to 852 S. 16th Street (S. Highway 14) in Aurora. Call for pick-up of 50+, 1-800-228-3439

100 Unfurnished Apartments

1- 2- and 3-BEDROOMS: \$375, \$400, \$525, 840 N. Kansas. Agent. 461-8848.

1-BEDROOM apartments: Air, laundry. No pets. Agent-owned. 902-9373.

1-BEDROOM: Appliances, parking. Lease. No smoking/pets. \$250. 463-2917.

2-BEDROOM: Nice. Appliances. References. No pets. Rent \$350, deposit \$300. 461-3161/463-2263.

AVAILABLE immediately: Must see. Newly remodeled 2-bedroom, split level. Near Hastings Waterpark. New appliances, washer/dryer hookups, off-street parking. \$450 rent, \$400 deposit. 402-519-0817.

BRENTWOOD MANOR

Furnished apartment on month-to-month basis. Also, luxury 2-bedroom, 2-bath, attached garage. No pets. Agent-owned. 463-0843.

CHATEAU IMPERIAL

Town Homes and Apartments
Call Jeff today for an appointment.
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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.

CENTRAL SERVICE AREA Opportunities

Office Supervisor
025-34121- Grand Island
Bilingual, Spanish/English Mandatory
\$1,990.29
Closing Date: 1/23/07

- * Supervise four support staff
- * Plan, organize and implement work assignments
- * Record or report accomplishments and/or provide superiors with information on workload and staffing
- * Assist in handling community inquiries from the public in person or phone
- * Supervisory experience or 4-5 years experience as a Case Aide required

The State of Nebraska offers an excellent benefit package including:

- Vacation and sick leave
- 12 paid holidays
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NICE, CLEAN, warm 2-bedroom basement apartment: Utilities paid except electricity. No smoking/pets. Call 463-5103.

UNIQUE DOWNTOWN apartment: No smoking/pets. 460-6922. Photos at cicadaproperties.com.

101 Furnished Apartments

LOWEST RATE IN TOWN \$149.95/week

Cable, telephone, maid, air, laundry, coffee, restaurant. Pets okay. Clean. No contract/credit/deposit.
RAINBOW MOTEL
1000 West J, Hastings
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102 Duplexes For Rent

2-BEDROOM: Appliances. No pets. References. 1114 W. 6th. \$425. 462-6566, 462-2919, 462-9337.

3-BEDROOM: 1.5 baths, appliances, laundry hookups, off-street parking. No pets/smoking. References required. \$550. 402-462-5259 or 461-1659.

VERY NICE: Large 1-bedroom, ground level, all appliances. No smoking/pets. Available now. 463-5103.

103 Town Houses For Rent

3-BEDROOM: Appliances, basement, garage, 1.5 bath, \$625; 2.5-bath, family room, \$700. 460-9626.

104 Houses For Rent

1-BEDROOM: Appliances. Nice. No pets. Deposit \$250/rent \$395. 461-3161.

1-BEDROOM: Small house, appliances. 625 S. Denver. \$285. Deposit. No pets. 402-463-4063.

2-BEDROOM plus basement. Rent \$475 plus deposit. 402-461-4307.

2-BEDROOM plus office: Garage, fenced-in backyard, central air. 984-3717.

2-BEDROOM: Newer bath and kitchen, appliances. 1802 W. 7th. No pets/smoking. \$425. 462-2739

2-BEDROOM: Stove, refrigerator, air. No pets. \$425. 402-463-1664.

2318 BOYCE: 3-bedroom. Close to mall. \$500 plus deposit. 984-1533.

3-BEDROOM: Basement, energy-efficient furnace. References. No pets. \$600. 218 S. Baltimore. 462-6330.

105 Mobile Homes For Rent

NICE 1-3 BEDROOMS: \$280-\$525. No pets. References. 463-1958.

108 Office Space

SMALL OFFICE at 641 S. Burlington. \$275. Call Alton Jackson at 463-0688.

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The place to look for help wanted ads. Open 7:45 to 5:00 Mon.-Fri. Call and place your ad, 461-1241.

109 Business Property

CAN ACCOMMODATE 800 - 3,000 sq. ft. prime office or retail business space at competitive lease rates. Burlington Village. 462-4032.

EXCELLENT RETAIL location: 600 block East Side Blvd. Reasonable rent. 402-460-1409.

HEATED SHOP for rent: 27'x50'x16', 2 14'x14' overhead doors, bath, paved parking. 462-0594.

111 Storage/ Warehouse

10,000 SQ. FT.: Dock height overhead doors. 461-1785.

LARGE STORAGE units for rent. Ready February 1. Call for rates, 984-9127.

115 Acreages For Sale



QUALITY BUILT 2002, many upgrades, walk-out basement, open floor plan, 1,730 sq. ft., tastefully decorated, 4-bedroom, 3.5 baths, great views, rare find, 4 acres, includes 30'x40' heated shop. 10 short miles from Hastings. 469-6353, 771-2221.

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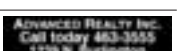
116 Houses For Sale

3- or 4-BEDROOM homes for sale. Joyce Schlachter, Broker, 462-5794.

3-6-BEDROOM HOMES: Rent-to-own. Affordable. 461-3213, 461-4206.

BLUE HILL: 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath, ranch-style home with 1-car attached garage. Lots of updates including fully finished basement, new furnace and air conditioner, fenced-in back yard. 402-756-3525.

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GUIDE ROCK: 1-story ranch, attached garage. 1,380 sq. ft., heat pump, vinyl siding. 402-257-3495.

LET US design and build a new home for you or see our existing homes in Hastings' finest areas.



2727 West 2nd - 461-4100

PUBLIC AUCTION Real Estate Auction 926 S. Colorado Hastings, NE

3-bedroom, 2 bath, 2,125+ sq. ft., mobile/manufactured home.

OPENING BID: \$1,000. **INSPECTIONS:** 1-4 p.m. Sunday, January 14, and 2 hours prior to sale.

PROPERTY SELLS: 2 p.m. Thursday, January 18, on site.

Visit williamsauction.com or call 800-801-8003.

NE Dean C. Williams, Broker RE#2005 0416

List your ad, call 461-1241!

117 Factory-Built Homes

BLUE RIBBON HOMES Your FIRST choice for all your housing needs. Open 7 days a week for your convenience. 463-2421.

118 Mobile Homes For Sale

CASH PAID FAST For single wides 1985 and newer. 308-233-2742.

119 Residential Lots

DONIPHAN'S NEWEST subdivision: Huge lots available. 139'x150'. \$3,000 drop off of list price for winter. 308-383-2679.

LAKEVIEW LOTS: Lake Hastings. Agent/owner, Alan Anderson, 461-1785.

121 Business Property

LUMBERYARD hardware business: Inventory, buildings and land. 402-756-7374.

Sell your unwanted item(s) in the Hastings Tribune Classifieds for quick results. Call 461-1241.

Classified is the News People Use!

RESIDENT ASSISTANT

The Villa Assisted Living at Good Samaritan Village in Hastings has immediate openings for a Resident Assistant. Applicants must have current certification as a Nursing Assistant and have their current Medication Aide with the 40 hour course. The night shift position is from 10:45 p.m. - 7:15 a.m. and is **every other** Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday. We also have part-time hours to offer on our day and evening shifts with the possibility to pick up additional hours as available.

Applications can be obtained from the Human Resource Office at Good Samaritan Village 926 East "E" Street, Hastings, NE

If you need additional information please contact Sue at 402-460-3234.

Good Samaritan Village of Hastings
In Christ's Love, Everyone Is Someone

E/O/E
M/F/Vet/Handicap
Drug Testing

SavaSeniorCare

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT HAVEN HOME OF KENESAW

We are a 75-bed Skilled Nursing Facility with **New Opportunities**. We are opening our 400 Wing and increasing our hours.

The following positions are available:

- LPN/RN
- CNAs

We offer Competitive Wages, Health, Dental & Vision Insurance, 401K, Plus More...

Please contact Phyllis Coyle at (402) 752-3212 or apply in person at 100 West Elm Ave., Kenesaw, NE 68956.

The Good Samaritan Society exists for the sake of its residence. Our goal is to provide the highest quality and most appropriate level of care for each person we are privileged to serve. Hastings Village is currently seeking quality individuals to fill the following

full time positions:

- RN or LPN- 2:30 pm-11:00 pm
- RN- 10:45 pm-7:15 am
- CNA- 2:30 pm-11:00 pm

These positions offer a competitive wage and exceptional benefit package.

HIRING BONUS AVAILABLE FOR RN & LPN POSITIONS

Applications are available from the Human Resource Office M-F, 926 East "E" Street, Hastings, NE

If you need additional information please contact Sue at (402) 463-3234.

AA/E/O/E
M/F/Vet/Handicap
Drug Testing

Good Samaritan Village of Hastings
In Christ's Love, Everyone Is Someone

Join our Team!

We have immediate openings for motor route drivers.

Afternoons and Saturday mornings

- Glenvil, Fairfield, Dewese Area
- Campbell, Holstein Area

Call Circulation 461-1221 or 1-800-742-6397

Hastings Tribune

At Your Service

Up to 16 Words for 1 month ONLY \$45.00
Call 402-461-1241 for details

Nelson Good Samaritan Village
In Christ's Love, Everyone Is Someone

AA/E/O/E
M/F/Vet/Handicap
Drug Testing

ADAMS LAND & CATTLE CO.®

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Adams Land & Cattle Company, a progressive feedlot operation located in Broken Bow, Nebraska, seeks an action-oriented problem solver with proven leadership abilities to fill a Production Manager position.

This position will be responsible to:

- Lead and Direct multiple areas of production operation with no less than 50 employees direct and non-direct
- Accountable for development of employees
- Critically assess processes within the multiple production areas for correct mindset
- Ensure quality control of processes

Requirements for this position:

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Legals

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by Central Community College, in the Board Room, 3134 West Highway 34, Grand Island, Nebraska, up to the hour of 2:00 p.m. local time, on Tuesday, the sixth (6) day of February, 2007, for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for the construction of a Truck Driving Facility on the Hastings campus. At which hour, or as soon as possible thereafter, the Owner will proceed to publicly open the bids received for the furnishing of said labor, materials and equipment necessary for the proper construction of the aforesaid project. The owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to pass upon the regularity or waive any irregularities of the bidders. The owner reserves the option to interview and select a contractor

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Legals

from the two lowest responsible bidders, taking into consideration the best interests of the Owner, the experience of the contractor, the quality performance of the Contractor, and his ability to work.

There will be no pre-bid conference. Interested contractors should visit the job site prior to bidding.

BIDDING:
Contract Documents: All work shall be furnished in strict accordance with the Drawings and Specifications prepared by Wilkins Hinrichs Stober Architects, L.L.C., 323 West 11th Street, P.O. Box 2045, Kearney, Nebraska. Bids will be received only upon the printed Proposal Forms furnished through the Architect.

The Truck Driving Facility consists of 11,515 square feet of construction. The building will be prefabricated steel building construction with gypsum board/metal stud and masonry interior walls. Interior finishes will include aluminum windows, paint, floor tile, and carpet. The project includes full mechanical and electrical construction. All work will be under one Bid. All subcontractor quotations shall be sent to the General Contractor.

BONDS:

Bid Security - Bid Security is required to be submitted with bid proposal form. Make payable to Central Community College in the amount of 5% of the Lump Sum Bid Amount. Bid Security shall be of cashiers check, certified check, or Bid Bond issued by a Surety licensed to conduct business in the State of Nebraska. Form of Bid Bond is AIA Document A310. Any agent signing a bid bond on behalf of the Surety must attach a Power of Attorney effectively evidencing the agent's authority to bind the Surety to the performance of the Bid Bond.

Performance Bond - The Contractor shall be required to furnish acceptable bonds to complete the work and pay for all labor and materials used, said bonds to be in the amount of 100% of total amount of the Contract. See Document A701, Instructions to Bidders.

TAXES:

The Contractor by his contract with Central Community College becomes a purchasing agent for the Owner on their behalf and under Statute 77-2704 does not pay sales tax.

All Bidders are requested to make a careful, close examination of the entire site area involved in the construction prior to submitting their bid. See Section 011000 Summary of Work for phasing requirements.

SCHEDULE:

Substantial Completion will be November 1, 2007 and Final Completion will be December 1, 2007.

INSURANCE:

Prior to the start of work, completed copies of the CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE, AIA Document G705, shall be submitted to the Owner and Architect.

DRAWINGS AND PROJECT MANUAL SHALL BE EXAMINED AT:

Wilkins Hinrichs Stober Architects, L.L.C., 323 West 11th Street, P.O. Box 2045, Kearney, Nebraska 68848.
Lincoln Builders Bureau, 5910 South 58th Suite #C, Lincoln, Nebraska 68516.
F.W. Dodge Corporation, 11422 Miracle Hills Drive, #206, Omaha, Nebraska 68154.
Omaha Builders Exchange, 4255 South 94th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68127.
Reed Construction Data, 30 Technology Drive South, Suite 500, Norcross Georgia 30092
Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce, 764 33rd Avenue, Columbus Nebraska 68602-0515.
Hastings Builders Bureau, 301 South Burlington, Hastings, Nebraska 68902.
Central Nebraska Plan Service, 4006 Redwood Drive, North Platte, Nebraska 69101.
Builders Plan Service, 309 West 2nd, Grand Island Nebraska 68801
Kearney Plan Service, 1007 2nd Avenue, Kearney Nebraska 68847.

DEPOSIT:

General, Mechanical and Electrical Contractors may obtain full sets of Drawings and Project Manual from the following locations:
A&D Technical Supply Co., 4320 South 89th, Omaha, Nebraska 68127 (402) 592-4950 extension 4
Wilkins Hinrichs Stober Architects, L.L.C., 323 West 11th Street, Kearney, Nebraska 68848
Or by the Virtual Plan Room of A&D Technical Supply at www.adtechsupply.com

Drawings available online at the Virtual Plan Room will be:
Instructions to Bidders, Bid Form, Specifications Table of Contents, Section 01100 Summary of Work, Construction Drawing Images, Addendums A deposit in the amount of \$100.00 (made payable to Wilkins Hinrichs Stober Architects) will be required for each set of bidding documents. If shipping is required there is a non refundable flat rate of \$10.00 per set made payable to A&D Technical Supply. The deposit will be returned in full only if the Drawings and Specifications are returned within fifteen (15) days of the bid date. Return all Bid Documents to: Wilkins Hinrichs Stober Architects, L.L.C., 323 West 11th Street, P.O. Box 2045 Kearney, Nebraska 68848. Do not return plans to A&D Technical Supply Company

AWARD OF CONTRACT:

The owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to pass upon the regularity or waive any irregularities of the bidders. It is the owner's intention to interview and select a contractor from the two lowest responsible bidders, taking into consideration the best interests of the Owner, the experience of the contractor, the quality performance of the Contractor, and his ability to work.

CONTRACTORS PLEASE NOTE that no technical questions will be answered by the Architect's/Engineer's office(s) during the twenty-four (24) hours immediately preceding the bid opening time and date.

The Architect does not intend to issue any addenda to the bidding documents within three (3) working days of the bid opening time and date.

Alicia Haussler, Purchasing Manager
Central Community College

January 13, 23, 31, 2007

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Estate of RICHARD L. JOBMAN, Deceased. Case No. PR07-001.
TO: All Persons Interested in Said Estate

Notice is hereby given that on the 8th day of January, 2007, in the Adams County Court, at Hastings, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal probate of the Will of Richard L. Jobman, Deceased. Mark D. Jobman, who resides at 408 Matsen Street, Aurora, Nebraska, has been appointed Personal Representative of this Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must present their claims on or before the 14th day of March, 2007, or be forever barred.

Dated this 8th day of January, 2007.

Tom Hawes
Clerk of the County Court

Mark A. Beck, #18760
Beck Law Office, P.C.
Hastings, Nebraska 68901
January 13, 20, 27, 2007

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Educating a new family member

It finally happened. One of my daughters brought home a "city boy" for the holidays. He admitted that Norman, Okla., is the smallest town he's ever lived in and he couldn't even imagine living on a farm. But since he and Kinley are planning on getting married next summer, a visit was in order.

He didn't complain about the distance from a town of substantial size — "substantial" being

any town that didn't have a McDonald's. He didn't complain about no cell phone service or the fact that we don't get 200 channels on our television, or that we have cats wandering around outside and able to leave cat prints on the car.

Mason, who grew up in Louisville, Ky., took a dutiful tour of the farm, but noted that while we said we owned cattle, there weren't any to be seen.

We explained to him that the cows were out on cornstalks and looked pretty much like the neighbor's cows that were down the road from us. Those would be the cows owned by the neighbor who owns Angus, not Herefords.

Technically, our cows are mostly Gelbvieh now, but when we started to explain the difference, Mason's eyes started to glaze over, so we stopped.

He did look go take a look at Alvin's hogs, and thought they were much larger in person than he thought pigs would be. Kinley explained to him that they were feeder pigs and would likely get much larger, and that we once owned a sow that weighed over 750 pounds. I don't think he really understood the ramifications of a 750-pound sow and how big that really would be.

Electric fences amazed him. Mason said he didn't see how one little piece of wire would keep cows in.

Kinley suggested he touch one, but Mason is pretty smart and took her word that it worked.

Barbed-wire fence was another marvel.

"I'm just not used to seeing it," Mason explained. "In Kentucky, all of the pastures are enclosed with wooden fences."

He was right. Around here, we don't use wooden fences for anything, except maybe for decoration in my front yard. There were several reasons we didn't use wooden fences out west, I said, but then I was hard-pressed to find one.

"We have a lot more area out here," Kinley offered. "It would take a lot of wood to put a fence around a whole section."

Please see ANDERSEN/page E2



Denise Andersen

Feds push for better tracking system

DAWN HOUSE
Salt Lake Tribune

SALT LAKE CITY — After a single cow in Washington state was diagnosed with mad cow disease in 2003, it took investigators four months to track down all cattle that had come in contact with the diseased animal.

Since that outbreak, about 25 countries shut off or threatened to close their markets to U.S. beef exports, said Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns, speaking this week to the American Farm Bureau Federation's convention in Salt Lake.

Had a national animal identification tracking system been in place, supporters say, an investigation to contain the

disease could have been completed within 48 hours. Yet efforts to implement such a system bogged down when producers argued over whether registering their livestock should be mandatory or voluntary.

"We needed to move beyond the debate," said Undersecretary Bruce Knight, so a voluntary system was adopted.

Knight predicted that as U.S. restaurants, retail outlets and consumers demand information, more producers will voluntarily register. Still, only 24 percent of the nation's livestock owners have joined the first phase of the program, which lists only a contact person and business address.

"Producers know that a tracking system protects their industry," he said, "and it builds consumer confidence that the food they eat is safe."

Some states, such as Wisconsin, as well as countries such as Canada and Australia, have made livestock registration mandatory. But that has not eased the fears of some ranchers and farmers, and the system probably will remain voluntary.

"I don't trust the government," Michigan farmer William Benson said at the convention. "How do I really know that the information will be kept confidential?"

Others said the need for such a system might be a sign of the times. "Strange

things have happened since 9/11. If there's a disease out there, people will expect that it be tracked down immediately," said retired Kansas producer Richard Reinhardt.

Technology that is used to track the spread of animal diseases is similar to devices used at retail stores to prevent theft, said Utah Agriculture Department spokesman Larry Lewis.

Electronic ear tags the size of a quarter that contain 15 numerical digits are attached to livestock. When animals walk past a reader panel, an electronic signal is transmitted to a computer, tracking the number of animals passing by. Tags stay on animals for life.

Small-town grocers put up fight

NAFEESA SYEED
The Associated Press

ANITA, Iowa — The grocery stores that lined Main Street were always key to the little farm town of Anita, Iowa. At one time, four groceries met the needs of the large families who lived in the town and surrounding areas.

Maxine Christensen recalls the horses that farmers once hitched behind her family's general store.

"Grocery stores were a staple of town," said the 85-year-old Christensen.

Times have changed as Anita's population dwindled and larger competitors arrived, but the final market remained so important that its pending closure spurred residents to buy shares and create a grocery cooperative.

Co-ops are old hat for most Midwest farmers, but experts believe only a dozen or so across the nation have been created to hang onto community groceries. It's a move some think will spread to other rural areas beset by similar problems, but they caution that such efforts carry risk.

In Anita, townspeople felt they had no choice — loss of the 90-year-old Main Street Market would mean a virtual end to downtown traffic and trouble for the businesses that remained. And residents wondered what would become of their town without a gathering spot.

"I know quite a few people in town really just because of the store," said Don Norris, 40, who buys all his meat at the market.

In creating the Anita Grocery Cooperative, residents formed a board and sold about 300 shares at \$200 a piece. The co-op board also took out \$150,000 in public and private loans.

On Dec. 1, the market opened its doors under new ownership.

Although most residents could have managed the inconvenience of a longer drive for groceries in the regional city of Atlantic, rural towns lose something when fixtures such as a grocery store close. A domino effect kicks in and other businesses begin closing, said Kimberley Zeuli, who studies rural cooperatives and is a visiting professor of economics at The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

"At some point, it's no longer a town," Zeuli said.



KEVIN SANDERS/AP

Main Street Market cashier Simon Jensen, 18, talks to Larry Barber, both of Anita, Iowa, after shopping at the Main Street Market in Anita on Dec. 20, 2006. Like hundreds of farm towns across the Midwest, tiny Anita was about to lose its grocery store, a victim of familiar adversaries: a declining population and a Wal-Mart a dozen miles away. But residents decided life in Anita wouldn't be the same without the Main Street Market, so they formed a cooperative, sold shares worth \$40,000 and gave the store new life. In the past 40 years, the number of markets in Anita has dwindled from five to now the single grocery.

"It's just a gas station."

Townspeople understand this shift and often try to fight it, frequently by embracing the very chain competitors who put Main Street shops out of business. But many communities can't entice a Wal-Mart or Target, and in the past decade more have turned to innovative approaches such as co-ops, Zeuli said.

Of the roughly 300 food-store cooperatives nationwide, 5 percent or less are conventional grocery stores, said Stuart Reid, a food co-op develop-

ment specialist with Food Co-op 500. The private organization grants money to cooperatives through sponsors such as the National Cooperative Bank.

Most of the grocery co-ops are in the Upper Midwest, including Fontanelle, Iowa, Houston, Minn., and Iron River, Wis. The Scottsbluff, Neb.-based Panhandle Cooperative System runs two conventional grocery stores — in Scottsbluff and Torrington, Wyo. — and plans to open a third in February in Wellington, Colo.

Please see MARKET/page E2

Trade, budget cuts, Johanns and the Missing Word Rule

A college friend once noted that everyone is missing one word from their personal vocabulary. "My missing word is modesty," he pronounced.

True; Charlie was about as modest as an eight-carat diamond.

"Yours," he said pointing downhill to me, "is height."

True again; his six-foot, five inches of sarcasm hit its five-foot, six-inch mark dead center.

Charlie's Missing Word Rule came to mind when reading about, then listening on-line to, the speeches of the two featured speakers Jan. 8 at the American Farm Bureau Federation's convention in



Alan Guebert

the podium (think Lutheran sermons), the words missing in each of their Washington, D.C., vocabularies came through loud-and-clear in starkly contrasting talks.

For Peterson, the missing word is "Doha," as in the World Trade

Salt Lake City.

First up was Collin Peterson, newly installed chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. On his heels followed Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns.

While neither brought electricity to the podium (think Lutheran sermons), the words missing in each of their Washington, D.C., vocabularies came through loud-and-clear in starkly contrasting talks.

For Peterson, the missing word is "Doha," as in the World Trade

Organization's barely-breathing global trade talks. The Doha Round of WTO talks, Peterson emphatically announced to the strongest free trade-supporting farm group in America, is "dead, and I don't see how (we) are going to resurrect it."

It was and will be the final "Amen" to any prayer that Doha will drive 2007 Farm Bill discussions.

The AFBF got the message. The next day, convention delegates "removed from AFBF policy the requirement that the current farm bill be extended until a new World Trade Organization agreement is reached," the group's Web site reported.

It was an obvious concession to an

obvious reality. If there is any movement on the trade front in the now Democratically-controlled Congress, it will be to inject labor and environmental standards — pure poison to Republican trade backers — into future WTO negotiations.

If the Secretary was listening to Peterson's speech, he didn't let on when he later took center stage.

The first words uttered by Johanns dealt with, you guessed it, trade. So did almost every other reference — from biofuels to budgeting to Brazil to beef to even his youth on an Iowa dairy farm — in his 33-minute address. Trade is Johanns' story, and he stuck to it.

Please see GUEBERT/page E2

Your turn

What would you like to see the 100th Nebraska Legislature accomplish or address during this session?

Myles Shipman, Hastings

"Adoption. There are a lot of children out there who need to be adopted."



Trent Hinz, Juniata

"Agriculture. A lot of the farmers, they're really scraping and scrounging cause corn prices were down. I would hope they would improve the conditions of farming, because it would probably help the whole economy of Nebraska."



Wayne Rieker, Grand Island

"To introduce a bill prohibiting cell phones while you're driving. I use my cell phone a lot, but if it rings while I'm driving, I'll hand it to my wife to answer it or I won't answer it until I get where I'm going. Or, if I'm expecting a call I think I need to answer, I'll pull over off the highway because I think it's very unsafe to talk on the phone while you're driving."



Mike Smidt, Pauline

"Property taxes. They've gotten out of control. The schools are the ones that need the money. Practically the only revenue they have is property tax. There has to be some relief somewhere, maybe a 1-cent sales tax across the board for schools. I own some land, and the income on the land is minuscule compared to taxes."



Jo Davidson, Hastings

In reference to a bill introduced that would increase the amount of pseudoephedrine people can buy daily from 1.44 grams to 3.6 grams: "My husband had a cold, and he had a tough time getting ephedrine. He since went to a doctor, and they prescribed something better because ephedrine affects your heart. I think it's kind of hard, if you don't have a doctor who will prescribe something and you absolutely need something to help you breathe, ephedrine is wonderful."



Bob Neeman, Hastings

In reference to a bill introduced that would provide driving privilege cards to people without a Social Security number: "I think they ought to give them a chance to have a driver's license and make it legal. If you've got to have the insurance in order to get a license, and if they've got a license and hit somebody, at least you'd be covered."



FDIC expected to rule soon on Wal-Mart's bank plan

Reid, based in Dennison, Minn., said he's been receiving more queries about loans for small-town grocery co-ops as private markets edge toward closing.

Small markets are trying to remain afloat at a time of relentless competition within the grocery industry.

Even large retailers are facing more competitors as convenience stores, discounters such as Aldi and drug stores try to grab a share of the \$500 billion a year grocery industry, said Bill Greer, a spokesman for the Washington-based Food Marketing Institute, which represents chain stores as well as independent markets.

"All companies are really in the same competitive situation, no matter whether they're from a large chain or mid-size," Greer said. "Who's not going to be in the food business is the question as the industry continues to evolve."

Ephraim Leibtag, who studies retail food markets at the U.S. Department of

Agriculture's Economic Research Service, said the intense competition has been especially hard on small stores.

"If you're an average grocery store, you're losing out either on the price side or quality side," Leibtag said.

For communities that opt to begin a co-op, experts said success or failure hinges upon whether residents ante up.

So far, Anita residents seem committed to the effort. Around town, "Invest in Anita" posters with a sample share certificate are displayed, and the names of residents who join are printed on the front page of the weekly newspaper.

Linda Firebaugh, the 55-year-old owner of The Rusty Razor salon, recently bought a share. Her business is only a couple storefronts down from the market, and for nearly 30 years women have stopped in for a perm before picking up groceries.

"I've seen names in the paper that have surprised me. I'm thrilled," Firebaugh said.

The market, housed in a century-old Masonic temple, has nearly 200 customers a day. Banker and board member Don Karns, 74, said the co-op plans for about \$800,000 in annual sales to cover costs and pay the store's eight employees.

"We're not trying to be a profit center, we're trying to be a service," he said. "We know we can't be the answer for everything, but we want to have essentials."

Despite the optimism, rural co-ops don't always succeed. Even when residents buy shares in a store, the temptation is always there to shop at distant but less expensive chain retailers, said Jane Kolodinsky, co-director of the Center for Rural Studies and professor at the University of Vermont in Burlington.

"In rural communities you can't rely even on the little guy to help the little guy to stay in business," Kolodinsky said. "It sounds fatalistic, but it's true.

"Our economy thrives on size and efficiency and that makes it hard on the little guy."

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., which regulates and provides deposit insurance for industrial banks, is scheduled Jan. 31 to lift its self-imposed six-month moratorium on deposit insurance applications.

If and when the moratorium is lifted, Wal-Mart and such companies as DaimlerChrysler and Home Depot should have a sense of whether they can proceed with plans to get into the industrial banking business.

American Bankers Association and the AFL-CIO, wrote Congress asking members to step in before the FDIC acted and block Wal-Mart's application. Those groups argued that letting nonfinancial companies operate industrial banks could harm community-owned banks in much the same way that mom-and-pop retailers are hurt whenever Wal-Mart opens in a small town.

In explaining its actions, the FDIC stated it adopted the moratorium to “provide time to assess developments in the ILC industry, to determine if any emerging safety and soundness or policy issues exist” and evaluate whether laws or policies need to be changed.

Walmart said it respected the FDIC's decision to impose the moratorium to give it time to consider the issues surrounding industrial banks, which also are known as industrial loan corporations, or ILCs.

"And we now look forward to a decision on our application as the (FDIC) board concludes its examination of the issue," Wal-Mart spokesman Kevin Gardner said.

The FDIC adopted its moratorium last July just days after a coalition of 32 national groups, including the

"We don't have as many trees out here," my husband said. "Historically, barbed wire has been cheaper and more convenient to put in."

"And wood rots," Giselle added. "We just painted that fence in the yard a few years ago, and it already is starting to rot."

The fence needs painted again, but I refrained from pointing that out since I didn't figure anyone wanted to volunteer for the job.

"After all, we're just trying to keep the cattle in," I put in. "We don't really raise horses like they do in Kentucky."

"They probably worry about their horses getting a nick in their hide from the barbed wire back in Kentucky, and we don't really raise our horses like they do there," he repeated.

"Well, actually, we do," Giselle replied. "But we're not raising thoroughbred racing horses or anything. Our horses are meant to work the cattle; they're not for looks."

"So why don't you have those rock posts like I've seen as we've driven through Kansas?" Mason asked. "They wouldn't rot."

"Too heavy," we all replied at once.

We were all remembering those limestone rocks I wanted moved from the cow

lot to my garden and how heavy they had been. We didn't even want to consider rock fence posts. Hedgeposts were heavy enough.

We all suggested that maybe Mason could help put some fence in one day. He wasn't sure about that.

Welcome to the family, Mason. I think I'll get him leather gloves as a wedding present.

Denise Andersen of Fairbury is a columnist for the Tribune. Contact Andersen at (402) 461-1252 or e-mail at tribune@hastingstribune.com

“in the last four or five years.”

The Secretary, though, made no mention of that fact. Indeed, the differences between his speech and Peterson’s could not have been greater had one been speaking Norwegian and the other Swedish.

Which brings us back to my friend Charlie’s Missing Word Rule. After his Salt Lake City speech, the word missing from Johann’s 2007 Farm Bill vocabulary more and more is “relevant.”

Alan Guebert can be reached at: agcomm, 216733 Lago Dr., Delavan, IL 61734 or e-mail at agcomm@sbcbglobal.net.

To further drive home his points, Johanns put faces on them. There was Doug, Arnold, Luke and, yawn, Barry, Devon, Marion, Wendy, Jeremy and Cliff, “folks we heard at the Farm Bill Forums,” the year-long farm policy talkfest orchestrated by Johanns in “48 states... 21 of them I did myself.”

The purpose of the forums, like Johanns’ constant whipping of the trade horse, however, is now irrelevant. While sincere, all were really just window-dressing for the White House and a Republican Congress to cut federal ag spending to the bone —

by 60 percent, according to their WTO proposals — and replace it with “free trade.”

But the Republican Congress, like Doha, is gone. So is the White House goal of deep cuts in farm program spending.

“They have budgeted cuts before,” said House Ag Chair Peterson in a press conference during his Salt Lake City drop-in. “They know they’re not going to happen.”

Nor should they, he added, because federal farm programs were “the only part of the United States government that saved money” — about \$17 billion compared to what was budgeted in the 2002 Farm Bill —

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Crossword

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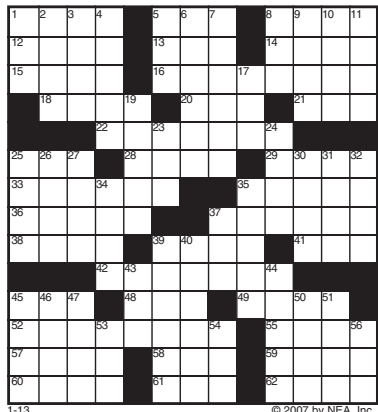
QUE	IDOL	IRE
YUMA	SURE	NAG
OOPS	SMOG	VIA
WISEDUP	UPEND	
LEE	AMEN	
MOOSE	PLEATS	
ORB	TREE	RIPE
PATH	AWED	VIN
LAUGHS	EMEND	
ILLS	HBO	
DANKE	POTTERY	
ARI	AMOR	IDEA
MEN	MAGS	FILM
SAG	SLOE	STY

ACROSS

1 Nuisance
5 e-mail
9 Mouse
8 catcher
12 "Road" pictures name
13 Letter before sigma
14 Bit part
15 Party-giver
16 Ranch work
18 Snorkeling venue
20 Poetic tribute
21 Decompose
22 Small waves
25 Plunging neckline
28 No sweat!
29 Black gem
33 Aft
35 Bramble
36 Gondolier's land
37 Saffron dish
38 Edinburgh girl
39 Incline to one side
41 Nevada town
42 Comfort
45 "— you sure?"
48 Ms. Jillian
49 Fill-ins
52 Eagerly

DOWN

62 Jersey cagers
1 Quiet!
2 Low-quality
3 Church part
4 Gauge
5 Ex-Bruin
6 Bobby —
7 Cries of
8 Noisily
9 Bank, often
10 Natural
11 Sultury
12 — West
13 Klondike's territory
14 Not quite shut
15 Regulation
16 Ms. Bovary
17 Ordered
18 Paper cut
19 Floating leaf
20 Cowhand's nickname
21 Coast Guard off.



Astrograph

SUNDAY, JAN. 14

In the year ahead, your emphasis is likely to be focused on something far more important to you than mere material desires. Yet, although you'll spend little time on financial issues, you're still likely to experience a steady growth.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) If there is something important you're finding difficult to solve, it could prove helpful to discuss it with a friend whose advice has proven beneficial in the past.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) There may be good reason for your ears to be ringing. Others are discussing you at great length. If you could hear all the nice things they're saying, it would boost your ego.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Something advantageous is developing for you. To the casual observer, it may appear to be insignificant; but you'll know its real worth and do all you can to advance its beneficial effects.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) There is something in it for you when you act as a go-between with two individuals who are poles apart. Your common sense and gift of discourse offer the right words each can accept.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You're more fortunate teaming up with someone than you will be going it alone. It doesn't matter if your interest is work or play, having a partner will enhance the happening.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You stand a better-than-usual chance of gaining what you want when you apply the knowledge and talents you possess.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You have a marvelous way of brightening up situations wherever you go, especially social events. Your gift of putting everybody at ease so they can simply be themselves is the reason.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Being bright and clever will take precedence over being bold. Success in any endeavor you take on is likely when you're imaginative and resourceful, along with being assertive.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The way you'll get support from others is by giving them reasons for what you want done. You know ... "What's in it for them?"

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Try to stay on top of situations from which you can gain some small type of advantage, material or otherwise. Don't let the size of your efforts dilute your efforts to grow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Do listen to the ideas and suggestions of others, but don't ignore your own counsel when it comes to important personal matters. Because you have more insight, your ideas are superior.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Although you're likely to be extremely ambitious, what makes you so successful is that this inclination isn't apt to be apparent to others, giving you an open field in which to operate.

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MONDAY, JAN. 15

You might have a beneficial opportunity to put an enterprise together, which will be both enjoyable and profitable, with a couple of trusted allies. It will pertain to something you're already familiar with.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You could be exceptionally fortunate in material ways from your dealings with an associate who is older or more experienced than you. Don't hesitate to follow his or her lead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) This could be an extremely pleasant day, especially if you take the time to get together with several dear friends who want to meet. You won't be sorry you put other things aside for them.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Objectives you establish for yourself might experience a few bumps in the road, but if you don't let that distract you, your goals are achievable. Keep plugging for what you want.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you need a pick-me-up in order to get the week on a roll, engage yourself in something that is mentally stimulating with some associates who are both creative and fun.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You'll be very effective taking the lead in a situation that is undergoing some unwelcome changes. Knowing how to direct things without ruffling feathers keeps things calm.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Let your heart, coupled with common sense, be your guide when you have to deal with a situation that needs some tough decision-making. What makes people happy will prove fruitful.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Your efforts will prove to be very gratifying when you not only work hard for yourself but for those for whom you feel responsible. Their appreciation will be sweetest.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) One of your more remarkable faculties is the ability to make everyone you deal with on a one-on-one basis feel as if he or she is the most important person in the world. You'll use it well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Although you thoroughly enjoy a variety of pleasurable pursuits, nothing will be more gratifying than spending your time on as many constructive things as possible.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) The sensitivity you show toward others will win you the respect of your peers. They'll admire the courage and intelligence you display to say what needs to be said without blaming anyone.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Fortunate circumstances could unfold in ways that will enable you to take care of a long overdue obligation. It will make you feel as if a giant weight has been lifted off your back.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) This is a good day to rethink a matter that has caused complications to pop up continually. The answers for which you've been searching will take aim at the heart.

This friend-in need finds some good friends indeed

DEAR ABBY: I have read your column for years; now it's my turn with a question. Two years ago, some friends of mine saw I was in a real bind, caught in a vicious circle I couldn't get out of on my own. They invited me to move into their spare room until I could meet some goals and was able to move on. I decided to accept their offer.

The time I have spent with them has literally changed my life. I have grown tremendously in the last year and a half — emotionally, spiritually and mentally. I have even improved physically. From day one, they made me a member of their family, and I have come to love them as such. They have been my supporters, my advisers, my friends, and I count myself lucky to have been part of their household.

Now that I have met most of my goals, I am getting ready to move out, and I am not sure how to repay them. They have literally set my life in a new direction. Any successes I have from this point on will be successes that they have had a hand in.

How do I thank this couple and their family for all they have done for me in the last 18 months? — GRATEFUL WOMAN IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR GRATEFUL: I doubt that anything you could buy for these angels on Earth would mean as much to them as a handwritten letter from you expressing the feelings you have confided to me. I am sure it would be something they would treasure for the rest of their lives.

Of course, it goes without saying that being able to move out and live a full, successful and happy life will also show them that their efforts were not wasted. I cannot imagine a better tribute to their generosity.

HOW TO HANDLE PROBLEM WITH BROTHER

DEAR ABBY: About a year ago, my brother, "Ronny," stopped speaking to our parents. He said they did something "unforgivable" to him during his childhood. I know Ronny wasn't neglected or physically or sexually abused. From what my parents have told me about e-mails they have received from him, he is angry about basic mistakes parents make.

Recently he mentioned that he just wants them to "respect" him. I have seen Ronny become overly sensitive about any sort of teasing that comes his way, and I guess that he's referring to this. I have asked him not to tell me his reason, for fear of being too angry about why he made this decision. This mess has caused a lot of tension in our whole family.

My brother is coming to visit me and my family in a few weeks, but won't be visiting our parents. How do I handle their questions and probing about his visit, and what do I say when they get angry about his not visiting them? — RONNY'S SISTER IN IOWA

DEAR SISTER: I think you should ask your brother about his reasons and withhold judgment. I'm glad that he wasn't beaten or sexually abused as a child. However, someone should have told your parents that "teasing" can be like acid, eating away at a person's self-worth.

While it may seem to you that Ronny is overly sensitive, I find it interesting that you didn't mention what he was so hurtful he's avoiding "the folks." Was the teasing two-way, or was it aimed only in one direction? And was it persistent?

Do not allow your parents to put you in the middle. This isn't your squabble; you have nothing to do with it. When they ask how the visit went, tell them it was "nice" — if it was. Do not go into chapter and verse. And if they become angry that Ronny did not visit them, face it — the problem is theirs, and it's up to them to resolve it, not you.

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



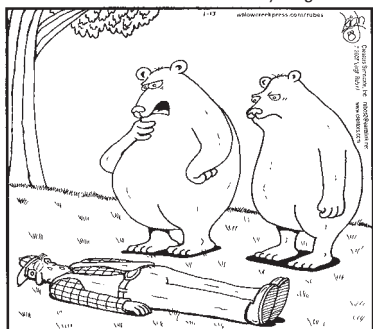
Dear Abby

Rubes

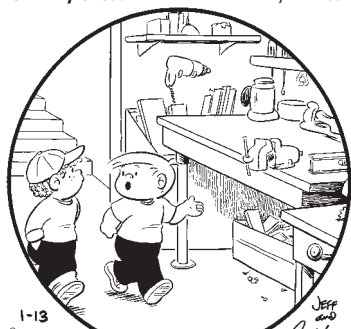
By Leigh Rubin

The Family Circus

By Bill Keane



"Now, hold on a minute ... If neither of us so much as laid a paw on him, how could he possibly be dead? I say before we amble off empty-handed, shouldn't we at least check his pulse?"



"Here's where my dad makes up words I'm not allowed to repeat."

Baby Blues



Grizzwells



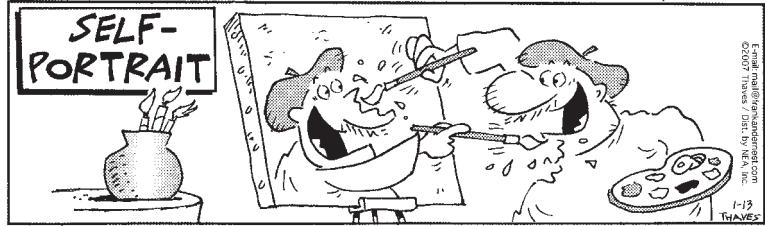
Shoe

By Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



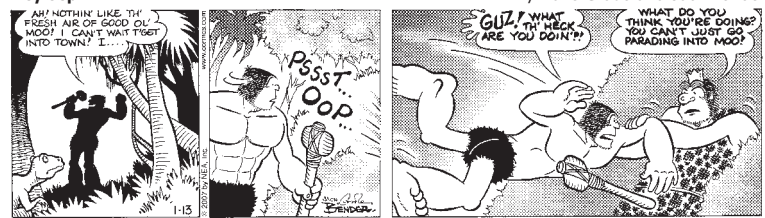
Pickles

By Brian Crane



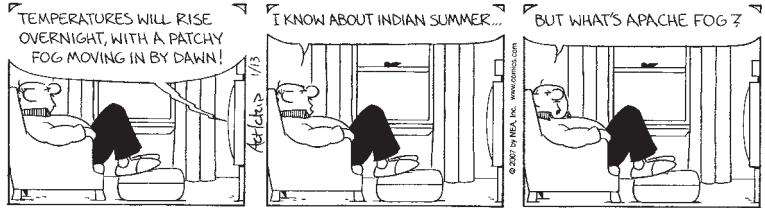
Alley Oop

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



Just what are Oprah's core beliefs?

Faithful members of Oprah Winfrey's TV flock know what's happening when guests start talking and their leader keeps interjecting the occasional "Amen," "Preach it" or even, "Sister, I understand the whole God connection!"

The host wants the guest to start "testifying," a confessional process in which believers look for God's healing hand in life's hard lessons. Winfrey learned all about this process as a girl back in the Faith United Mississippi Baptist Church, where jealous peers often called her "Miss Jesus."

But here's the irony, noted journalist Marcia Nelson, author of "The Gospel According to Oprah:"

Winfrey has become a billionaire and one of world's most powerful women by baring her soul and urging millions of others to follow her example, resulting in what some critics call the "Oprahfication" of America. However, it's almost impossible to answer this simple question: What does Oprah believe?

"She sounds like a person who was raised in a Baptist church," said Nelson, who spent months digging into Winfrey's beliefs on suffering, gratitude, generosity, forgiveness and other spiritual topics.

"Still, it's hard to put a label on Oprah because she refuses to let people do that to her. ...You'd have to say that she looks a lot more like a Protestant than she does a Catholic, but what does that mean? It's hard to say what a person needs to believe these days to be called a 'Protestant.' "

Winfrey retains the ability to slip smoothly into the "mother tongue" she learned as a child in black churches, noted Nelson. For a few years as an adult, she attended the Trinity United Church of Christ, a progressive congregation in Chicago known as Sen. Barack Obama's home church. Then, during her "Remember Your Spirit" period in the 1990s, conservatives criticized her ties to Marianne Williamson ("A Return to Love") and other New Age writers who blurred the lines between Christianity and other faiths.

The key is that Winfrey has been a trailblazer who symbolizes many contemporary religious trends.

— Many Americans, said Nelson, are drawn to a "practical, how-to, self-help, just-do-it" approach to faith and personal growth that meshes smoothly with the parade of counselors, doctors, writers and ministers — of every conceivable faith — featured on "The Oprah Winfrey Show." It's crucial that the host looks straight into the camera and says: "This works."

Thus, noted Nelson, Winfrey has "been roundly criticized for making the spiritual too psychological, too therapeutic, too soft, too easy, too self-centered. The gospel according to Oprah doesn't appear to require some kind of doctrinal commitment or a community to ensure that the life-changing 'Aha!' moment of decision is more than a new year's resolution that is quickly made in isolation and broken two weeks later."

— The public loves complex, conflicted celebrities and Winfrey is the spiritual superstar. She quietly supports humble projects near home, yet courts publicity by flying off to start gigantic projects around the world — such as the new \$40-million Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy near Johannesburg.

She tells women to love themselves they way they are, but keeps offering weight-loss tips. She urges viewers to give to others, but also to pamper themselves. Winfrey says women should embrace their maturity, but shows them how to look 10 years younger. She advises women on private moral dilemmas, but fiercely guards her own privacy.

— One of the fastest growing segments of the population consists of people who call themselves "spiritual," but not "religious," noted Nelson. Winfrey clicks with media-driven

Please see OPRAH/page E5



MICHAEL SWITZER/AP

The Rev. John Dixon is dressed in the traditional vestments he wears during services at Holy Spirit Antiochian Orthodox church in Huntington, W.Va., Dec. 10, 2006. Like many Orthodox parishes throughout the country, Holy Spirit has a mix of converts and those raised in the faith. Dixon is surrounded by the icons and artwork that adorn most Orthodox churches.

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THEOLOGY, JOINING
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN
CHURCHES

TOM BREEN

The Associated Press

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — Greg Mencotti worried he would never find a spiritual home.

The Sunday school teacher grew up Roman Catholic, lost his faith and became an atheist. Eventually, he returned to Christianity, this time as a born-again Christian, spending years worshipping in a Methodist congregation. Still, he felt his search wasn't over.

That led him to the Holy Spirit Antiochian Orthodox Church in Huntington, a denomination with Mideast roots that, like all Orthodox groups, traces its origins to the earliest days of Christianity.

Today, Mencotti is one of about 250 million Orthodox believers worldwide — and among a significant number of newcomers attracted to this ancient way of worship. The trend is especially notable since so few in the United States know about the Orthodox churches here.

"I was like most Americans," said Mencotti, who was urged by his wife to explore Orthodox worship. "I didn't understand anything about Orthodoxy."

Orthodoxy was born from the Great Schism of 1054, when feuds over papal authority and differences in the liturgy split Christianity into Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox halves.

In the United States, Orthodox Christians are a fraction of religious believers, numbering about



MICHAEL SWITZER/AP

A Bible sits on the lectern at Holy Spirit Antiochian Orthodox Church Dec. 1, 2006, in Huntington, W.Va.

1.2 million, according to estimates by Orthodox researchers.

In the past, their growth had been largely fueled by immigration, with churches forming mainly along ethnic lines. Some converts came to Orthodoxy through marriage to a church member.

But now about one-third of all U.S. Orthodox priests are converts — and that number is likely to grow, according to Alexei D. Krindatch, research director at the Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute in Berkeley, Calif. A 2006 survey of the four Orthodox seminaries in the country found that about 43 percent of seminarians are converts, Krindatch said.

There are no exact figures on the rate of conversion across the 22 separate U.S. Orthodox juris-

dictions. But when Mencotti began attending Orthodox worship, the church was packed with converts, including the church's pastor, the Rev. John Dixon.

The Rev. John Matusiak, pastor of St. Joseph Church in Wheaton, Ill., part of the Orthodox Church in America, said his parish has grown from 20 people in the early 1990s to more than 600 today, with the overwhelming majority of new members younger than 40.

Krindatch's research found that one-third of the more than 200 U.S. parishes in the Antiochian Orthodox Church were founded after 1990.

Matusiak said growth is especially apparent in suburbs and commuter towns. "People in Wheaton weren't flocking to Orthodoxy,

because there was never a church here," Matusiak said.

Many converts credit the beauty of the liturgy and the durability of the theology, which can be a comfort to those seeking shelter from divisive battles over biblical interpretation in other Christian traditions.

Dixon, who was raised an Old Regular Baptist, an austere faith of the Southern Appalachians, said his conversion grew from his studies about the origins of Christianity as an undergraduate at Marshall University. The turning point came when he first attended services at an Orthodox church.

"As soon as I came in that day," he says, "I knew I was home."

Convert-fueled growth, though, has its challenges.

Like converts in all faiths, the newly Orthodox bring a zeal that can be unsettling for those born into the church, who tend to be more easygoing in their religious observance. Parishes run the risk of dividing between new and lifelong parishioners, Krindatch says.

"Converts to Orthodoxy form their own little quasi-seminary and it's almost a closed group," says the Rev. Joseph Huneycutt, associate pastor of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church in Houston, who was raised Southern Baptist then became Orthodox.

And some worry about converts' impact on the churches. They are entering the parishes at a time when many lay activists across Orthodox denominations are pushing church leaders to let go of ethnic divisions and pool resources so they can better evangelize in the United States.

Huneycutt, author of "One Flew Over the Onion Dome," a book about conversion, and the editor of OrthoDixie, a blog about Orthodoxy in the South, said he was drawn to the faith by the beauty of its rituals and its

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Hastings Irrigation Pipe Co.
Irrigation Technology Since 1949
Management & Staff

Brand-Wilson Chapel
Murray Wilson Jr. & Bob Wilson
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Local

SECOND NATURE

The Tennessee-based trio Second Nature will perform in concert Sunday at 6 p.m. at North Shore Assembly of God, 100 W. 33rd St.

Second Nature is comprised of the husband-and-wife team of JP and Kristina Hodges and JP's sister, Lauralise Hodges. They will perform country gospel songs and Lauralise will deliver her testimony of how God delivered her from an addiction to crystal meth.

There is no admission charge. For information, call (402) 462-5742.

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

The United Methodist Committee on Relief has granted the Nebraska United Methodist Conference \$10,000 for disaster relief work in the areas affected by the January snow and ice storm.

To help with relief efforts, the conference has established the Nebraska Winter Storm Relief 2007 fund. Donations may be sent to: Winter Storm Relief 2007, Nebraska United Methodist Conference, P.O. Box 4553, Lincoln, NE 68504.

UMCOR and individual contributions will be distributed according to need. A disaster committee has been established that will work through United Methodist churches to issue food and gasoline vouchers to assist those most directly affected by this situation.

Those in need are encouraged to contact any local United Methodist Church and that information will be passed along to the Southwest District office of the conference.

Oprah: What are her core beliefs?

Continued from page E4

en, postmodern believers who stress the importance of personal experience and storytelling over the authority of religious institutions and doctrines. Meanwhile, many churches are trying to shed old names and labels, calling themselves "community churches" and adopting other post-denominational names.

The bottom line, said Nelson, is that for generations Americans were able to rally around a kind of tame, "nominal" Judeo-Christian faith that lets them affirm a few common traditions and many old-fashioned values. But this has become harder after waves of immigration from the Middle East, Asia, Africa and elsewhere.

American is becoming more pluralistic on faith issues and that has always been just fine with Winfrey. She is all about spirituality, not doctrine.

If she has a creed she keeps it hidden.

"Oprah's clothes may bear labels, but her faith does not," noted Nelson.

"I don't know what her personal beliefs are."

Terry Mattingly is a columnist for Scripps Howard News Service. Contact Mattingly online at www.tmattnet.net



STEPHAN SAVOIA/AP

Thomas Kelly, 78, and his wife of 43 years, Janet, 70, pose together in the front yard of their North Kingstown, R.I., home Dec. 30, 2006. The Kellys, devout Catholics, have signed power of attorney documents giving each other control over their spouse's end-of-life care and the right to decide when treatment should stop.

Spurred by Schiavo, Catholics turn to church for legal guidance

RAY HENRY
The Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Thomas Kelly embraces life, having survived two bouts with cancer. But when the end comes, the retired nurse is leaving nothing to chance.

Appalled by seeing swollen hospital patients on feeding tubes and respirators during his career, Kelly, 78, signed a legal document with the encouragement of his Roman Catholic priest. It permits his wife to stop those treatments once death is imminent — and not any sooner.

Catholics around the country are turning to their churches for similar fill-in-the-blank documents that turn Catholic teachings into legally binding agreements about how they want to die. Many signers cite Terry Schiavo, whose case sparked a 15-year legal battle that grew beyond her family all the way to the White House over whether she should be allowed to die.

In a persistent vegetative state, her husband ordered her feeding tube removed against her parents' vehement opposition, and she died in 2005. Some, including the Vatican, likened her death to murder.

"I don't think I have any right as a Catholic to say when my life should end," Kelly said. "I don't think I have a right to take my own life, a right to take anyone else's life, and I certainly don't want anyone taking my own life."

Troubled by the Schiavo case, Kelly attended a seminar organized by the Rev. Christopher Mahar, associate pastor of Our Lady of Mercy parish in East Greenwich to help guide his parishioners following Schiavo's case.

Mahar said he intended to hand out a legal form the diocese produced about a decade ago, but stopped when he realized it was more permissive than more recent guidance from the Vatican about when feeding tubes should be removed.

"To remove it would be considered passive euthanasia," said the priest, who's now working to draft a new document. "I guess what the church is trying to do is keep up with the times."

Known as a durable power of attorney, the document will eventually become the centerpiece of an information packet about death that Catholic leaders in Rhode Island could one day hand out in hospitals, hospices or local churches.

The form allows the signer to designate a medical decision-maker in case the signer becomes incapable. That person would be constrained by church teachings, including prohibitions against mercy killing.

Dioceses in South Dakota, Florida, Michigan and Washington states already distribute similar packets, some with legal paperwork that people can easily complete and sign. The Vatican's top health official recently backed the use of living wills, a similar legal document, in Italy.

The National Catholic Bioethics Center, which advises many Catholic institutions, also revised its own durable power of attorney after the Schiavo case. It has shipped thousands of the forms from its Philadelphia headquarters, and demand peaked when the Schiavo case headed to court.

"They were going out in extraordinary numbers then," said Edward Furton, an ethicist who works at the center.

While all the documents work off the same core church teachings, they sometimes reach different conclusions, particularly on when and how feeding tubes can be removed.

In general, the Catholic Church teaches that believers are morally required to seek ordinary care, or medical treatment that offers a reasonable hope of benefit and isn't overly burdensome.

Anything else is usually termed extraordinary treatment and considered optional.

Applying centuries-old guidelines in an age of respirators and feeding tubes has challenged church authorities.

Before Schiavo died, the late Pope John Paul II said that feeding tubes should be considered mandatory care for vegetative patients, even if hope for a full recovery wanes. Theologians say exceptions can be made when patients can't digest food or water or when the tube itself causes other serious medical conditions.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 465 S. Marian Rd. Hastings, NE 68901-7401 Saturday Worship 6:00 p.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. (8:00 a.m. Service Broadcast over KHAS Radio) Pastor Dan Heuer	FIRST CHRISTIAN (Disciples of Christ) 1201 Sheridan Drive, Hastings, NE 402-463-7121 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Reverend Judith Allen
ST. CECILIA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 6th Street and Kansas Ave., Hastings, NE 402-463-1336 Mass Monday-Friday 7 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. Saturday Mass 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday Mass 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Father Lawrence Gyhra, Father Christopher Goodwin, Father Joseph Nguyen and Father Jim Meysenburg	EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH 2015 N. St. Joseph Ave., Hastings, NE 402-463-1441 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Randy Madison, Senior Pastor Matt Sass, Adult Ministries Pastor Joel Stark, Student Ministries
ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 715 Creighton Ave., Hastings • 463-1023 Mass Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. and 8:10 a.m. Saturday Mass 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday Mass 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Confession Saturday 3:43:30 p.m. Reverend Michael Houlihan Father Jerel Scholl	LITTLE BLUE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP Highways 14 and 4 Junction 7 miles North of Nelson, NE Sunday Worship 10 a.m. Reverend David Sellers
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 700 W. 22nd Street, Hastings, NE 402-463-6776 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Children/Youth/Adult Activities and Service Wednesday 7 p.m. Reverend David L. Speicher	BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH 316 N. Lexington Ave., Hastings, NE 402-462-6365 Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship at 10:45 a.m., AWANA Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.; Life Groups, Youth Groups. Paul Knott, Senior Pastor Jerry Bumgardner, Assoc. Pastor
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 621 N. Lincoln Ave. • 402-462-5147 www.fcphastings.org 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School Pastor: Reverend Dr. William Nottage-Tacey Assoc. Pastor: Reverend John H.G. Curtiss Proclaiming the Love of Christ in the Heart of Hastings since 1873	REDEEMER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (Wisconsin Synod) 709 N. Baltimore, Hastings, NE 402-462-9623 Sunday School 8:45 a.m., Bible Class 9:00 a.m., Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Pastor Robert Smith
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 401 N. Lincoln, Hastings, NE 402-462-5624 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Combined Service 10:00 a.m. Pastor Ron Reed	FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 2810 W. 7th St., Hastings, NE 68901 (402) 462-4136 www.fcuchastings.org Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m. All Sunday School Classes at 9:15 a.m. Reverend Barry Rempp Licensed Lay Minister Karen Roback
GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1832 W. 9th St., Hastings, NE 402-463-5696 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Reverend Jim Miller and Lee Wigert	PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 906 N. California, Hastings, NE 402-462-9023 Worship 9:00 a.m. Education Hour 10:15 a.m. Carl Rehwaldt, Vacancy Pastor
NEW YORK AVENUE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 402 New York Avenue, Hastings, NE 402-462-9903 or 462-5379 Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship at 10:45 a.m. Pastor Roy Peister	SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL PRO-CATHEDRAL 5th Street and Burlington 402-462-4126 Holy Eucharist Sunday at 8 & 10 a.m. Church School at 9 a.m. Wednesday 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist The Rev. Robert Neske, Dean The Rev. Betsy Blake Bennett, Deacon
NORTH SHORE ASSEMBLY OF GOD 100 West 33rd St., Hastings, NE 402-462-5742 Sunday Mornings at 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Sunday Evening at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Family Night at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Youth at 7:00 p.m. at 405 W. 2nd St.	LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, ELCA 1338 Saunders, Hastings, NE 402-463-2087 Sunday Worship at 9 a.m. Sunday School - all ages at 10:15 a.m. Broadcast at 8:30 p.m. Friday Channel 12 Pastor John Lee Ross
NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP 102 S. Lincoln Ave. 469-1855 or 469-0756 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship time following service welcometonewlife.homestead.com Pastor Steve Markle	SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 400 S. St. Joseph Ave., Hastings, NE 402-463-3338 Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Dr. W.T. "Bud" Israel
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 9th and Chestnut Streets, Hastings, NE 402-462-5044 Sunday Worship at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Education Hour at 9:15 a.m. Pastors Carl H. Rehwaldt & Paul Dunbar	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 7th and Hastings Ave., Hastings, NE 402-463-6733 Worship Saturday at 6 p.m. in Jones Chapel Church School at 10:00 a.m. Sunday Praise Worship at 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Earl Higgins
FIRST ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 501 N. Burlington Ave., Hastings, NE 463-1329 Saturday Worship at 6 p.m.; Traditional Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.; Contemporary Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Education Hour at 9:30 a.m.; Service Broadcast over KHAS Radio at 11:00 a.m.; Telecast on Channel 12 on Monday at 4 p.m. and Thursday at 5 p.m. Rev. Joel Remmers & Rev. Adam White	WATERMARK COMMUNITY CHURCH (Formerly Keystone Baptist Church) 1814 W. B St., Hastings, NE 402-463-0478 9:00 a.m. Bible Study for all ages 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Pastor Scott Paris
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 219 N. Hastings Sunday 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Wednesday • 7:00 p.m. "Patch the Pirate" Club • Ages K4-4th Pastor Rob Thornton • 461-3054	VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH 1204 West 5th, Hastings, NE 402-984-1860 Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m. Pastor Dr. Bill Gilliland
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA A friendly open-country church 2 miles west of Glenvil on Assumption Rd. 402-771-2257 9:15 Sunday School (Sept.-May); 10:30 Worship Youth, Men's and Women's ministries Pastor Larry L. Handeland	EASTERN ORTHODOX St. George Antiochian Orthodox 1505 Avenue G, Kearney, NE 308-236-6115 Sunday 9:00 a.m. - Orthros and Confession 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy Father Christopher Morris
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 204 W. Johnson, Clay Center, NE 402-762-3723 June-August - Summer Sunday Worship Service Time 9:30 a.m. No Sunday School during the summer. Monday Evening Worship Time 7:30 p.m.	EAGLES NEST CHURCH 134 Barnes, Hastings, NE 463-3214 Sunday Prayer & Worship 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Pastor: Ron Young
LIFEHOUSE 1½ miles South of Hwy. 6 on Marian Road in the Barn Warehouse Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m. www.lifehouse.org 469-5827	SOUTH STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST 200 E. South, Hastings, NE 462-5804 Sunday Services Bible Classes at 9:30 a.m. Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. http://gobay.com/churchofchrist/
If your church would like to be listed in this Church Directory, please call (402) 461-1231 or 1-800-742-6397.	

Chosen House Of Worship This Sabbath:

Farris Construction Jim Farris and Employees 137 East E Street 462-8732	Livingston-Butler and Volland Funeral Home 1225 N. Elm 462-2147	Bernard Pavelka Trucking, Inc. 1215 East J 462-4650
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Wal-Mart and Associates	Halloran Battery & Electric Complete Repair Service Richard Halloran & Staff	Jackson Funeral Home Kenesaw, NE Jean Opbroek and Murray Wilson
Transportation Equipment Co. Maurice & Barb Gartner		

SOCIAL GUIDELINES

- ◆ The deadline to submit social announcements and club news is Monday for same-week publication.
- ◆ Club news items must be received no later than one month after the meeting.
- ◆ Five-generation photos will be published.
- ◆ The Tribune cannot print copyrighted photographs without written consent of the copyright owner.
- ◆ Photos may be picked up in the newsroom after the item is published or returned by mail with a self-addressed, stamped envelope only.
- ◆ The Tribune is not responsible for photos that are lost or errors caused by illegible handwritten reports.
- ◆ All stories will be edited for clarity, brevity and news value. For information, call (402) 461-1251.

Menu

Adams County Senior Services Inc. provides noon meals Monday through Friday at the Golden Friendship Center, 509 S. Bellevue Ave., and Good Samaritan Village Goldbeck Towers, 721 S. First Ave., for people 60 and older. Reservations must be made by calling (402) 463-4439 by 2:30 p.m. one day in advance.

◆ Tuesday: Barbecue country rib, baked potato, green bean supreme, lettuce salad with Ranch dressing, French bread and pink applesauce.

◆ Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn, coleslaw, wheat dinner roll and birthday and anniversary day Jell-O cake with whipping topping.

◆ Thursday: Taco salad, refried beans, Spanish rice, tortilla chips and baked apples.

◆ Friday: Chicken noodle soup, ½ chicken sandwich, peach Jell-O with peaches, wheat bread and crackers and strawberry rhubarb pie.

◆ Jan. 22: Lasagna bake, green beans, lettuce salad with Dorothy Lynch dressing, garlic bread and fresh fruit cup.

Noon meals also are served at the Kenesaw Senior Center the second Thursday of the month; at the Roseland Town Hall on the first and third Tuesdays of the month; and at Juniata the third Thursday of the month. Reservations may be made by calling the Golden Friendship Center by the Friday before the serving day.

Nation

ASHES STOLEN
NEW PORT RICHEY, Fla. — Eve and Steven Greene made a simple plea to the burglar who broke into their house: Keep the valuables. Return the cremated remains of their 4-year-old son.

"Just drop it off somewhere with a note on it," Steven Greene said. "And that'll be that."

It worked. Someone left the urn containing the ashes of 4-year-old Zachary Greene at the end of the Greens' driveway Wednesday morning, two days after it was taken in a burglary.

Police said a burglar broke into the home, snacked on Cheerios and tracked mud all over the house as he filled pillowcases with about \$10,000 worth of valuables — and Zachary's ashes.

Zachary died of cancer in 2005. His parents kept the urn above their fireplace next to a Play Doh fire truck Zachary made before he died.

SNOWBALLS SOLD
LOVELAND, Colo. — Three snowballs from Loveland have sold on the eBay Internet auction site for \$200.

Chris Hansen, a firefighter from Milford, Conn., said he bought the snow for his daughters, ages 12, 14, and 16.

With the East experiencing unseasonably warm weather, Hansen said his daughters got everything they wanted for Christmas except snow.

Hansen went online and found the listing by Mary Walker of Loveland, who auctioned off snow from two monster storms that dumped more than 4 feet along the Front Range.

Hansen said he plans to freeze the snowballs until his family decides what to do with them.

The Associated Press

Engagements

PFEIFER-BOETTCHER

Gale and Teresa Boettcher of Blue Hill would like to announce the engagement of their daughter, Amber Rae, to Derek Daniel Pfeifer, both of Kearney. A sunset wedding is planned for March 7, 2007 on Poolenalena Beach in Maui, Hawaii.

Parents of the groom are Dan and Yvonne Pfeifer of Deer Lodge, Montana.

Miss Boettcher is a 2000 graduate of Blue Hill High School and a 2004 graduate of Hastings College with a BA in secondary education. She is currently employed by Shelton Public Schools as a high school math teacher and assistant girls basketball coach.

Pfeifer is a 1998 graduate of Powell County High School and a 2002 graduate of Montana Tech of the University of Montana in Butte, Montana with a BS in



general engineering with a mechanical option. He is currently employed by Northwestern Energy in Kearney.

A reception for the couple will be held June 9, 2007 in Kearney.

HORN - KLUSMAN

Benjamin and Barbara Horn of Overton would like to announce the engagement and approaching wedding of their daughter, Shonda, to Cody Klusman, son of Douglas and Kimberley Klusman of Kenesaw.

The bride-to-be graduated from Overton Public School and is employed at Cabela's in Kearney.

The groom-to-be graduated from Kenesaw Public School and is employed at Baldwin Filters in Kearney.

Both are attending classes at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.



Shonda and Cody plan a February 10, 2007 wedding at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Kearney, Nebraska.

RASMUSSEN- COOK

Rebecca Kay Rasmussen and Aaron Christopher Cook, both of Lincoln, announce their plans for an August 10, 2007, wedding at St. Cecilia Catholic Church in Hastings.

Parents of the couple are Leif and Kim Rasmussen of Omaha and Tim and Jeanne Cook of Hastings.

Miss Rasmussen is currently a student at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln majoring in History and minoring in German, Classics, and Philosophy and is also an Army Reservist.

Cook is currently a student at the University of Nebraska



at Lincoln majoring in International Studies and Pre-Med.

Wedding

GARNICK-RUTT



Heather Garnick and Christopher Rutt, both of Hastings, were married October 21 at First United Methodist Church in Hastings. The bride is employed by Head Start in Hastings. Rutt is self employed by Don Rutt Plumbing and Heating in Hastings.

Birthday

70TH BIRTHDAY



Larry Stromer is being honored with a card shower for his 70th birthday, January 22, 2007. Greetings may be sent to our home, 819 Circle N, Hastings, NE 68901.

Woman crafts 'Jersey Jewel' for fair

The Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — The woman who created sculptures of cows out of butter for the Iowa State Fair for decades has switched materials.

Norma "Duffy" Lyon, 77, has cast a cow in bronze for the Iowa State University Dairy Farm.

Her life-size metallic cow called "Jersey Jewel," which took six months to complete, began with clay around a metal frame and was shipped to New York where it was cast in bronze.



MIKE DERER/AP

Freehold Township Police Lt. Robert Brightman holds a meteorite during a news conference in Freehold Township, N.J., Jan. 3.

"It could have done great damage and destruction," Srinivasan Nageswaran marveled. "It could have hurt our people."

About 50 meteorites reach the Earth's surface each year, but with humans occupying only a small part of the planet, there is only one report every year or two of meteorites hitting buildings, said Tim McCoy, curator of the Smithsonian Institution's meteorite collection.

Every meteorite serves as a "poor man's space probe," yielding information on how the solar system formed, McCoy said.

"There's been fewer than 5,000 meteorites found over the surface of the Earth in the recorded history of mankind," McCoy said. "Every time we get a new one, it's an important event."

Meteorites that hit buildings can be sold for thousands of dollars.

Clubs

CHRISTIAN WOMEN

The Hastings Christian Women's Club met Dec. 11, with Cheryl Dunagan, of Grand Island, as the speaker. The Longfellow Ambassadors, under the direction of Deb Dowling, presented a Christmas musical program.

The next luncheon meeting is 12:30 p.m. Jan. 15 at the Knights of Columbus with the theme "Spice Up Your Life." Rhonda Kolbet, of The Kensington, will present "What is an Activity Director?" and Sandy Sipp, of Lincoln, will speak and provide music. For reservations, call Julie at (402) 462-4793 or Gloria at (402) 463-1270.

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church met Dec. 13.

Group 2 met at Jean Portwood's home, with 10 members present. Dolores Golitz and Dorcas Campbell were co-hostesses. Martha Krabel gave the devotions and read the Christmas story. The members shared Christmas stories for the program.

Group 3 met at Patsy Hoff's home, with eight members and one guest present. Cathy Fricke and Fran Hammond were co-hostesses for the holiday brunch. Wilma Price gave a program on "Shoes."

Group 4 met at Barb and Lela Peck's home. They gave the devotions and the program "God Will Take of You."

Group 5 met at Margaret Cordle's home, with 14 members present. Doris Rowley was co-hostess. Leola Wiens gave the devotions "No Room." Margaret Neeman gave the program on the meaning of the letters spelling Christmas.

Group 6 met at Mint Miller's home, with 11 members present. Jean Smith was co-hostess. Shirley Baker gave the devotions "A Christmas Meditation." Christmas memories were shared by all and the group closed the meeting by playing handbells and singing carols.

CZECH SOCIETY

The South Central Nebraska Czech Society met Dec. 10 at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post Home in Hastings. President Donna Gruntorad opened the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given and roll call was taken by towns.

Gruntorad gave the report on the state meeting of Czechs of Nebraska, which she attended Nov. 17 in Prague Neb. A donation of \$200 was given to the UNL Czech Language Foundation. Gruntorad has been elected to fill the office of treasurer.

Naomi Harnagel, of Kearney, donated several large calendars she had purchased in the Czech Republic when she had been there on tours and doing genealogy research. These will be kept with library materials.

George Janko, of Trumbull; Don Vorce, of Davenport; and Paul Kothe, of Hastings, provided accordion music for entertainment.

Tom and Deanie Wanek, of Aurora, and Elsie Houdek, of Chapman, were hosts. The members furnished finger foods.

The next meeting is 1:30 p.m. Jan. 14 at the VFW in Hastings.

QUILT GUILD

The Hastings Quilt Guild met Jan. 4 at First St. Paul's Lutheran Church, with 38 members, one guest and the newest member, Sharon Steenbarger, present. Nita and Joan Bramble, Ruth Kyle, Sharon Uden and Vicki Gerloff were co-hostesses.

President Elsa Barr called the meeting to order. Mary Underwood won the door prize, and Sharon Selley won the monthly raffle. Show and tell followed the meeting.

The program was learning different ways to applique, which was taught by some of the members. Quilt games were also played.

The next meeting is Feb. 1 at the church. The program will be given by Debbie Warren, proprietress of material girl, on "Embellishments with Color."

Wisconsin city fights to keep stink out of rink

The Associated Press

WISCONSIN RAPIDS, Wis. — The city will soon find out if its campaign to keep the stink out of a rink is working.

The Witter Field ice rink has a 2-year-old, \$196,000 warming house — as well as a not-so-savory reputation for its late-season odor.

Bill Mohr says visits to the rink often end back home at the washing machine to clean his daughters' winter clothes of the stink after they fall on the ice.

"You ask just about anybody who goes out there and they will tell you. ... It's almost like a sewer," Mohr said.

Dan Morzewski, relief supervisor with the city's Park and Recreation Department, said the problem isn't believed to be the ice but the dead grass beneath it.

In late January and February, sunshine heats the ground and

causes an ooze of mud and grass that bubbles to the surface at soft spots in the ice, he said.

"We end up with what we call boils — areas where it boils up kind of like a volcano," Morzewski said. "It smells in my opinion like manure."

Because of the mild winter this year, the city has only opened the rink two days, but a cold snap this week allowed for reflooding the rink to reopen it for the rest of the season, he said.

If the weather cooperates, skaters should learn in coming weeks whether the city solved the problem this year by scraping away the grass before flooding the rink.

NEW SOCIAL GUIDELINES

- There is a charge to publish all wedding, engagement and anniversary announcements.
- All announcements will be handled by the advertising department. All announcements must be paid for when placing ads. Please call ahead, 462-2131, to schedule an appointment to submit your information. Forms may be picked up in the advertising department or may be filled out when placing your announcement.

- **Deadline for the Saturday Tribune Social Page is Monday at 4:00 p.m.**
- **Proofs must be returned or approved by 4:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to publication. The Tribune cannot be responsible for errors after this deadline.**

- The Tribune cannot print copyrighted photographs without written consent of the copyright owner.
- Photos may be picked up at the Tribune after the item is published or returned by mail with a self-addressed, stamped envelope only.

- The Tribune is not responsible for photos that are lost or errors caused by illegible handwritten reports.
- All announcements may be edited for clarity. For information, call (402) 462-2131.

Happy 90th Birthday
Ole Alberts!

Bill, Gary and Patty Alberts invite you to join in the 90th birthday celebration for their father, Nels Oliver Ole Alberts!

Birthday Reception will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2007 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, Aurora, Nebraska.

Wish this guy a
Happy 80th Birthday
on
January 20th.



The family of
Dalbert Pittman invite you to help celebrate his special day by sending him a card at 527 Lane F Hastings, NE 68901

Nation

DETERMINED RATS

TUCSON, Ariz. — Residents of a neighborhood next to the University of Arizona say small white rats have been swimming through sewer pipes and into their toilets.

Laura Hagen Fairbanks, spokeswoman for the county's Wastewater Management Department, said she doesn't know where the rodents come from, though they are the kind researchers use in labs.

University representatives note that the same type of rats are sold in pet stores as food for snakes and other animals.

George Humphrey, spokesman for the Arizona Health Sciences Center, said university researchers follow strict guidelines for their lab specimens. Lab rats are euthanized, then double-bagged in biowaste plastic bags before they are taken to Phoenix and cremated.

"There would be no evidence that these are connected to us, and I wouldn't want that to become an urban myth," Humphrey said.

Hagen Fairbanks said no one knows why the rats are found in only one small area of town or why they show their faces only once or twice a year.

Making it from the sewer up the lines into someone's toilet is a difficult trip, she said.

A four-inch wide pipe called the house connection sewer runs from the house to a sewer main. There's no "trap door" or other barrier in place, she said.

If the lines are running, the rats have to hold their breath and swim uphill in the pipes against the water current.

"If the rat makes it through your HCS, that's a determined rat," she said.

When calls come in, the department can dispose of the rat if the homeowner hasn't done so already.

ESCAPE ACT

KEY WEST, Fla. — An escape artist whose dive into choppy waters prompted a two-day search-and-rescue mission now has to watch his money disappear.

A Key West judge on Tuesday ordered Michael Patrick, who performs as "Patrick the Escape Artist," to pay \$60,000 restitution to the Coast Guard, the city's fire and police departments and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for their search following his Oct. 31 back-flip into Key West Harbor.

Police found him the next day at a Key West house with his girlfriend, planning, they told The Miami Herald, a "big ta-da."

The judge found Patrick, who has already served 60-days in jail, guilty of culpable negligence, a second-degree misdemeanor.

Patrick's escape act for the past 15 years at Mallory Square's Sunset Celebration included hanging upside down while freeing himself from chains and a straitjacket.

He changed his routine on Halloween, back-flipping into 35-foot-deep waters. Several audience members dived in when he didn't immediately resurface.

The Associated Press

World

HANDLING CHOPSTICKS

TOKYO — Students need not apply to one Japanese high school unless they can demonstrate dexterity with a pair of chopsticks.

Successful applicants to the Hisatagakuen Sasebo Girls' High School in south Japan must be able to transfer marbles, beads and beans from one plate to another using just a pair of chopsticks, Kyodo News agency reported, citing the school's principal Junko Hisata.

New entrance requirements judge applicants' lifestyle habits through their handling of chopsticks. The exam must be taken by all applicants — aged 15 or 16 years — starting with those wishing to enroll in April, the start of Japan's academic year, the report said.

The Associated Press

CYNTHIA HUBERT

Sacramento Bee

Perhaps "The Terminator" should switch to Pilates.

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has set the standard for fitness while occupying office, also has had some high-profile injuries.

On Dec. 23, a ski mishap left him with a fractured femur that had to be surgically repaired. Last year, a motorcycle accident left him with a fat lip, 15 stitches and a bruised ego. The former Mr. Universe probably should have learned his lesson in 2001 when he fractured six ribs in a motorcycle crash.

It seems that Schwarzenegger, still buff at 59, is suffering from "boomeritis," the plethora of problems that affect athletes who are past 40 but insist on playing like they're in their 20s.

"People today are staying fit as they age, and that's good," said Jill Jackson, head athletic trainer for the Women's National Basketball Association's Sacramento Monarchs and a physical therapy assistant. But if you're middle-aged or beyond, participation requires preparation, even for a former champion body builder.

"A lot of big, strong, muscular men probably think they can't get hurt," Jackson said. "But as

you get older, flexibility is an issue, and warming up is really important."

Otherwise you might end up in the hospital, like Schwarzenegger.

The governor was hardly hot-dogging it when he suffered his ski injury, reported an instructor who was with him in Sun Valley, Idaho, that day. The instructor said Schwarzenegger was standing still when he tripped over a ski pole and fell — a highly unusual way to break such a large bone, according to doctors. He underwent surgery on his femur and is hobbling around on crutches.

Amateur athletes of the baby boom generation are keeping medical offices and emergency rooms busy, studies show. A Bureau of Labor Statistics survey found that infirmities associated with athletic activities among middle-aged adults caused 488 million days of restricted work in 2002. Sports injuries among baby boomers increased a whopping 33 percent in the 1990s, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

"I see a lot of boomers with athletic injuries," said Dr. Meredith Bean, director of sports medicine at Kaiser Permanente Sacramento.

Some are former athletes suffering from the long-term effects

of overusing their muscles and joints, she said. Others are aging weekend warriors who, in their minds, can still play quarterback, run the tennis court or hit the slopes the way they did in high school. Many end up with ruptured tendons, blown-out knees and broken wrists and ankles.

"Boomers are the first generation of Americans who have remained very active and athletic into middle age," said Bean. Eventually, she said, those activities "catch up with them. There's a lot of wear and tear on their tendons and cartilage" and an increased risk of serious injury.

What's a boomer to do? Keep moving but do it carefully.

The benefits of fitness in middle age "far outweigh the risks" of suffering an injury, said Bean, who is 35 and enjoys mountain biking, skiing and running. "The good news is that anyone of any age who is planning on participating in athletic activities can do some conditioning to decrease their risks."



Tips for exercising in the boomer years

CYNTHIA HUBERT

Sacramento Bee

A few ways to stay on your feet — and away from the doc.

You can slow the aging process by remaining active in your boomer years and beyond, according to the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Staying fit makes your muscles and joints function better, keeps your bones strong and decreases your risk of heart attack and stroke.

Here are some tips for exercising safely, especially if you are 40 or older.

◆ Before hitting the slopes or heading out for a long run, take time to warm up and stretch. Research has shown that cold muscles are more prone to injury. Do jumping jacks, ride a stationary bicycle, or run or walk in place for about five minutes. Then gently stretch your leg muscles, holding each stretch for 30 seconds.

◆ Don't succumb to the "weekend warrior" syndrome. Exercising only on weekends sets you up for trouble. Aim for at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity every day. That can include walking the dog, gardening, or taking the stairs instead of an elevator.

◆ Take lessons and invest in good equipment. Proper instruction can reduce the chance of developing an over-use injury such as tendonitis. Select the proper shoes for your sport. When the treads start to look worn, it's time to replace them.

◆ Listen to your body. As you age, you may find that you are not as limber as you once were or that you can't tolerate the types of activities you did in years past. Modify your exercise to meet your body's needs.

◆ Use the 10 percent rule — when changing your activity level, increase it by no more

than 10 percent a week. If you normally walk two miles a day, don't suddenly switch to four miles.

◆ Vary your activities so that you are regularly using different muscle groups. For example, alternate days of walking with biking, aerobic dancing or swimming.

◆ Develop a balanced fitness program that includes aerobic and flexibility exercises as well as strength training. This will prevent you from getting bored and lessen your chances of injury.

◆ Add activities and new exercises cautiously. Add no more than one or two new exercises per workout.

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Hastings Tribune

Too late for insurance, still time to invest

DEAR BRUCE: My husband and I are retired and have a question about saving for the future. We are almost debt free. We have a small \$1,500 personal note to pay off after our last car payment this September. I usually save \$300 a month and plan on just putting it in savings. It doesn't earn much interest there. I do not have a life-insurance policy and was wondering if it would be a good idea to get one, or just keep saving. My husband could pay for my last wishes if the time comes, so that is why I ask about getting a life-insurance policy.



Bruce Williams

— **Jan in Iowa**

DEAR JAN: Going to the end of your letter, I don't see any purpose in considering insurance at this late time in your life. It might have been wise to purchase it years ago, but not now.

As to investing, it's not likely taxes are a major consideration given your age and the income you've suggested. Putting the money into savings is not a good move since, as you've pointed out, you get a very small return on your money. There are many marketable securities that, in my view, offer minimal risk and easily could return, in dividends and appreciation, two to three times as much as the low-risk savings you're considering. At the very least, you want to think about this. Many articles in your local newspaper and financial magazines can give you some guidance and, of course, a good stockbroker could be very useful if you're totally without personal knowledge.

DEAR BRUCE: My mother passed away a month ago and left no will. She had no assets except for an aging mobile home with many structural problems. She has several credit-card debts in excess of \$25,000. My sister lived with her during the final years and tended to her. Will the home now go to probate and be sold to pay off creditors? Will my sister be forced onto the streets? She is still living in the home and has nowhere else to go. The mobile home's mortgage balance is \$23,000. It's probably not worth much on the market because of its condition. A home next door, in very good condition, sold for \$70,000. We live in California. I appreciate your help! P.S. Are surviving family members responsible for any debts, even though my mother's name was solely on everything?

— **K.A., via e-mail**

DEAR K.A.: Unhappily, your mother died with more liabilities than assets, which is the technical definition of bankruptcy. Someone should apply to the probate court to be named administrator of the estate, and that someone is probably you. Her assets will have to be disposed of to pay her creditors, but given that she owes almost \$50,000 and only has the beat-up mobile home, it will be up to the courts to determine how the money will be distributed. You mentioned your sister lives in the mobile home. The lender would likely be agreeable to allowing your sister to stay there and perhaps extend ownership if she is capable of making the payments. This type of proposal to the lender would not be too difficult to negotiate given that, if they repossess because of no payment, they likely will not recover what is owed. Under those circumstances, your sister will have to live elsewhere.

The family personally has no responsibility for your mother's debts unless, of course, they signed for them, which is apparently not the case.

DEAR BRUCE: I had acquired some antiques about 30 years ago. I have since learned they are quite valuable. I sent them to a well-known auction house and was shocked to learn I have cleared more than \$200,000. I have no record of the cost to me, but I know they came with a bunch of other antiques and they cost literally nothing. Do I have to report this to the IRS? What are my obligations here?

— **E.N., via e-mail**

DEAR E.N.: Bad news. You will have to pay capital gains on whatever portion of the \$200,000 you net. Having no receipts to demonstrate your cost basis, you're going to have to do some homework and find out what these same articles likely were worth 30 years ago. Your auction house should be able to give you some estimation there. All things equal, and your personal income is a variable, tax on the gain will very likely be the max of 15 percent. You've still done well. Congratulations.

Bruce Williams is a columnist for the Newspaper Enterprise Association. Contact him at bruce@brucewilliams.com or P.O. Box 503, Elfers, FL 34680.

HELPING STRANGERS

Samaritans with keyboards finding aiding others a form of fun

PETER SVENSSON

The Associated Press

In Marion, a small town in southern Illinois with the slogan "Hub of the Universe," 58-year-old Richard Marchal spends four to six hours a day answering questions from strangers.

"What is the acid produced by bacteria on our teeth?"

"Would the density of water differ if it had a dissolved solid in it?"

"What should I do about a crush?"

"Is camping a fun family activity?"

Marchal has answered more than 6,400 such questions in little more than a year. He's the top-rated answerer on Yahoo Answers, a Web site where people pose questions and hope that strangers will answer them. His reward: the gratitude of the asker, if he's lucky. Oh, and Yahoo gives him "points," which serve no purpose but to rank him among other users.

"This way here I can be grandpa to hundreds," Marchal said. "A lot of people tell me this is the best advice they ever got."

Helping strangers for no tangible reward is a huge phenomenon online — huge enough to have repercussions for the largest businesses. Yahoo sells ads on Answers, where visitors do most of the work, while other companies gratefully let volunteers provide online technical support.

Google Inc. started its Answers service four years ago, three years before Yahoo, but pulled the plug on it this December. One major difference between them: on Google Answers, the answerers were paid, at rates set by the askers.

Google didn't explain why it cancelled the service, but research company Hitwise estimated that free Yahoo Answers had 24 times as much traffic in October.

At the end of 2006, there were 85 million answers on Yahoo. Many of them are flippant, but there is genuine advice and well-researched fact there. ("How much fabric goes into the construction of a hot air balloon?" Marchal: about 12,751 square feet. He included an explanation of how he computed the answer.)

Adobe Systems Inc., maker of Photoshop and other design software, also benefits from online volunteers. Murray Summers, a freelance Web developer in Spring City, Pa., spends up to 10 hours a day giving people advice on how to use Adobe's software on the company's Web forum, often start-



TOM GANNAM/AP
Richard Marchal contemplates an answer to a question submitted online at a local library Dec. 28, 2006, in Marion, Ill. Marchal, a semi-retired chemist and father of five, is the top-rated answerer on Yahoo! Answers, a Web site where people pose questions and hope that strangers will answer them.

ing at 6:30 a.m.

"I work an hour, an hour and a half, then go to the forums and spend a while on the forums, because it refreshes my mind," Summers said. He estimates that he's made more than 100,000 posts on the forum in seven years.

It's hard to believe that this is the same Internet that's a vehicle for spam, viruses and identity theft. So why does the Internet seem such fruitful place for seemingly altruistic behavior?

"It's not that human nature has changed, it's that the cost of participation has been dramatically lowered," said Internet theorist Howard Rheingold. "If you're an expert on the prairie dogs of Nebraska, it's now very inexpensive for you to contribute your little piece of expertise."

Patricia Wallace, author of "The Psychology of the Internet," believes the anonymity of the online environment makes people more likely to take the risk of helping. She contrasts this to the act of helping out a real-life motorist who's asking for directions: "If you gave that person the wrong directions, he knows what you look like, who you

are. He might drive back and say what kind of jerk you are."

The anonymity of the Internet boosts asking behavior too, Wallace believes.

"Men don't ask for directions, right? Online they ask for help," she said.

Another reason we're ready to help online: we don't know if there's anyone out there, ready to help. When there are others around, we feel less accountable, said Wallace.

"What I think is going on on the Net is a fuzziness in your ability to make that calculation," she said. "You're sitting all by yourself by your computer, so you have a sense of being alone, and you can't tell how many other people are out there."

Another factor, one that may have tripped up Google in particular: if you get paid for something, it's work. If you don't, it's play.

Evolutionary psychologist Nigel Barber cites a study where kids were given pens to play with. Surprisingly, those who were rewarded for doing so were less inclined to continue.

"The underlying explanation for psychologists is that when you pay

somebody to do something ... they get the feeling that they're not doing it because they enjoy it," Barber said.

The top answerers on Yahoo are there because they want to share their knowledge and connect to other people, according to Tomi Poutanen, director of Yahoo's social search products.

"There is a core community, a core group, that is highly interested in the quality of this," Marchal said.

Summers, on the Adobe forum, said he gets "tremendous payback" for the time he spends there.

"I really enjoy the community spirit, and when you work in your basement like I do, it's kind of like having someone in the next cubicle," he said.

He also gets tangible benefits like work kicked his way by other forum members, and Adobe has a Community Experts program that gives its top forum participants some free software and other goodies.

Would he spend as much time on the forum without those benefits?

"Probably I would, but don't tell Adobe," Summers said, chuckling.

What some wealthy former Google employees are up to now

VERNE KOPYTOFF

San Francisco Chronicle

Who in their right mind would leave a job at Google Inc., a company legendary for pampering workers with free annual ski trips and gourmet food?

Well, it turns out plenty of people do. And many of them are some of the Web giant's earliest employees.

Extremely wealthy from stock options that soared in value, 100 of Google's first 300 workers have quietly resigned to go to law school, help poor shopkeepers get loans or simply to live the good life.

Here's a glance at some of them.

THE CHEF

Google employees didn't know it, but they were Charlie Ayers' guinea pigs. As Google's chef, he used the company cafeteria to experiment with flavors and ingredients — a little royal jelly here and a little wheatgrass there — to feed the search engine's army.

This year, he hopes to capitalize on his geek-tested recipes by opening Calafia Cafe, a Palo Alto, Calif., restaurant specializing in organic, local foods.

Ayers, who joined Google as employee No. 53 in 1999, relished his early days there, calling it "probably the most fabulous, most fascinating place to work: everyone had one ambition and goal; everyone wanted to make it the most successful company."

In the kitchen, Ayers said, he was accorded the same free rein as an engineer working on software as he developed signature dishes like mahogany salmon and Elvis fried chicken to spice up the menu in the now-famous free cafeteria for employees. But as Google grew, the spontaneity evolved into a bureaucracy of budgets and organizational charts that highlighted the chasm between executives and foot soldiers, he said.

"I could see the tides were turning," recalled Ayers. "There were more suits starting to fill the hallways."

Before leaving Google in 2005, Ayers said, he spent a lot of sleepless nights pondering his future. But he figured that the time was right, so in between vacationing and buying a house in San Carlos, Calif., equipped with a professional kitchen, he raised \$2 million for his restaurant from mostly former Google colleagues.

When not working on his restaurant, Ayers consults with companies about operating corporate cafeterias and writes a cookbook due out this year. He says he's busier than ever.

Not that that's the case with all former Googlers, some of whom are living lifestyles of the rich and famous funded by stock windfalls. He jokingly called some of them his "deadbeat millionaire friends."

"They say, 'Oh, come fishing with us in Cancun or skydiving in South Africa,'" Ayers recalled. "They take races around the world like the Cannonball rally where the finish line is the Playboy mansion."

THE HUMANITARIAN

At Google, Olana Khan rubbed shoulders with billionaires. In her new job, she helps people for whom a few hundred dollars is a fortune.

Khan, 31, left her job overseeing a part of Google's global sales to become chief operating officer of Kiva.org, a San Francisco nonprofit that funnels small loans to budding entrepreneurs in developing nations such as Uganda and Ecuador. Unlike Google, where the sky's the limit, the entrepreneurs Kiva helps simply want enough money to put a roof over their taco cart or stock their beauty salon.

While in college, Khan dreamed of a noble career in nonprofit work, but

after graduation gravitated to tech jobs to pay off student loans.

During her six years at Google, Khan had four jobs, and at one point, had 55 people working under her in what she described as an intense, exhausting environment.

For one Valentine's dinner, she and her soon-to-be husband, Zain, another early Googler, rendezvoused in the cafeteria after lingering too late at their desks. Laptop computers had to be banned from the bedroom.

Following her departure in August, Khan found herself out of the loop for juicy Google secrets such as new products in the works and dates others would be released. Initially, to ease the transition, Khan avoided the Google campus and its gossip.

Kiva is devoid of the creature comforts Khan enjoyed at Google. Furnishings are a mix of donated desks and chairs.

"It's more of a challenge than Google ever was," Khan said. "I worry that we can't meet our payroll. I have more stress on a nightly basis going to bed with Kiva than it ever was with Google."

THE ANGEL

Taking a job at Google six years ago, when the company was just another money-losing startup, paid off handsomely for Aydin Senkut.

But does he have the nose to sniff out success once again, this time as an angel investor? Senkut, 37, is hoping so, as are many former Googlers who similarly dole out seed money to foster entrepreneurs and their ideas.

Too often, Senkut said, he had missed out on family birthdays and Christmas holidays while he was sitting in an airplane or at his desk.

"When you have this financial freedom, it makes you view your priorities differently," Senkut said.

Initially, after resigning from Google in 2005, Senkut was undecided about what he wanted to do other than to splurge on what he considered to be a big luxury: time off. He took his mother to Paris for her 60th birthday, attended the Cannes Film Festival and watched the Wimbledon finals from center court.

Then his future slowly came into focus during visits to a gym in Palo Alto, Calif. Gym mates would ask Senkut to take a look at this or that startup, until it ramped up to the point where he was getting calls from companies about investing in and advising them. Through Felicis Ventures, the investment company he now runs out of his Atherton, Calif., home, Senkut has backed 17 mostly consumer-oriented Internet startups, an industry he knows well. On average, he invests \$50,000, usually alongside other angels.

Senkut's advice, learned during his tenure at Google, is the following: "Never take the existing norm or the status quo. Always look for a better way. Treat people nicely."

THE ENTREPRENEUR

For Dan Daugherty, opening Google's Denver office was like creating a startup inside a startup. He and his only colleague at the time had to do everything: order printers, hire staff and arrange for massages, a traditional Google perk.

Now, the 28-year-old is using that experience to build his own company, Rent Marketer, a service for landlords to post available rentals on several Web sites.

To satisfy his entrepreneurial drive, Daugherty left his job as Google's sales and operations manager in 2005. Being the boss meant giving up a comfortable job and risking his own money.

"Entrepreneurship is at my core," Daugherty said.