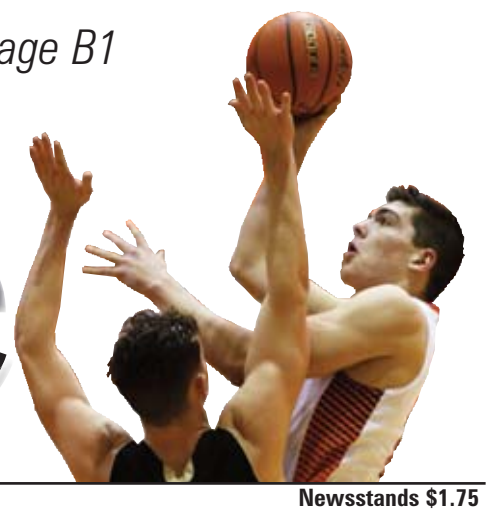
4-for-4: HHS, STC girls, boys teams win. — *Page B1*



Weekend Tribune

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LAURA BEAHM/*Tribune*

Installing 30 solar panels on the roof of his shop, Tim Smith became the first Hastings Utilities customer to take advantage of LB 436, which allows qualifying customers to sell unused power back to electrical suppliers at wholesale cost. Smith hopes the solar panels will cover 80-90 percent of his utilities bill.

Harnessing the power of the sun

RETIRED TEACHER INVESTS IN SOLAR ENERGY TO POWER WORKSHOP

TONY HERRMAN
therrman@hastingstribune.com

Tim Smith will never look at a cloudy day the same way again after installing 30 solar panels on the roof of his workshop in north Hastings.

Tim and Pam Smith became the first Hastings Utilities customers to take advantage of LB 436, which allows participants to connect co-generation installations.

When the law was passed in 2009, its intent was to encourage private investment in renewable energy, stimulate economic growth and enhance diversification of energy resources in the state.

At the end of the year, the customer is paid for unused power at wholesale cost — in this case 1.5 cents per kilowatt.

The Hastings Board of Public Works approved the agreement during the board's Jan. 14 meeting. Smith installed the panels last December.

Working at full capacity, the solar panels are anticipated to generate up to 5 kilowatts of electricity an hour. The Smiths anticipate the panels ideally will replace 80 to 90 percent of their energy consumption at home.



LAURA BEAHM/*Tribune*

Tim Smith of Hastings talks about the controls for solar panels he installed on the roof of his shop.

On a recent cloudy afternoon, the 30 panels were producing just 750 watts, which Tim said was enough electricity to power a couple fluorescent bulbs or 10 LEDs.

He blames himself for the area's lack of sunshine over the past month.

"I've never seen so many cloudy days until I put up solar panels," he said.

He plans to add another 30 panels this year, which will get them closer to covering their entire energy consumption.

The couple has long sought to be environmentally conscious.

They installed water-filled solar panels on their first house more than 30 years ago. Those solar panels generated energy as the water heated.

They hope their descendants look back at them as trendsetters.

Please see SOLAR*/page A3*

Postcard-pretty snow no longer safe for millions

JESSICA GRESKO AND SETH BORENSTEIN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A storm that arrived postcard-pretty in the nation's capital Friday was morphing into a painful, even paralyzing blizzard with gale-force winds pushing heavy snow and coastal flooding. One in seven Americans could get at least half a foot of snow by Sunday, and Washington could see snowdrifts more than 4 feet high.

The first flakes were lovely, but forecasters warned that much, much more was on its way.

Not that anyone will see the worst of it: Much heavier snow and wind gusting to 50 mph should create blinding white-out conditions once the storm joins up with a low pressure system off the coast, said Bruce Sullivan, a forecaster at the National Weather Service's Weather Prediction Center in College Park, Maryland.

Two feet or more of snowfall is forecast for Washington and Baltimore, and nearly as much for Philadelphia. New York City's expected total was upped Friday to a foot or more. But Sullivan said "the winds are going to be the real problem; that's when we'll see possible power outages."

The result could create snowdrifts 4 to 5 feet high, so even measuring it for records could be difficult, he said.

By evening, wet, heavy snow was falling in the capital, making downed power lines more likely, and yet many people remained on the roads, Washington Mayor Muriel Bowser said. "Find a safe place and stay there," she beseeched.

Anyone trying to travel in this mess risks getting stuck for hours, marooned in odd places, or killed, authorities warned. At least seven people died in storm-related crashes before the worst of the storm, including Stacy Sherrill, whose car plummeted off an icy road in Tennessee. Her husband survived after climbing for hours up a 300-foot embankment.

Please see STORM*/page A6*

Human trafficking happens here, too

ERICA SIEBERT
eblakley@hastingstribune.com

If the first thing you think about when you hear talk about human trafficking is, "That could never happen in my town," then you would be wrong.

Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery, widespread throughout the United States — even in Hastings, said Kerry Huber of the Hastings Anti-Trafficking Coalition. Huber was the guest speaker Friday during the Hastings League of Women Voters luncheon at the YWCA Adams County.

Huber first became interested in raising awareness about human trafficking while she worked at the SASA Crisis Center. She continues her anti-trafficking work now while employed at the Area Substance Abuse and Alcohol Prevention agency in Hastings.

One of the first things Huber learned about human trafficking was the significance of the number seven.

"The number seven was the reason why I got into learning more about human trafficking," she said.

Seven is the number of years a victim will be involved in trafficking as a child, with some dying because of the injuries.

"That really hit me hard," Huber said.

The average age of victims who get into human trafficking is 13.

Please see REALITY*/page A3*

Ex-con finds redemption in Hastings through volunteer work

JOHN HUTHMACHER
johnh@hastingstribune.com

A customized chartreuse T-shirt worn by ex-con and recovering substance abuser Brett Huss carries a quotation from the song, "Calling All Angels," by the band Train that has become his mantra in life: "I won't give up if you don't give up."

Huss, 55, has become a familiar face in the Hastings community over the past six months since taking up residence last July at Bristol Station, a residential re-entry center for transitioning offenders.

Having become quite active in volunteer work during his six-month stay here, his busy schedule, which ended Jan. 15, included service stints at Goodwill, Hastings Family YMCA, Mary Lanning Auxiliary, and the Friends of the Hastings Public Library's used book store.

Also active in local ministry and self-help groups, his involvement included participation in the church choir at Hastings Evangelical Free Church and regular attendance at local Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings.

Shelly Thomas, Mary Lanning Auxiliary manager, took on Huss as a volunteer in July 2015. Despite his having served time, she said she felt moved to give him a chance after sensing in him what she believed to be a sincere desire to change. She's glad she did.

"He was so eager to help and do whatever job it was that we needed him to do," she said. "His attitude was amazing. He was so upbeat and positive. You would never had known there were those things going on in his life.

"He always made you smile or laugh and was super friendly to everybody he met. He didn't know a stranger. I just really think he's found his way in Christ and will continue to do great with his new endeavors."

Nathan Huyser, children's ministry and music director at Hastings E-Free, said he, too, was impressed by Huss, both as a person and musician.

"I definitely got the impression he was wanting to turn his life around, get involved and start giving back," he said. "It's been fun to have him around. He's got a lot of energy and seems excited about the new life he's been given a chance at.

"He was storing his guitar in my office while he was at Bristol Station and finally just played a song for me that he wrote when he picked it up. He's very talented musically."

Facing a lengthy federal prison sentence for conspiracy to distribute, the longtime Nebraska City resident made a solemn commitment to turn his life around. He considers his time spent here in Hastings as nothing short of a godsend in aiding his transformation.

"I wasn't happy about being here at first," Huss said. "Normally, I would have gone to the home in Council Bluffs, which was closer to home for me. I could have re-applied, but I figured, 'God has got a reason,' so I went with that.

"The people here have embraced me and allowed me to learn the value of service. I'm very thankful for the opportunity and for what it has meant to me and what I have learned. I love this town. It has allowed me to become

Please see HUSS*/page A3*



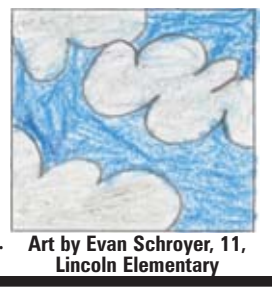
JOHN HUTHMACHER/*Tribune*

Brett Huss has volunteered in Hastings for the past six months.

Weather

Hi: 36
Lo: 22

Mostly cloudy and not as cold today. Patchy fog after-midnight.



Art by Evan Schroyer, 11, Lincoln Elementary

Nation

DWI LIFE SENTENCE

WEATHERFORD, Texas — A judge concerned about public safety sentenced a 62-year-old North Texas man to life in prison for his 10th drunken driving conviction since the 1980s.

Ivy Ray Eberhardt, of Weatherford, Texas, was sentenced Wednesday. Eberhardt would be eligible for parole after serving 15 years.

"Part of my job is to protect the citizens of Parker County, and the only way that I can think of to do that from somebody that has 12 DWI arrests and 10 DWI convictions is to put you in a place that you can't drive for as long as I possibly can," Judge Craig Towson told Eberhardt.

The Associated Press

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Obituaries

Orval Nouzovsky



Orval Nouzovsky, 79, of Grand Island died Thursday, Jan. 21, 2016, at CHI Health St. Francis in Grand Island.

Services will be 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 26, at the Church of Christ in Grand Island with the Rev. Mike Reeves officiating. Burial will be in Westlawn Memorial Park Cemetery.

Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 25, at Apfel Funeral Home in Grand Island. Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated at a later date.

Orval Nouzovsky was born Oct. 20, 1936, in Merrick County, Nebraska, the son of Joseph and Rose (Klepedko) Nouzovsky. He grew up in the Central City area and graduated from Central City High School in 1955. He moved to Grand Island in 1956.

Orval was united in marriage to Jeanie Sandquist Dec. 1, 1956, at Red Cloud, Nebraska. The couple made their home in Grand Island where Orval was employed by Duff Roofing Co. for 43 years. Following retirement he sub-contracted with Goodwill Industries for a number of years.

He was a member of the Grand Island Church of Christ and was a volunteer at the Nebraska Youth Camp.

He enjoyed the outdoors, fishing, camping, gardening and building things with iron and wood.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Jeanie Nouzovsky of Grand Island; three daughters and sons-in-law, Debra Jean Erickson and fiancé Dick Munn of York, Nebraska, Kaylene Rose and Jerry Derr of Grand Island, Joanie Cheryce and Robert Guerrero of Grand Island; two sons and daughters-in-law, Orval Dean and Chris Novzousky of Rison, Arkansas, Barry Joe and Christie Nouzousky of St. Joseph, Missouri; son-in-law, Steve and Terri Beck of Grand Island; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; two brothers and sister-in-law, Millard and Ida Mae Nouzovsky of Central City, Nebraska, and Glen Nouzouvsky of Glendale, Arizona; two sisters, Lucille Nordstrom of Central City, Dorothy Rienke of Riverside, California.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Barbara Joanelle Beck; granddaughter, Ashley Rose Nouzovsky; two brothers, Melvin and Don Nouzovsky; and two sisters, Erma Traudt and Charlene Shenk.

Online condolences may be directed to the family at www.apfelfuneralhome.com.

Ernest C. Whipple Jr.



Hastings resident Ernest C. Whipple, Jr., 94, passed away Friday, Jan. 15, 2016, at Mary Lanning Healthcare, Hastings, Nebraska.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the home of Betty June Whipple, 1501 E. Seventh Street, Hastings on Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016; 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. There will be no viewing or visitation. Private condolences may be sent to the family at www.lbvfh.com. Livingston Butler Volland Funeral Home & Cremation Center is serving the family.

Ernest was born April 15, 1921 in Broadalbin, New York, to Ernest C. Sr. and Mildred (Tyrell) Whipple. He graduated from Broadalbin High School and went to college for tool and die making. He served in the U.S. Air Force during WWII where he took pilot training at Luke Field. Ernest was a U.S. Air Force pilot and flew weather reconnaissance. Ernest married Betty June Valentine on June 26, 1948. He was also in the Air National Guard in Nebraska. He went to the Elgin watch making school, did combining, and worked at Kerr Plastics Tool & Die. He also worked at Hastings Industries and owned and operated Valentine Motel in Grand Island, Nebraska. In 2003 they moved to Hastings where he was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

Ernest was preceded in death by his parents; son, Tedd Whipple; stepchildren, Kenny and Denny Berding; and one sister, Edna.

Survivors include wife, Betty June Whipple of Hastings; daughters and spouse, Teri and Tam Nguyen of Hastings, Karen Roehm of Gunnison, Colorado; sister, Leona Argotsinger of Gloversville, N.Y.; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren: one great-great-grandchild; and sister-in-law and spouse, LaVona and Edward J. Murphy of Hastings.

Shirleen K. Rath



Shirleen K. Rath, 67, of Savannah, Missouri, passed away Thursday, Jan. 21, 2016, at Mosaic Life Care.

She was born Nov. 6, 1948 in Abilene, Kansas, and graduated from Harvard High School in Harvard, Nebraska.

Shirleen married Bernard L. Rath on Nov. 24, 1967.

She was a member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

Mrs. Rath was preceded in death by her parents, William and Betty Jo (Wilson) Colwell; and stepmother, Darline Colwell.

Survivors include husband; sons, Daniel L. Rath and Randy A. Rath of St. Joseph, Missouri; stepbrothers, Kenneth Colwell (Sherry) of Columbia, Missouri, Keith Colwell (Sally) of Bismarck, Missouri, and Larry Colwell of Harvard, Nebraska; stepsister, Barbara McNerney (Bill) of Grant, Nebraska; and an aunt and numerous other relatives and friends.

Farewell services are 1 p.m. Wednesday at Harvard United Church of Christ. Interment in Harvard Cemetery. The family will gather with friends one hour prior to the service at Harvard United Church of Christ. Online guest book and obituary at www.apfelfuneralhome.com.

Dallas L. Bramble



Hastings resident Dallas LeRoy Bramble, 92, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2016, at Harvard Rest Haven in Harvard, Nebraska.

Services will be Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2016; 10:00 a.m. at Butler Volland Chapel, Hastings with Pastor Dale Phillips officiating. Burial will be in Parkview Cemetery, Hastings. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Hastings Ducks Unlimited. Visitation will be Monday, Jan. 25, 2016; 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. with the family present from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., and one hour prior to service at the funeral home. Private condolences may be sent to the family at www.lbvfh.com. Livingston Butler Volland Funeral Home & Cremation Center is serving the family.

Dallas was born July 5, 1923, in Hastings, Nebraska, to Roy and Alma (Pearson) Bramble. He graduated from Hastings High School. Dallas married Nita Irene Clark on Dec. 26, 1943; she preceded him in death on March 7, 2014. He spent 30 years with the Hastings Coca-Cola Bottling Company and then worked at the Consolidated Motor Freight Company until he retired. Dallas was a member of Ducks Unlimited and was one of the charter members of Ducks Unlimited.

Dallas was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Nita Irene Bramble; sisters, Doris and Ethel; and granddaughter, Stacie Bramble.

Survivors include sons and spouse, Dallas Jr. and Mary Anne Bramble of Hastings, David L. Bramble of Hastings; grandchildren and spouses, Kelly Bramble-Maurer of Hastings, Kerry and Jeff Owens of Fontana, Kansas, Kenna and Travis Griffith of Austin, Texas, David M. Bramble of Hastings, Jeff Bramble of Hastings; seven great-grandchildren; brother and sisters-in-law, Russell and Joan Bramble and Pat Young.

'Say no to Trump'

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — A Pittsburgh chiropractor's obituary is asking people to not vote for Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, in lieu of sending flowers.

Jason Brown tells the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette he and his brother decided to include the line in their father's obituary after recalling one published in August for a New Jersey woman: Elaine Fydrych had urged her loved ones not to vote for Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton.

Brown's father, Jeffrey Cohen, died Sunday at age 70.

Brown says his father didn't request the line in his obit. Brown and his brother included it in their light-hearted remembrance thinking it would be "the perfect joke."

Brown virtually certain his dad wasn't a Republican and didn't like Trump.

Calendar

Sunday

Hastings

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

◆ **Free Community Meal**, 5 p.m., Crossroads Center, 702 W. 14th St. Volunteers also welcome.

◆ **Alcoholics Anonymous**, noon, 5:15 p.m and 8 p.m., 521 S. St. Joseph Ave.; and 7:30 p.m., 918 W. Fourth St.

◆ **Crystal Meth Anonymous**, 7 p.m., 521 S. St. Joseph Ave.

◆ **Al-Anon**, 8 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 614 N. Hastings Ave.

Clay Center

◆ **Al-Anon**, 3 p.m., Clay Center Christian Church, 31371 Woodland Road.

Monday

Hastings

◆ **Itty Bitty Story Time** for ages 0-24 months, 9:15 a.m., Hastings Public Library, 517 W. Fourth St. For more information, call 402-461-2346.

◆ **Tiempo de Cuentos en Espanol/Spanish Story Time**, 4 p.m., Hastings Public Library, 517 W. Fourth St. For more information, call 402-461-2346.

◆ **Alcoholics Anonymous**, 8:30 a.m., noon, 5:15 and 8 p.m., 521 S. St. Joseph Ave.; and noon, 835 S. Burlington Ave. No. 114.

◆ **Al-Anon**, 8 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 614 N. Hastings Ave.; and noon, The Kensington, 233 N. Hastings Ave.

◆ **Overeaters Anonymous**, 5-6 p.m., Hastings Family YMCA, 1430 W. 16th St.

◆ **Gamblers Anonymous**, 6:30 p.m., Mary Lanning Healthcare Education Building basement, Room D.

◆ **Chorus of the Plains**, 7 p.m., The Kensington ballroom, 233 N. Hastings Ave. Barbershop style music open to men of all ages.

◆ **3 Steps to Recovery**, 8 p.m., Crossroads Center Rescue Mission, 702 W. 14th St.

◆ **Narcotics Anonymous,** noon and 8 p.m., 401 N. Lincoln Ave. and women's group, 6:30 p.m., 422 N. Burlington Ave., rear entrance.

Clay Center

◆ **Alcoholics Anonymous**, 8 p.m., Clay Center Christian Church, 31371 Woodland Road.

Yesterday and Today

Today is Saturday, Jan. 23, the 23rd day of 2016. There are 343 days left in the year.

Memory Lane

Tribland

Sixty years ago: I.J. Friend, president of the Hastings City Council, announced he would not be a candidate for a third term from the Fourth Ward.

Fifty years ago: The Hastings City Council approved an ordinance granting non-exclusive franchise rights to the Strand Amusement Corp. to operate a cable TV firm in Hastings.

Forty years ago: Two small discarded combines that had been shipped to Brazil by the Oxford Rotary Club were now in service harvesting grain for Brazilian farmers.

Thirty years ago: Authorities were baffled over what caused an overnight explosion that crumbled a concrete block office building at Anan Grain Co. near Fairfield.

Twenty years ago: Roger Doerr, a longtime Hastings College faculty member, was named president of the Hastings College Foundation.

Ten years ago: A Hastings College student had been hospitalized at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital with bacterial meningitis.

One year ago: Larry and Lenie Wilson of Hastings, who wanted voters to decide whether Ninth Street through the Hastings College campus should be closed, turned their petitions in at the City Building. There were 412 pages containing a reported 3,904 signatures. They needed 2,864 valid signatures of registered Hastings voters in order to put the issue on the ballot.

Highlight in History

On Jan. 23, 1516, King Ferdinand II of Aragon, who with his late queen consort, Isabella of Castile, sponsored the first voyage of Christopher Columbus in 1492, died in Madrigalejo, Spain.

On this date

In 1789, Georgetown University was established in present-day Washington, D.C.

In 1845, Congress decided all national elections would be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

In 1933, the 20th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the so-called "Lame Duck Amendment," was ratified as Missouri approved it.

In 1944, Norwegian painter Edvard Munch ("The Scream") died near Oslo at age 80.

In 1950, the Israeli Knesset approved a resolution affirming Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

In 1960, the U.S. Navy-operated bathyscaphe Trieste carried two men to the deepest known point in the Pacific Ocean, reaching a depth of more than 35,000 feet.

In 1964, the 24th Amendment to the United States Constitution, eliminating the poll tax in federal elections, was ratified as South Dakota became the 38th state to endorse it.

In 1968, North Korea seized the Navy intelligence ship USS Pueblo, charging its crew with being on a spying mission. (The crew was released 11 months later.)

In 1973, President Richard Nixon announced an accord had been reached to end the Vietnam War, and would be formally signed four days later in Paris.

In 1995, the Supreme Court, in McKennon vs. Nashville Banner Publishing Co., ruled that companies accused of firing employees illegally could not escape liability by later finding a lawful reason to justify the dismissal.

In 2005, former "Tonight Show" host Johnny Carson died in Los Angeles at age 79.

Ten years ago: Ford Motor Co. said it would cut up to 30,000 jobs and idle 14 facilities in North America by 2012. A U.S. military jury at Fort Carson, Colorado, ordered a reprimand, but no jail time, for Chief Warrant Officer Lewis Welshofer Jr., an Army interrogator convicted of killing an Iraqi general. Stephen Harper and his Conservative Party won Canada's national elections, ending 13 years of Liberal rule.

Today's Birthdays

Actress Jeanne Moreau is 88. Actress Chita Rivera is 83. Actor-director Lou Antonio is 82. Jazz musician Gary Burton is 73. Actor Gil Gerard is 73. Actor Rutger Hauer is 72. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jerry Lawson is 72. Sen. Thomas R. Carper, D-Del., is 69. Singer Anita Pointer is 68. Actor Richard Dean Anderson is 66. Rock musician Bill Cunningham is 66. Rock singer Robin Zander (Cheap Trick) is 63. Former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa is 63. Princess Caroline of Monaco is 59. Singer Anita Baker is 58. Reggae musician Earl Falconer (UB40) is 57. Actress Gail O'Grady is 53. Actress Mariska Hargitay is 52. Rhythm-and-blues singer Marc Nelson is 45. Actress Tiffani Thiessen is 42. Rock musician Nick Harmer (Death Cab for Cutie) is 41. Christian rock musician Nick DePartee (Kutless) is 31. Singer-actress Rachel Crow is 18.

Fact of the Day

Chita Rivera was the first Hispanic woman to receive a Kennedy Center Honors Award. She has also received two Tony Awards for her work in musical theater.

Sources: The Associated Press, Newspaper Enterprise Assn. and World Almanac Education Group

Tribland

The following couples recently applied for marriage licenses at the Adams County Clerk's Office: Nicholas Jack Powell and Mandi Rae Smith, Delbert Simon Castro and Celia Fausto Harris, Jose Valentin Campos and MaryAnn Valencia Silva, and Joshua Lee Burbach and Trisha Jo Norton, all of Hastings.

Office/Construction excess inventory auction, online only. Ends January 24. Tricityauctioncenter.hibid.com. Please call for more info. 402-469-7356. -Adv.

Eboni Nash of Eads, Colo., reported Thursday that a cellphone, rape whistle, self-defense stick and pepper spray were taken from her vehicle at the 800 block of North Turner Avenue.

Rep Valley Trap Club Fundraiser. Saturday, January 23, 2016. Serving starts at 5:30 with live auction to follow. -Adv.

Mary Sue Miller of Juniata reported Thursday that a television was taken at her residence.

Jeremiah W. Lepird of 601 N. California Ave. reported Thursday that a multi-tool was taken at his residence.

Personal Touch Wigs, new looks, styling, wig products. 402-463-3240, 469-2548. -Adv.

It was reported Thursday that a radio faceplate owned by Kelbie L. Lyon of Doniphan were taken from a vehicle in the 800 block of North Turner Avenue.

James C. Tate of 600 N. Hastings Ave. No. 2 reported Thursday that fuel was taken from his vehicle in the 300 block of Ringland Road.

Andrea K. Barton of 1103 N. Burlington Ave. reported her fence was damaged at her residence.

It was reported Thursday that a laptop owned by Margaret A. Kepford of 1200 N. Lexington Ave. No. 1 was taken at her residence.

Ophelia J. Ramirez of 1005 W. H St. reported Thursday that her vehicle was damaged at her residence.

James R. Regan of 614 Boston Ave. reported Thursday that his vehicle was taken in the 100 block of East Second Street.

It was reported Friday that a 20-year-old Fremont man and an 18-year-old North Platte woman were cited with minor in possession of alcohol in the 900 block of Sixth Avenue.

Gary and Sharon Rose 50th Anniversary Open House, Saturday, January 23, 2-4 p.m. at American Legion. -Adv.

Vehicles reportedly driven by Brandon J. Savage of 1215 N. Webster Ave. and Maria M. Alvarado of 510 S. Cedar Ave. collided Thursday on Webster Avenue near 12th Street.

Eric P. Martinez of 209 E. Fourth St. reported Thursday that his vehicle tire was damaged at his residence.

Vehicles reportedly driven by Cathy V. Debey-Fischer of 4275 S. Wabash Ave. and Diane E. Koos of Roseland collided Jan. 16 at Burlington Avenue near Seventh Street.

Vehicles reportedly driven by Kyle M. Christen of 931 N. Burlington Ave. and Peggy Crawford of 115 W. G St. collided Wednesday at Burlington Avenue near South Street.

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

Grant W. Jerabek of 809 N. Ash Ave. No. 135 reported Wednesday that his keys were taken at his residence.

Eagles, Sunday, dance to Paul Kothe 6:00 to 10:00 p.m -Adv.

Bailey G. Zeleny of 818 N. Turner Ave. No. 309 reported Thursday that a GPS device was taken from her vehicle at her residence.

A vehicle reportedly driven by Teagen C. Duncan Pope of Juniata struck a pivot stop owned by Timothy Cook of 6001 Quail Ridge Road and a road sign owned by the Adams County Department of Roads along Osage Road near 12th Street.

50% off Men's and Ladies' Fall and winter clothing. Extra 30% off select Ladies' Clearance at Gary Michael's Clothiers. -Adv.

Corrections

◆ If you see an error in the Hastings Tribune's news coverage, we want to know. Call the newsroom at 402-461-1257 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or email tribune@hastingstribune.com. Or write to Newsroom, P.O. Box 788, Hastings, NE 68902.

◆ In a story on page C2 in today's Tribune about a common taxpayer scam, The Associated Press erroneously reported, based on incorrect information from the Treasury Department, the website for the department's inspector general. The correct website is http://www.tigta.gov.

Public notices

See today's notices on Page A6

◆ Legal Notice, Tara Chojolan vs Cesar Chojolan

◆ Notice of Organization, Cornhusker Real Estate L.L.C.

◆ Legal Notice, Thomas Dougherty

◆ Notice of Public Hearing, Webster County Road Closure

◆ Request for Bids, City of Blue Hill

◆ Adams Central School Board Proceedings

◆ Hastings School Board, Work Session Proceedings

◆ Notice of Informal Probate, Sherril A. Albin

◆ Notice of Informal Probate, Harold J. Farrall

◆ Notice of Informal Probate, Leola I. Wiens

◆ Legal Notice, Adrian Isaiah Washington

Area funerals

Monday

◆ **Arlene A. Platek,** 72, of Clay Center, 10 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Harvard.

Tuesday

◆ **Dallas L. Bramble,** 92, of Hastings, 10 a.m. at Butler Volland Chapel in Hastings.

Lotteries

Winning Numbers

Friday

Nebraska Pick 5 ..... **7-22-24-25-37**
Jackpot: $58,000
2by2 .....**Red 5-24, White 21-22**
MegaMillions....**21-25-40-46-56-MB3**
Megaplier: 5
Nebraska Pick 3 .....**2-3-8**
MyDaY **4-25-99**
Kansas Pick 3 .....**7-4-3**

Huss: Ex-con gives of himself while in Hastings

Continued from page A1
who I am right now."

The oldest of six siblings, Huss was raised in a family that traveled a lot because of his father's work with Continental Coffee Co. When he was 10, his parents divorced. He spent weekends with his father while living with his mother just outside Des Moines, Iowa.

After graduating from Dallas Community High School near Des Moines in 1979, he spent the next five years working at the Village Inn pancake house, marrying his wife, Cheryl, in 1981.

Changing career gears, Huss became a construction worker before opening his own Domino's Pizza franchise in Seattle. Because Cheryl was unable to have children, they chose to adopt three Native American infants from family life services in Fargo, N.D.

When everyday stressors became too much to handle, he turned to alcohol to ease the burden. Instead, his drinking made matters worse, ultimately costing him his marriage.

"I'm not the kind of person who could go in and have a social drink," he said. "When I drank, I drank too much. I just didn't understand that alcoholic behavior."

Despite his drinking problems, he was awarded custody of his three children. Changing careers once gain, he flourished in the computer industry, working on multiple projects in Memphis, Tenn., and Colorado Springs, Colo.

After marrying his second wife, Lisa, the couple was blessed with identical triplets. Suddenly, their combined family of five children became eight overnight. Shortly after relocating to Nebraska City, the stressors that plagued his first marriage returned twofold.

"It was a lot of work," he said.

But that was only the beginning of their difficulties. In 2005, he was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, a chronic disease that attacks the central nervous system. He feared for his life.

"It was horrible," he said. "My arms wouldn't work. They (doctors) were working with different kinds of inversion treatment (an antigravity form of treatment used to relieve pain) just to try to stabilize the condition."

No longer able to work, he filed for disability and became a stay-at-home dad while Lisa supported the family as a senior center nurse. Plagued by lower back and leg pain from two botched surgeries and his MS symptoms, he became addicted to the pain killer OxyContin.

Meanwhile, Lisa began to develop symptoms of bipolar disorder. Her bouts with depression, coupled with his addiction, led to their losing custody of their children. Two years later, they divorced. Despite multiple attempts to regain custody, his efforts proved futile.

It didn't take long for addiction to regain control of his life.

"I started using drugs and alcohol pretty heavily in 2012," Huss said. "In order to pay for my drugs, I needed to sell drugs."

Less than one year later, Huss was arrested on Feb. 6, 2013, and charged with conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. The charge carried a sentence of 8-10 years. With that in mind, he committed to making radical changes in his life with hopes of someday regaining custody of his children.

Aided by NA, AA, church communities at Calvary Community Church in Nebraska City and Hastings E-Free, and intensive outpatient therapy programs, he was able to get his sentence reduced to a single year served, an abatement he considers a bona fide miracle. Having just completed his six-month stint at Bristol Station, Huss has now returned to Nebraska City to reconnect with family and plan the next phase of his life.

Troy Stickels, CEO of the Hastings YMCA, had hoped to hire Huss after seeing him work diligently as a volunteer at the 16th Street location. Having visited with him on numerous occasions, he is convinced his reformation is genuine.

"We talked about how he got into this position, and like he says, everything happens for a reason," he said. "He believes God put him here for a reason and I think he was able to affect a lot of people while he was here. He definitely changed my perception of Bristol Station.

"Lots of people screw up in life. Some decide to stop. Others don't. We've seen people here who've decided to turn things around and do the right thing and it's neat to see that."

Pat McCauley, volunteer coordinator at the YMCA, said he considered Huss an ideal volunteer who left his mark at the facility.

"I felt energized every time I talked to Brett," he said. "He's a good fella. My interactions with him were all positive.

"His positive outlook was kind of infectious. I wish him nothing but the best in the future."

Having recommitted his life to Jesus, Huss is optimistic the changes he has made will be permanent this time around. Following a healthy diet and exercise regimen that has helped curtail his MS symptoms, he hopes to eventually establish residency in Hastings.

"I've learned more about this community in the six months that I've been here than I know about Nebraska City," he said. "And I lived there for 10 years.

"I love this town. I love the people. This town is the right size town. I'm going to find a way (to live here)."

Solar: Hastings man harnesses power of the sun

Continued from page A1
"You want to save it for the next generation," Tim said. "You plant a tree for the next generation. You do all these things for the next generation."

Benefits of panels come not from the buyback agreement but from the energy savings and a 30 percent federal tax credit.

With those incentives, the Smiths expect the panels to pay for themselves in about 10 years.

"Let's put it this way, I could buy a really nice, brand new pickup for the system here," he said.

While the pickup will depreciate in value, Tim said the panels' value will increase as utility rates go up over time.

When it comes to energy efficiency, the Smiths point out that switching from fluorescent bulbs to LEDs is more effective than adding solar panels.

"Solar panels will do exactly the same amount of good because it's exactly the same amount of kilowatts, but there are faster ways to reduce your energy consumption than this," Pam said. "Faster would be to change your draw, which is LED lights."

As retired teachers of Hastings Public Schools — Tim in automotive technology at Hastings High and Pam as an elementary science teacher — they had the interest, experience and time to take on a project like this.

Pam has been retired four years. Tim has been retired six years.

Throughout his teaching career, Tim engaged in projects similar to his solar panels.

With his mechanical background he was able to help with the install, which made the process less expensive.

Assisting his vendor, Tim helped install the panels over a two-day period in December.

Besides the solar panels, Tim's shop includes two new water heaters powered by the solar panel that pump heated water through the floor to heat the building.

It came as a surprise to the Smiths that they were the first Hastings residents to follow the LB 436 process to the finish and sign a contract with Hastings Utilities.

"I knew I didn't see solar panels around town but I just hadn't really thought about it that nobody else is doing it," Pam said.

A lot of work went into establishing the contract, the couple said, but that work was primarily ensuring the installation complies with all necessary safeguards to ensure the safety of Hastings Utilities' employees.

It helps that as a long-time automotive technology teacher at Hastings High he had existing relationships with HU employees and utility board members who are his former students.

With the Smiths being the first HU customers to complete a co-generation, it was a new experience to Hastings Utilities as well as the Smiths.

While it was a big undertaking, the Smiths said Hastings Utilities was agreeable to work with on the arrangement.

Tim describes it as a "joint adventure."

"It's always up to the rate payer," HU Manager Marv Schultes said. "This has been in place and Tim's got a desire to do something like that and if it works for him that's great. We want to work with our customers."

Reality: Nebraska's human trafficking problems startling

Continued from page A1
"The ages of people in human trafficking in Nebraska was 17," Huber said.

"But now we are seeing the age average at 14. Unfortunately, we are coming up with younger victims in our state."

She said the trafficking of humans is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world, now second behind drug trafficking.

Many victims of human trafficking are made to engage in prostitution, pornography or exotic dancing.

"Victims of human trafficking are forced into commercial sex and traffickers use force, fraud or coercion," Huber said.

She said that human trafficking is easy to get away with in Nebraska because of most of the attention during traffic stops on Interstate 80 involve drugs.

"Along I-80, when you're carrying drugs and you get pulled over and searched, the police are going to find the drugs," Huber said. "When you're carrying three girls through, and you get pulled over, they aren't going to pick up that this is a trafficking case."

According to Huber, Hastings has helped 11 victims of human trafficking. She said that victims of human trafficking are hard to treat and reform.

"Mental health is a really big deal for victims," Huber said. "They are use to being controlled and manipulated. They don't have trust with anyone. Trying to work with someone and bring them out of trafficking is extremely hard because they don't trust you."

To become involved in the local effort to fight human trafficking, contact Huber at traffickinginNE@gmail.com

"I love talking about human trafficking and bringing awareness," Huber said.

BUYERS MEET SELLERS
EVERYDAY IN THE CLASSIFIED PAGES OF THE TRIBUNE

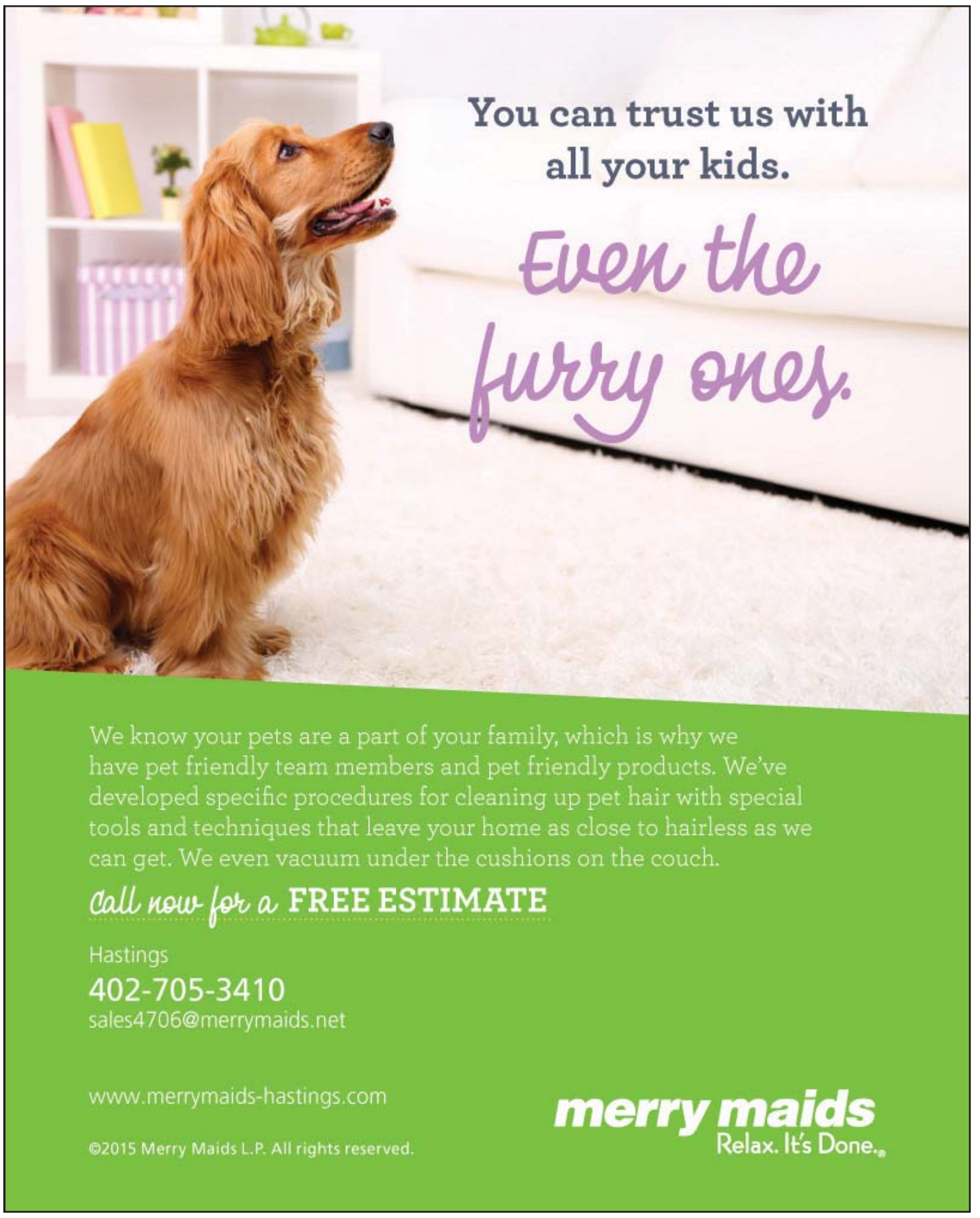
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Democrats prescribe Obamacare on steroids

The Orange County Register

Sunday's fourth Democratic presidential debate, from Charleston, S.C., gave voters a surprisingly clear look at what the candidates are itching to do in the White House. With Sen. Bernie Sanders surprisingly ahead of Hillary Clinton for both the Feb. 1 Iowa Caucuses and the Feb. 9 New Hampshire primary, according to several recent polls, the former first lady followed him to the left on policy issues.

The third candidate, Martin O'Malley, complained he was being ignored and stressed his record when he was governor of Maryland. But with the increased violence in Baltimore, where he also was mayor, his track record isn't gaining traction, keeping the focus on the two top candidates.

Sanders called for a "single payer" national health system, meaning the government would replace private insurers. He promised, "I believe that a Medicare-for-all, single-payer program will substantially lower the cost of health care for middle-class families."

That sounds like President Barack Obama's pledge during the 2008 campaign that Obamacare would "cover every American and cut the cost of a typical family's premium by up to $2,500 a year." In reality, coverage for most families is down even as costs have soared.

Clinton said she would "build on" Obamacare by "by putting a cap on prescription drug costs." But that could destroy the profits of drug companies, making them reluctant to run the gaumut of Food and Drug Administration regulations that have brought the cost of getting a new drug to market to $1.3 billion, according to Joseph Dimasi of the Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development. A better idea would be to reform the FDA to reduce that cost.

The candidates promised both more gun control and higher taxes, the opposite of what Republican candidates advocate. And they supported Obama's nuclear treaty with Iran, which all the Republicans opposed. Of course, few of these proposals could make it through Congress, even if Republicans lose control of both houses, which seems unlikely.

"Feel the Bern" is Sanders' top campaign slogan. But for him and Clinton, a better theme would be: "Feel the tax bite."

Letter Policy

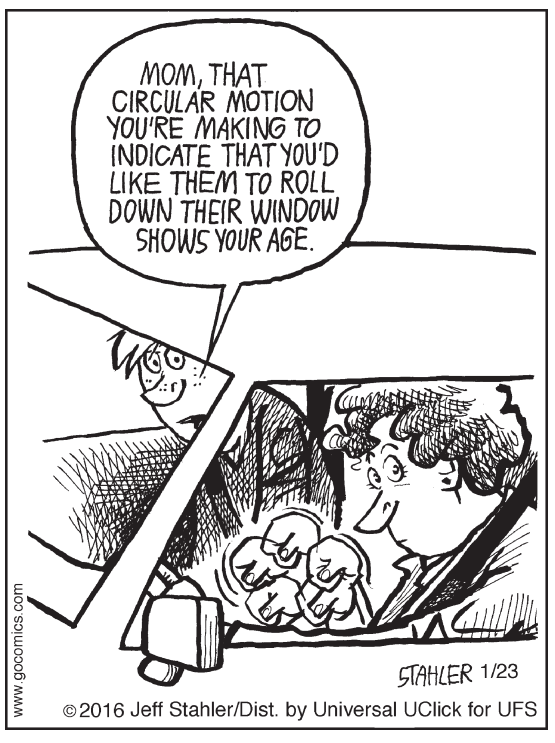
The Hastings Tribune welcomes letters about issues of public interest.

Letters can be submitted via the Tribune's website at hastingstribune.com; e-mailed to tribune@hastingstribune.com; mailed to Voice of the People, P.O. Box 788, Hastings, NE 68902; or hand-delivered to 908 W. Second St.

Letters must be signed and include a full name, address and phone number. (The address and phone number will not be published.) Letters should be 300 words or less and will be edited liberally for length, spelling, grammar, clarity and content.

Letters should originate from the Tribland area or pertain to a local issue. They should address a public issue; commentary on private organizations and businesses may be rejected.

Thank you letters and form letters may be rejected. Letters of a political nature will not be accepted within three days of an election.



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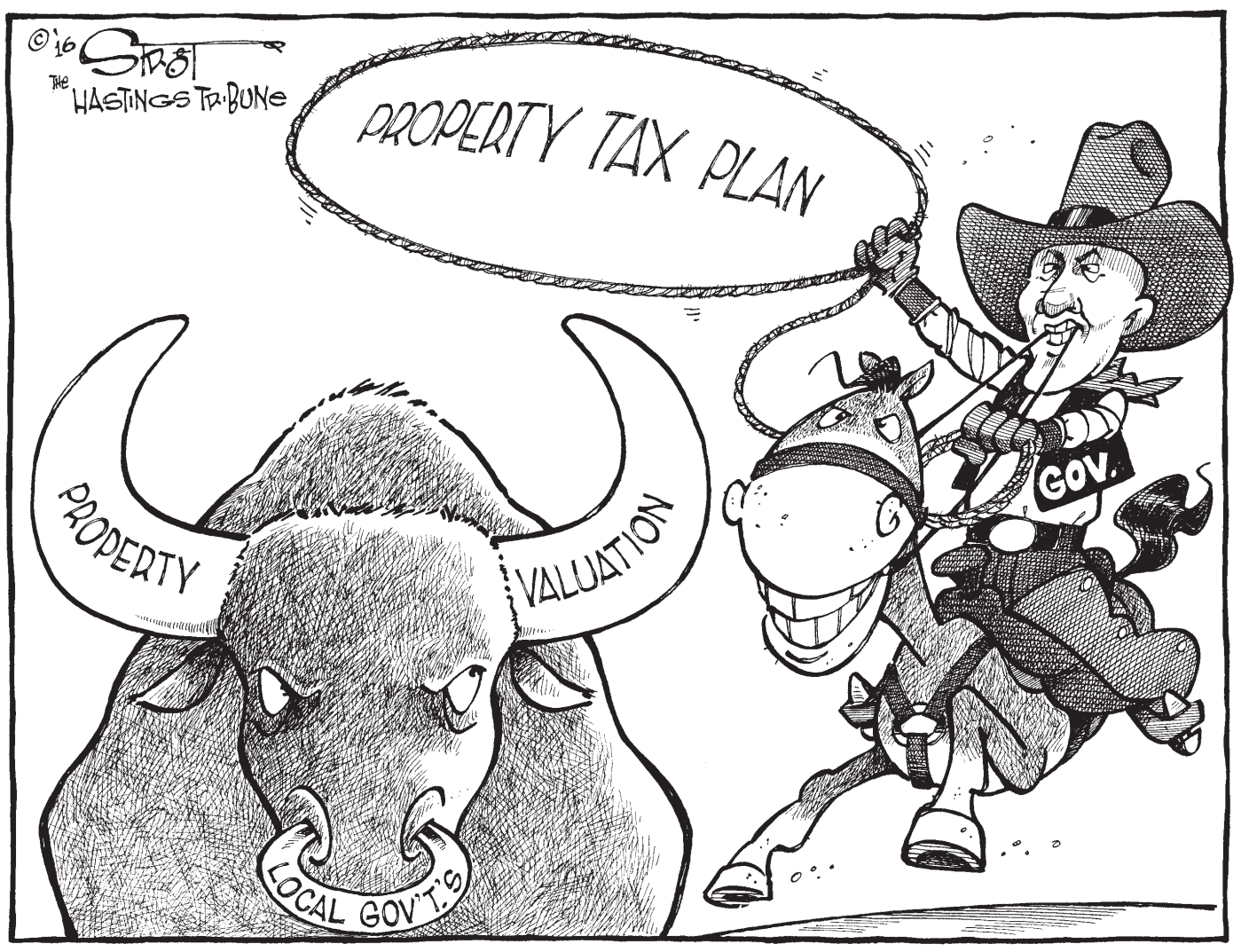
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First Amendment

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."



Will it be Trump vs. Sanders in November?

The only thing predictable about the 2016 presidential campaign so far has been its unpredictability.

A year ago, Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Jeb Bush were their respective parties' front-runners and presumed nominees. Now, Donald Trump continues to hold a commanding lead in national polls for the GOP nomination, and Bernie Sanders, the independent senator from Vermont who is a self-proclaimed socialist, is poised to beat Clinton in the upcoming Iowa caucus and New Hampshire primary.

Could Trump and Sanders face off in the general election? What would it mean for the Democratic and Republican parties? What would it mean for the country? The RedBlueAmerica columnists debate.



Joel Mathis

The fact that we're even contemplating a Sanders-versus-Trump election proves one thing: The electorate has started to reach its polarized limits.

Decades ago, both parties spanned fairly broad sections of the ideological spectrum. It's how Democrats could be the party of Southern segregationists and the authors of the Voting Rights Act; it's how Republicans could keep middle-of-the-road Dwight Eisenhower in office for eight years and nominate conservative firebrand Barry Goldwater to the presidency just a few years after that.

That meant overlap: The most conservative Democrat in Congress back in those days was often somewhere to the right of the most liberal Republican.

The last few decades have dispensed with that order. Study after study shows that the electorate has sorted itself into increasingly homogeneous parties: If you're liberal, you're a Democrat. If you're conservative, you're Republican. The overlap is gone.

The result? You're getting to see the parties in their essences. You get to see the fruition of ideas and their logical consequences.

For Republicans, it means that decades spent whipping up right-leaning voters into an angry hysteria — thanks to talk radio, Fox News and online outlets like Breitbart — has paid off with widespread support for a candidate whose appeal boils down to snarling, offense-giving tribalism, the pinnacle of a career spent diminishing the fortune he inherited.

For Democrats, you're seeing a desire to help the poor and middle class live financially sustainable lives. But Sanders' heart may be bigger than his wallet: Vox's Ezra Klein says Sanders' proposed health care plan would require raising $1 trillion a year in taxes. Paul Krugman, no conservative, says it would probably require higher middle class taxes than Sanders is willing to admit. It's hard to believe the American electorate has much stomach for that.

It's easy, and wrong, to make a fetish of centrism and compromise. In our politics, the best ideas tend to flow to the middle, not from it. But the system gets bogged down without some moderate good sense in the mix. A Trump-versus-Sanders race suggests we're dire need of more good sense.

Joel Mathis is a writer in Philadelphia. Email him at joelmathis@gmail.com.



Ben Boychuk

Readers of a certain age and disposition will remember a Marvel Comics series from the late 1970s and early '80s called "What If ... ?" The gimmick was to take a story from the main continuity of Marvel's comic book universe and put a different spin on it. "What If Spiderman Joined the Fantastic Four?" "What If The Avengers Had Fought Evil During the 1950s?" "What If Captain America Had Been Elected President?"

The 2016 presidential election feels like a "What If ... ?" story.

What if the Republican Party base revolted? What if the presumed nominee of the Democratic Party collapsed under the weight of her scandalous past and present?

Sanders' persistence as a candidate and credible challenger to Clinton is as remarkable as Trump's persistently high poll numbers. The socialist from Vermont has raised more than $76 million for his campaign, mostly from small donors. She's raised more money, but he's drawing support from a broader base.

You think the conservatives are angry and divided? The fact that Sanders is within striking distance of Clinton in Iowa and looks to be crushing her in New Hampshire speaks to how cranky and dissatisfied the Democrats' more left-wing base has become. And with word this week that the State Department inspector general found highly sensitive classified information among Clinton's personal emails, her troubles can no longer be brushed off by the campaign as right-wing paranoia (which was always a fib).

What's interesting about the prospect of a Trump-Sanders election, though, is the reality of the choice American voters would be asked to make. Trump is no conservative. He's barely a Republican. He's a nationalist first and foremost. So is Sanders.

A Trump-Sanders matchup would make for a wild "What If ... ?" tale. What if Americans have to choose between two candidates who dislike free trade, love higher tariffs on foreign goods, and want to restrict legal and illegal immigration? What if the choice is between a candidate who would cut taxes and add trillions to the deficit and a candidate who would raise taxes and add trillions to the deficit?

Mister, we could use a man like Captain America again.

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Tribland five-day forecast

Art by Evan Schroyer, 11, Lincoln Elementary



Cloudy Today
High: 36 **Low:** 22
Wind: South 10-15 with gusts to around 25 mph
Patchy fog after midnight.



Cloudy Sunday
High: 36 **Low:** 24
Wind: Light
A chance of light freezing drizzle or snow at night.



Snowy Monday
High: 30 **Low:** 21
Cloudy with a 50 percent chance of snow.



Sunny Tuesday
High: 36 **Low:** 19
Clear Tuesday night.



Sunny Wednesday
High: 39 **Low:** 28
Mostly clear Wednesday night.

Car gadgets great — if you happen to find the 'on' switch

When I was a kid, a very young kid, my dad had a car that was started by hand with a crank. Now before I admit to being older than dirt, not all crank-started cars date before World War II; several came out in the Vietnam War era and even later.

My point is that cars have come a long way since the first Model A. We are talking cars that drive and park themselves and that have gadgetry and wizardry far beyond anyone of normal intelligence.



Joyce Ore

Today's cars have GPS systems designed to take us to the moon and beyond if the electric cord is long enough.

Cars have gotten so comfortable I want to live in them, and so smart I want to brag about them like I do about our three grandsons.

With all the intelligence that goes into the design of these cars, why can't my female friends find the door handles in the dark when I'm dropping them off at their homes after we've attended a fun movie?

I'd be happy to turn on the light to help them find the door handle, if I could find the knob or switch that turns on the light.

If these car designers really want to please the average woman, why can't they put their competitiveness aside and bring a little consistency to our lives by agreeing where the best location is in the car to place the on/off switch for the windshield wipers?

In the last car we bought, I spent the first five hours as the navigator with the manual trying to figure out how to turn off the windshield wipers on a clear day.

The ease in finding the right topic in the manual is a topic for another day.

We have rules and regulations for nearly every area of our lives, from medical, to financial, to how many hours we can water lawns, but nothing about the best way to move the seat in the car forward and back when a tall man and short woman are a couple.

The cars may be smart, but not the designers.

Joyce Ore of Hastings is a columnist for the Tribune. Contact Joyce at 402-463-9559 or email at jore@windstream.net.

Local

THC CANDY

A 29-year-old Hastings woman has been accused of passing out gummy candy with THC, the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's psychological effects.

Beth Sedersten of 2314 W. Fourth St. was charged Friday with distribution of a controlled substance (tetrahydrocannabinol), a Class 2A felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

On Thursday, Hastings police responded to a disturbance at Bourbon Jacks, 212 W. Second St.

During the call, officers learned a woman had been passing out gummy candy that had THC in it and she was arrested.

During Sedersten's initial appearance on Friday in Adams County Court, the public defender was appointed to represent Sederstein and a further hearing was set for Jan. 29 at 9 a.m.

Former doctor found competent

MARGERY A. BECK
The Associated Press

OMAHA — A judge has ruled that a former doctor accused of killing four people with ties to an Omaha medical school is competent to stand trial.

Douglas County District Judge Duane Dougherty issued an order Thursday saying Anthony Garcia is mentally fit for trial. The ruling came a week after three experts — included one for the defense — testified that Garcia is competent.

Garcia's trial is tentatively scheduled to begin April 4.

Garcia, 42, was ordered last year to undergo a mental health evaluation after he repeatedly alleged he had been sexually abused by jail guards. Officials say evidence, including jail surveillance video, disproves those allegations.

Garcia has pleaded not guilty to charges of first-degree murder in the March 2008 slayings of Dr. William Hunter's 11-year-old son, Thomas Hunter, and the family's housekeeper, Shirlee Sherman, as well as the May 2013 killings of Dr. Roger Brumback and his wife, Mary.

Authorities believe Garcia was motivated by revenge. Roger Brumback and William Hunter had been instrumental in firing Garcia from Creighton University's pathology department in 2001, and both men sent letters to medical boards that prevented Garcia from becoming licensed in other states and from finishing residency programs.

Garcia briefly held a temporary medical license in Indiana. He also was licensed in Illinois, where he was arrested in 2013, but he lost that license following his arrest.

Douglas County Attorney Don Kleine has said he will seek the death penalty if Garcia is convicted.

Kleine was out of the office Friday to attend a professional conference and could not be reached for comment.

Garcia's attorney, Robert Motta of Chicago, said Friday that he and his client are ready for trial.

"We were ready in February," he said, referring to an earlier date that had set the trial for February of last year.

Senator targets tax break on food

GRANT SCHULTE
The Associated Press

LINCOLN — A Nebraska lawmaker took aim Friday at a sales tax break for food sold at political events, saying it only benefits politicians while other groups are forced to pay the tax.

Sen. Dave Bloomfield of Hoskins argued that the current exemption amounts to tax break that elected officials gave to themselves.

Bloomfield has introduced LB 689 to reinstate the tax at events held by candidates, political parties, ballot measure groups and independent committees.

"Everybody else pays taxes," Bloomfield told the Revenue Committee. "I don't know why political people should be exempt."

Bloomfield said he discovered the exemption last year while researching another bill to give the same sales tax exemption to veterans' groups. The veterans' proposal remains stuck in committee.

Nebraska allows sales tax exemptions on nearly 100 different goods and services, from farm chemicals to airplane fuel to bull semen, according to the Department of Revenue. The state exempts food prepared by schools and churches, among other groups.

Some lawmakers expressed skepticism. Sen. Mike Gloor of Grand Island questioned whether it could inject more money into political races by forcing candidates to increase their fundraising to cover the additional expense.

"The unintended consequence for me is we may be taking more money from more individuals," said Gloor, the committee chairman.

Sen. Lydia Brasch of Bancroft said she opposed anything that might discourage attendance at a political event, but acknowledged that the cost of food wouldn't make a large difference.



Nebraska Unicameral Information Service

Sen. Dave Bloomfield of Hoskins introduced a bill to reinstate the sales tax for food sold at events held by candidates, political parties and ballot measure groups and independent committees.

Bloomfield said the tax likely wouldn't have a disproportionate impact on lower-income residents as other taxes on food do.

"When we have a $500-a-plate fundraiser, we're not taking that money from poor people," he said.

Sen. Al Davis said event organizers might skirt the law by seeking a donation for the event itself and providing food for free.

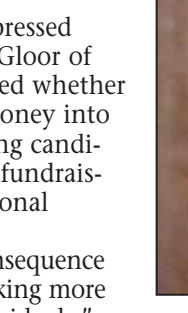
No one testified in support of or against the bill, and lawmakers took no immediate action.

One rule for caregivers: Look out for yourself, too

ERICA SIEBERT
eblakley@hastingstribune.com

Although caring for a loved one with disabilities can be rewarding, it can also be stressful.

Jinx Hackler of Hastings Respite Care gave a presentation Friday during the YWCA's Empower Hour about "Rethinking Aging, Caring for Yourself First" and also to gear up for the Hastings Respite Care and the Nebraska Lifespan Respite Network free training for respite care providers and family caregivers in Adams, Clay, Nuckolls and Webster counties.



Hackler

As people go on day-to-day taking care of their children, spouses or parents with different health issues, it is important for those caretakers to take care of themselves first.

"Family caregivers are the ones who continually put themselves at the bottom of the list of things to do," Hackler said. "In many instances, it is the family caregivers who pass away before the person with special needs because they put their health and everything on the back burner."

By taking responsibility, having realistic expectations, focusing on what you can do, communicating effectively with others, learning from your emotions, asking for help and setting goals and working toward them, are ways that caregivers can take care of themselves.

"Caring for ourselves should be No. 1," Hackler said. "You have to manage your own self care. Take responsibility. It is up to you. Nobody is going to do it for you."

Some people think that they can do it all and should be able to do it all. But that is unrealistic.

"Expecting yourself to do everything and do it all, doesn't make you a better person," Hackler said. "It actually does quite the opposite."

By trying to do it all can make you cranky, depressed and feelings of self doubt and then that can lead into taking out frustrations on others and on yourself, Hackler said.

"What we try to educate our caregivers on is the fact that, they shouldn't expect to be that perfect family caregiver," Hackler said. "You can't do it and might as well face the facts now that you're just going to wear yourself out pretty quick for trying to be perfect."

Stress is another factor that can take a toll on a caregiver.

Managing stress is doable, if you know what you're looking for.

"Managing stress is easy if you know the warning signs," Hackler said. "You have to learn to recognize your signs of stress."

To reduce some stressors in your life, Hackler suggests managing your thoughts or beliefs, practice self care, have fun and use relaxation techniques such as meditation, listening to music or humor.

Please see RESPITE*/page A6*

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Storm: Postcard-pretty snow no longer safe

Continued from page A1

"They're slipping and sliding all over the place," said Kentucky State Police Trooper Lloyd Cochran — as soon as one wreck was cleared, other cars slammed into each other, causing gridlock for hours on interstate highways.

Conditions quickly became treacherous all along the path of the storm. Arkansas and Tennessee got 8 inches; Kentucky got more than a foot, and states across the Deep South grappled with icy, snow-covered roads and power outages. Two tornadoes arrived along with the snow in Mississippi.

The storm could easily cause more than $1 billion in damage, weather service director Louis Uccellini said.

All the ingredients have come together for a massive snowfall: The winds initially picked up warm water from the Gulf of Mexico, and now the storm is taking much more moisture from the warmer-than-usual Gulf Stream as it rotates slowly over mid-Atlantic states, with the District of Columbia in its bulls-eye.

At least meteorologists appear to have gotten this storm right. Predictions converged and millions of people got clear warnings, well in advance. Blizzard warnings stretched to just north of New York City. Boston and other New England cities should get a less windy winter storm, and much less snow.

In all, 82 million Americans will get at least an inch of snow, 47 million more than 6 inches, and 22 million Americans more than a foot, Ryan Maue at WeatherBell Analytics said Friday.

Fortunately, temperatures will be just above freezing after the storm passes in most places, and there's no second storm lurking behind this one, making for a slow and steady melt and less likelihood of more ice and floods, Peterson said.

As food and supplies vanished from store shelves Friday, states of emergency were declared, lawmakers went home, and schools, government offices and transit systems closed early around the region. Thousands of flights were canceled, sporting events were called off, bands postponed concerts and NASCAR delayed its Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Broadway's shows were still going on in New York, but as snow fell in Atlanta, people there were urged to stay home all weekend, rather than risk a repeat of the city's 2014 "ice-pocalypse," when a relatively mild winter storm caused days of commuter chaos.

Travel was already impossible across a wide swath of the Ohio River valley. Nashville, Tennessee, was gridlocked by accidents. Several drivers died on icy roads in North Carolina. In Washington, Baltimore, and Delaware, archdioceses pre-emptively excused Catholics from showing up for Sunday Mass.

Coastal flooding and the loss of beaches from high surf were major worries from Delaware north to Long Island. New Jersey's Republican Gov. Chris Christie canceled presidential campaign events in New Hampshire, which should be spared from the storm. "I'm sorry, NH but I gotta go home — we got snow coming," Christie wrote on Twitter. Christie met with his Cabinet on Friday night and then declared a state of emergency as forecasters predicted up to 2 feet of snow in parts of the state. The governor asked people to be smart and stay off roadways on Saturday.

Court: Kansas Constitution protects abortion rights

ROXANA HEGEMAN
The Associated Press

WICHITA, Kan. — The Kansas Court of Appeals refused Friday to allow the state's first-in-the-nation ban on a common second-trimester abortion method to take effect, saying in a split but groundbreaking decision that the conservative state's constitution protects abortion rights independent of the U.S. Constitution.

If the 7-7 ruling — released on the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision — is allowed to stand, it could upend several other abortion restrictions in Kansas because a key issue in the case is whether a woman's right to end her pregnancy is specifically protected by the Kansas Constitution. Tie votes from the court uphold the lower-court ruling being appealed.

Seven appellate judges agreed with a county judge who said the Kansas Constitution's Bill of Rights has general statements about personal liberties that create independent protections for abortion rights. Such a finding would allow the state's courts to protect those rights more than the federal courts have done, which abortion opponents fear could allow state judges to invalidate restrictions in Kansas that federal courts might allow.

"The rights of Kansas women in 2016 are not limited to those specifically intended by the men who drafted our state's constitution in 1859," the appeals court wrote.

The decision is expected to be appealed to the Kansas Supreme Court.

The ruling stems from a lawsuit filed by two abortion providers who said the 2015 law is an unconstitutional burden on women seeking to end their pregnancies. The law prohibits doctors from using forceps or similar instruments on a live fetus to remove it from the womb in pieces.

Such instruments are commonly used in dilation and evacuation procedures, which the Center for Reproductive Rights has said is the safest and most common abortion procedure in the U.S. in the second trimester.

A similar Oklahoma law also was blocked by a state-court judge, while lawmakers in Nebraska have considered similar measures.

The Kansas law was put on hold by a lower court during the legal fight, and the appeals court upheld that decision. The lawsuit cites only rights granted in the Kansas Constitution, meaning the case will be handled in the state court system.

The ruling came as abortion opponents converged on the Statehouse for a rally marking the 43rd anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion nationwide.

Markets

Friday's closing local markets

Corn 3.30
Soybeans 8.10
Milo 3.05
Wheat 4.01

Stocks of local interest

The following stocks of local interest were traded today:

	Last	Chg.
Berkshire Hathaway A	191,396	+1,941
Berkshire Hathaway B	127.04	+1.42
ConAgra	40.25	+1.00
Eaton Corp.	48.51	+.73
Ingersoll Rand	50.46	+1.63
Level 3	47.82	+2.26
McDonald's	118.40	+.56
PepsiCo	95.85	+1.38
Tricon Global Restaurants	68.98	+.02
Union Pacific	69.99	-1.01
Wells Fargo	49.02	+1.01
Williams Cos.	19.74	+3.70
Wal-Mart	62.69	+.81

Respite: Important for caregivers to take break

Continued from page A5

A respite care and family caregivers training will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 6 at Head Start in Hastings.

The training is free for individuals interested in providing in-home care to families with special needs members and the elderly.

"Once a year we hold a free training for people who are interested in becoming respite care providers and going into homes of families and giving them a break," Hackler said.

BUYERS MEET SELLERS
EVERYDAY IN THE CLASSIFIED PAGES OF THE TRIBUNE



Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE
In the District Court of Adams County, Nebraska
Case No. CI16-29
In RE name change of Adrian Isaiah Reeve Washington

Notice is hereby given that on the 20th day of January, 2016, a petition was filed in the District Court of Adams County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which is for the change of the petitioner's name from Adrian Isaiah Reeve Washington to Adrian Isaiah Washington.

A hearing will be held on said petition before the Honorable Judge Harder, 500 West 4th Street, Hastings, Nebraska 68901 on the 29th day of February, 2016 at 3:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter as will be convenient for the Court and that unless sufficient cause is shown to the contrary, the petitioner's name will be changed from that of Adrian Isaiah Reeve Washington to Adrian Isaiah Washington.

Kristin Washington
3025 South Marian Road
Hastings, Nebraska
68901

January 23, 30, 2016

Notice
In the District Court of Webster County, Nebraska
Case No. CI 16-1
In RE Name Change of Thomas Joe Dougherty.

Notice is hereby given that on the 12th day of January, 2016, a petition was filed in the District Court of Adams County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which is for the change of the petitioner's name from Thomas Joe Dougherty to Thomas Joe Roark.

A hearing will be had on said petition before the Honorable Judge Illingsworth, 621 North Cedar, Red Cloud, Nebraska, on the 29th day of February, 2016 at 2:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as will be convenient for the Court and that unless sufficient cause is shown to the contrary the petitioner's name will be changed from that of Thomas Joe Dougherty to Thomas Joe Roark.

Thomas Joe Dougherty
2408 Road 1625
Blue Hill, Nebraska
68930

January 16, 23, 30, February 6, 2016

Notice
In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska
Estate of LEOLA I. WIENS, Deceased. Estate No. PR16-03

Notice is hereby given that on January 14, 2016, in the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Glen A. Wiens, whose address is 8560 South Baltimore Avenue, Ayr, Nebraska 68925-2574, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of this estate.

Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this Court on or before March 24, 2016, or be forever barred.

Tom Hawes
County Court Clerk
Magistrate

Joe Ehrich, #24931
Seiler & Parker, P.C.
L.L.O.
P.O. Box 1288
Hastings, Nebraska
68902-1288
Attorney for Applicant
January 23, 30, February 6, 2016

REQUEST FOR BIDS
The City of Blue Hill is requesting bids for professional services of annual preparation and compilation of budget documents and audit of financial statements for the next 3 years. Bids will be accepted through February 4, 2016. Bids can be submitted to: City of Blue Hill, P.O. Box 277, Blue Hill, Nebraska 68930. If any questions, call 402-756-2056. Review of bids and possible award will take place at the February 9, 2016 regular City Council meeting.
E.O.E
January 19, 23, 26, 30, February 2, 2016

HAVE LIVESTOCK, farm equipment, or farm land for sale? Call 402-462-2131 to advertise your specialty.

School Board Proceedings
Hastings Public Schools
Work Session
January 14, 2016

No action was taken at the January 14, 2016, Work Session of the Hastings Board of Education.

Jeff Schneider
Secretary of the Board
Hastings Public Schools
January 23, 2016

School Board Proceedings

The Adams Central Board of Education met Monday, January 11, 2016, at Adams Central in the Conference Room at 6:30 p.m. After opening the meeting, the board approved the minutes, bills and payroll. The board approved keeping officers and committees the same, approved policies, designated Amquist, Maltzahn, Galloway and Luth as district auditors, the Hastings Tribune as the local paper for legal publications, and PGH&G as the district attorney for the 2016 calendar year. The board heard presentations from the Village of Juniata, Adams County Board of Supervisors, building principals and Superintendent. For detailed minutes, please visit adamscentral.us. The following bills were approved for payment:
January Payroll, Payroll-339,700.31; 5 Points Bank, Payroll-125.00; Lonnie Abbott, Mileage-53.76; Adams Central Employee 125 Plan Account, Payroll-4,935.66; Adams Central Imprest Account, Reimbursement-1,147.51; Advanced Electric, Repair-120.00; AFLAC, Detamore-2,989.37; Air & Fluid Management, Repair-800.00; Allen's of Hastings, Inc., Supplies-533.92; Almquist Maltzahn Galloway & Luth, Audit-6,900.00; AS Central Services OCIO, Services-227.47; Beman's Appliance Service, Repair-94.50; Big G, Supplies-296.21; Blick Art Materials, Stools-320.40; Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Payroll-117,288.17; Allyson Bohlen, Reimbursement-355.21; William Camby, Mileage-22.96; Karri Cappel, Mileage-37.80; Cardmember Service, CC Charge-2,124.04; Central Community College/Hastings, Dining-544.00; Charter Communications, E-Rate-3,059.44; Clay-King.Com, Inc., Equipment-1,744.92; Computer Hardware, Equipment-830.95; Cooperative Producers, Fuel-16.25; Custom Security & Investigations, Security-180.00; DHL Express USA Inc., Supplies-21.00; Dietze, Supplies-29.79; Don Rutt Plumbing & Heating Inc., Repair-525.83; Dutton-Lainson Co., Supplies-959.00; Earl Mays, Supplies-48.97; Echo Group, Inc., Equipment-754.55; Egan Supply Co., Equipment-816.98; Educational Service Unit #9, Workshop-56,573.02; Educational Service Unit #10, Workshop-110.00; Fastenal, Supplies-326.40; Central Nebraska Rehab Services, Service-4,142.77; Graham Tire, Tire Repair-72.99; Great America Leasing Corp, Equipment Lease-1,535.00; Harris School Solutions, Tax Forms-203.13; The Hartford, Payroll-4,530.00; Hastings Tribune, Adv.-213.43; Hastings Utilities, Electricity-13,942.08; Nancy L. Hollister, Mileage-23.37; Hastings Public Schools, Vision Therapy-2,186.25; Ideal Electric Inc., Repair-313.00; Jerry's Sheet Metal Heating & Cooling, Inc., Repair-913.00; Bernard Kathman, Mileage-47.04; Ann Kiolbasa, Mileage-39.76; Lasertec of Nebraska Inc., Equipment-4,754.14; Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc., Supplies-52.46; McGraw-Hill School Ed. Holdings, L.L.C., Textbooks-1,630.39; Membean, Inc., Subscription-950.00; Menard's, Supplies-636.78; Nebraska Department of Revenue, Payroll-17,300.04; National Insurance Services-Life, Payroll-775.60; National Insurance Services-LTD, LTD-2,222.42; NMC Exchange L.L.C., Repair-4,796.76; Nebraska School Retirement, Payroll-98,992.31; O'Keefe Elevator Co, Inc., Repair-159.35; One Source, Services-105.00; Orkin, Pest Control-137.71; J.W. Pepper, Supplies-84.95; Perry, Guthery, Haase & Gessford, PC, L.L.O., Legal Fees-1,386.00; Precision Sprinklers, Inc., Repair-559.90; Protex, Inspec-80.50; Kayla Reutzel, Mileage-22.40; Robert Strunks, Designs-1,095.00; Pam Russell, Mileage-262.08; S & S Septic Pumping, L.L.C., Service-800.00; Salary Taxes, Payroll-123,827.29; Caryn Scott, Correction-48.90; Shawn Scott, Reimbursement-492.78; Sharon Shriver, Mileage-16.80; State of Nebraska, Post-2,054.00; Sourcegas, Fuel-5,393.53; Southern Power District, Electricity-807.00; Stuhr Museum-Ed. Dept., Field Trip-45.50; The Thompson Co, Supplies-1,112.96; Thomsen Oil Co, Fuel-1,473.31; Leroy Trautman, Mileage-15.12; Vaughan's Printers, Supplies-386.45; Verizon Wireless, Telephone-969.93; Village of Juniata, Services-196.08; Vontz Paving Inc., Snow Removal-115.00; Windstream, Telephone-1,327.76; Witt Plumbing, Repair-170.00; Woodward's, Service-800.00.
January 23, 2016

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 2nd, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the regular meeting room of the Webster County Commissioners at the Webster County Courthouse in Red Cloud, Nebraska. At said time the Webster County Board of Commissioners will decide if the following described road should be vacated and abandoned:

Road #96: The County Road running north and south between the north half and the south half of Section Fourteen (14), Township Four (4) North, Range Nine (9) and Section Fifteen (15), Township Four (4) North, Range Nine (9) West, both West of the 6th P.M. Webster County, Nebraska;

Road #97: The County Running east and west between the east half and the west half of Section Thirty-Two (32), Township Four (4) North, Range Ten (10) Wet and Section Five (5), Township Three (3) North, Range Ten (10) West, both West of the 6th P.M., Webster County, Nebraska;

Road #98: The County Running east and west between Southwest quarter (SW¼) of Section Six (6) and Northwest Quarter (NW¼) of Section Seven (7), Township Two (2) North, Range Ten (10) West, West of the 6th P.M. Webster County, Nebraska

Linda Grummert
Webster County Highway Superintendent
January 16, 23, 30, 2016

PREPAY YOUR ad to save. List your ad. 402-462-2131.

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

1. The name of the Limited Liability Company is Cornhusker Real Estate, L.L.C.
2. The street address of the initial designated office is 1201 Pershing Road, Hastings, Nebraska 68901, and the name of the organizer at such address is Fred J. Hyde.
3. The name of the initial agent for service of process is Fred. J. Hyde, and the street address and mailing address of such initial agent is 1201 Pershing Road, Hastings, Nebraska 68901.
4. The company is organized to engage in and do any lawful act concerning any lawful business for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska including the professional service of Real Estate Sales.
5. The company will commence on January 7, 2016, and its existence will be perpetual. The company will be managed by its members.

Fred J. Hyde, Member,
Cornhusker Real Estate,
L.L.C.
1201 Pershing Road
Hastings, Nebraska
68901

January 16, 23, 30, 2016

Notice
In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska
In the Matter of the Estate of HAROLD J. FARRALL, Deceased.
No. PR16-04

Notice is hereby given that on January 15, 2016, in the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Bruce Schwenk, whose address is 32220 Road G, Harvard, Nebraska 68944, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before March 24, 2016 or be forever barred.

Tom Hawes
Clerk of the County Court
P.O. Box 95
Hastings, Nebraska
68902

Ted S. Griess, #15403
Baird & Griess
P.O. Box 350
Sutton, Nebraska 68979
(402) 773-4115
January 23, 30, February 6, 2016

Legal Notice
In the District Court of Adams County, Nebraska
Case Number CI 16-4
TO: JULIO CESAR CHOJOLAN, whose whereabouts are unknown upon who personal service of summons cannot be had, and is the Defendant in said proceedings:
DISSOLUTION OF Tara Chojolan vs Julio Chojolan

Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of January, 2016, a Petition for Dissolution was filed in the District Court of Adams County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which is for the dissolution of Tara Kay Chojolan, Plaintiff vs Julio Cesar Chojolan Defendant, Case No. CI 16-4, the object of which is to obtain a dissolution of marriage on the grounds that the marriage is irretrievably broken.

You are required to answer said complaint within 30 days or said complaint against you will be taken as true.

Tara Chojolan
1152 Renae Lane
Hastings, Nebraska
68901

January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2016

NOTICE
In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska
Estate of SHERRIL A. ALBIN, Deceased
Case No. PR16-05

Notice is hereby given that on January 19, 2016, in the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Deceased and that George M. Albin, Jr., whose address is 210 East Buffalo Circle, Hastings, Nebraska 68901, was informally appointed by the Registrar as personal representative of this estate. Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this Court on or before March 24, 2016, or be forever barred.

Tom Hawes
Clerk of the County Court
Adams County
Courthouse
P.O. Box 95
Hastings, Nebraska
68901

Parker, Grossart,
Bahensky, Beucke,
Bowman &
Symington, L.L.P.
Attorney for Applicant
1516 1st Avenue
P.O. Box 1600
Kearney, Nebraska
68848-1600
(308)237-2114
January 23, 30, February 6, 2016

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Trump, GOP leaders realizing they need each other

JILL COLVIN, JULIE PACE AND STEVE PEOPLES
The Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Donald Trump and some mainstream Republicans are engaged in a long-distance flirtation. Both sides are coming to the realization that they'll need each other if the billionaire businessman becomes the party's presidential nominee.

The GOP establishment is no fonder of Trump than when he first roiled the campaign last summer with his controversial comments about immigrants and women. But with voting beginning in just over a week, his durability atop preference polls has pushed some donors, strategists and party elders to grudgingly accept the prospect of his winning the nomination.

"We'd better stop hoping for something else and accept the possibility that he's our nominee and be prepared to rally around him if that's the case," said Fred Malek, a top Republican presidential fundraiser.

Bob Dole, the 1996 Republican nominee who represented Kansas in the House and Senate for decades, said of Trump: "He's got this personality where I do believe he could work with Congress."

Trump, too, has started to suggest that he'd look for ways to work with Republican leaders if he wins.

"I'm a dealmaker who will get things done," he said Thursday during an event in Las Vegas. "There's a point at which — let's get to be a little establishment. We got to get things done, folks, OK?"



ISAAC BREKKEN/*AP*

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks during a campaign rally Thursday in Las Vegas.

However, the establishment's growing acceptance of Trump's electoral prospects so far hasn't manifested itself in tangible support for his campaign. The real estate mogul has not been endorsed by any congressional lawmakers or governors, nor are there any indications of a big wave of major donors planning to get involved with his campaign, despite Trump's assertion that he's received "so many calls" from wealthy and influential Republicans.

If anything, the most visible signs of support for Trump's campaign in recent days have come from those who see themselves as outside the Republican establishment. Sarah Palin, the former Alaska governor and a favorite of the tea party insurgency, announced her support for him on Tuesday. Amy Kremer, the former chairman of the Tea Party Express organization, announced plans this week to launch a super PAC backing Trump's candidacy.

"The one thing I know for sure is that he absolutely is 100 percent pro-American and he loves this country and wants to restore it to greatness," Kremer said of Trump. "At this point, I really believe he is the only one with the ability to do that."

Much of the mainstream Republican reckoning with Trump is rooted in deep disdain for Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, the businessman's closest rival. Cruz is seen as more likely to try to upend the web of lobbyists, donors and other powerbrokers who have long wielded enormous influence in the Republican Party.

Liz Mair, a communications operative who is running one of the GOP's few anti-Trump efforts, said donors affiliated with other candidates would rather let Trump beat Cruz in the early voting states than let their least-favorite senator gain momentum.

"They'd rather that he kills Cruz by winning in Iowa and New Hampshire and then try to take him down," Mair said.

Even as he's taken up the anti-establishment mantle, Trump has made some quiet overtures to GOP powerbrokers. He met with Republican mega-donor Sheldon Adelson last year and has also reached out to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, though he hasn't spoken directly with House Speaker Paul Ryan.

There are still big swaths of establishment-minded Republican voters and officials who staunchly oppose Trump's candidacy and believe both he and Cruz are unelectable in November. They say there's still plenty of time for a more mainstream candidate to mount a serious challenge.

Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush are all seeking to beat expectations in Iowa, then be a top finisher in New Hampshire. Ohio Gov. John Kasich is also in the mix in New Hampshire.

Having already been endorsed by four senators, Rubio's campaign says it's preparing to unveil a series of endorsements from high-profile elected officials in the coming weeks, part of an effort to push more mainstream Republicans to coalesce behind his candidacy.

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Business Review

Advertisement

Top Notch Selection & Service Are At Blue Hill Furniture

For the best selection of quality furniture and flooring, you need to look no further than Blue Hill Furniture. In business since 1889, they offer the selection of a larger store with the friendly service and competitive prices of a small town.

For the latest in all types of flooring, stop in to see what Blue Hill Furniture can do for you. They carry many brands such as Queen, Kraus, Coronet, Philadelphia, Cabin Craft, Aladdin, Mohawk and Horizon. They carry Tarkett and Congoleum vinyl, DuraCeramic by Congoleum, Armstrong Luxe Plank and Alterna, and Mannington Adura Luxury tile. They carry Florida, Marazzi and Ragno ceramic tiles. Wood flooring by Armstrong, Bruce, Paramount and Baltic Wood and carpeting by Mohawk SmartStrand and ShawMark are also carried.

If there's a type of flooring not in stock, nearly any brand can be custom ordered for you. Blue Hill Furniture will schedule all of your carpet and flooring installation for you, making your job easier.

Several lines of top quality furniture are carried, such as Lane, Marshfield and Tennessee Enterprises and recliners by Lane, Barcalounger and Catnapper. Included in their selection are glider rockers by Brooks, dinettes by Chromcraft, Philip Reinisch curios, entertainment centers by Eagle, and lamps and tables by McQuerter Home Accents. They offer bedroom furniture by Vaughan and promotional furniture by Perdue. You will also find all of your bedding needs including the popular Omaha Bedding mattresses.



Visit John Weddingfeld of Blue Hill Furniture for several lines of quality furniture, flooring and bedding. They are located in downtown Blue Hill or can be reached at 402-756-3030.

Blue Hill Furniture offers free delivery within 75 miles of Blue Hill. Stop in and check out the best prices, selection and service around on quality furnishings, bedding and flooring.

Located at 501 Gage Street in downtown Blue Hill, John Weddingfeld is ready to help you with any home decorating need. Call (402) 756-3030 or stop by and see them, you'll be glad you did!

How To Choose Kitchen Or Bathroom Remodelers

A kitchen or bath remodeling project to get your dream space can prove to be a valuable investment – when done properly that is.

We've all heard or experienced horror stories about home remodeling gone bad: unfinished projects, terrible workmanship, final bills coming in much higher than quoted and more. These nightmares often come true when a less-than-reputable contractor is hired to do the job.

So how can you tell if one remodeling company is any better, or worse, than the other?

In an effort to help you determine beforehand whether or not a home improvement remodeler is likely to do your job right, National Franchise and trusted remodeling company, Kitchen Tune-Up and it's local Tri-Cities franchise located in Central Nebraska has developed a "checklist" of questions you should ask before making a decision on who to hire.

According to Kitchen Tune-Up's checklist, one of the first things to look for when evaluating remodeling companies is professional appearance. Does the company have a professional website with detailed information and free resources to customers? Does the company's personnel wear neat clothing with the company logo or professional name tag? Does their vehicle or trailer have the company signage? Little things like these matter and make a big difference in professionalism.

Review the remodelers Business License and General Liability insurance certificate. (A sizable remodeler usually carries no less than $1 million of coverage.)

Ask the company to provide before and after photos of work performed or references of customers you may contact. Ask about the warranty on their product.



Also, beware of the cheapest price: you may end up paying a lot more in the long run to fix careless work. We also recommend that your quotes include labor. Many contractors will quote materials only and the home owner is unpleasantly surprised when they get a final bill.

"If we can help in any way, please don't hesitate to contact us," offers Mike Damon, who co-owns Kitchen Tune-Up Tri-Cities with his wife Kim. The Kitchen Tune-Up team can provide a completely updated kitchen or bathroom in less than one week without the mess or cost of a complete tear-out.

To schedule a free in-home consultation and estimate, call Kitchen Tune-Up today at (800) 832-1992. We provide Free Estimates with the goal of making your remodeling project a fun and hassle free experience.



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Nation

VILLAGE LOGO

WHITESBORO, N.Y. — An upstate New York village is changing its official logo after the image, which appears to show a white man throttling an Indian, was ridiculed on Comedy Central's "The Daily Show."

Whitesboro Mayor Patrick O'Connor says Friday that village officials and members of the nearby Oneida Indian Nation will meet to discuss creation of a new image.

The announcement came a day after "The Daily Show" aired a segment filmed on Jan. 11, when villagers voted to keep the traditional logo for its historic value.

O'Connor said the seal shows a historic wrestling match that figured into good relations between early settlers and the Oneidas.

He said the new seal will preserve history with a more modern and culturally appropriate drawing.

VIDEO GONE AWRY

FREEDOM, Pa. — The recording of a drug-themed music video went awry in Pennsylvania, leading to two women being pistol-whipped, one man being shot and two men under arrest, police said.

Beaver County authorities said the Jan. 15 shooting in Freedom prompted a nearby elementary school to be locked down for several hours.

Antonio Clinkscales, 34, of Freedom, and Kmeene "Eric" Hubbard, 33, of Beaver Falls, remained jailed Friday on charges including aggravated assault and unlawful restraint.

The men were recording the video in a home Clinkscales was renting when two women hired to appear in the video began arguing with the men about stolen drugs, District Attorney David Lozier explained at Thursday's news conference.

The men allegedly beat, kicked, choked and pistol-whipped the women, authorities said. One of the women was choked nearly to the point of unconsciousness and a gun was placed in one woman's mouth, investigators said.

At one point, one of the men also fired the gun to scare the women.

That led to a "wrestling match between Mr. Clinkscales and one of the women over one of the handguns," Lozier said. "The gun went off, shooting Hubbard."

ESCAPE FROM COLD

RICHMOND, Va. — Authorities in Virginia say a woman who threw a piece of concrete through a window at the General Assembly Building was apparently trying to get arrested so she could escape the cold.

Local news outlets report Capitol Police say the unidentified woman smashed the window Thursday night during a legislative committee meeting.

Capt. Randy Howard of the Capitol Police says it appears it was an attempt for her to get arrested so she would have a place to stay on the cold night.

No one was injured.

Howard says prior to the incident, an investigation found the woman had just punched a Virginia Commonwealth University student. The student wasn't seriously injured.

The woman was arrested. She is charged with simple assault and vandalism. It isn't clear if she has an attorney.

DUMPSTER DIVE

VANCOUVER, Washington — Authorities say two people sleeping in a trash bin in Washington state were injured when a garbage truck picked up the container and emptied it into a compactor.

Clark County Battalion Chief Larry Reese says the driver stopped the machine Friday in Vancouver when he heard screams. A woman suffered a pelvic injury, and a man had an undisclosed injury described as minor.

Reese says both were taken to a hospital.

The Associated Press

2015 Earth's hottest by wide margin

SETH BORENSTEIN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Last year wasn't just the Earth's hottest year on record — it left a century of high temperature marks in the dust.

The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration and NASA announced Wednesday that 2015 was by far the hottest year in 136 years of record keeping. For the most part, scientists at the agencies and elsewhere blamed man-made global warming, with a boost from El Niño.

NOAA said 2015's temperature was 58.62 degrees Fahrenheit, passing 2014 by a record margin of 0.29 degrees. That's 1.62 degrees above the 20th-century average. NASA, which measures differently, said 2015 was 0.23 degrees warmer than the record set in 2014 and 1.6 degrees above 20th century average.

Because of the wide margin over 2014, NASA calculated that 2015 was a record with 94 percent certainty, more than double the certainty it had last year when announcing 2014 as a record. NOAA put the number at above 99 percent — or "virtually certain," said Tom Karl, director of NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information.

For the first time Earth is 1 degree Celsius (1.8 degrees Fahrenheit) warmer than it was in pre-industrial times, NOAA and NASA said. That's a key milestone because world leaders have set a threshold of trying to avoid warming of 1.5 or degrees Celsius above pre-industrial times.

Because of the pace of rising temperatures, "we don't have very far to go to reach 1.5," Karl said.

But 1.5 or 2 degrees are not "magic numbers" and "we're already seeing the impacts of global warming," said NASA Goddard Institute of Space Studies director Gavin Schmidt.

"This trend will continue; it will continue because we understand why it's happening," Schmidt said. "It's happening because the dominant force is carbon dioxide" from burning of fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas.

Although 2015 is now the hottest on record, it was the fourth time in 11 years that Earth broke annual marks for high temperature.

"It's getting to the point where breaking record is the norm," Texas Tech climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe said. "It's almost unusual when we're not breaking a record."

December 2015 was the 10th month last year that set a monthly warmth record, with only January and April not hitting high marks.

"That's the first time we've seen that," said NOAA's Karl.

In December, the globe was 2 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than normal, beating the old record set in 2014 by more than a half a degree, NOAA calculated.

Earth has broken monthly heat records 34 times since 2000. The last time a global cold month record was set was December 1916 and the coldest year on record was 1911, according to NOAA.

An added factor this year is the strong El Niño, a warming of parts of the Pacific Ocean that changes weather worldwide and adds to the globe's heat. Michael Mann of Pennsylvania State University said a strong El Niño can add about a third of a degree of warming to Earth's temperature but that "sits upon the ramp of global warming."

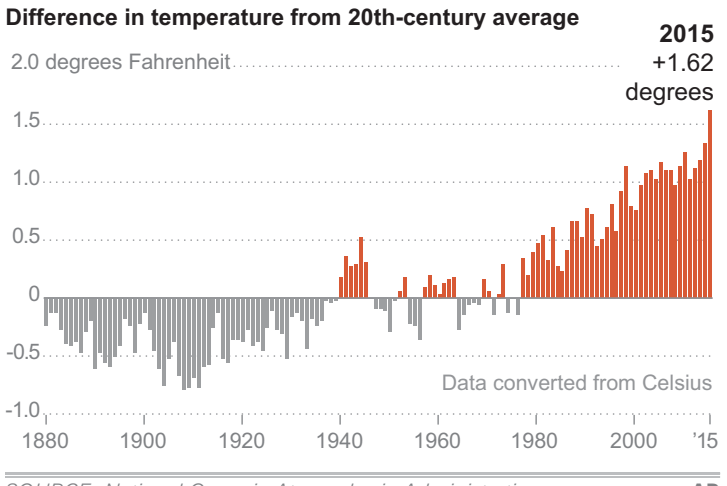


RICHARD VOGEL/*AP*

In this Aug. 15, 2015, file photo, pedestrians walk past a digital thermometer reading 113 degrees in Los Angeles.

Warmest year on record

The global average temperature last year was the highest on record, far surpassing the previous mark set in 2014.



SOURCE: National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration AP

Flint lead problem could be eased by recoating old pipes

TAMMY WEBBER
The Associated Press

Flint's mayor has floated a shockingly high price tag to fix the Michigan city's lead-contamination problem: $1.5 billion to replace damaged pipes. Gov. Rick Snyder put the figure at $700 million.

In the meantime, officials and water experts are hopeful that there is a less drastic and far cheaper step — using a chemical to recoat existing pipes and contain the lead. If it works, that could make the water safe enough to drink until the damage to the system can be fully assessed.

The problem is that nobody knows how badly the pipes were damaged after the state's disastrous decision in 2014 to use the Flint River as the city's drinking water source without adding a chemical to control corrosion. That caused lead to leach into the water for a year and a half and contributed to a spike in child lead poisoning before city and state officials fully acknowledged the problem.

"I don't think anybody knows how long it will take or the amount of corrosion built up in the pipes," longtime city Councilman Scott Kincaid said.

The city last fall resumed buying Detroit water, drawn from Lake Huron, and experts said they believe lead levels are already dropping with the addition of phosphate, which helps form an interior coating on the pipes to prevent lead leaching.

But it's impossible to say long it will take before the water is safe enough to drink without the use of expensive filters, which the state has been distributing to residents along with bottled water.

Experts also say that Flint's lead service pipes, which connect homes to the wider water system, must eventually be replaced because they have aged the equivalent of 10 years in 18 months.

"Damage to the pipe integrity can never be reversed," Marc Edwards, a Virginia Tech civil engineering professor who helped identify and expose Flint's lead problem, said in an email.

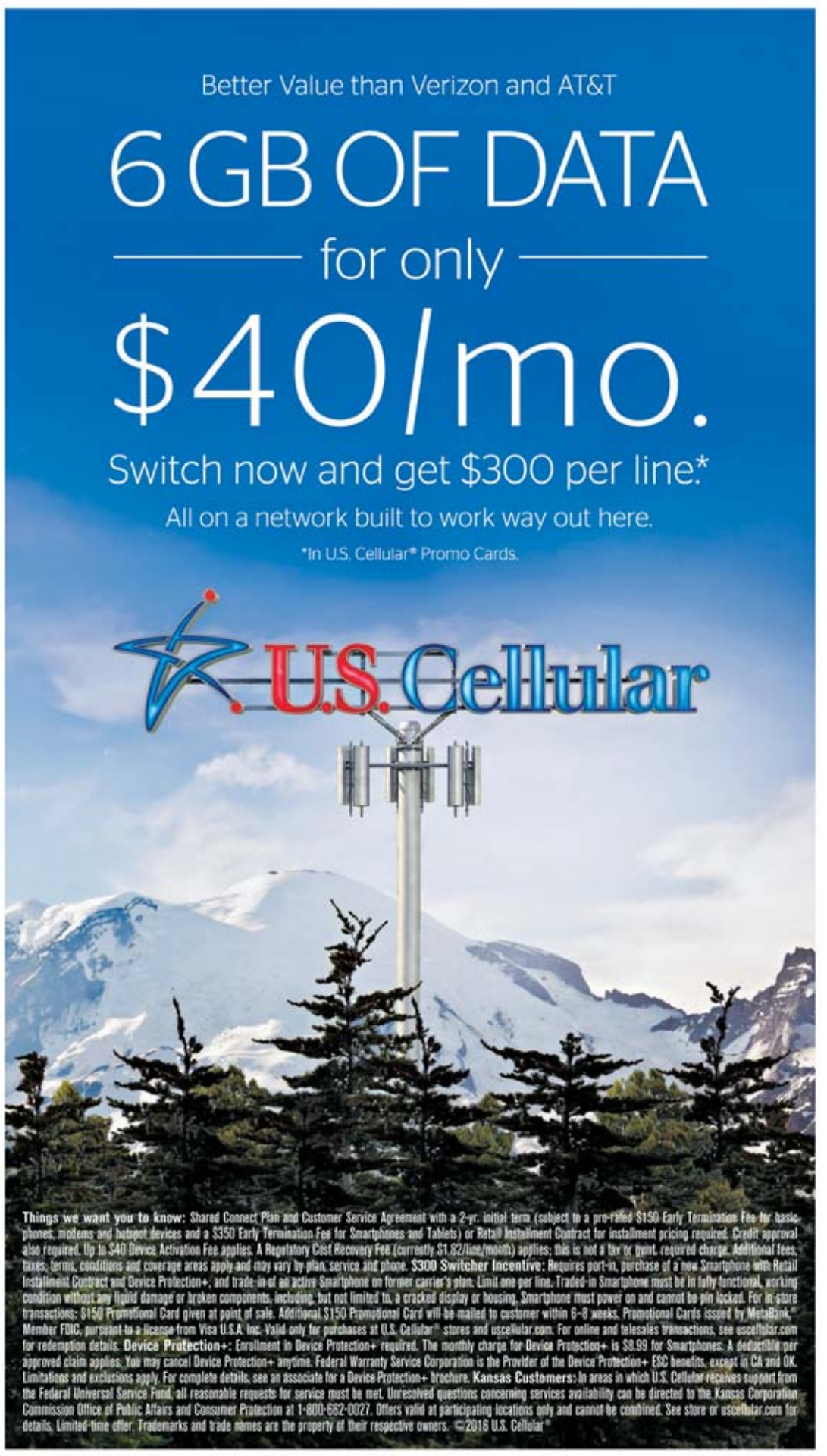
The EPA, which said this week that it would take over lead sampling in the city, said Friday that the Flint treatment plant has greatly increased the level of phosphate "in order to more quickly coat the insides of the city's pipes." An agency task force plans to go to Flint to try to determine how badly damaged they are.

It could take a long time to determine the actual costs of fixing the disaster in this financially struggling city, where more than 40 percent of people live in poverty.

Mayor Karen Weaver's figure appears to reflect an analysis included in a Q&A published by the city's Water Advisory Committee last March, before the city knew it had a lead problem. Officials estimated the price at $1.6 billion to replace all 1,600 miles of water and sewer mains in the city, not just water service pipes. Neither Weaver nor her spokeswoman responded to phone and email messages seeking comment.

What's more, nobody is certain how many lead service pipes there are in Flint. The EPA also ordered the state to create an inventory of Flint homes with lead service lines.

Kincaid said officials have estimated there are around 15,000 lead service lines in the city, which has 30,000 water customers.



NBA
Former Husker Tyronn Lue takes over Cavaliers.
Page B2

Weekend Sports

Roundups
Read up on all of Friday's area sports.
Page B2

Bluehawks shut down Aquinas



AMY ROH/*Tribune*

St. Cecilia's Derek Boyd drives toward the basket through coverage from Aquinas' Branden Daro (left) and Lane Napier Friday in Hastings.

ERIK BUDERUS
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The madness of March isn't here quite yet, but St. Cecilia boys basketball coach Kevin Asher knows it will be soon enough.

On the horizon for the Class C-2 No. 3 Bluehawks is the Centennial Conference tournament, which begins Tuesday.

There, the Bluehawks will square off against Aquinas Catholic, their opponent Friday at Chapman Gymnasium.

St. Cecilia (11-3) made quick work of things, dispatching the Monarchs 73-30 as they prepare for the conference tournament.

"You want to be playing a high-level of basketball right now," coach Asher said. "You've got to be playing there because the conference tournament is right around the corner. The Centennial

***Please see HAWKS**/page B4*

STC girls bounce back

JAKE FOWLER
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Down two starters, St. Cecilia waged a valiant battle Thursday night at Friend, but the Hawkettes fell three points short despite a school-record 42 points from senior Shandra Farmer.

Friday night at home in Chapman Gym, the circumstances coming in were the same for the Hawkettes but the opponent and plot line was a little bit different.

St. Cecilia didn't need a 42-point effort from Farmer, and they didn't need to attempt a double-digit fourth quarter comeback.

Instead, it was a combination of Kameron Kissinger's hot start from beyond the three-point line, Farmer's ability to slice through defenses and — perhaps the biggest thing — taking care of the basketball in the first half that carried the Hawkettes to a 56-47 win over Aquinas Catholic.



AMY ROH/*Tribune*

St. Cecilia's Kameron Kissinger dribbles against Aquinas' Vanessa Bohuslavsky and Micaiah Vrbka Friday in Hastings.

"Kameron's start was a key. She hit three threes in the first half, which is what she had for total from the game

***Please see STC**/page B4*

Red Cloud wins hard-fought game over Silver Lake

GENE RAY
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RED CLOUD — The defenses prevailed Friday, preventing Red Cloud's and Silver Lake's girls' basketball teams from putting up big scoring numbers.

But Red Cloud broke to an early lead and never lost it, holding on for a 28-18 Twin Valley Conference win.

Silver Lake coach Joshua Drake nicely summed up the closely-fought contest.

"We knew it was going to be a challenge to score. And we made it tough for them to score, too. It was a grinder. They just made more shots than we did. That's the game of basketball," Drake said.

With both defenses playing tough, the teams settled into patient offensive strategies. Frequently, the two squads had possessions lasting more than a minute apiece.

Red Cloud opened a 7-2 lead as the first quarter ended. The Warriors built a 13-7 advantage at halftime.

"We've been able to get out early. But the thing we have trouble with is we can't avoid the three-four minute scoring drought, especially in the second half," said Red Cloud coach Casey Fangmeier. "We had that again tonight. A lot of that is a credit to (Silver Lake's) defense."

The Warriors began pulling away with 2:21 left in the third quarter when Jocelyn Shipman made a three-point basket. Shipman closed with 17 points. She was the only double-figure scorer for either team.

The Warriors twice held eight-point margins in the fourth quarter. They made five of six free-throws down the stretch to secure the win.

Joslyn Grabill led the Mustangs' with seven points. Grabill had to leave the game with 4:45 left because of a knee injury. She stayed sidelined the rest of the way.

***Please see BATTLE**/page B4*

Kenesaw girls get knack to score back

TONY HERRMAN
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KENESAW — The Kenesaw girls basketball team got its knack for scoring back Friday night with a 64-35 victory over Franklin.

"We got a nice feeling of being able to score again," Kenesaw coach Jace Morgan said. "We haven't been scoring a lot of points lately. The last game against Loomis we scored some points and this one we scored some points again."

Kenesaw (12-4) came into Friday having scored more than 50 points just five times in its first 15 games and 60 points just once.

"It's nice to take a good feeling out of that, that we can score because we're going to have to do it (Saturday) night against Pleasanton," Morgan said. "A little confidence in our scoring ability, that's going to help us tomorrow."

Franklin (1-12) came into Friday having lost to Silver Lake on Tuesday by one point.

"We played great Tuesday, we should've played great here, but that's the way it is," Franklin coach Merle Dorn said.

Late in the game, Franklin did well after switching to a man defense.

The Flyers outscored the Blue Devils 11-8 in the fourth quarter.

"Our problem was we didn't attack the basket," Dorn said. "In the first half, we didn't shoot the ball well and we just held back. We didn't advance the ball like we usually do."

Franklin hung close to Kenesaw initially.

Kenesaw led 16-12 after the first quarter. Then the Blue Devils outscored the Flyers 20-6 in the second quarter to take a 36-18 halftime lead.

"They made some shots in the first quarter," Morgan said. "They scored some. We scored 16 points. That's a pretty good quarter for us, too. Second quarter, our press got some more turnovers out of them. We put ourselves in the right spot to make them turn the ball over. Them turning the ball over definitely helped. Getting turnovers, it always gets the girls excited and they play better on the offensive end."

Kenesaw's Brielle Schneider led all scorers with 24 points.

"Brielle can score," Morgan said. "It's going to be a confidence builder for her going into Pleasanton and into the rest of the year. Brielle, she's a scorer for us."

In the boys game, Kenesaw (13-2) defeated Franklin (2-10) 87-34.

***Please see DEVILS**/page B2*

Hastings grinds out win over Vikings

NICK BLASNITZ
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The 2015-16 season has proved to be quite the grind for the Hastings High boys basketball team, and Friday's game against Northwest was no different.

The Tigers went into Friday's contest with a record of 5-8 after snapping a five-game losing streak with a two-point win over McCook (9-6). It was HHS' fifth straight game to finish with a margin of victory of 10 points or less.

That streak continued Friday as solid defense and efficient offense led to a nine-point win for Hastings, which beat the Vikings 42-33.

"I think our focus has gotten better, I think our defensive urgency has gotten a lot better, and we finally got some easier shots for our people inside," said HHS head coach Lance Creech. "We only had eight turnovers tonight, which is kind of a low number from where we have been as of late. The kids did a great job of executing the game plan, and coach Mike Simmons did a heck of a job preparing it."

***Please see BOYS**/page B3*



LAURA BEAHM/*Tribune*

Hastings' Vinny Schmidt shoots against Grand Island Northwest's Riley Schliep Friday night in Hastings.

Defense picks up offense in Tigers' win

MIKE ZIMMERMAN
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Hastings' offense was nothing to write home about Friday night, but the Tigers won anyway.

Hastings, ranked No. 7 in Class B, defeated unranked Northwest 32-22 at home despite the fact that it only connected on 13-of-45 field goals, 2-of-8 free throws and gave up 18 turnovers.

The 32-point total was the team's second lowest output of the season.

But the game was defined by Hastings' efforts elsewhere. Even though the shots weren't falling, the Tigers (10-4) still did those little things that have defined their winning season to this point — own the boards, force turnovers and play tough defense.

Hastings out-rebounded the Vikings (4-9) 34-20, as Annie Grealish led the Tigers with

***Please see GIRLS**/page B3*



LAURA BEAHM/*Tribune*

Hastings' Sophia Pankratz battles to keep possession in the second half against Grand Island Northwest's Whitney Jensen (left) and Kylie Broich Friday night in Hastings.

Basketball

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	28	15	.651	—
Boston	23	21	.523	5 1/2
New York	22	23	.489	7
Brooklyn	11	33	.250	17 1/2
Philadelphia	6	38	.136	22 1/2

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	26	18	.591	—
Miami	23	21	.523	3
Washington	20	21	.488	4 1/2
Orlando	20	22	.476	5
Charlotte	20	23	.465	5 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	30	11	.732	—
Chicago	24	18	.571	6 1/2
Indiana	23	20	.535	8
Detroit	23	20	.535	8
Milwaukee	19	26	.422	13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	38	6	.864	—
Memphis	25	19	.568	13
Dallas	25	20	.556	13 1/2
Houston	23	22	.511	15 1/2
New Orleans	15	27	.357	22

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	33	12	.733	—
Utah	19	24	.442	13
Portland	19	26	.422	14
Denver	16	27	.372	16
Minnesota	13	31	.295	19 1/2

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	40	4	.909	—
L.A. Clippers	28	15	.651	11 1/2
Sacramento	19	23	.452	20
Phoenix	13	31	.295	27
L.A. Lakers	9	36	.200	31 1/2

Friday's Games

Charlotte 120, Orlando 116, OT
Utah 108, Brooklyn 86
Boston 110, Chicago 101
L.A. Clippers 116, New York 88
Houston 102, Milwaukee 98
Toronto 101, Miami 81
Oklahoma City 109, Dallas 106
Golden State 122, Indiana 110
San Antonio 108, L.A. Lakers 95

Saturday's Games

Utah at Washington, 5:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at New Orleans, 6 p.m.
Boston at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
New York at Charlotte, 6 p.m.
Memphis at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Denver, 8:30 p.m.
Indiana at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Portland, 9:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Dallas at Houston, 2:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Brooklyn, 2:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Toronto, 5 p.m.
Boston at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.

Prep Boys Results

Friday's Games

Arcadia-Loup City 49, Ravenna 35
Aurora 64, Seward 52
Axtell 55, Wilcox-Hildreth 43
Bellevue West 81, Bellevue East 52
Bennington 68, Norris 54
Bishop Neumann 67, Lincoln Lutheran 29
Boone Central/Newman Grove 59, Ord 55
Boys Town 78, Nebraska City 49
Bruning-Davenport/Shickley 69, Exeter/Milligan 34
Central City 56, Wood River 44
Centura 56, Gibbon 43
Columbus 60, Omaha Northwest 51
Columbus Lakeview 48, Schuyler 32
Columbus Scotus 64, Archbishop Bergan 39
Creighton 70, Elkhorn Valley 21
Deshler 56, Harvard 39
Doniphan-Trumbull 50, Superior 34
Douglas County West 73, Arlington 38
Elgin Public/Pope John 60, Ewing 11
Elkhorn 74, Blair 40
Elkhorn South 66, Waverly 59
Elm Creek 60, Pleasanton 29
Elmwood-Murdock 55, Milford 45
Emerson-Hubbard 57, Wakefield 46
Falls City Sacred Heart 56, Pawnee City 30
Fillmore Central 57, Tri County 47
Gering 51, Chadron 42
Gordon/Rushville 69, Cody-Kilgore 37
Gothenburg 60, Broken Bow 39
Grand Island 53, North Platte 43
Gretna 73, Plattsmouth 31
Hartington-Newcastle 63, Bloomfield 62
Hastings 42, Grand Island Northwest 33
Hastings St. Cecilia 73, Aquinas 30
High Plains Community 48, Lawrence-Nelson 30
Holdrege 40, Minden 39
Hyannis 52, Arthur County 45
Johnson-Brock 49, Friend 36
Kearney 81, Lincoln Southwest 58
Kenesaw 87, Franklin 34
Lincoln East 63, Millard South 43
Lincoln North Star 63, Omaha Bryan 56
Lutheran High Northeast 80, Clarkson/Leigh 51
Lyons-Decatur Northeast 63, Humphrey/Lindsay Holy Family 49
Millard West 62, Millard North 51
Mullen 60, Twin Loup 51
Nebraska City Lourdes 72, Lewiston 49
Neligh-Oakdale 54, Randolph 47
North Bend Central 63, Oakland-Craig 60
North Central 70, Anselmo-Merna 62
O'Neill 57, Guardian Angels 45
Ogallala 45, Alliance 38
Omaha Burke 54, Lincoln Northeast 46
Omaha Central 63, Omaha Benson 53
Omaha North 69, Norfolk 62
Omaha South 55, Omaha Creighton Prep 45
Osceola 49, McCool Junction 29
Osmond 69, Clearwater/Orchard 55
Overton 61, Eustis-Farnam 40
Papillion-LaVista 66, Omaha Westside 51
Papillion-LaVista South 75, Fremont 53
Ponca 49, Bancroft-Rosalie 37
Scottsbluff 58, Sidney 45
Shelby/Rising City 70, Dorchester 47
Silver Lake 42, Red Cloud 21
St. Mary's 53, Sandhills/Thedford 44
Sterling 43, Southern 35
Syracuse 65, Ashland-Greenwood 34
Twin River 48, West Point-Beemer 35
Wahoo 72, Norfolk Catholic 39
Walthill 70, Homer 23
Wausa 58, Winside 53
Wayne 48, Hartington Cedar Catholic 45
Wilber-Clatonia 55, Malcolm 33
Woodbury Central, Moville, Iowa 55, Crofton 48
York 66, Fairbury 36
Yutan 71, Palmyra 48

Colby Classic Tournament
Semifinal
McCook 47, Wichita West, Kan. 46
Goldenrod Conference Tournament
Semifinal
Humphrey St. Francis 41, Burwell 37
Riverside 54, Heartland Lutheran 42
Nemaha Central Tournament
Semifinal
Falls City 55, St. Mary's Academy, Kan. 45
Panhandle Conference Tournament
Hemingford 70, Hay Springs 21
Semifinal
Crawford 51, Edgemont, S.D. 34
Republican Plains Activity Conference Tournament
First Round
East
Bertrand 61, Alma 52
River Cities Conference Tournament
Fifth Place
Omaha Gross Catholic 44, Elkhorn Mount Michael 41
Third Place
Omaha Roncalli 66, Ralston 65, OT
South Platte Valley Association Tournament
Semifinal
Bridgeport 45, North Platte St. Patrick's 35
Perkins County 49, Chase County 47
Seventh Place
Hershey 68, Kimball 31

Prep Girls Results

Friday's Games

Alliance 49, Ogallala 34
Arlington 52, Douglas County West 32
Auburn 55, Johnson County Central 19
Aurora 53, Seward 40
Axtell 42, Wilcox-Hildreth 41
Bellevue West 81, Bellevue East 52
Bishop Neumann 62, Lincoln Lutheran 41
Central City 43, Wood River 35
Centura 59, Gibbon 31
Chadron 61, Gering 39
Clearwater/Orchard 59, Osmond 53
Columbus Lakeview 31, Schuyler 30
Columbus Scotus 46, Archbishop Bergan 39
Crofton 72, Stanton 34
Deshler 50, Harvard 22
Elgin Public/Pope John 61, Ewing 35
Elkhorn 56, Blair 26
Elkhorn Valley 49, Creighton 38
Emerson-Hubbard 57, Wakefield 17
Exeter/Milligan 65, Bruning-Davenport/Shickley 56
Falls City Sacred Heart 56, Pawnee City 30
Fillmore Central 45, Tri County 39
Friend 56, Johnson-Brock 22
Gordon/Rushville 67, Cody-Kilgore 29
Gothenburg 44, Broken Bow 22
Grand Island 42, North Platte 41
Gretna 65, Plattsmouth 49
Guardian Angels 58, O'Neill 25
Hartington Cedar Catholic 51, Wayne 41
Hartington-Newcastle 46, Bloomfield 43
Hastings 32, Grand Island Northwest 22
Hastings St. Cecilia 56, Aquinas 47
Homer 67, Walthill 36
Humphrey/Lindsay Holy Family 61, Lyons-Decatur Northeast 49
Hyannis 51, Arthur County 35
Kearney 40, Lincoln Southwest 28
Kenesaw 64, Franklin 35
Lawrence-Nelson 33, High Plains Community 32
Lewiston 38, Nebraska City Lourdes 34
Lincoln North Star 49, Omaha Bryan 31
Lincoln Northeast 43, Omaha Burke 33
Lincoln Pius X 48, Papillion-LaVista South 39
Lincoln Southeast 58, Lincoln High 54
Lutheran High Northeast 52, Clarkson/Leigh 45
Malcolm 71, Wilber-Clatonia 40
Meridian 54, East Butler 31
Milford 49, Elmwood-Murdock 28
Millard South 55, Lincoln East 52
Millard West 53, Millard North 41
Minden 67, Holdrege 41
Mullen 40, Twin Loup 30
Norfolk 51, Omaha North 45, OT
Norfolk Catholic 56, Wahoo 39
Norris 55, Bennington 36
North Bend Central 48, Oakland-Craig 40
North Central 69, Anselmo-Merna 35
Omaha Benson 46, Omaha Central 29
Omaha Concordia 41, Platteview 27
Omaha Marian 55, Omaha South 30
Omaha Northwest 51, Columbus 41
Omaha Westside 52, Papillion-LaVista 40
Ord 56, Boone Central/Newman Grove 23
Osceola 53, McCool Junction 26
Overton 56, Eustis-Farnam 40
Pleasanton 53, Elm Creek 47
Ponca 64, Bancroft-Rosalie 57
Randolph 51, Neligh-Oakdale 12
Ravenna 63, Arcadia-Loup City 32
Red Cloud 28, Silver Lake 18
Shelby/Rising City 31, Dorchester 29
Sidney 39, Scottsbluff 15
St. Mary's 70, Sandhills/Thedford 54
Sterling 48, Southern 29
Superior 51, Doniphan-Trumbull 22
Syracuse 40, Ashland-Greenwood 28
Tekamah-Herman 41, Howells/Dodge 40
Wausa 52, Winside 32
Waverly 36, Elkhorn South 28
West Point-Beemer 54, Twin River 37
York 70, Fairbury 20
Yutan 56, Palmyra 16

Colby Tournament
Consolation Semifinal
McCook 52, Fort Lupton, Colo. 24
Panhandle Conference Tournament
Semifinal
Hemingford 48, Sioux County 24
Morrill 47, Crawford 44
River Cities Conference Tournament
Seventh Place
Ralston 46, Omaha Mercy 39
Fifth Place
Omaha Gross Catholic 59, Omaha Roncalli 51
Third Place
Beatrice 65, Omaha Duchesne Academy 55

NCAA Men's Results

Friday's Games

EAST
Canisius 70, Niagara 61
Fairfield 88, Marist 76
George Washington 62, Rhode Island 58
Iona 64, St. Peter's 58
Stony Brook 69, Albany (NY) 63
Yale 90, Brown 66
SOUTH
Duquesne 86, George Mason 75
N. Kentucky 82, Ill.-Chicago 69, OT
MIDWEST
N. Illinois 58, Toledo 49
Wright St. 73, Valparaiso 62

Football

National Football League Playoffs

Conference Championships

Sunday, Jan. 24
New England at Denver, 2:05 p.m. (CBS)
Arizona at Carolina, 5:40 p.m. (FOX)

Super Bowl

Sunday, Feb. 7
At Santa Clara, Calif.
TBD, 5:30 p.m. (CBS)

Hockey

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	47	27	15	5	59	125	105
Tampa Bay	47	26	17	4	56	127	112
Detroit	47	24	15	8	56	115	118
Boston	46	24	17	5	53	139	121
Montreal	47	23	20	4	50	129	122
Ottawa	48	22	20	6	50	134	152
Toronto	45	17	20	8	42	111	125
Buffalo	48	19	25	4	42	108	128

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	46	35	8	3	73	155	100
N.Y. Rangers	47	26	16	5	57	136	123
N.Y. Islanders	46	25	15	6	56	128	114
New Jersey	48	24	19	5	53	111	115
Pittsburgh	46	22	17	7	51	114	116
Carolina	49	21	20	8	50	113	133
Philadelphia	45	20	17	8	48	103	121
Columbus	48	17	27	4	38	121	156

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	51	32	15	4	68	145	117
Dallas	48	30	13	5	65	159	129
St. Louis	51	28	15	8	64	129	126
Minnesota	47	23	16	8	54	117	109
Colorado	49	25	21	3	53	135	132
Nashville	47	21	18	8	50	121	128
Winnipeg	47	21	23	3	45	120	135

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	46	29	14	3	61	121	104
San Jose	45	24	18	3	51	130	122
Vancouver	48	20	17	11	51	117	132
Arizona	46	22	19	5	49	124	138
Anaheim	45	20	18	7	47	91	106
Calgary	45	21	21	3	45	122	137
Edmonton	49	19	25	5	43	121	145

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Friday's Games

Colorado 2, St. Louis 1, SO
Detroit 3, Buffalo 0
N.Y. Rangers 4, Carolina 1
N.Y. Islanders 5, Ottawa 2
Florida 4, Chicago 0
Anaheim at Washington, ppd., inclement weather

Saturday's Games

Vancouver at Pittsburgh, 11:30 a.m.
Minnesota at San Jose, 3 p.m.
Columbus at Boston, 6 p.m.
Montreal at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Anaheim at Detroit, 6 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Florida, 6 p.m.
New Jersey at Winnipeg, 6 p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Islanders, 6:30 p.m.
Colorado at Dallas, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Arizona, 8 p.m.
Nashville at Edmonton, 9 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Pittsburgh at Washington, 11:30 a.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Ottawa, 2 p.m.
Calgary at Carolina, 5 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago, 6 p.m.
Los Angeles at San Jose, 9 p.m.

Transactions

Baseball

Major League Baseball

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BASEBALL — Suspended free agent RHP Derrick Bernard 100 games after a third positive test for a drug of abuse; free agent RHP Jared Burton 50 games a second positive test for a drug of abuse and Kansas City RHP Matt Murray (Omaha-PCL) 50 games after testing positive for amphetamine, a banned stimulant, in violation of the Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.

American League

MINNESOTA TWINS — Agreed to terms with RHP Kevin Jepsen on a one-year contract. Claimed LHP Mike Strong from Miami. Designated LHP Logan Darnell for release or assignment.

National League

NEW YORK METS — Agreed to terms with LHP Antonio Bastardo on a two-year contract. Designated RHP Carlos Torres for assignment.

SAN DIEGO PADRES — Agreed to terms with INF Alexei Ramirez on a one-year contract. Designated OF Rymer Liriano for assignment.

Basketball

National Basketball Association

CLEVELAND CAVALIERS — Fired coach David Blatt. Named Tyronn Lue coach.

GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS — Announced coach Steve Kerr has returned from his leave of absence.

HOUSTON ROCKETS — Acquired F Josh Smith, the rights to F-C Sergei Lishouk and cash considerations from the Los Angeles Clippers for the rights to F Maarty Leunen.

Football

National Football League

NFL — Fined New England WR Danny Amendola $23,152 for a blindside block during a punt in a Jan. 16 game against Kansas City.

CHICAGO BEARS — Named Dave Ragone quarterbacks coach.

CLEVELAND BROWNS — Named Ray Horton defensive coordinator, Pep Hamilton associate head coach-offense, Al Saunders senior offensive assistant/wide receivers coach, Kirby Wilson running backs/run game coordinator, Hal Hunter offensive line coach, Mark Hutson assistant offensive line coach, Greg Seamon tight ends coach, Bob Saunders offensive quality control coach, Shawn Mennenga special teams assistant coach and Stan Watson special teams quality control coach.

Tribland

Saturday

College women's basketball: Hastings College at Morningside College....2 p.m.
College men's basketball: Hastings College at Morningside College....4 p.m.
Prep boys basketball: Gothenburg at Hastings High....5 p.m.
Prep boys basketball: Adams Central at GICC....7:45 p.m.
Prep girls basketball: Gothenburg at Hastings High....3:30 p.m.
Prep girls basketball: Adams Central at GICC....6 p.m.
Prep wrestling: Adams Central at LouPlatte Conference meet at Ord....10 a.m.
Prep wrestling: St. Cecilia at Centennial Conference meet....10 a.m.
Prep wrestling: Hastings High at Lexington invite....9 a.m.

Area Schedule

Prep boys basketball
Lincoln Christian at Fillmore Central
Thayer Central at Sandy Creek
Sutton at Heartland
BDS, Exeter-Milligan, Giltner at Crossroads Conference tourney
Elm Creek at Franklin
Kenesaw at Pleasanton

Prep girls basketball
Lincoln Christian at Fillmore Central
Thayer Central at Sandy Creek
Sutton at Heartland
BDS, Exeter-Milligan, Giltner at Crossroads Conference tourney
Elm Creek at Franklin
Kenesaw at Pleasanton
Amherst at Wilcox-Hildreth

Prep wrestling
Doniphan-Trumbull at LouPlatte Conference meet at Ord
Red Cloud/Blue Hill, Harvard, Sutton at Louisville invite
Shelton/Kenesaw at Aurora invite

TV/Radio broadcasts

Saturday's television

BOXING
7 p.m.
FOX — Premier Champions, Danny Garcia vs. Robert Guerrero, welterweights; Sammy Vasquez vs. Aron Martinez, welterweights; Dominic Breazeale vs. Amir Mansour, heavyweights, at Los Angeles
COLLEGE BASKETBALL
11 a.m.
CBS — Georgetown at UConn
ESPN — Syracuse at Virginia
ESPN2 — Oklahoma at Baylor
ESPNU — Northwestern at Indiana
FOX — Providence at Villanova
SEC — South Carolina at Tennessee
11:30 a.m.
NBCSN — Davidson at Richmond
Noon
ESPNEWS — West Virginia at Texas Tech
1 p.m.
CBS — Duke at NC State
ESPN — Texas at Kansas
ESPN2 — Michigan at Nebraska
ESPNU — LSU at Alabama
FSN — Seton Hall at Xavier
SEC — Mississippi at Mississippi St.
CBSSN — Navy vs. Army, at New York
1:30 p.m.
NBCSN — St. Bonaventure at VCU
3 p.m.
CBS — UCLA at Oregon
CBSSN — South Florida at Houston
ESPN — Vanderbilt at Kentucky
ESPN2 — Louisville at Georgia Tech
ESPNU — Iowa St. at TCU
SEC — Missouri at Texas A&M
5 p.m.
CBSSN — Utah St. at San Diego St.
ESPNU — Oklahoma St. at Kansas St.
SEC — Arkansas at Georgia
5:40 p.m.
ESPN — Maryland at Michigan St.
6:30 p.m.
FS1 — Butler at Creighton
7 p.m.
CBSSN — Marquette at St. John's
ESPNU — SMU at Temple
SEC — Auburn at Florida
7:30 p.m.
BTN — Illinois at Minnesota
7:40 p.m.
ESPN — Arizona at California
9 p.m.
ESPNU — UNLV at Nevada
FIGURE SKATING
2 p.m.
NBC — U.S. Championships, Pairs free skate & free dance, at St. Paul, Minn.
7 p.m.
NBC — U.S. Championships, Ladies free skate, at St. Paul, Minn.
GOLF
2 p.m.
GOLF — PGA Tour, Career Builder Challenge, third round, at La Quinta, Calif.
6 p.m.
GOLF — Champions Tour, Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, final round, at Ka'upulehu-Kona, Hawaii
MOTOR SPORTS
9 p.m.
FS1 — Monster Energy Supercross, at Anaheim, Calif.
NBA BASKETBALL
7:30 p.m.
ABC — Chicago at Cleveland
SOCCER
6:40 a.m.
NBCSN — Premier League, Liverpool at Norwich City
8:30 a.m.
FS1 — Bundesliga, Bayer 04 Leverkusen at TSG 1899 Hoffenheim
FS2 — Bundesliga, VfB Stuttgart at Koln
8:55 a.m.
NBCSN — Premier League, match to be announced
9 a.m.
USA — Premier League, match to be announced
11:30 a.m.
FS2 — Bundesliga, Borussia Dortmund at Borussia Mvnchengladbach
NBC — Premier League, Manchester City at West Ham United
4:30 p.m.
FS1 — Women, International friendly, United States vs. Ireland, at San Diego
TENNIS
8 p.m.
ESPN2 — Australian Open, round of 16, at Melbourne, Australia
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
10:30 a.m.
CBSSN — Navy vs. Army, at New York
11 a.m.
BTN — Minnesota at Wisconsin
12:30 p.m.
FS1 — Baylor at Iowa St.
1 p.m.
BTN — Michigan St. at Maryland

Saturday's radio

USHL HOCKEY
6:45 p.m.
KLIQ 94.5 — Dubuque at Tri City Storm
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Noon
KLIQ 94.5 — Michigan at Nebraska
2:30 p.m.
KXPN 1460, KICS 1550 — Vanderbilt at Kentucky
4 p.m.
KHAS 1230 — Hastings at Morningside
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
1:45 p.m.
KHAS 1230 — Hastings at Morningside
PREP WRESTLING
2 p.m.
KKPR 98.9 — Lou Platte Conference Finals

Sunday's television

COLLEGE BASKETBALL
11 a.m.
ESPNU — Tulane at Cincinnati
Noon
BTN — Purdue at Iowa
1 p.m.
CBSSN — East Carolina at Memphis
3 p.m.
CBSSN — Dayton at Fordham
ESPNU — Evansville at Indiana St.
5:30 p.m.
ESPNU — North Carolina at Virginia Tech
7:30 p.m.
ESPNU — Utah at Washington
FIGURE SKATING
2 p.m.
NBC — U.S. Championships, Men's free skate, at St. Paul, Minn.
GOLF
2 p.m.
GOLF — PGA Tour, Career Builder Challenge, final round, at La Quinta, Calif.
NFL FOOTBALL
2 p.m.
CBS — AFC Championship, New England at Denver
5:30 p.m.
FOX — NFC Championship, Arizona at Carolina
NHL HOCKEY
11:30 a.m.
NBC — Pittsburgh at Washington
SOCCER
7:25 a.m.
NBCSN — Premier League, Swansea City at Everton
8:30 a.m.
FS1 — Bundesliga, VfL Wolfsburg at Eintracht Frankfurt
9:55 a.m.
NBCSN — Premier League, Chelsea at Arsenal
10:30 a.m.
FS1 — Bundesliga, SV Werder Bremen at Schalke 04
TENNIS
8 p.m.
ESPN2 — Australian Open, round of 16, at Melbourne, Australia
WINTER SPORTS
1 p.m.
NBCSN — USSA Mammoth Grand Prix, Freestyle Halfpipe, at Mammoth Mountain, Calif.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
11 a.m.
CBSSN — Dayton at Saint Joseph's
Noon
FS2 — Georgetown at Villanova
1 p.m.
ESPNU — South Florida at UCF
SEC — Florida at Missouri
2 p.m.
BTN — Iowa at Purdue
ESPN2 — Ohio St. at Rutgers
NBCSN — VCU at Richmond
3 p.m.
SEC — Arkansas at Auburn
4 p.m.
BTN — Indiana at Northwestern
ESPN2 — South Carolina at Mississippi St.

Sunday's radio

NFL FOOTBALL
2 p.m.
KXPN 1460, KICS 1550 — AFC Championship, New England at Denver
5 p.m.
KXPN 1460, KICS 1550 — NFC Championship, Arizona at Carolina
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
12:45 p.m.
KHAS 1230 — Nebraska at Michigan

Devils: Kenesaw boys, girls top Franklin

Continued from page B1

Kenesaw.....16 20 20 8 — 64
Franklin.....12 6 6 11 — 35

Kenesaw 64

Haley Schukei 4-7 2-2 10, Brielle Schneider 9-17 3-5 24, Staci Weavers 1-7 0-0 2, Rose Wehrman 0-0 0-0 0, Kelsey Jaeschke 3-8 1-2 9, Kendra Nunn 3-11 0-0 10, Hannah Schnitzler 1-5 2-4 4, Dariana Burr 0-5 1-2 1, Ashley Uden 2-6 0-2 4, Kelsey Brundage 0-0 0-0 0, Kaedra Schleeman 0-0 0-0 0, Kelsie Robinson 0-0 0-0 0

Franklin 35

Cassandra Saathoff 2-3 0-0 4, Lilia Aberle 0-1 0-0 0, Kirsten Plank 3-10 2-4 6, Sierra Bruce 4-8 2-4 11, Jordan Wilbur 3-9 0-0 8, Karsen Haussermann 1-2 0-2 2, Emma Goosic 1-4 0-0 2, Courtney Meade 0-1 0-0 0, Taylor Falkenstine 0-1 0-0 0, Mercedes DeJonge 1-2 0-0 2

Three-point field goals — Kenesaw 5-14 (Haley Schukei 0-1, Brielle Schneider 2-3, Staci Weavers 0-2, Rose Wehrman 0-1, Kendra Nunn 1-4, Kelsey Jaeschke 2-3) Franklin 3-8 (Jordan Wilbur 2-4, Emma Goosic 0-1, Sierra Bruce 1-2, Kirsten Plank 0-1)

Boys

The Kenesaw boys basketball team cruised past Franklin 87-34 Friday. The Blue Devils didn't score fewer than 19 points in a quarter and led 47-19 at halftime.

Eleven different Kenesaw players scored against the Flyers, as Preston Schnitzler led the way with 21 points. He shot 8-for-14 from the floor and 3-for-5 from the free-throw line.

Ryan Denkert added 13 points, while Tyson Burr and Carson Woodman scored 12 points apiece. Will Gallagher tallied 11 points.

Woodman led the team with six rebounds and Burr had five. Burr also finished with four assists, while Keaton Harpham led the team with six assists.

Holden Bruce led Franklin with 12 points, while Diego Romandia added nine points. Austin Meade finished with seven points. Bruce also had six rebounds. Romandia and Anthony Frerichs each grabbed four boards.

Kenesaw returns to the court Saturday to play a road game at Pleasanton, while the Flyers host Elm Creek on Saturday.

East-leading Cavs fire David Blatt as coach in 2nd season

TOM WITHERS
The Associated Press

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio — Even after wins, and there were a bunch of them, the Cavaliers didn't celebrate. Everything was too easy for them, way too easy.

Loaded with talent, they're lacking chemistry and cohesion. A championship roster without championship heart.

David Blatt took the fall.

The second-year coach, who guided the Cavs to the NBA Finals in 2015 and had them sitting atop the Eastern Conference standings this season, was shockingly fired on Friday by general manager David Griffin.

Griffin didn't think the title-chasing Cavaliers were handling prosperity, expectations or acting like a championship team under Blatt, who was 83-40 in less than two seasons. Griffin saw a team going in the wrong direction.

"Sometimes you can win games in this league in the regular season and get worse," Griffin said at a hastily-arranged news conference at the team's practice facility. "We were regressing over a period of time. I'm in our locker room a lot, and I knew that there's just a disconnect there right now. There's a lack of spirit and connectedness that I just couldn't accept. And frankly, halfway through the season, I think we have the time to right the ship.

"I know that sounds crazy when we're sitting with a 30-11 record. I understand that. But we were 30-11 with a schedule that was reasonably easy. And I'm judging a lot more than wins and losses."

Griffin said he did not consult superstar LeBron James, who never seemed comfortable with Blatt in charge, or any of Cleveland's other players.

"This is my decision, this is our basketball staff's decision," said Griffin, who released Blatt just days after an embarrassing home loss to Golden State. "I'm not taking a poll; my job is to lead a franchise and to lead an organization to where it needs to go. I'm in the locker room. I've done this for a long time and I know what it's supposed to feel like. I didn't need to ask questions."

Griffin did meet with owner Dan Gilbert, who supported the move to fire his third coach in four seasons.

"Over the course of my business career I have learned that sometimes the hardest thing to do is also the right thing to do," Gilbert said.

Blatt's firing stunned Dallas coach Rick Carlisle, president of National Basketball Coaches Association.

"It's just a real shocker," Carlisle said. "I've gotten to know David in the last year and a half since he came over. He's one of the greatest coaches in European history. The ironic thing about all this is that he adjusted and adapted to the NBA game in my opinion, much quicker than any of us ever could have adjusted and adapted to the European game. He did a tremendous job just from a strategic standpoint. If you look at his record, this is bizarre."

Tyronn Lue, who was hired as the team's associate head coach shortly after Blatt came to Cleveland and was the highest-paid assistant in the league, will make his debut Saturday night when the Cavs host the Chicago Bulls. Griffin stressed that Lue is not an interim coach and said the team is discussing a contract with him.

"He has the pulse of our team," he said.

Tribland roundups

College wrestling

Hastings College

The Hastings College wrestling team fell to Midland 39-6 on Thursday and lost 33-18 to Morningside on Friday.

Against Midland, Brian Messersmith, a 149-pounder, was the only Bronco to register a win, pinning his opponent, Paul Longshore, in 3 minutes, 49 seconds.

Trey Trujillo (133), Taylor Rich (141) and Alex Tarin (157) earned all three of Hastings' wins against the Mustangs. Each win was by pin. Tarin pinned his opponent in 17 seconds, Rich in 42 seconds and Trujillo in 59 seconds.

Prep boys basketball

Doniphan-Trumbull 50, Superior 34

Doniphan-Trumbull.....11 10 15 14 — 50
Superior.....8 7 6 3 — 34

Doniphan-Trumbull

Individual Scoring — Triston Stephens 11, Logan Schuldt 11, Reid Schultz 9, Tate Mazour 8, Zach Christensen 3, Kayne Whealan 8

Superior

Individual Scoring — Eric Schiermeyer 2, Tyler Blackstone 4, Blake Kirchoff 4, Garrett Caldwell 11, Ethan Roberts 13

Deshler 56, Harvard 39

Harvard.....10 9 11 9 — 39
Deshler.....18 10 19 9 — 56

Harvard

Individual Scoring — Ray Nierman 5, Tristan Kalvoda 17, Tomy Alvarez 9, Jayden Callahan 1, Cory Marshall
Individual Rebounds — Steve Brand 1, Auston Bell 1, Nierman 5, Kalvoda 5, Alvarez 3, Callahan 4, Marshall 2
Individual Assists — Brand 1, Nierman 1, Kalvoda 1, Callahan 1
Individual Steals — Nierman 3, Kalvoda 1

BDS 69, Exeter-Milligan 34

BDS.....15 13 23 18 — 69
Exeter-Milligan.....9 9 8 8 — 34

BDS

Individual Scoring — Riley Tegtmeier 19, Kale Kleinschmidt 13, Caden Norder 11, Cody Garland 9, Ben Elznic 3, Kendall Dickson 3, Stuart Rohr 3, Sam Christensen 3, Garrett Schardt 3, Isaac Kamler 2
Individual Rebounds — Tegtmeier 5, Kleinschmidt 4, Norder 1, Garland 1, Elznic 8, Dickson 2, Rohr 1, Kamler 1, Thomas Mick 1, Josh Hinrichs 1
Individual Assists — Tegtmeier 3, Kleinschmidt 2, Garland 2, Elznic 2, Noel Gines 1
Individual Steals — Tegtmeier 1, Kleinschmidt 1, Garland 2, Dickson 1

E-M

Individual Scoring — Cameron White 9, Sam Zeleny 7, Trevor Luzum 6, Patrick Murphy 4, Brayden Olsen 3, Colton Bossaller 3, Eric Olsen 2
Individual Rebounds — White 7, Zeleny 3, Luzum 4, Murphy 2, B. Olsen 1, E. Olsen 1, Spencer Pribyl 1
Individual Assists — Zelny 4, Luzum 2, E. Olsen 3
Individual Steals — White 1, Zeleny 1, Murphy 1

Holdrege 40, Minden 39

Holdrege.....11 8 7 14 — 40
Minden.....5 15 11 8 — 39

Minden

Individual Scoring — Thomas Miller 2, Jonathan Miller 11, Chase Smith 1, Adam DeLaet 6, Santiago Ortega 10, Justin Villars 9
Individual Rebounds — Elijah Lovin 1, J. Miller 3, Smith 2, DeLaet 4, Ortega 1, Villars 5
Individual Assists — Lovin 3, J. Miller 4, Josiah Lovin 1, DeLaet 2, Ortega 1
Individual Steals — J. Miller 4, J. Lovin 1, DeLaet 2, Ortega 1

Axtell 55, Wilcox-Hildreth 43

Wilcox-Hildreth.....10 5 16 12 — 43
Axtell.....15 9 15 16 — 55

Wilcox-Hildreth

Individual Scoring — AJ Jenkins 2, Garrett Ortgiesen 5, Caleb Springer 13, Lance Aspegren 2, Matthew Hinrichs 12, Lantz Grauerholz 9
Individual Rebounds — Jenkins 1, Ortgiesen 3, Springer 10, Aspegren 1, Sidney Gruwell 1, Hinrichs 8, Grauerholz 6
Individual Assists — Ortgiesen 3, Springer 1, Aspegren 1, Hinrichs 3, Grauerholz 1
Individual Steals — Jenkins 1, Ortgiesen 1, Clayton Nichols 1, Gruwell 1

Prep girls basketball

Axtell 42, Wilcox-Hildreth 41

Wilcox-Hildreth.....8 5 13 15 — 41
Axtell.....8 13 7 14 — 42

Wilcox-Hildreth

Individual Scoring — Alex Voichoskie 9, Ashley Nichols 14, Sophie Gruwell 2, Camryn Preston 14, Abby Quadhamer 2
Individual Rebounds — Bridget Beisel 3, Emily Bergstrom 2, Voichoskie 6, Nichols 4, Gruwell 8, Preston 13, Quadhamer 3
Individual Assists — Beisel 1, Voichoskie 3, Gru



LAURA BEAHM/*Tribune*

Hastings' Julia Reimer is guarded by Grand Island Northwest's Whitney Jensen (left) and Madi Bahe (3) in the second half of their game Friday night in Hastings.

Girls: Defense picks up offense in Tigers' win

Continued from page B1

10 boards. The Tigers also collected 12 steals as a team to force 21 Northwest turnovers. Tatiem Bender had five steals.

"We got some turnovers turned into things, and we also had some offensive rebounds. Sometimes we didn't turn those offensive rebounds into shots, but we'd have like a triple possession where we'd run an offense, miss a shot, get it back. Eventually, we'd get something out of it," said Hastings head coach Greg Mays, whose team picked up its fifth-straight win. "That's what you've got to do — you've got to battle on nights like this. We've been tough. I think there's been a lot of nights where we've been tougher than we have been good. We just don't out-talent people by any means. But we've been tough and consistent."

Northwest's 22 points was a season-low as the Vikings only made eight field goals. The visitors didn't record their first field goal of the second half until six minutes remained in the fourth quarter.

Mays said he was especially happy with how his girls handled adjustments defensively.

The Vikings ran a different offense than the one the Tigers had prepared in practice leading up to the contest, but that didn't appear to phase the home team one bit.

"We didn't know what they would do. They've been kind of experimenting with some different stuff. A lot of teams, by this time of the year, you know what their number one thing is. Well, Northwest is still looking for an identity and we've seen different things on different nights," he said. "Really, the package we talked about the most, I don't know if I saw them run it. That's great coaching. We adjusted to things we were doing. I thought we rebounded tough because they had us in some weird positions — our posts were outside a little bit. But we still rebounded well. We're pretty happy defensively."

Sophia Pankratz led Hastings' offense with 14 points while Julia Reimer had a couple of 3-pointers to finish with six points. Olivia Douglas had four points and eight rebounds.



LAURA BEAHM/*Tribune*

Hastings' Jamie Johnson battles for the ball against Grand Island Northwest's Bailey Parr Friday night in Hastings.

Taryn Mayfield led the Vikings with eight points off the bench while Kylie Broich had seven points.

Despite their poor shooting, the Tigers took the early lead and never felt pressured by Northwest.

Hastings lead 16-4 early in the second quarter, but that's when it's offense endured a cold stretch of 12 consecutive missed field goals. The Tigers led 16-12 at halftime but opened the third quarter with a 9-1 run fueled by back-to-back 3s by Reimer to regain their comfortable advantage.

The victory over Northwest improved Hastings to 4-0 against district B-5 competition this season. The Tigers are in pursuit of a second consecutive district championship, but Mays said that the competition will be more amped up come tournament time.

"You want to have the upperhand in the district," he said. "But on the other hand, we know that Aurora is a very, very good team. I tell ya, our district … Holdrege is getting better, Lexington is getting better, Northwest is getting better. By tournament time, it's going to be a battle. In fact, it's gotten to the point where I haven't even plotted out the seeds because I don't think they'll matter very much. You're going to get a good basketball team in the semis and you're going to get a good basketball team in the final."

The Tigers return to the floor Saturday at home against Gothenburg (6-9).

Northwest.....4 8 3 7 — 22
Hastings.....11 5 11 5 — 32
Hastings (32)

Jamie Johnson 1-4 0-2 3, Annie Grealish 1-6 0-0 2, Sophia Pankratz 6-15 1-2 14, Julia Reimer 2-7 0-0 6, Bailey Richman 0-3 0-0 0, Olivia Douglas 2-5 0-0 4, Tatiem Bender 1-4 0-0 2, Kelsey Ripperger 0-1 0-0 0, Megean Bartos 0-0 1-3 1, Ashley Craig 0-0 0-1 0. Totals: 13-45 2-8 32.

Northwest (22)

Madi Bahe 1-5 0-0 2, Sierra Holliday 2-6 0-3 4, Kylie Broich 2-6 2-3 7, Bailey Parr 0-5 1-2 1, Whitney Jensen 0-1 0-0 0, Taryn Mayfield 3-10 1-2 8. Totals: 8-33 4-10 22.

Three-point field goals — HHS 4-17 (Johnson 1-2, Pankratz 1-5, Reimer 2-7, Ripperger 0-1), NW 2-16 (Bahe 0-2, Holliday 0-1, Broich 1-4, Parr 0-2, Jensen 0-1, Mayfield 1-6). Rebounds — HHS 34 (Grealish 10), NW 20 (Jensen 6). Assists — HHS 5 (Bender 2), NW 3 (Bahe 1, Holliday 1, Parr 1). Turnovers — HHS 18, NW 21. Steals — HHS 12 (Bender 5), NW 9 (Holliday 2, Broich 2, Parr 2, Mayfield 2).



LAURA BEAHM/*Tribune*

Hastings' Morgan Karloff is guarded by Grand Island Northwest's Christian Ellsworth (15) Friday night in Hastings.

Boys: HHS grinds out victory

Continued from page B1

Northwest (6-8) showed Hastings (6-8) two different zone defenses in the first half, forcing the Tigers to be patient with the ball, something HHS' Vinny Schmidt admits can be a struggle at times.

"Usually, we kind of struggle slowing things down and playing against a zone. We're not really good with our ball fakes, but tonight we were. We really kept our turnovers down, which is really good," he said.

The Tigers adjusted after halftime, emphasizing a faster pace. After trailing 20-15 at the break, Hastings opened the third quarter on a 9-1 run to take a 24-21 lead.

"Our emphasis at halftime was we wanted to force the tempo. We wanted to try and create a few more possessions," Creech said. "I thought our kids really responded in that second half. Probably as well as we have in a number of games."

All nine of the Tigers' points during the run were scored by different players. And Northwest didn't make a field goal until there was 3 minutes, 56 seconds left in the period. The basket came from Isaiah Daws, who grabbed a rebound and was fouled on the putback, tying the game at 24-all.

Hastings added a pair of free throws from Morgan Karloff at the end of the quarter to head into the final period leading 26-24.

The Tigers again started the quarter strong, scoring the first eight points of the fourth to take a 34-24 lead with 3:17 remaining.

Hastings' Zane Bender was the beneficiary of HHS' dribble penetration, as the Tiger guards found success driving to the hoop and finding Bender for the finish inside the paint. Bender had six of his 10 points in the fourth.

Northwest cut the lead to 36-29, but Karloff sunk four free throws in the final 50 seconds and Michael Collicott added a bucket with 18 seconds remaining to clinch the game for Hastings.

Schmidt led Hastings with 12 points and added two assists. His long-range shooting was a lift for the Tigers, as he went 3-for-4 from beyond the arc against the Vikings' zone.

"Lately, I've been feeling pretty good with my jump shot. My dad's been helping me with that," Schmidt said. "Getting my feet squared to the basket and jumping forward, that's really helped. Knocking those big shots down really helped us."

Karloff and Bender both finished with 10 points, and Bender led the team with seven rebounds. Sam Reimer totaled six points, while he and Bryant Menke finished the game with a team-high four assists.

The Tiger defense forced Northwest to shoot just 31.7 percent (13-for-41) from the field and didn't allow any Vikings players to reach double digit points.

The emphasis on defense for Hastings was stopping Christian Ellsworth, who scored 28 points against Adams Central last Friday. Ellsworth finished the game with four points against Hastings.

"(We told) Sam (Reimer) to guard (Ellsworth), and Sam just does what he does," Creech said. "We wanted to make sure if someone was going to beat us, it wasn't going to be him. That was kind of our game plan going in. But I thought Sam's individual defense was tough tonight."

HHS will have a quick turnaround, as the Tigers host Gothenburg (11-3) Saturday at 5 p.m. Creech said his team is used to playing back-to-back physical games on short rest.

"We've kind of become accustomed to playing those quick turnarounds and playing physical, because that's our best opportunity to win," Creech said. "We just have to be tougher than the people that are suiting up against us. It's going to be a true gut check (Saturday) because it won't even be 24 hours before we take the floor again.

"We'll do the best we can with the scouting report again, get our kids dialed in and hopefully have another great effort."

Northwest (6-8).....11 5 11 16 — 33
Hastings (6-8).....7 13 4 9 — 42
Northwest (33)

Isaiah Daws 2-3 1-1 5, Tanner Lierman 0-1 0-0 , Christian Ellsworth 2-6 0-0 4, Riley Glause 3-13 1-2 8, Brook Brown 3-8 1-4 8, Will Mettenbrink 2-9 0-0 6, Riley Schliep 1-1 0-0 2, Trevor Brown 0-0 0-0 0. Total: 13-41 3-7 33.

Hastings (42)

Bryant Menke 1-3 0-0 2, Vinny Schmidt 4-7 1-2 12, Morgan Karloff 2-7 6-6 10, Sam Reimer 3-6 0-0 6, Zane Bender 5-9 0-0 10, Blayne Dreher 0-0 0-0 0, Michael Collicott 1-1 0-0 2, Tyler Hayden 0-0 0-0 0, Hoai Vu 0-0 0-0 0. Totals: 16-33 7-8 42.

Three-point field goals — NW 4-20 (Ellsworth 0-2, Glause 1-8, B. Brown 1-3, Mettenbrink 2-7); HHS 3-8 (Menke 0-1, Schmidt 3-4, Karloff 0-2, Reimer 0-1). Rebounds — NW 25 (Daws 5, Ellsworth 7, Glause 4, B. Brown 6, Mettenbrink 1, Schliep 2); HHS (Menke 5, Schmidt 1, Karloff 3, Reimer 1, Bender 7). Assists — NW 5 (Glause 2, B. Brown 1, Mettenbrink 2); HHS 11 (Menke 4, Schmidt 2, Karloff 1, Reimer 4). Turnovers — NW 10, HHS 8.

AFC CHAMPIONSHIP

New England Patriots at Denver Broncos

Sun. • 2:05 p.m. • CBS

Regular-season • Postseason stats

	New England Patriots	Denver Broncos
	13-4	13-4
OFFENSE		
Total yards (avg.):	374.4	355.5
Passing	286.7	248.1
Rushing	87.8	107.4
Postseason:	340.0	324.0
Passing	302.0	215.0
Rushing	38.0	109.0
DEFENSE		
Yards allowed (avg.):	339.4	283.1
Passing	240.7	199.6
Rushing	98.8	83.6
Postseason:	378.0	396.0
Passing	243.0	311.0
Rushing	135.0	85.0
SCORING (PPG)		
	29.1 Points for	22.2 Points for
	19.7 Pts. allowed	18.5 Pts. allowed
Postseason	27.0	23.0
	20.0	16.0

SOURCE: National Football League AP



AMY ROH/*Tribune*

St. Cecilia's Claire Rasmussen shoots against Aquinas' Anna Kobza Friday in Hastings.

STC: Girls bounce back

Continued from page B1

(Thursday) night," said Hawkettes' head coach Tim Farmer. "Shandra's ability to get to the basket was huge. She didn't have a great night of shooting, but she was huge.

"But the biggest key to whole game was we only had two turnovers in the first half. When we only have two turnovers in a half then that usually means good things for us."

Kissinger finished with 10 points with nine of them coming in the first half off of her three three-pointers.

Farmer finished with 28 points on 9-of-20 shooting, including a perfect 8-of-8 from the free-throw line. She was 2-of-10 from three-point range, but her ability to drive and score allowed her to stay an effective scorer.

Tim Farmer mentioned the relatively poor shooting night from Farmer was a result of fatigue and a blood blister on her foot about the size of a quarter from Thursday night's game with Friend.

St. Cecilia got the efficient first half of play started by making 6-of-12 field goals in the first half, and Farmer played a role in five of those six made field goals.

She finished with seven points in the quarter and three assists on 2-of-5 shooting from the field and 3-of-3 from the free-throw line. Twice she assisted to Kissinger for back-to-back treys midway through the quarter and she also scored an assist on a drive and dish to Claire Rasmussen.

The Hawkettes led 18-6 after the first quarter, and kept the gravy train rolling in the second as freshman Lexi Vertin nailed a trey ball to open up the scoring in the frame.

On the next possession, it was Farmer again finding the hot hand of Kissinger for another three-point bucket. Then, Farmer decided to casually score seven consecutive points for the Hawkettes as they built a 31-17 lead.



AMY ROH/*Tribune*

St. Cecilia's Shandra Farmer dribbles against Aquinas' Anna Kobza Friday in Hastings.

St. Cecilia scored the next five points of the quarter to carry a 36-17 lead going into halftime, but fatigue began to noticeably settle in on the Hawkettes.

For Tim Farmer and his players, the plan at halftime was to get off to a hot start in the second half and extend the lead before energy levels really depleted.

"The emphasis was a good start to the third quarter. I thought if we could expand that lead just a little bit it would help us out," Tim Farmer said.

Aquinas was able to cut the 19-point halftime deficit to just 13 points going into the fourth, but St. Cecilia extended the lead again to 21 points in the fourth quarter.

Aquinas scored the last 12 points of the game to lose by single digits but were never really much of a threat.

St. Cecilia was out rebounded 38-23 by game's end, but coach Farmer expected that considering the absence of two starters including 6-foot, 2-inch Lucy Skoch.

"With Lucy being gone these two games, we knew we'd be at a big rebounding disadvantage," the coach said. "I planned on getting out rebounded. When Lucy gets back this weekend, stats like that will change."

St. Cecilia opens play Tuesday in the Centennial Conference Tournament with a home game at 7:45 p.m. against Grand Island Central Catholic.

St. Cecilia .....18 18 8 12 — 56
Aquinas .....6 11 14 16 — 47

St. Cecilia (56)

Gracie Daly 1-3 1-2 3, Shandra Farmer 9-20 8-8 28, Lexi Vertin 2-5 1-2 6, Claire Rasmussen 4-5 1-2 9, Kameron Kissinger 3-10 1-2 10, Kate Landgren 0-2 0-0 0, Madelyn Redding 0-4 0-0 0. Totals: 19-49 10-14 56.

Aquinas (47)

Vanessa Bohuslavsky 0-6 2-4 2, Allison Pokorny 1-8 2-2 5, Mackenzie Eller 2-12 0-0 5, Breanna Stouffer 5-13 2-4 12, Anna Kobza 3-8 1-2 7, Anna Cech 0-1 0-0 0, Veronica Kobza 0-3 0-0 0, Madison Kozisek 0-2 0-0 0, Micaiah Vrbka 7-7 1-1 15. Totals: 18-60 7-12 47.

Three-point field goals — STC 6-26 (Daly 0-1, Farmer 2-10, Vertin 1-2, Kissinger 3-9, Redding 0-4), Aquinas 3-20 (Bohuslavsky 0-4, Pokorny 1-4, Eller 1-7, Stouffer 1-4, Kozisek 0-1).

Hawks: Boys shut down Aquinas

Continued from page B1

Conference is probably the top conference in the state; there are a lot of the best teams in the state in a few different classes.

"We've only won the conference two times in school history, so that's been one of the goals we are working toward."

The Bluehawks burst out of the gate Friday, knocking down their first seven field goal attempts en route to opening an early 16-5 lead.

But the Monarchs (8-6) kept within striking distance, pulling to within 20-13 at the end of the first quarter.

Things changed in a hurry in the second quarter.

Senior post player Zach Kitten scored the first six points of the period for the Bluehawks and jump-started his team to a 16-2 run.

St. Cecilia scored 11 second-chance points in the second quarter, staking an insurmountable 40-19 lead at the break. The Bluehawks dominated the glass in the first half, holding a 17-7 advantage, which included seven offensive boards.

The put-backs helped St. Cecilia shoot 14-for-25 from the floor in the opening half — with nine of those misses coming from beyond the 3-point arc.

"We have been working on getting good looks at the basket on offense and I think we had some very nice looks tonight," coach Asher said. "But they weren't falling from long distance. The kids know, we talk about it a lot, to go to the basket when those shots aren't falling, and they did a nice job of that."

St. Cecilia's senior post tandem of Derek Boyd and Kitten helped spark the team when the perimeter shots weren't falling.

After falling behind 11-3 to start the game, Aquinas switched out of its man-to-man defense into a zone, to no avail.

Boyd and Kitten tallied 16 of the team's 40 first-half points - combining to shoot 7-for-9 from the floor. Kitten finished with 13 points and a game-high 7 rebounds while Boyd tallied 12 points.

"Those guys are very active and they do a lot of the little things well," coach Asher said of his post players. "They're 6-foot-5 and 6-foot-6, but they face up to the basket, they pass the ball, they have some quickness and move well and they can handle the ball. We've talked a lot about being efficient on offense, and those guys are. They're great finishers."

The Bluehawks continued their dominance in the second half — stifling the Monarchs into shooting just 4-for-17 from the floor while forcing five second-half turnovers.

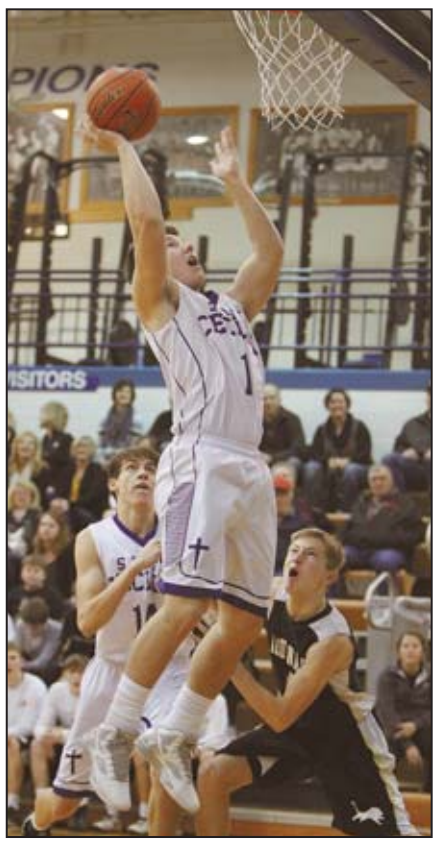
After missing his first five 3-point attempts in the first half, Brooks Asher connected on his first two attempts from beyond the arc in the second half. Asher tallied a game-high 18 points while teammate Dayton Sealey also reached double digits in the scoring column with 10 points.

The rematch Tuesday between Aquinas and St. Cecilia will tip off at 6 p.m. in the first round of the Centennial Conference tournament at Chapman Gymnasium.

David City Aquinas (8-6).....13 6 6 5 — 30
St. Cecilia (11-3).....20 20 22 11 — 73

St. Cecilia (73)

Dayton Sealey 4-6 0-0 10, Grant Schmidt 0-1 2-2 2, Derek Boyd 5-6 2-4 12, Brooks Asher 5-11 6-6 18, Zach Kitten 6-9 1-2 13, Alex Teano 1-4 0-0 4, Trey Asher 0-2 0-0 0, Grant Farmer 1-1 0-0 3, Austin Esch 1-2 2-2 5, Blane Boyd 1-2 2-2 4, Myles Furman 0-0 0-0 0, Jack Thompson 1-2 0-0 3, Total 25-46 15-18 73.



AMY ROH/*Tribune*

St. Cecilia's Dayton Sealey shoots during their game against Aquinas Friday in Hastings.

Aquinas (30)

Tyler Vavrina 3-11 1-2 9, James Kobza 3-6 0-0 8, Noah Pelan 0-2 0-0 0, Branden Daro 2-4 0-0 4, Lane Napier 2-5 12 5, Kyle Ruth 1-2 0-0 2, Matt Nadrchal 0-0 0-0 0, Daniel Reiter 1-1 0-0 2, Trevor Siroky 0-1 0-0 0-0, Will Reiter 0-1 0-0 0, Gavin Rech 0-1 0-0 0, Connor Emswiler 0-2 0-0 0, Zach Zavodny 0-0 0-0 0, Total 12-36 2-4 30.

Three-point field goals - STC 8-23 (Sealey 2-4, Schmidt 0-1, D. Boyd 0-1, B. Asher 2-8, Teano 1-3, T. Asher 0-1, Farmer 1-1, Esch 1-2, Thompson 1-2), DCA 4-9 (Vavrina 2-4, Kobza 2-2, Pelan 0-1, Daro 0-1, Emswiler 0-1). Rebounds - STC 33 (B. Asher 7), DCA 15 (Napier 4). Turnovers - STC 5, DCA 11. Total fouls - STC 5, DCA 11. Fouled out - none. Technicals - none.



AMY ROH/*Tribune*

St. Cecilia's Brooks Asher shoots over Aquinas' Noah Pelan Friday in Hastings.

Battle: Red Cloud wins hard-fought battle

Continued from page B1

The teams combined for just four brief scoring runs — none of them more than four points. Silver Lake tallied four unanswered points late in the third quarter to shrink Red Cloud's lead to 20-15 going into the fourth quarter.

The game was laced with several-minute scoring droughts.

"We were trying to find the mix of things that were going to work for us so we could get good looks," Drake said. "In the second half, we did a little better job of finding those looks."

Silver Lake put on a full-court press in the fourth quarter that led to Red Cloud turnovers.

"Overall, I thought we executed pretty well for three quarters. The fourth quarter we got a little sloppy with a lot of careless turnovers. That was a credit to (Silver Lake), too. They picked up their pressure and played more aggressive. We didn't handle it that well. But we'll learn from it and get better."

Red Cloud improved its record to 7-6 and ended the Mustangs' win streak at three games. Silver Lake's record slipped to 8-7.

On Monday, TVC teams will be seeded for their conference tournament to be played Jan. 30 to Feb. 6.

"It's a nice win. I don't know if it will affect the seeding any," Fangmeier said about his team's Friday's victory. "It is anybody's conference. We are all pretty close to one another, one through seven — even eight-nine. The whole conference is pretty balanced this year.

"We could possibly see (Silver Lake) in the conference tournament, and could possibly see them in sub-districts. They are familiar with us, and we are with them. It is always going to be a good game when we play."

Red Cloud (7-6).....7 6 7 8 — 28
Silver Lake (8-7)...2 5 8 3 — 18

Red Cloud (28)

Mary Nibbe 1, Jocelyn Shipman 17, Morgan Nibbe 4, Maria Ockinga 4, Haley Fisher 2.

Silver Lake (18)

Abby Ehrman 1, Joslyn Grabill 7, Leanna Wardenburg 2, Sydney Skupa 6, Sydney Parr 2

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OMAR VEGA/*Invision/AP*

Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny laugh during an interview at the season premiere of "The X-Files" at the California Science Center on Jan. 12 in Los Angeles.

Reboot promises fresh material

NEAL JUSTIN
Minneapolis Star Tribune

LOS ANGELES – There may be millions of believers eager for the reopening of "The X-Files," but you wouldn't necessarily expect Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny to be among them.

In the 13 years since the show went off the air, the actors have done their best to distance themselves from the iconic roles of Dana Scully and Fox Mulder. Anderson is in such demand for European-set period dramas that she had the luxury of turning down the role of the countess of Grantham in "Downton Abbey." Duchovny committed to Showtime's "Californication," playing the hedonistic Hank Moody, who would be interested only in aliens hailing from the Planet of Loose Women.

Yes, there was the 2008 "X-Files" feature film "I Want to Believe," but the plot, as I best recall, consisted of little more than the special agents impatiently waiting for a spaceship to drop off their paychecks.

But the actors seemed downright giddy to be slipping into their old skins during a promotional tour for a new six-episode revival, which starts Sunday, flirting with each other like kids on a prom date.

Either the pair are truly grateful to take a trip down memory lane, or they're the greatest actors of their generation.

The upbeat mood is especially surprising from Anderson, who early in her career thought she'd be doing work more akin to "Prime Suspect" than Comic-Con catnip.

"When I was cast in 'The X-Files,' it was just a little off to the left of where I had seen my career choices to be, and I got swept up into that," said Anderson, who was practically unknown when the Fox series made its 1993 debut. "It took a good decade for me to properly appreciate the opportunity that I had, and also how fortunate I was to play such a great iconic character in a show that was iconic in and of itself. I think it suddenly hit me some time later."

Duchovny also seems to have come to terms with the fact that, unless he's cast as the next James Bond, he'll always be best known as Foxy Fox.

"It took awhile to recognize it as the gift that it is, and that's why we're able to come back now," he said. "And I think also maybe it served as a spur to me to go out and actually do more work, to keep expanding myself as an artist."

One person who never stopped believing was creator Chris Carter. Skeptics might theorize that that's because nothing else has really worked for him. He hasn't produced or written any successful material unassociated with "The X-Files" in his nearly 30-year career. Keep in mind, however, that the "Files" world, which could morph from week to week, always allowed him to show off his storytelling skills in various genres.

This truncated season follows the same anything-goes approach, with episodes ranging from horror — mutant kids terrorize their keepers — to broad comedy, particularly in the third installment, where a were-lizard reluctantly takes on a human facade and has to work in a cellphone store.

'X-Files' returns to new generation of true believers

VERNE GAY
Newsday

I want to believe that "The X-Files" creator Chris Carter will be — apologies to Bob Dylan — forever young. I want to believe that at 57, he's still the California golden boy, the precocious beach bum with ferocious blue eyes and a full head of California-sun-bleached blond hair, and the same guy who changed the world or at least changed TV. I also want to believe he wrote the latest revival of "The X-Files" in his head while cutting through the Malibu surf on a "thruster" board, with imaginative monsters and aliens carving the pipeline next to him.

I want to believe …

Carter, ahem, says don't bother.

"I'm still a surfer," he confirmed by phone recently. "But I have to admit I went to check the surf the other day and didn't go out because it's been raining and the water was dirty. That said, I didn't surf for months when I was making the show so calling yourself a surfer when your board is gathering dust in the corner sounds like you're representing someone you're not."

"The show," of course, is the show of the moment — the six-part return of "The X-Files," along with its two leads (David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson) and some members of the original creative team besides Carter (James Wong and Glen Morgan). The show premieres Sunday at approximately 9 p.m., following the NFC Championship Game on Fox and will then air in its regular time slot, Mondays at 7 p.m., starting Jan. 25.

Like that California surf, speculation is high: Will Carter recapture the glory days? Can a classic series go home again, or should it even try?

Of course, you recall "The X-Files" mythos — the "truth is out there," along with the conspiracies, and aliens-among-us, also the pet obsessions of Mulder (Duchovny) and his pet phrase, "I want to believe …" A glorious stem-winding tale of monsters-vs.-aliens, or at least Mulder and Scully (Anderson) vs. all of them, and the feckless, mendacious, perfidious U.S. government, it's become commonplace in the years since the finale aired in 2002 to observe that "The X-Files" changed TV.

A commonplace which also happens to be true: The particular wave "Files" caught was the Internet one, which helped drive fan interest and speculation — endless speculation about Carter's intentions or the deeper meaning of the "mytharc" that formed the edifice of nine seasons. Not only did "Lost" embrace this Web-synergy paradigm, but just about every other TV drama that forged close ties with a fan base via the Internet and social media did as well.

Which is to say, virtually every successful TV drama since.

And to think it was all hatched in the head of a Cal State Long Beach grad and expert surfer who spent the bulk of his early career as a writer at (where else?) Surfing Magazine.

Congenial and soft-spoken, Carter certainly sounded pleased to be back in the spotlight. But one is also left to wonder what he's been up to all these years. There were a handful of short-lived series (like "Files" spinoff "The Lone Gunmen") that arrived and quickly disappeared while his magnum opus was still on the air. A pair of "Files" movies — one successful, the other less so — also came in the intervening years. A recent project for Amazon Prime went nowhere.

'Room' one of the year's best dramas

Review

"Room"

Grade: A
Cast: Brie Larson, Jacob Tremblay, Joan Allen
Rated: R for language
Showing starting Tuesday: Hastings Museum



Patrick White

Imagine you are a 5-year-old boy who has never experienced Earth and all its natural beauty. You are confined to one room, a room with common amenities and a dingy atmosphere. This is your only reality. Your escape from the simple, mundane world that you know is the occasional toy sent down from a nameless man and the TV set featuring stories and characters that your mother says are make believe. This environment seems almost unimaginable, right?

Director of "Room," Lenny Abrahamson, plays on that sense of disbelief by showing the audience items that are recognizable. In the darkness, we catch glimpses of a world we know: "Dora the Explorer" on the screen or a remote control race car whipping across the floor. We are meant to be uncomfortable, but the intrigue of the film is that our young male protagonist is not. This is his home, his only reality.

The young boy, Jack, played by Jacob Tremblay, believes in the minimal world that surrounds him until his mother, Joy, played by the exceptional Brie Larson, reveals the truth. Jack resists this new reality painted by his mother with a desire to return to the year before, the year in which Jack was too young to be told the truth. Let me remind you that this boy is only 5.

He clearly can't handle the truth, and in a desire for something more, he shouts at his mother and demands a different story. This exchange is reminiscent of every scientific breakthrough in history. The moment a new possibility is insisted upon, the originator is laughed at or verbally ridiculed. Jack's is the response to the insistence that "the Earth is not flat" or "the sun does not revolve around the Earth."

This disbelief doesn't last long as he asks his mother if turtles are real. The moment his mother realizes that he is starting to accept his reality and the potential for something more, she exploits it.

She's never vindictive or crass about it, but she does force her son to grow up immediately in an attempt to escape. Joy dabs her son with a scalding hot towel in order to fake a fever and nearly forces herself to vomit in order to get that putrid smell of puke then places it lightly on her son's hair like a nauseating shampoo. This is not exploitation, it's a desire for sanctuary for her son.

This is only the beginning of the film. From this moment on, everything changes for Jack and his mother, but I'll let you discover that for yourself.

Hastings doesn't often get the lower budget Oscar-worthy films, so I implore you to take this opportunity to see one of the best dramas of the year. "Room" is suspenseful and unnerving, but it's about so much more than a kidnapping. It's about growth and transition from youth to adulthood whether it's too soon or not.

Patrick White of Gretna is the Tribune's movie reviewer. Email him at pwhite@gretnadragons.org.

The New York Times Crossword Puzzle

ANSWERS NEXT SATURDAY

TWISTING ONE'S WORDS By Jeff Chen/ Edited by Will Shortz

Across

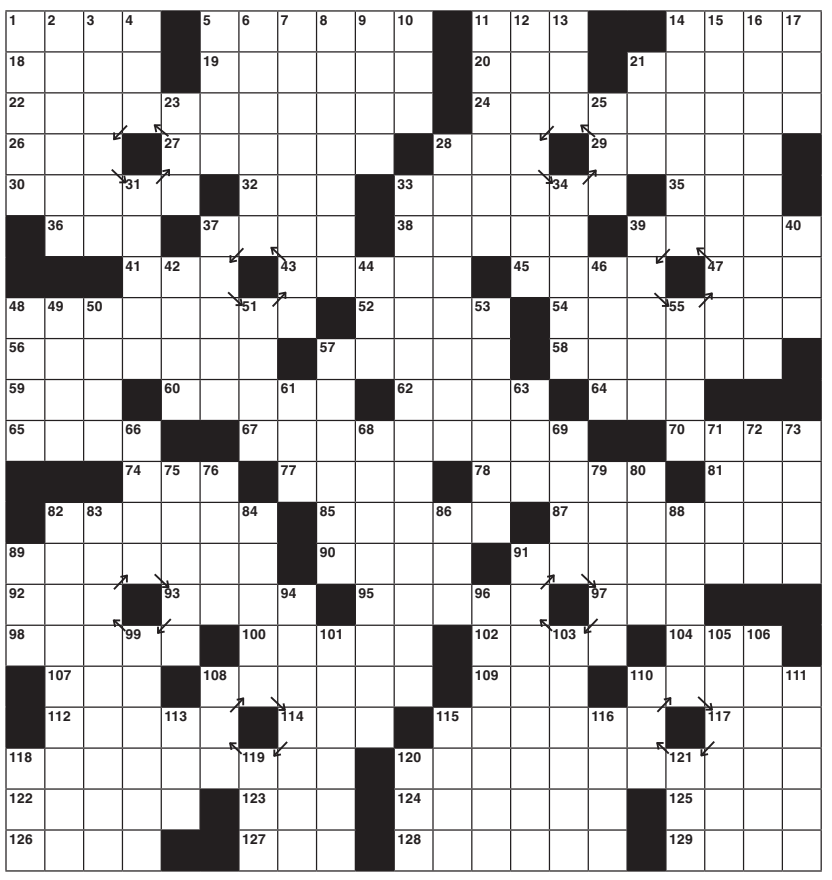
1 World-champion figure skater Thomas
5 "He did not just say that!"
11 Email letters
14 Nothing but
18 "If only …"
19 Idahoan's pride
20 ___ Lubovitch Dance Company
21 Funnies drawing
22 Luge or figure skating
24 Basic
26 Advanced degree in math?
27 ___ army, group that marches across the earth in Revelation
28 Hesitate in speech
29 Loses juice?
30 Round of four
32 Mao's successor
33 Thickets
35 Dr. J's do, once
36 Trespass
37 Big swig
38 Daily Planet photographer
39 Pop singer ___ Marie
41 Solidify
43 Newspaper desk
45 Motocross racers, for short
47 Clatter
48 Fall apart
52 The king of Egypt has a part in it
54 Furnace work
56 Advancing
57 Like villains, often
58 Blundering
59 1.5 in a jigger: Abbr.
60 Waters who sang "Am I Blue?"
62 Some HDTVs
64 Application info
65 89-Down nickname, with "the"
67 Origin of "pooh-bah"
70 Pronoun with an apostrophe
74 Toss in
77 Suckers
78 "Lean Forward" sloganeer
81 ___-cow
82 Castle-breaching explosive
85 Some bank jobs, for short
87 Shamans, e.g.
89 Pepsi employee
90 Bela Lugosi's role in "Son of Frankenstein"
91 Highly rated issues
92 Journalist Nellie who went around the world
93 Dutch export
95 19 things on a classical guitar
97 The "N" of NGO
98 Accord competitor
100 "The food of love," per Shakespeare
102 Relieves (of)
104 PC key
107 Data-storage acronym
108 Snitch
109 Symbol of strength
110 "To repeat …"
112 Rush
114 Third X or O
115 Word with party or pail
117 Tony-winning role for Robert Morse
118 Nickname for the only man to play in a Super Bowl and a World Series
120 Wrongdoing
122 Some family histories
123 Single
124 Seedlets
125 Fictitious
126 Benzene derivative, for one
127 Sen. Gillibrand's home: Abbr.
128 Obsolescence
129 Anticipatory times

Down

1 Anticipatory times
2 A-teamers
3 Vietnamese sandwich
4 Question asked while tapping a microphone
5 ___ vez (again: Sp.)
6 Experiences fame
7 State capital in a mailing address
8 New baby
9 Column on a flight board: Abbr.
10 Hrs. for eBay listings
11 Censors
12 It makes for smooth sailing
13 Drink for Hercule Poirot
14 Spreading belief?
15 Typed, as data
16 Logician's strong point
17 Building add-on
21 According to
23 Super G shape
25 M.R.I. readers
28 "Star Trek" virtual reality room
31 —
33 What causes storms to swirl in opposite directions in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres
34 —
37 To the point … or not pointed
39 Russian line
40 Lee who directed "Life of Pi"
42 War of 1812 battle site
44 Confucian doctrine
46 ___ libre (poetry form)
48 Semiliquid lump
49 Exude
50 Shock, in a way
51 —
53 Family name of old TV
55 —
57 Like eyes after an all-nighter
61 Expressions of doubt
63 New Left org.
66 Plus or minus thing
68 What a film may be emailed as
69 Crawling, say
71 Last word of grace
72 Next-to-last word of grace, often
73 Bereavement
75 Big name in Chicago politics
76 1856 antislavery novel
79 "You don't know ___"
80 ___ San Lucas, Mexico
82 Klondike bar symbol
83 Information often set in brackets
84 [This is how it might have happened]
86 Fury
88 Texas
89 Big media inits.
91 Malady caused by H2N2
94 Tasting like lamb
96 Shakespearean title role
99 —
101 They're the pits
103 —
105 GPS, e.g.
106 Group of friends
108 Philosopher Lao-___
110 Org. with a hotline
111 Lightsaber battles
113 Some recap highlights
115 Actor Robert of "Licence to Kill" and "The Goonies"
116 Facility
118 Intel org. officially formed by Truman
119 —
120 Up-to-date
121 —

Answers to last Saturday's puzzle

B	O	A	R	D	S	■	A	B	A	S	E	■	S	H	E	L	■	S	E	W
U	N	C	O	R	K	■	D	R	I	L	L	T	E	A	M	S	■	A	D	O
F	O	R	M	E	I	F	I	A	M	E	L	E	C	T	E	D	■	I	N	K
F	R	O	■	A	B	A	N	■	■	W	I	N	T	E	R	■	R	N	A	S
■	■	■	I	M	U	S	■	S	C	O	O	T	■	■	I	M	I	T	■	■
■	J	U	S	T	M	O	R	E	O	F	T	H	E	O	L	D	O	N	E	S
B	O	N	D	■	■	■	E	T	O	■	■	S	M	U	■	S	T	I	L	T
O	S	S	O	■	A	A	M	I	L	N	E	■	B	S	S	■	A	C	E	Y
W	H	E	N	O	P	P	O	N	E	N	T	S	A	T	T	A	C	K	M	E
T	U	N	E	U	P	S	■	■	D	E	C	A	L	■	D	D	T	■	■	■
O	A	T	■	G	L	O	W	S	■	■	■	E	M	B	E	R	■	S	S	N
■	■	■	P	H	I	■	H	U	L	A	S	■	■	O	N	A	D	A	T	E
D	O	N	A	T	E	T	O	M	Y	C	A	M	P	A	I	G	N	N	O	W
A	N	E	W	■	D	A	Y	■	E	C	L	A	I	R	S	■	A	D	O	T
L	Y	O	N	S	■	L	O	S	■	■	I	M	P	■	■	■	L	E	G	S
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AMY SUSSMAN/*Invision/AP*

In this Oct. 20, 2015, file photo, Drew Barrymore poses for a portrait to promote her new book, "Wildflower," in New York. Barrymore, 40, who launched her Flower brand of affordable cosmetics exclusively at Wal-Mart in 2013, says she's in discussions with various retailers overseas to sell her cosmetics in such countries as China, South America, Australia and United Kingdom. She'll also be launching her own e-commerce business later this year.

Drew Barrymore sets new sights for beauty brand

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Hollywood actress, director and author Drew Barrymore may soon add a new title to her resume: international retailer.

Barrymore launched her Flower brand of affordable cosmetics exclusively at Wal-Mart in 2013. Now she says she's in talks with retailers overseas to sell the cosmetics in such places as China, South America, Australia and the United Kingdom. She'll also be launching her own e-commerce business later this year.

Last year, she started selling an eyewear collection, also exclusively with Wal-Mart. And Barrymore told The Associated Press earlier this week she wants to expand into clothing, though it's unlikely it will be with Wal-Mart, even though she said she will always give the Bentonville, Arkansas-based discounter "first right of refusal."

Barrymore didn't want to use her name for the brand, saying she's aware of the perils of a slapping celebrity name on a product.

"The name of the game is about how you financially succeed fast enough so somebody doesn't dump you, and grow slowly and thoughtfully so that you are just not a flash in the pan," said Barrymore, 40, in a one-hour address at the annual Financo CEO forum, an industry forum sponsored by the investment bank on Monday. Her father-in-law Arie Kopelman, the former president of Chanel, led the discussion in a room full of several hundred fashion industry executives.

Barrymore, the mother of two toddlers, has found a successful niche in the beauty business. Unlike other cosmetic brands that spend a big portion of their money on advertising, the Flower brand spends most of its money on formulations and packaging. That results in premium makeup quality, she said. Flower Beauty, launched in 1,600 stores, is now in 2,500 stores, according to Wal-Mart spokeswoman Molly Blakeman. Neither Barrymore nor Wal-Mart offered sales volume.

The Flower Beauty line, which includes fragrances, ranges from $5 for lip gloss to about $14 for foundation. Barrymore's message is about self-empowerment and inner beauty, with messages like, "Happiness is the best makeup."

Wal-Mart says that the Flower eyewear is in all its stores that have vision centers, which number close to 3,000. Barrymore said it is the No. 1 brand of eyewear at the discounter, although Wal-Mart could not confirm that publicly. It ranges in price from $39 to $88.

Wal-Mart, she said, has been a "great" partner. But, she added, "at the end of the day, it is business. It is not friendship. They will drop us like a hot potato if we are not doing well."

As for her clothing venture, Barrymore, known for her Bohemian chic style, noted she won't be offering expensive clothes. "It's not the way I shop," she said.

'Galavant' a change of pace for Omundson

RICK BENTLEY
The Fresno Bee

PASADENA, Calif. — All you have to do is look at the recent work by Timothy Omundson to understand what he's talking about when he says he likes to change his look.

On "Psych," his Detective Carlton Lassiter was so clean cut that he made most straight-laced people look like hippies. On "Galavant," his beard and hair fall somewhere between the "Duck Dynasty" look and a homeless man.

Omundson jokes that his beard is more famous than he is.

As soon as each season of "Psych" finishes, Omundson grows his "hiatus beard." His hope was that one season would start with his character showing up in the scruffy state with the excuse he had been undercover.

That never happened and it wasn't until "Galavant" that Omundson could let his flocks fly.

"I get bored and so I like to change my look as much as I can," Omundson says. "I have found that parts where a beard is appropriate prove to be more interesting to me.

"On 'Psych' I had been doing the straight guy for six months so why would I want to do the straight guy again?"



DANIEL LIAM/*ABC via TNS*

Timothy Omundson stars as King Richard in "Galavant."

The second season of the short-run series "Galavant" runs through Jan. 31. It will be the last time to see Omundson plays one of his favorite roles.

The ABC musical comedy takes a look at the efforts of the title to regain his true love. At the same time, he's helping King Richard (Omundson) get his crown back. This is all done to the music of Alan Menken and Glenn Slater.

Along with his eight season starring role on "Psych," the Seattle native has worked on "Judging Amy," "Jericho," "SeaQuest DSV," "Jack & Jill" and a host of other TV shows. Nothing has compared to getting the chance to sing and dance his way through the forest on "Galavant."

"This is the greatest season of television I have ever worked on in terms of the quality of the show itself and the enjoyment," Omundson says.

One of the great parts has been the guest stars. Omundson was excited and nervous that Ricky Gervais was in an episode. He wanted to be able to keep up with the comic when it came to improvising material.

When Gervais arrived on the set, Omundson didn't go up to him immediately. Finally he walked over and said "Oh, you must be Ricky."

"He gave me that look of, 'Oh, it's on now,' " Omundson says. "When you are an actor and get to work with people you admire so much, it's a very strange thing. You have to act like you don't give a damn but it is so exciting."

Because of the quality and fun, he wishes there were more episodes of the series each season. He understands that the demands of the musical numbers take too much of a toll on the songwriters and cast to do more.

The beard was up for as many episodes as it could get.

Toni Braxton explores her career in TV movie

MESFIN FEKADU
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Toni Braxton has opened her life to the cameras on the WEtv reality series "Braxton Family Values," but she's exploring more of her past in a Lifetime movie debuting Saturday.

"Unbreak My Heart," named after one of her Grammy-winning hits, takes a look at the 48-year-old singer's career, which spans 23 years.

The TV movie (airing at 7 p.m.), which she executive-produced, stars Lex Scott Davis as Braxton.

"I think it's important that when I'm telling my story ... I wanted to be honest with myself. Not only did people hurt me, but I hurt people, too," she said in a recent interview.

"And I wanted them to go along with me during my struggle. I wanted them to feel like they were sitting right there beside me through all the ups and downs."

Braxton released her self-titled debut in 1993 with the help of Babyface and L.A. Reid. The album reached 8x platinum status, winning three Grammy Awards, including best new artist for Braxton. Her follow-up, 1996's "Secrets," won two Grammys and was also certified 8x platinum.

But despite her pop-star success, she's filed for bankruptcy multiple times.

"The (first) contract I signed, if I could do it all over again, I would do it again," Braxton said by phone from Los Angeles. "I think what we show in the movie is that once I had success, I was still governed by the old contract and it's supposed to change. ... I did get some bumps and some raises, but it was so minimal and it wasn't reflected on the sales" of her albums.

Braxton said she grew emotional watching her story unfold on the screen. She has appeared in film, TV and on Broadway; has battled lupus; and is an avid advocate for autism research (her son Diezel has autism).

"It was surreal," said the singer, who released her memoir, "Unbreak My Heart," in 2014. "Overall, I'm proud of myself that I survived those things."

Braxton said she was honest with her story and tried not to tell other people's stories in the process of making the two-hour TV movie.

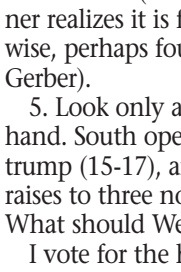
"I think it's very important in any business that, especially in our business, to guard secrets. Sometimes while you're telling your story you tell other people's stories, and a lot of things happened that I would never feel comfortable talking about — ever, ever," she said. "So that was the most challenging part, even writing the book, once it was in black and white, you know, there were some stories that needed to be completed, but we can't talk about that.



"But overall, the story is 100 percent accurate on my part, what happened to me, that part of it."

Remaining competition answers

Here are the answers to the subsidiary questions in my Christmas Competition.



Phillip Alder

3. Look only at the East hand. After opening one diamond, what should he rebid when West responds (a) one heart; (b) one spade; (c) one no-trump; (d) two clubs; (e) two no-trump, balanced, no four-card major, game-invitational; (f) three spades, a splinter bid showing good diamond support, at least game-going values and a singleton or void in spades.

The answers are: (a) one spade; (b) two spades (although three spades isn't wrong); (c) pass (although two clubs could work out well); (d) three clubs; (e) pass; (f) three no-trump (warning partner of good spades).

4. Look only at the South hand. North opens one club, South responds one heart, and North rebids (a) one spade; (b) two diamonds; (c) two no-trump. What should South do now?

The answers are: (a) three hearts (but forcing to game is feasible); (b) three hearts; (c) three hearts (as long as partner realizes it is forcing; otherwise, perhaps four clubs, Gerber).

5. Look only at the West hand. South opens one no-trump (15-17), and North raises to three no-trump. What should West lead?

I vote for the heart eight (or the spade two, but partner rates to be long in hearts and have entries).

6. Look only at the North hand. South opens two hearts, a sane weak two-bid. What should North do?

This is close. Pass could well be right, but it is reasonable to respond two no-trump, the artificial inquiry, asking partner if he is minimum or maximum.

North
♠ A 6 3
♥ K 9 4 2
♦ K 7 4
♣ Q J 3

West
♠ 10 8 7 2
♥ 8 5
♦ 10 9 2
♣ K 10 5 2

East
♠ K Q 9 4
♥ 7
♦ Q J 8 6 3
♣ A 9 8

South
♠ J 5
♥ A Q J 10 6 3
♦ A 5
♣ 7 6 4

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
			1 ♦
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 10

Phillip Alder is a columnist for Newspaper Enterprise Association.

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Daisy Ridley John Boyega
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SAT-SUN: 1:00, 6:30
MON-THURS: 6:30
3D Times...
FRI-SUN: 3:40, 9:20
MON-THURS: 9:20

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Randy & Mardi Pallas & Family
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Ron and Eilene Saylor want to thank all those for their cards, food, visits, phone calls and those special hugs upon the passing of Eilene's 15 year old grandson. All your concerns were appreciated. Also thanks to Pastor Remmers and Fearing for their comforting words.

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Hastings Tribune

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Difficulty: 4 (of 5)

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

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HOW TO PLAY:
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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Lucas Swartzendruber
Heartland Trust Company
896 G Street
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402-759-3114
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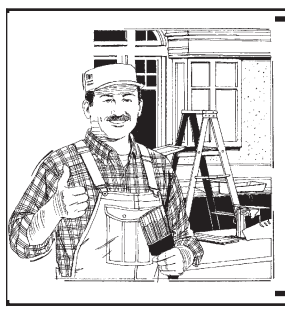
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2 Chronicles 7:14
If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn away from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

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NATI HARNIK/*AP*

This Aug. 22, 2006, file photo, shows an aerial view of a coal mine in northeast Wyoming near Gillette, Wyo.

Mine rescue

STATE OF WYOMING PURSUES VARIOUS IDEAS FOR HELPING BELEAGUERED COAL INDUSTRY

MEAD GRUVER
The Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Public enemy No. 1 for climate change and no longer the fossil fuel utilities prefer to burn to generate electricity, coal has few allies these days. But one state is still fighting to save the industry: Wyoming.

From a proposal to burn the stuff underground to hosting a contest to find profitable uses for carbon dioxide from power plants, the top coal-producing state has spent tens of millions of dollars for a coal savior — with little to show.

Big-time state spending was easy in Wyoming not long ago. Good times for coal, oil and natural gas created huge budget surpluses.

Now that all three industries are suffering from low prices, looming deficits in the Cowboy State are raising an old question: Is it time to diversify the economy beyond fossil fuels?

"They've chosen to support the coal industry whether it makes any sense or not. I mean, we're basically a coal colony," said Bob LeResche, chairman of the Powder River Basin Resource Council landowners group.

Some of the coal industry's top players, including Arch Coal and Alpha Natural Resources, have filed for bankruptcy as utilities switch to cheaper and cleaner-burning natural gas and the cost of renewable energy keeps falling. The Obama administration on Friday suspended the leasing program for coal on federal lands, most of which occur in Wyoming and neighboring Montana.

Will a Superman for coal come to the rescue in time?

"The odds look pretty slim right now," said Rob Godby, a University of Wyoming professor.

The stakes for Wyoming are high. Coal mining and directly related business account for 14 percent of the economy and 1 in 5 jobs in the state, according to the university's Center for Energy Economics.

Here's a look at what Wyoming has done — often at public expense — to try to save coal:

Underground coal gasification

Wyoming regulators recently agreed to let an Australian company pollute groundwater to experiment with a use for coal that doesn't involve burning it in a power plant.

Underground coal gasification involves partially burning coal still in the ground. The process yields a mix of gases called syngas, which can be burned more cleanly than coal directly.

An Australian company, Linc Energy, has proposed a demonstration plant in the Powder River Basin, an arid coal-mining region in northeast Wyoming and southeast Montana that supplies about 40 percent of the nation's coal.

The process leaves a chemical brew in the ground. Regulators in Queensland, Australia, accuse Linc of causing serious environmental harm at underground coal gasification projects there. Wyoming and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency agreed to let the Wyoming project proceed even if it contaminated groundwater. But low natural gas prices appear to have stalled the project. Linc officials didn't return a message seeking comment.

Carbon sequestration

Six years ago, the University of Wyoming's Carbon Management Institute began investigating whether a 25-square mile area in southwest Wyoming could trap carbon dioxide emitted from power plants.

The institute spent $17 million of taxpayer money drilling a 12,000-foot-deep well in 2011. But it stopped because researchers realized it would cost as much as $750 million to acquire enough carbon dioxide to complete the experiment.

"I don't think it was a waste at all. It was a good chunk of research in the

Please see WYOMING*/page C2*

Farmers favor simple talk over knowledge of critical ag issues

There was a mirrored symmetry to the news last week that reflects badly—but not unfairly—on American agriculture.

On Jan. 18, Farm Futures Magazine released its updated presidential surveys among farmers for both the first-in-the-nation Iowa caucus and the overall United States. The clear leaders among farmers who said they'd vote GOP in either Republican contest were billionaire Donald Trump and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.



Alan Guebert

It's not too surprising that 66 percent of Iowa's farmers and 59 percent of all U.S. farmers surveyed by the magazine chose two, largely untested political ideologues with little-to-no record in American farm and food policy.

Poll after poll, after all, shows the nation's Republicans collectively favor Trump and Cruz by as much or more than all the other GOP candidates combined.

The reason, say political pros, is that this year's GOP presidential race is being framed as a fight between simple and complex. Cruz and Trump offer simple solutions—build a wall; bomb till the desert glows—for costly, complex problems like illegal immigration and terrorism. The other candidates offer "government" — complex, costly — ideas.

The electorate prefers simple and cheap because, say the pundits, it understands simple and cheap.

Farmers and ranchers are often the same. Sure, almost all are far more deeply involved in "government" (crop insurance, soil and water conservation, federal grain standards, food safety laws…) than other Americans, but, hey, they like simple and cheap, too.

So Trump and Cruz's "simple" is solid in farm country.

Simple also describes how Big Ag votes for U.S. presidents. Farm Futures explained it this way: "(Our) survey is dominated by commercial-sized, full-time farmers" where "…about 85% or more of these growers typically vote for Republican candidates at the presidential level."

Wow, if elections in farm country really are that simple—virtually every GOP candidate is A-OK in Big Ag's eyes—why would any candidate know the difference between, say, coffee and CAFOs or ethanol and your neighbor Ethel when one party already has 85 out of 100 votes in its pocket without needing to know, well, anything?

This simple, sad electoral fact explains why most farm and food policy discussions are over before they begin: there's simply nothing to talk about because no one needs to know anything about farming and food to be elected.

That lack of public discourse, however, has created a policy vacuum that Big Ag is very happy to fill. Today, more than ever before, just a handful of farm and commodity groups drive nearly all policy discussions at the local, state, and federal level.

By design, however, this narrow policy base delivers narrow-minded policies. For example, despite overwhelming consumer support to label the origin of meat and poultry sold in the U.S.—Country of Origin Labeling, or COOL—a few farm and commodity groups successfully held it at arm's length until they finally strangled it with global trading rules.

Please see GUEBERT*/page C2*

Agency: Petroleum prices may fall further this year

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The International Energy Agency says oil prices may fall further this year due to low demand, warm winter weather and an oversupply of crude.

The organization, which advises countries on energy policy, said in its monthly report Tuesday that global excess supply may reach 1.5 million barrels per day during the first half of the year.

"Unless something changes, the oil market could drown in over-supply," the IEA said.

U.S. crude prices have fallen 24 percent since the beginning of the year. Benchmark U.S. crude fell $1.03, or 3.5 percent, to $28.39 a barrel in New York on Tuesday.

Many oil companies, including Chevron and BP, have cut jobs and reduced spending to save money.

The IEA noted mild temperatures at the outset of winter in the U.S., Japan and Europe lowered demand for oil.

Meanwhile, more oil from Iran could boost global supplies further. Iran has said it is aiming to increase its oil production by 500,000 barrels per day now that sanctions have been lifted.

"There will be enormous strain on the ability of the oil system to absorb it efficiently," the IEA said, referring to the overall excess supply.

Could dogfish be the tuna or shrimp of tomorrow?

AS CONDITIONS CHANGE, SEAFOOD INDUSTRY REBRANDS 'TRASH' SPECIES

PATRICK WHITTLE
The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — Call them fish sticks for millennials. At any rate, Dana Bartholomew is banking on college students warming up to "Sharck Bites."

Ipswich Shellfish, of Massachusetts, for which Bartholomew oversees sales, is offering that product — nuggets of dogfish coated in a gluten-free, allergen-friendly crust. Bartholomew, who believes so-called "trash fish" such as dogfish are part of the new wave in New England seafood, already has a couple of colleges on board.

Bartholomew's fondness for dogfish, a species East Coast fishermen catch millions of pounds of every year that sells for just pennies at the dock, is part of a growing trend in fish markets around the country. The industry is putting more emphasis on fish that have traditionally lacked market appeal or economic value as old staples — such as cod, tuna, haddock and shrimp — decline or become the subject of tougher fishing quotas.

"We know we have to make a great-tasting product that supports local fishermen, supports the local industry and economy," Bartholomew said. "And it's local — it's right here."

New England's traditional food fish has long been the Atlantic cod, but it has faded in the face of overfishing and environmental changes. Restaurant owners, fishermen and food processing companies said a growing shift to other species is helping to fill that void. Catch of species such as spiny dogfish, Acadian redfish and scup have all increased dramatically since 10 years ago as cod has fallen.

The shift toward trash fish reflects a broader trend in U.S. seafood toward species that are more abundant. Florida fishing regulators, for instance, have incentivized the hunt for invasive lionfish, which many view as pests. Elsewhere, the Jonah crab has also found acceptance as an alternative to the West Coast's popular Dungeness crab.

The evolution of food from trash to delicacy goes back centuries. Many species have overcome an ugly name or gruesome appearance to grow in

Please see TRASH*/page C2*



ROBERT F. BUKATY/*AP*

Redfish are displayed Jan. 7 at the Portland Fish Exchange in Portland, Maine.

Trash: Low-value fish species getting increased attention

Continued from page C1

value. Lobster, for instance, was long ago regarded as food fit only for the lower classes.

Creating a market for underutilized fish species is important in New England today because of warming waters and corresponding changes in fish populations, said Melissa Bouchard, chef at the popular DiMillo's On The Water restaurant in Portland.

"We're trying to get the focus off of cod and haddock and Northern shrimp and bring to light all these species in the Gulf of Maine that are delicious and abundant," Bouchard said.

She served dogfish tacos at a festival in food-crazy Portland and they were well received, she said.

The movement toward trash fish is not without skeptics, some of whom point to sustainable harvesting programs for fish that already have broad market appeal. Ray Hilborn, a marine biologist with the University of Washington, said the push is unnecessary from a sustainability point of view.

"If they truly believe that traditional species are not sustainable, then they don't know much and have not looked very hard," Hilborn said. "There is plenty of cod, haddock, salmon, tuna and shrimp in the world that is sustainably harvested."

But Azure Cygler, a fisheries specialist with the Coastal Resources Center at the University of Rhode Island, said the shift toward what toward what she called "underloved" species is critical for sustaining fisheries and providing local protein sources in New England.

Guebert: Big Ag happy to fill vacuum of ideas for industry in Washington

Continued from page C1

Some of those same groups worked to "ditch" of the Waters of the U.S. rule even as consumer anger over water quality rises to a fever pitch. Others continue to fight any state effort to label food content, and a few even continue to claim that climate change is either a hoax or conspiracy or both.

None of these simple "solutions" solves any of the underlying problems farmers and ranchers face now or down the road. Consumers will always want to know where their food comes from and will always want its ingredients labeled. Moreover, "ditching" any clean water effort by any government or public interest group only invites more consumer anger and more costly court fights.

In the end, farmers and ranchers will lose on every one of these issues because, as they well know, the "market"—consumers, voters, eaters—is always right.

Until then, however, we'll continue to believe that our illegal immigration problem will be solved by building a wall that "they'll pay for" and we'll end today's brutal terrorism by carpet bombing somewhere, maybe everywhere, until we find out "if sand can glow in the dark."

Sure, that'll work.

Alan Guebert can be reached through his website, www.farmandfoodfile.com.

IRS warns against phone scams

ANDREW TAYLOR
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Treasury Department has a message for taxpayers getting calls from the IRS demanding immediate payment: Hang up.

Those aggressive, threatening calls are coming from phone scammers. And they are successful, too, costing more than 5,000 victims more than $26.5 million since October 2013. About 900,000 scammer contacts were reported during that period.

The callers fraudulently claim to be IRS officials and demand that taxpayers immediately send them payment. They often have some personal information about the person they're calling and threaten criminal charges unless immediate payment is made.

"This scam has proven to be the largest of its kind that we have ever seen," said J. Russell George, Treasury Department inspector general for tax administration. "It is critical that all taxpayers continue to be wary of unsolicited telephone calls and e-mails from individuals claiming to be IRS and Treasury employees."

The agency has responded with public service announcements reminding people that the IRS sends letters rather than calling taxpayers.

"If someone unexpectedly calls claiming to be from the IRS and uses threatening language if you do not pay immediately, that is a sign that it is not the IRS calling, and your cue to hang up," George said.

The agency recommends taxpayers who are contacted by phone scammers fill out an "IRS impersonation scam" form on the Treasury inspector general website, www.treasury-tigta.gov, or call Treasury officials at 800-366-4484.

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State

UP EARNINGS

OMAHA — Union Pacific Corp. on Thursday reported fourth-quarter earnings of $1.12 billion.

The Omaha-based company said it had profit of $1.31 per share.

The results missed Wall Street expectations. The average estimate of 12 analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for earnings of $1.42 per share.

The railroad posted revenue of $5.21 billion in the period, which also missed Street forecasts. Five analysts surveyed by Zacks expected $5.54 billion.

UP shares have fallen nearly 6 percent since Jan. 1, while the Standard & Poor's 500 index has declined 9 percent. The stock has dropped 35 percent in the last 12 months.

The Associated Press



RYAN DORGAN/*Casper Star-Tribune via AP*

In this Jan. 9, 2014, file photo, rail cars are filled with coal and sprayed with a topper agent to suppress dust at Cloud Peak Energy's Antelope Mine north of Douglas, Wyo.

Wyoming: State comes to coal's aid

Continued from page C1

real world," said Rob Hurless, deputy director of the University of Wyoming's School of Energy Resources.

Coal to liquid fuel

Turning coal into diesel, gasoline and other liquid fuels isn't a new idea. Germany did it during World War II and a company proposed it in Wyoming as oil prices began to creep toward record highs in 2007.

The $2 billion DKRW Advanced Fuels plant outside the tiny town of Medicine Bow in southern Wyoming never got off the drawing board — except for a couple concrete pads and $1.9 million in state funding to rebuild 13 miles of road for the project.

Low global oil prices now threaten to shut down the project once and for all. DKRW officials recently warned local officials it isn't feasible at current prices.

Carbon XPrize

Utilities that burn coal might have more of an incentive to remove carbon dioxide from smokestacks if they could put the gas to profitable use.

That's the theory behind a $20 million competition organized by the XPrize Foundation. Private energy industry is funding the prize, but Wyoming has pledged $15 million to build a lab at Basin Electric's Dry Fork Station, a coal-fired power plant near Gillette in northeast Wyoming.

The lab will have room for several scientific tenants besides XPrize to conduct research into using smokestack carbon dioxide. It is slated to become operational in July 2017.

Finding new markets

Wyoming Gov. Matt Mead and other Wyoming officials also have been to Japan, India, South Korea, Taiwan, Australia and China in recent years to promote Wyoming coal — with no new markets to show for their efforts.

One problem is that the West Coast lacks port facilities to export much of Wyoming's coal. Regulators are reviewing big coal terminal proposals in Oregon and Washington — projects supported by some locals but opposed by others, including American Indian tribes and environmentalists.

Last year, the Wyoming Legislature authorized issuing up to $1 billion in state bonds, if necessary, to finance construction of those terminals. The state hasn't gone that route yet, but Mead said he expects the port facilities to win regulatory approval.

"Listen, coal's valuable. It's plentiful," Mead said. "It is being used and will continue to be used around the planet, regardless of what we do in this country."

***

Ben Neary contributed to this report.

Ornaments sold on QVC recalled for causing cuts

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Christmas ornaments sold on home shopping network QVC are being recalled after customers said they cut themselves on the aluminum ornaments and needed stitches.

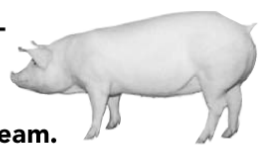
The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission said the ornaments have decorative cutouts that have sharp metal edges. The CPSC said 140 customers cut their fingers on the ornaments. Four said they needed stitches.

The ornaments, called Cheryl's Jingle Bell ornaments, were sold during QVC TV programs and on the company's website between November and December. They cost $55 for a box of eight ornaments. The ornaments came in red, green, gold and silver colors and were sold with 64 cookies.

About 25,000 box sets were sold. Customers should stop using the ornaments and return them to QVC for a full refund, the CPSC said.

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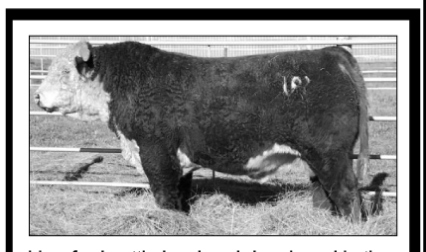
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1 Squeezes
5 With, to Pierre
9 Norm
12 Assist
13 Sly look
14 In days gone by
15 Solitary
16 Parthenon builder
18 Texas border town
20 Drops
21 Prefix for "trillion"
22 Tarzan's nanny
23 Hut
26 Potato buds
30 Numbskull
33 Nonsense verse writer
34 Bell sound
35 Cool guy
37 Litterbug
39 Dryly humorous
40 Victorian oath
41 "— vincit amor"
43 Space
45 Clump
48 Teed off
51 Out like a light
53 Tries again (2 wds.)
56 Gambling stake
57 Sass
58 South Seas paradise
59 Desktop picture
60 Yale athlete
61 "Only Time" singer
62 Baby-sit

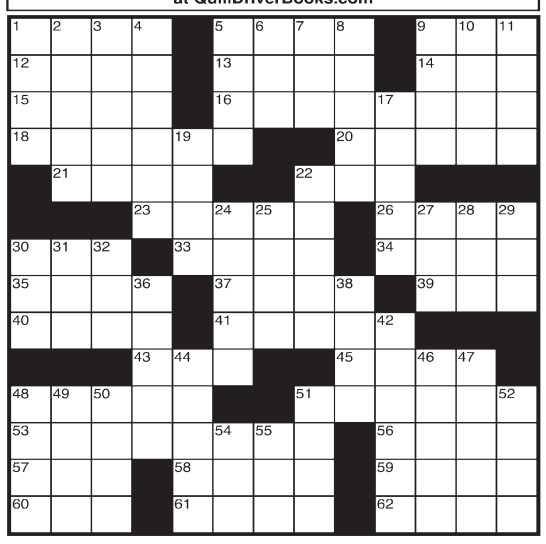
DOWN

1 Corridor
2 "Das Boot" craft (hyph.)
3 Rock or country
4 Guides
5 Mighty Dog rival
6 Plunging neckline
7 Poetic contraction
8 Brittle
9 Wan
10 Mellowed
11 Antarctic sea
17 Bird song
19 Actress Arlene —
22 City near Canton
24 Noted fabulist
25 Reassure
27 Longbow wood
28 Corn serving
29 Devious
30 "— to the West Wind"
31 Mo. with no holidays
32 Pharm. watchdog
36 Sidles past
38 Drill attachments
42 Cafe — —
44 Sun-dried brick
46 Boundary marker
47 Wyoming range
48 Not in use
49 Make muddy
50 French Legion headgear
51 Soprano's piece
52 Hang fire
54 Boxy vehicle
55 Ron who played Tarzan

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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D	R	E	A	D		R	I	O		A	L	I
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Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com



1-23

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Astrograph

Sunday, Jan. 24

Make adjustments to fit your changing lifestyle. How you handle personal matters will set the stage for future progress. Discipline will bring about positive change, and arguments will result in negativity and regret. Make mindful decisions and be willing to give and take.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Emotions will surface. Don't get disgruntled if you want to avoid a feud. Look at whatever situation you face with an open mind and heart.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Put more thought into the way you express your feelings and actions. Giving the wrong impression will come back to haunt you. Honesty and integrity will be your ticket to better days ahead.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Don't take on more than you can handle. You are best off protecting against illness or injury. Slow down and do whatever it takes to get along with others. Strive to be disciplined.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Step into the spotlight and share your thoughts and plans. You'll draw attention and inspire others to get involved in your cause. Romance will enhance your personal life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Make a choice to get things done. Added discipline will help you reach your goal. Bring about positive change. Don't put up with someone or something that is weighing you down.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Get physical and get things done. You will have peace of mind when your to-do list is cleared and you can spend time relaxing with someone you love.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Toy with the idea of making changes to your current personal situation. Making a commitment or changing where or how you live will have its benefits.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You'll have plenty of options and opportunities. Making personal changes will be gratifying and will lead to a better future. Don't limit the possibilities. Take care of responsibilities and make your move.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Stick to pastimes that bring you joy and take your mind off any problems you face at home or work. A break will help you see your concerns rationally.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Plan something special with friends, relatives or the one you love. A trip or a romantic encounter will brighten you life and give you greater hope, confidence and optimism.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Participate in an enjoyable event. Avoid any person or situation that has the potential to lead to an argument. Make personal improvements and avoid criticizing others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Your intuition will guide you in personal matters. Make positive changes to your personal life that will impress the ones you love. Explore your interests and visit new places.

Monday, Jan. 25

Added discipline will help you reach your goals. Don't waste time worrying about what others are doing or thinking. It's important that you stay focused on the changes you want to make and work on the projects that are personally meaningful. Embrace change and reject discord.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Your personal relationships will flourish if you share your feelings and intentions. Make a promise that will help you enforce positive alterations at home and work.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Be direct, ask questions and do your best to find out exactly what's going on. A trip or cultural event will give you plenty to think about and new options to consider.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Get out and socialize. The people you meet will change your life. An offer will prompt you to make a move. Get all the details before you commit.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Make plans to do something with the youngsters in your life or spend a romantic evening with someone you love. The more you interact with others, the more you stand to gain.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Don't limit what you can do. Be up-front about your qualifications and feelings. Avoid indulgent behavior and extravagance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — When making a deal, make sure that you give yourself enough leeway to feel comfortable moving forward. Romance is in the stars, and greater security is within reach.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Don't get angry when you should get moving. If something needs to be done, forge ahead and don't look back. As long as you are responsible and reliable, you have nothing to worry about.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Love is on the rise. Discuss what you'd like to see happen and put some plans in motion. A vacation or joint venture will bring you closer to your dreams.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — You can offer help, but don't get taken for granted. Put a limit on how much you will do, and refuse to let anyone guilt you into anything more. Make personal changes.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — You'll have unusual ideas that will help you find solutions to pending problems. Your sense of timing coupled with your insight will conquer whatever you come up against.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Exaggeration must be avoided. If you make unrealistic promises, you will suffer an emotional or financial loss. Keep your personal affairs a secret or the information will be used against you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Gather information and put a plan together that will help you raise your profile and your reputation. A business trip will pay off, as will a romantic gesture.

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Tomboy's unhappiness may be start of gender change



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I just had a big fight with my best friend. Her name is "Alex." There was a lot of cursing.

The argument was about her wanting to be transgender. I didn't agree with it, and she got mad at me. Alex is a tomboy. Today she cut her hair short — too short for my taste — and she keeps complaining about how she hates being a girl. She hates her period and is afraid of having breasts. It has started to annoy me. A lot.

Alex and I have been friends since kindergarten, and I'm scared our friendship may end. I don't know if all this sounds childish, but please help. I don't want to lose my best friend. — VEGAS GIRL

DEAR VEGAS GIRL: If you really want to keep Alex as your best friend, go online and start researching what it means to be transgender. She may hate her female characteristics because she feels trapped in the wrong body.

Being transgender is much more complicated than cutting one's hair and being a tomboy. What's going on with your friend isn't a frivolous decision. Alex is going to need understanding and emotional support during this process, and if you can't stand beside her, you WILL lose your best friend.

* * *

DEAR ABBY: I was raised in the Christian faith by my pastor parents. As I reached my early teens, I realized that those beliefs didn't really fit, and I gradually stopped attending church. I stayed away all through college. My time away only solidified that, in terms of belief, Christianity wasn't for me.

After I graduated this year, I realized I missed the community and ritual of the faith and the church. There are a number of churches in my area, but I feel guilty attending one when I don't believe in the same things as the other members. My family always taught me to be considerate of the beliefs of the people around me, and it seems dishonest to go to a service and listen to prayers my heart doesn't embrace.

I'd still like to attend church. Have you any suggestions for what might be a good course of action? Should I go to church or stay home? — UNORTHODOX IN OHIO

DEAR UNORTHODOX: You don't have to stay home. Instead, explore a denomination that has no dogma or creed. One in particular, Unitarian Universalism, has been mentioned before in this column.

Unitarian Universalists believe in the dignity and worth of every human being, and encourage and support others in following their personal spiritual paths. If you would like more information, visit www.uua.org.

* * *

DEAR ABBY: The mother of a friend recently passed away. I wanted to send a nice plant to the funeral home and was shocked at how much it cost to have a small plant delivered. Is it a "no-no" to buy a beautiful plant and deliver it to the funeral home yourself? — BUDGET-MINDED

DEAR BUDGET-MINDED: If it's a "no-no," I never heard about it. If having the plant delivered would stretch your budget, by all means take it over before the viewing. It's the thought that counts, and your wish to commemorate the death of your friend's mother is thoughtful and beautiful.

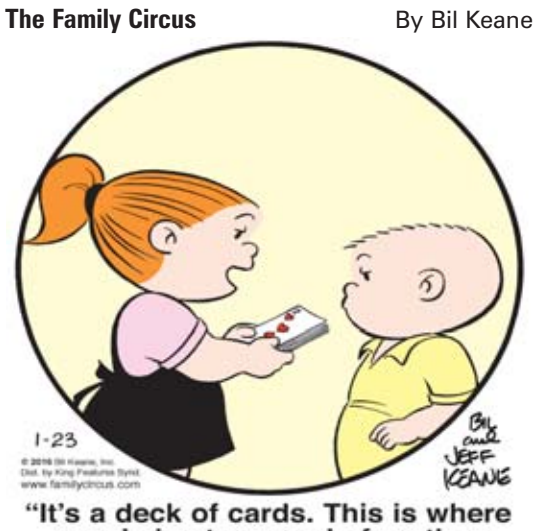
Pauline Phillips, a.k.a. **Abigail Van Buren**, and Jeanne Phillips are columnists for Universal Press Syndicate©. Write Dear Abby at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Rubes By Leigh Rubin



"For pity's sake, so he failed algebra. Big deal. Must you be so hard on him? It's not like he's ever going to have any use for it in the fast-food industry."

The Family Circus By Bil Keane



"It's a deck of cards. This is where people kept games before they invented cell phones and computers."

Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



Grizzwells By Bill Schorr



Shoe By Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins



Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves



Pickles By Brian Crane



Alley Oop By Dave Graue and Jack Bender



The Born Loser By Art and Chip Sansom



Garfield By Jim Davis



Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



A new Falwell embraces Donald Trump



Terry Mattingly

When the late Rev. Jerry Falwell founded the Moral Majority in 1979, one of his main goals was to oppose President Jimmy Carter, the Southern Baptist who forced American politicos to learn the term "born again."

Months later, Ronald Reagan coyly told a flock of evangelicals: "I know you can't endorse me. But I want you to know that I endorse you."

People may have forgotten how odd that marriage was back then, recalled the Rev. Jerry Falwell Jr., as he introduced Donald Trump at Liberty University.

"My father was criticized in the early 1980s for supporting Ronald Reagan over Jimmy Carter for president, because Ronald Reagan was a Hollywood actor who had been divorced and remarried, and Jimmy Carter was a Southern Baptist Sunday school teacher," said Falwell, Liberty's president, at a campus Martin Luther King Day convocation.

"My father proudly replied that Jesus pointed out we are all sinners. ... Dad explained that when he walked in the voting booth, he was not electing a Sunday school teacher or a pastor or even a president who shared his theological beliefs. He was electing the president of the United States, and the talents, abilities and experience required to lead a nation might not line up with those needed to run a church."

The GOP frontrunner's campaign-trail pilgrimage to Liberty was a two-act drama: Falwell's sermon-length introduction, then Trump's stump speech, with a few extra shots of faith. Falwell stopped short of endorsing Trump, but the New York billionaire and reality-television icon did everything he could to endorse Liberty.

Above all, argued Falwell, religious believers must judge Trump by his skills and deeds, not his past. In words that drew fire on social media, he called Trump a "servant" leader who "lives a life of loving and helping others as Jesus taught in the Great Commandment."

One of the most quoted reactions came from the Rev. Russell Moore, head of the Southern Baptist Convention's Washington, D.C., office. During the event, he tweeted: "Trading in the gospel of Jesus Christ for political power is not liberty but slavery."

Writing in The New York Times, Moore argued that embracing Trump would force religious conservatives to "repudiate everything they believe." After all, the real-estate magnate has built his career on "gambling, a moral vice and an economic swindle that oppresses the poorest and most desperate." In a life packed with boasts about having it all, he added, Trump once proclaimed — in writing — that he "gets to sleep with some of the 'top women in the world.' "

That was then. On this occasion, Trump opened by boasting about his poll numbers, then rushed to assure his listeners that he was on their side.

"We're going to protect Christianity, and I can say that. I don't have to be politi-

Please see TRUMP*/page C5*



MAYA ALLERUZZO/*AP*

In this Nov. 7, 2008, file photo, U.S. Army chaplain Geoffrey Bailey leads soldiers on a tour of St. Elijah's Monastery on Forward Operating Base Marez on the outskirts of Mosul, Iraq. Satellite photos obtained by The Associated Press confirm that the monastery in Iraq has been reduced to a field of rubble, yet another victim of the Islamic State's relentless destruction.

IS razing of monastery condemned

MARTHA MENDOZA, MAYA ALLERUZZO AND BRAM JANSSEN
The Associated Press

IRBIL, Iraq — The Obama Administration and the Vatican condemned the Islamic State group Wednesday for razing Iraq's oldest Christian monastery, a 1400-year-old structure that survived assaults by nature and man for centuries before it was deliberately destroyed by extremists.

At the United Nations, UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova said reducing St. Elijah's monastery in Mosul to a field of rubble was malicious and misguided. The Associated Press confirmed the news with exclusive satellite images published early Wednesday.

"Despite their relentless crimes, extremists will never be able to erase history," said Bokova, who called the demolition a war crime. "It also reminds us how terrified by history the extremists are, because understanding the past undermines the pretexts they use to justify these crimes and exposes them as expressions of pure hatred and ignorance."

St. Elijah's monastery on the outskirts of Mosul was a place of worship recently for U.S. troops, who worked to restore it. In earlier centuries, generations of monks tucked candles in the niches and prayed in the cool chapel. The Greek letters chi and rho, representing the first two letters of Christ's name, were carved near the entrance.

During a press briefing in Washington on Wednesday, State Department spokesman Mark Toner said the Obama Administration condemned the destruction by IS. "They continue to carry out these kinds of depraved acts, and it really symbolizes or exemplifies their bankrupt ideology," he said.



DigitalGlobe via AP

This combination of two satellite images provided by DigitalGlobe, taken on March 31, 2011, (top) and Sept. 28, 2014, shows the site of the 1,400-year-old Christian monastery known as St. Elijah's on the outskirts of Mosul, Iraq.

In his office in exile in Irbil, Iraq, the Rev. Paul Thabit Habib, 39, stared quietly at before- and after-images of the monastery that once perched on a hillside above his hometown of Mosul. Shaken, he flipped back to his own photos for comparison.

"I can't describe my sadness," he said in Arabic. "Our Christian history in Mosul is being barbarically leveled. We see it as an attempt to expel us from Iraq, eliminating and finishing our existence in this land."

The Islamic State group, which broke from al-Qaida and now controls large parts of Iraq and Syria, has killed thousands of civilians and forced out hundreds of thousands of Christians, threatening a religion that has endured in the region for 2,000 years. Along the way, its fighters have destroyed buildings and ruined historical and culturally significant structures they consider contrary to their interpretation of Islam.

Those who knew the monastery wondered about its fate after the extremists swept through in June 2014 and largely cut communications to the area.

Now, St. Elijah's has joined a growing list of more than 100 demolished religious and historic sites, including mosques, tombs, shrines and churches in Syria and Iraq. The extremists have defaced or ruined ancient monuments in Nineveh, Palmyra and Hatra. Museums and libraries have been looted, books burned, artwork crushed — or trafficked.

"A big part of tangible history has been destroyed," said Rev. Manuel Yousif Boji. A Chaldean Catholic pastor in Southfield, Michigan, he remembers attending Mass at St. Elijah's almost 60 years ago while a seminarian in Mosul.

"These persecutions have happened to our church more than once, but we believe in the power of truth, the power of God," said Boji. He is part of the Detroit area's Chaldean community, which became the largest outside Iraq after the sectarian bloodshed that followed the U.S. invasion in 2003. Iraq's Christian population has dropped from 1.3 million then to 300,000 now, church authorities say.

At the Vatican, spokesman Rev. Federico Lombardi noted that since the monastery dates back to the time Christians were united, the place would be a special one for many. He said it was the first news he had had of the destruction.

"Unfortunately, there is this systemic destruction of precious sites, not only cultural, but also religious and spiritual. It's very sad and dramatic," Lombardi said.

The loss of the monastery is a blow for U.S. troops and advisers who served in Iraq and had tried to protect and honor the site, a hopeful endeavor in a violent place and time.

Suzanne Bott, who spent more than two years restoring St. Elijah's Monastery as a U.S. State Department cultural adviser in Iraq, teared up when the AP showed her the images.

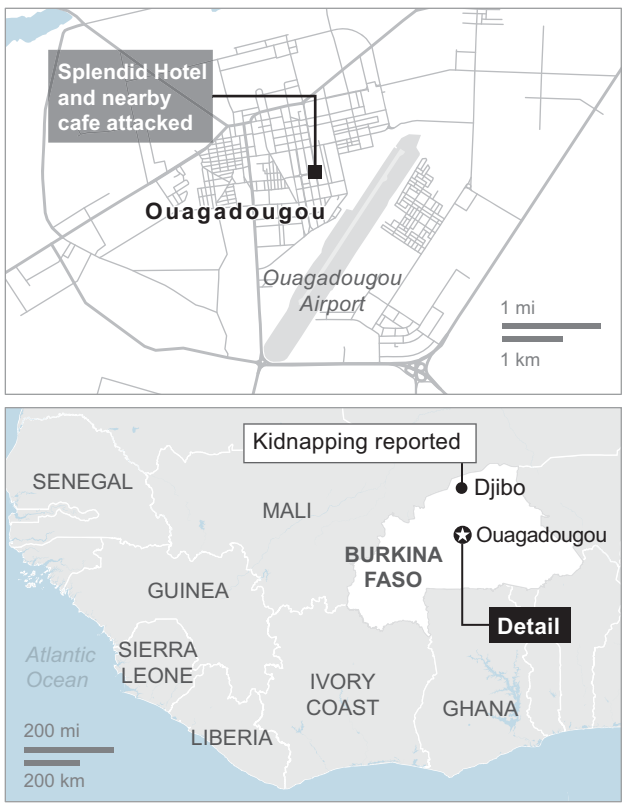
"Oh no way. It's just razed completely," said Bott. "What we lose is a very tangible reminder of the roots of a religion. Now it's gone."

Army reserve Col. Mary Prophit remembered a sunrise service in St. Elijah where, as a Catholic lay minister, she served communion.

"I let that moment sink in, the candlelight, the first rays of sunshine. We were worshipping in a place where people had been worshipping God for 1,400 years," said Prophit.

Deadly siege in Burkina Faso

Gunmen attacked a luxury hotel popular with westerners in Burkina Faso's capital of Ouagadougou.



SOURCE: Maps4News AP

U.S. missionaries return home after ordeal in Burkina Faso

CARLI TEPROFF
Miami Herald

MIAMI — William Adlet stood on his tippy toes holding a sign he painted for his dad: "We love you."

As soon as the 8-year-old spotted Herald Adlet coming off a bus Wednesday with 14 other missionaries from West Pines Community Church, he bolted toward his dad — who had his hands full with two of his younger children.

"This feels amazing," said Adlet, who was part of the church team who traveled to Burkina Faso in West Africa last week to work at an orphanage. "I missed them so much."

The team never made it to the orphanage because al-Qaida militants attacked a hotel and cafe near the airport in the country's capital, killing 30 people, including the man they were there to meet — Michael Riddering. Riddering, who attended Hollywood Community Church until he moved to Burkina Faso in 2011, was in the cafe waiting to take the team to the orphanage he ran with his wife and family.

"We went there to serve, and we ended up being served," said Adlet, a Miami-Dade firefighter. The people of Burkina Faso surrounded them with love. "They took care of us."

Friends and family of the team gathered at the church with signs and balloons welcoming them back after their long ordeal.

"We are very happy to be home," said Steve Englund, the team leader. "We felt every prayer while we were there."

The 15 missionaries — including a firefighter, television producer, insurance salesman and teacher — from West Pines Community Church had been on a plane that had departed from Paris for about 10 hours when the lights went out. The plane then circled about five times.

Adlet, who had never left the country before, said he was "freaking out."

"I was thinking we are going to run out of gas," he said.

Instead of landing in Burkina Faso, the plane was diverted to Niger, a country to the west. They then flew to neighboring Togo and eventually made it to the capital of Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou. They never did make it to Yako, where the orphanage is located. Instead, they camped out in mission houses.

A lot of their time was spent praying for Riddering and sharing stories about the man known for his "contagious" personality.

"We all respected him for what he did," said Beatriz Ruiz, who works for a medical device company and was on the trip.

Local

Dr. Merlin Wehling, president of Sonno Anesthesia and director of anesthesia at Kearney Regional Medical Center, will speak Saturday at the Hastings Seventh-day Adventist Church, 201 E. Ninth St.

Wehling is the son of Head Elder Loren Wehling. He will answer medical questions at 11:30 a.m.

Wehling is a member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and a consultant for Avenu Medical.

Trump: A new Falwell embraces candidate

Continued from page C4

cally correct. We're going to protect it. ... I hear this is a major theme right here. Two Corinthians, right? Two Corinthians 3:17, that's the whole ball game. Where the spirit of the Lord — right? Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty,'" he said, referring to a Bible passage displayed prominently on campus.

"We are going to protect Christianity. If you look at what's going on throughout the world, you look at Syria, where there, if you are a Christian, they're chopping off heads. You look at different places and Christianity, it's under siege."

Trump stressed how "very, very proud" he is to be a Protestant — "Presbyterian, to be exact" — and said the 70 to 75 percent of Americans who claim to be Christians must band together to push for change since "very bad things are happening." He promised to "knock the hell out of ISIS" and that, "If I'm president, you're gonna see 'Merry Christmas' in department stores. Believe me."

Trump used blunt words crafted for populists angry about losing, sick of compromises and tired of watching politicians break their promises. Claiming outsider status, Trump endorsed their anger.

Yes, Trump is not a Sunday school candidate, admitted Falwell. Then again, he said, "for decades, conservatives and evangelicals have chosen the political candidates who have told us what we wanted to hear on social, religious and political issues only to be betrayed by those same candidates after they were elected."

Terry Mattingly is the editor of GetReligion.org and Senior Fellow for Media and Religion at The King's College in New York City. He lives in Oak Ridge, Tenn. Contact Mattingly at www.tmatt.net.



MICHAEL GOULDING/*Orange County Register via TNS*

Chaplain Roger Rustad (left) and Navy veteran Alvin Butcher, 88, enjoy a drive on an oversized wheelchair they were riding in Mission Viejo, Calif., on Jan. 4.

Everyday hero

CHAPLAIN OUTFITS WHEELCHAIR TO TAKE HOSPICE PATIENTS ON THEIR LAST TRIPS OUTDOORS

ERIKA I. RITCHIE
The Orange County Register

MISSION VIEJO, Calif. — Alvin Butcher put on his finest suit Jan. 4.

There were a couple of reasons for that.

First, the 90-year-old World War II veteran was slated for an outing, away from his routine inside a Mission Viejo, Calif., hospice and out to the outside world.

Second, the man who would be taking Butcher out, the hospice's 65-year-old chaplain, Roger Rustad, had promised that this outing would be special. Butcher, Rustad said, would be going for a ride.

So when Rustad walked in and saw Butcher sitting at attention in his best suit, both men grinned.

"I expected him to be dressed warmly," Rustad said. "But he insisted on wearing his suit."

Rustad and two caregivers helped get Butcher out of his regular wheelchair, upright. Next, they guided him in a walker to get down the driveway.

"I can do it," Butcher cried out happily as he moved forward. "I can do it!"

Finally, they came upon an interesting looking rig, another wheelchair that wasn't at all like the one Butcher had just exited.

The seat was big and comfy. It played music. It was built for two.

It had a motor.

Rustad secured Butcher into his seat and climbed in next to him. Butcher beamed.

Rustad soon started to maneuver the vehicle, slowly at first, avoiding bumps. But when they got on the street, he put it into fifth gear.

That's when Rustad and Butcher took off, down the road, in a wheelchair built for two.

"Wow," Butcher said. "Wow!"

IDEA MAN

The rig is something Rustad dreamed up.

Rustad, of Laguna Hills, works as a chaplain at Sonoran Winds Hospice. As part of that work he sometimes partners with Oscar Liort, founder of American Outreach Foundation, to procure wheelchairs for the use of aging military veterans. And as part of that effort, Rustad recently came across a $13,000 motorized wheelchair designed to hold a 700-pound man.

The chair, he learned, was barely used; Liort kept asking Rustad if he had any use for the chair.

Finally, he realized that he did.

The idea hit him in November, as he was talking with a hospice patient who told Rustad she had a wish — to get outside once more before she died.

That's when he decided to transform the 42-inch wheelchair into a vehicle that could transport dying patients, for a potential final trip through the outdoors.

He and Liort went to work.

They made the already wide seat extra comfy. They attached a pole for I.V. bags. And a rack for an oxygen tank. And a jukebox, filled with songs like the "Marines' Hymn" and "Silent Night" and "Coming 'Round the Mountain." The chair even has a camera boom so a rider can view a loved one or FaceTime others while on the road.

After more than 100 hours and $2,000 of his own money, Rustad had it up and running.

Rustad, who also sees more than 100 patients from Los Angeles to Riverside counties, debuted the chair at a place called The Lakes in Banning, right around Christmas.

"The patients there loved it," Rustad said.

"We added a Radio Flyer wagon and went room-to-room, delivering presents."

LAST NEW FRIEND

Rustad has cared for dying people for the last 40 years.

Being a chaplain, he said, is more than a job.

"My dad always said, 'The real test to see if you're truly called to be a pastor or chaplain is to see if there is anything else you can do in life besides being a pastor or chaplain. If you can do that with a clear conscience, then do it.'

"I couldn't."

Rustad grew up in Amarillo, Texas, the son of a Seventh-day Adventist pastor. After studying theology and education and architecture, Rustad started a career designing and building churches throughout the Southwest. He established congregations in Arkansas, Louisiana, Arizona, California.

Rustad, his wife and three children eventually settled in Laguna Hills. That's where he got involved with charitable organizations such as the AIDS Services Foundation and food-distribution programs.

In the 1980s, he started volunteering at Mission Hospital.

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Birthdays

Snyder 90th



LaVerda Snyder will be turning 90 on February 20th. Gary and family from John's family would like to wish her a very Happy Birthday. The family also requests a card shower in LaVerda's honor. Cards can be sent to: 414 N. Willson St., Blue Hill, NE 68930.

Lainson 100th



Happy 100th Birthday, to Gretchen Lainson. With much love from your family.

Albin 75th



George Albin Jr. will celebrate his 75th birthday on January 29th. His family requests a card shower in his honor. Please send greetings to him at 210 E. Buffalo Circle, Hastings, NE 68901. Happy Birthday Dad and Grandpa Bud, we love you! From Herb, Stephanie, Abby, and Ashton; Bill, Julie, Katie, and Hollie; and Jeff, Chris, Hayden, Marte, and Harley.

Senior menu

Adams County Senior Services Inc. provides noon meals for people age 60 and older from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Golden Friendship Center, 509 S. Bellevue Ave. Reservations must be made by calling 402-463-4439 by 2:30 p.m. one day in advance. All meals include a salad bar, milk and bread unless otherwise noted.

◆ Tuesday: Hearty beef stew, green peas, cinnamon apples, biscuit and mocha fudge marble cake.

◆ Wednesday: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes with country gravy, herbed green beans and peach cobbler.

◆ Thursday: Grilled chicken breast with fettucini Alfredo, seasoned broccoli, Mandarin oranges and garlic bread.

◆ Friday: Reuben sandwich, cream of tomato soup with crackers, green beans and frosted brownie.

◆ Feb. 1: Sausage gravy and biscuit, cheesy egg bake, orange juice and baked apple slices.

Noon meals also are served at the Kenesaw Senior Center on the second Thursday of the month; at the Roseland Town Hall on the first and third Tuesdays of the month; and at Juniata on the third Thursday of the month. For reservations, call one day in advance.

Births

Mary Lanning

◆ **Rory Bell Morrison**, a 5.3-pound girl, and **Leighton Marie Morrison**, a 5.5-pound girl, were born to Jessica (Cobesputi) and J.P. Morrison III of Grand Island Jan. 12.

◆ **Audrey Clara Goodman**, a 6-pound, 15-ounce girl, was born to Joey (Peterson) and Todd Goodman of Juniata Jan. 14.

◆ **Jericho James Wilford**, a 7-pound, 13-ounce boy, was born to Amy (Thiel) and Caleb Wilford of 611 S. Garfield Ave. Jan. 11.

◆ **Wesley Creighton Reeves**, a 9-pound boy, was born to Vaimle (Horton) and Troy Reeves of 909 Richmond Ave. Jan. 12.

◆ **Jackson Charles Poore**, a 7-pound, 9-ounce boy, was born to Bessie Skarin and Jeff Poore of Blue Hill Jan. 12.

◆ **Berkley Mae Harmon**, a 7-pound, 2-ounce girl, was born to Kaylee (Hinrichs) and Benjamin Harmon of Doniphan Jan. 16.

◆ **Ruth Aguilar Rodriguez**, a 7-pound, 12-ounce girl, was born to Yuridia Rodriguez and Ivan Carlos Aguilar of 1100 E. South St. Jan. 18.

Five generations

Longwith family



From left: Derek Hunt of Hastings, grandfather, holding Lyllian Hunt; Tanner Hunt of South Dakota, father; Dee Gregory Longwith of Hastings, great-great-grandmother; and Linda Gregory Hunt of Hastings, great-grandmother.

Nation

Disney recall

NEW YORK — Walt Disney Parks and Resorts are recalling Darth Vader and Disneyland 60th anniversary infant onesies because the snaps can detach and pose a choking hazard.

No injuries have been reported. The recall involves about 10,000 onesies.

Consumers were advised to stop using the items and contact Walt Disney Parks and Resorts for instructions on returning them for a full refund.

The Darth Vader onesies were sold in five sizes including 3M, 6M, 12M, 18M and 24M. The artwork on the front of the bodysuit shows an infant Darth Vader holding a light saber with the text: "If you only knew the power of THE DARK SIDE."

The Associated Press





CARRIE ANTLFINGER/*AP*

In this Dec. 14, 2015, photo, a group of women color at the DeForest Public Library in DeForest, Wis.

Coloring craze

Libraries, other groups nationwide set up get-togethers for adults

CARRIE ANTLFINGER
Associated Press

DEFOREST, Wis. — Adults caught up in the coloring book craze now have new and more social ways to participate: through libraries and meetup groups.

Libraries across the country are holding adult coloring programs more and more in response to the spike in interest, according to the American Library Association, including New York City, Denver and Milwaukee. There are also groups popping up through Meetup.com.

"People just love this. I think they feel successful, like they've finished something," said Jane Henze, the adult-programming director at DeForest Public Library near Madison, Wisconsin. "The neat thing about it, as far as stress goes, you're concentrating on something, you're not thinking about what's going on at home or at work."

She started the library's free program this summer with colored pencils, snacks and photocopied images after seeing the success at another nearby library. They now do it twice a month, with between 11 and 16 people. So far, it's been mostly middle-aged women, although two men attended.



CARRIE ANTLFINGER/*AP*

In this Dec. 14, 2015, photo, Carol Hensen colors at the DeForest Public Library in DeForest, Wis.

The popularity of coloring is evident when you walk into any bookstore, many of which have coloring books prominently displayed. This month coloring books took up the top 10 spots on the New York Times best-selling list of games and activities, up from nine in December.

Carrie Danhieux-Poole, art therapist at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin, said art therapists use coloring as an easy way to get people into other forms of art.

"They feel more focused, they feel more relaxed, maybe they report any anxiety they might have been experiencing having decreased with the adult coloring," she said.

In Raleigh, North Carolina, a healthy living group that organizes through Meetup.com tried coloring for the first time at a local restaurant this month. Eight people showed up, their best attended gathering yet. They also have a waiting list for the next one.

One of the participants, Sophie Dangtran, 60, started coloring a few years ago when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. She's now in remission and recently picked it up again — with different results.

"I find the healthier I get, the more colorful my designs are," she said.

Senate panel OKs bill to make school lunches tastier

MARY CLARE JALONICK
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — School meals could become a bit tastier under legislation approved by a Senate committee.

The bipartisan measure approved by a voice vote Wednesday is designed to help schools that say the Obama administration's healthier meal rules are too restrictive. Leaders of the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee introduced the legislation Monday after negotiating an agreement to ease requirements for whole grains and delaying a deadline to cut sodium levels.

School lunch directors who have lobbied against the standards endorsed the deal, saying it would help them plan meals that are more appealing to students. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has backed it as well, saying the compromise maintains most of the healthier school meal rules that have been phased in since 2012.

The rules set fat, sugar and sodium limits on foods in the lunch line and beyond. They require more whole grains, fruits and vegetables. Schools have long been required to follow government nutrition rules if they accept federal reimbursements for free and reduced-price meals for low-income students, but the new standards are stricter.

The School Nutrition Association, which represents school nutrition directors and companies that sell food to schools, has said many of the standards are unworkable and lobbied to roll them back.

The compromise signals a truce between first lady Michelle Obama and congressional Republicans who have been at odds over the rules for more than two years.

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Blanket is one of a kind

Here's more information regarding making temperature blankets. This is a creative way to stitch a one-of-a-kind blanket or afghan, using a color key you create with specific yarn (or fabric) colors that correspond to the weather conditions or high/low temperature of each day of the year.



Robin Stroot

I recently joined a Facebook group named Temperature Blanket Yarn-Along where the daily discussion and creativity of the group members is limited only by their imagination. Some participants make temperature blankets row by row; others make a motif for each day and others use c2c, which means a craft pattern made from corner-to-corner.

Generic temperature blanket crafters use just the daily high/low for their particular project. However, some temperature blankets also are used to commemorate a special event — for example, a couple celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. You can research weather records and find the high/low temperature for their special day of each of their 50 years and use corresponding yarn/fabric colors to create each row of this special temperature blanket.

Some crafters use sky conditions in choosing their color of the day. Yarn or fabric colors that could correspond to sky conditions include shades of gray for cloudy days to bright blues for sunny days. Other temperature blanket enthusiasts add things such as a sparkly yarn for snowy days or black colors for days where severe weather is part of the day's weather event. One crafter posted a Facebook picture of her temperature afghan with a black row which indicated a minor earthquake she experienced close to her home that day. I even thought of making a weather afghan based on the number of inches of precipitation (rain or snow). I would be sure to include a color choice for the days when there is no measurable daily precipitation.

One person on the Facebook group posted a picture of quilt blocks she made for her temperature quilt. You could used snowflake designs indicating snowy days, water droplet fabric for rainy days, blue fabrics for cool/cold days and warm-colored prints for warm/hot days of the year.

Be sure to calculate your fabric needs carefully and accurately if you decide to make a fabric temperature blanket. A bolt of fabric may be hard to match if you run out of that particular fabric. However, you can always intersperse solid and print fabric for your quilt.

On the other hand, yarn often comes in no-dye-lot colors. Let's say you have three full weeks of temperatures from 50 to 60 degrees and run out of the green color you chose for those temperatures. No-dye-lot will allow you to purchase more yarn that will match the first skein to complete that row of your afghan.

Robin Stroot of Juniata is a columnist for the Tribune. Contact Stroot at 402-461-1252 or email at tribune@hastingstribune.com.

Cat that vanished returning to family



BILL HAND/*Sun Journal via AP*

In this photo taken Jan. 15, Craven County Animal Control Supervisor Trinity Smith cuddles with Hemi, an American curl mix cat, in New Bern, N.C. The cat has spent the last four years wandering Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point in Cherry Point, N.C., but thanks to a microchip, his owners have been tracked down to their current home in North Dakota.

MARTHA WAGGONER
The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — A cat named Hemi, who vanished without a trace in 2011 and reappeared just as mysteriously last week, will soon make a jet flight halfway across the country to rejoin the family that never stopped missing him.

"It's pretty crazy," said Jennifer Connell, who adopted Hemi in 2009 in North Carolina, but now lives in Bismarck, North Dakota.

Hemi was a kitten when Jennifer and her Marine husband, Robert, found him curled up on their car's engine block at their home in Havelock near Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station. They weren't going to keep him, but then they fell in love with the gray kitten with an unusual curl at the tips of his ears. His time under the car's hood won him the name Hemi.

But when Robert Connell deployed in 2011, and his wife and their two children moved to base housing at Cherry Point, Hemi disappeared.

"He kept looking for my husband and couldn't find him," Jennifer Connell said. "And one day, he got out, and we were never able to find him."

She called the shelter daily to see if Hemi turned up, and returned to their old home several times a week to look for the cat.

"He was my husband's cat," she said. "And I had to tell him Hemi ran away."

In 2013, Connell left the Marines for a job as a train engineer, and the family moved to Bismarck, still heartbroken about Hemi.

Then last week, a woman called the Craven County, North Carolina, animal shelter about a cat that was hanging around her house. Shelter staff found a microchip on Hemi and called the number.

"Are you missing Hemi?" animal control supervisor Trinity Smith recalls asking Jennifer Connell. "She cried when we called her."

No one but Hemi knows where he's been since 2011, and Hemi isn't saying.

The Connells' former baby sitter, who now works for an airline, plans to pick up Hemi on Monday and fly with him on Jan. 27 to Bismarck, Connell said.

The family has set up an account to raise money to pay for Hemi's portion of the flight and to reimburse the friend for associated costs. Any extra money will be donated to the Craven County animal shelter, Connell said.

In the meantime, a veterinarian will check out Hemi for free and make sure he has a clean bill of health before he flies, Smith said.

Clubs

DAR

The Daughters of the American Revolution, Niobrara Butler-Johnson Chapter, held its monthly luncheon and meeting Jan. 5 at Pastime Lanes conference room in Hastings with vice regent Dorothy Anderson presiding. Chaplain Maryann Thompson presented a program on "Aprons."

Thompson gave the opening prayer.

The DAR Ritual, Pledge of Allegiance, American's Creed and Preamble of the Constitution were recited by all.

Anderson called roll.

Officers reports were given.

Two new member applications have been mailed.

Chapter member Jane Taylor donated the Nebraska DAR Society's book "Collections of Nebraska Pioneer Reminiscences" to the chapter's library.

Members are asked to bring baby items to the next meeting for donation to the Pine Ridge Reservation. Members also are asked to bring kitchen and non-perishable food items for Maryland Living Center.

Representing the chapter, Carolyn Rottman presented Adams Central teacher Kristi Lukow the NSDAR "Certificate of Appreciation for Teaching Patriotic Music to Youth."

Connie Plettner will present NSDAR Vietnam Veteran Awards to two members of the Lion's Club in Lincoln.

Members voted to donate a subscription of NSDAR magazine, American Spirit, to Hastings Literacy Program.

Election was held for voting delegates to the State Conference in Kearney March 23-27. Jacki Lemonds and Connie Plettner will be voting delegates with Cheryll Marr as alternate.

Election also was held for delegates to the 124th Continental Congress in Washington, D.C., June 12-19. Plettner and Marr will be delegates.

The next luncheon meeting is noon Feb. 2 at Pastime Lanes conference room in Hastings. The program will be "Fossil Hunting in Western Kansas" by David Demick.

For further information concerning Daughters of the American Revolution, call 402-469-3535.

Chapter HT, P.E.O.

Chapter HT, P.E.O. met Jan. 11 at Laura Marvel Wunderlich's home. Rosemary Barth was co-hostess.

The program was a Founder's Day presentation by newest members Jane Marie, Lynne Keogh and Elaine Petersen.

The next meeting is Feb. 8 at Church of the Good Shepherd.

South Central Nebraska Czech Society

The South Central Nebraska Czech Society met Jan. 10 at the Eagles in Hastings.

President Alan Krupicka called the meeting to order. The flag salute was given. Roll call was taken.

Despite the frigid weather, members were present from Aurora, Hastings, Lawrence, Republican City, St. Paul and Tobias.

Acting secretary Debra Polacek read the minutes of the December meeting. Treasurer Tom Wanek gave his report. Both reports were accepted.

A discussion was held concerning holding meetings in January. It was decided to make no change. If a meeting is to be canceled, the calling tree will be activated by Krupicka.

Ivan Valek presented a list of common Czech names and the meaning of each in the English language. This was also a lesson in pronunciation of Czech words and the meanings.

Deb and Marvin Polacek are members of Czechoslovakia Society of Arts and Science (SVU). They attended the SVU World Conference July 2014 in Plzen, Czech Republic. Both presented papers: "The History of Nebraska Czech Organizations" by Deb and "The History of the First Czech Churches in Nebraska" by Marvin. Marvin gave a review of his paper. A copy of his outline was given to each member to follow as he gave the presentation. Pictures of early churches and cemeteries with landscapes were included .

The birthday song was sung for Rosemary Peterson for her 90th birthday.

Hostesses were Georgia Bishel and Ann Tuma. Tuma furnished Czech treats of pork, kraut and dumplings.

The next meeting is 1:30 p.m. Feb. 14 at the Eagles.

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

President Marti Sanchez presided over the Jan. 16 meeting of Gamma Chapter, Rho State, of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International at First National Bank in Grand Island.

Kari Sawyer, first vice president, led the group in learning more about Pinterest and making dry-erase boards.

Donna Dill moved to allow funds be used for a fifth stipend, to be extended to Carrie Schmidt, early childhood teacher with the Grand Island Public Schools Preschool. The motion carried.

Susan Gronemeyer read a note from Head Start thanking Gamma Chapter for the hats, mittens and gloves that were gathered before Christmas.

Michelle Downs and Becky Carlstrom had handmade greeting cards for sale. Proceeds from the sales were donated to the treasury.

Members were urged to attend Legislative Day March 17 in Lincoln.

Sanchez reminded members of the upcoming convention. A work session will follow the next chapter meeting to complete items for the State Convention April 15–17 in Grand Island.

Hostesses from Hall County were thanked.

The next meeting is March 19 at First National Bank in Grand Island.

Police: Husband forced wife to walk naked on NYC street

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Police say a 24-year-old New York City man has been arrested on assault charges after he punched his wife, then ordered her to walk through the streets wearing only a towel as he videotaped her.

The video, which also shows the woman naked on the street, wound up online, and news media ran it with her body obscured.

Jason Melo is awaiting arraignment in Manhattan. He was arrested Wednesday after his 22-year-old wife filed a report.

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11:00am The Benefits of Geothermal — Island Indoor Climate
12:00pm Which Water Feature Is Right for You — Vicek Gardens
1:00pm Building a New Home: Getting Started — Nordaas Homes
2:00pm Video Surveillance for Your Home and Office — A.C. Technologies
3:00pm The Benefits of Geothermal — Island Indoor Climate
SUNDAY, JANUARY 24
1:00pm Building a New Home: Getting Started — Nordaas Homes
2:00pm Which Water Feature Is Right for You — Vicek Gardens
3:00pm Video Surveillance for Your Home and Office — A.C. Technologies
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Why is cheap oil slamming stocks?

KEN SWEET AND DAVID KOENIG
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street is drowning in oil.

Stocks are having their worst start to a year in history in part because of a rapid plunge in the price of oil. The price of crude is down 28 percent this year already, which in turn has dragged down energy company shares in the Standard & Poor's 500 index by 13 percent, which has helped pull the overall index down 9 percent.

This even though low oil prices — and the cheap prices for gasoline and other fuels that result — are wonderful for consumers and many companies.

"It seems ironic that in the run-up to the global financial crisis we were worried about oil prices being too high in 2007 and 2008. Now we're worried about them being too low," said Julian Jessop, head of commodities research with London-based researchers Capital Economics Ltd.

The drastic drop in oil and stock prices stands in contrast with a U.S. economy that, on the whole, is doing pretty well. U.S employers created 292,000 jobs in December, and few economists see the economy sliding into recession.

Here's what experts think is going on.

WHY IS OIL SO LOW?

Because there is so much of it.

A long run of high oil prices inspired drillers to develop new techniques and to go to new places to find more oil, and they succeeded. In the U.S. improved oil drilling technologies known generally as fracking have added more oil to the global market than the total production of any other nation in OPEC other than Saudi Arabia.



GENE J. PUSKAR/*AP*

In this July 16, 2015, file photo, a customer re-fuels her car at a Costco in Robinson Township, Pa. The plunging price of oil in 2016 is dragging stock markets to their worst start to a year ever, even though low fuel prices are great for consumers and most companies.

Producers in the U.S. and abroad haven't cut back production very much, despite the low prices, and now the lifting of international sanctions against Iran could send more oil flowing into markets that are already awash in crude.

U.S. stockpiles are at their highest level in at least 80 years, and the International Energy Agency predicts that during the first half of this year global oil supply could outstrip demand by 1.5 million barrels per day.

Demand for crude has been growing steadily, but that may not last because economic growth in China, the world's second-largest oil consumer after the U.S., is slowing.

WHY DO LOW OIL PRICES HURT THE STOCK MARKET?

Oil company profits are plummeting, so oil company shares are plummeting, and that is dragging down the whole market.

Analysts estimate that profit for all S&P 500 companies in total are on track to be down a recession-like 5.8 percent for 2015. But if energy companies were removed from that figure, S&P 500 profits would be up a very healthy 5.7 percent for the full year.

That profit drop directly leads to lower share prices that drag down entire indexes. Two of the biggest oil companies in the world, Exxon and Chevron, are part of the 30-member Dow Jones industrial average. Of the 20 biggest share price losers in the S&P 500 this year, 13 are energy companies.

Investors are also selling shares of companies that may have exposure to the oil industry, like certain banks. And the price of oil has now fallen so low that investors are also worried that it could mean global economic growth is much weaker than expected, which could hurt all companies.

AREN'T LOWER OIL PRICES A GOOD THING FOR THE ECONOMY?

It depends on why prices are lower.

If they fall because new supplies have been found, it usually helps the broader economy, and markets held up fairly well during oil's big slide from over $100 a barrel in 2014 to under $50 a barrel last year.

"In the long run, lower oil prices should be positive or at worst neutral for the world economy because all they're really doing is transferring income from oil producers to oil consumers," Jessop says.

But this latest plunge in prices to under $30 a barrel has investors worried that oil prices are falling because global growth is slowing, as businesses and consumers in many developing countries, particularly China, cut back on spending. Bruce Kasman, chief economist at JPMorgan Chase, says that steep drops in oil prices have historically been a sign of a weakening global economy.

Also, U.S. consumers have remained cautious about spending the money they aren't putting into their gas tanks, which limits the benefit to the broader economy. Americans saved 5.5 percent of their incomes in November, up nearly a full percentage point from a year earlier.

Kasman estimates that U.S. spending grew at a tepid pace of just 1.5 percent in the final three months of last year. "There's no doubt that the consumer spending growth figures for the U.S., Europe and Japan have disappointed," he said.

Some of that likely reflected a temporary drag from warm weather, as Americans spent less on winter clothing and utilities. That could turn around in the first quarter, giving the economy a lift, Kasman said.

Delta Air Lines told investors this week that bookings for this spring are ahead of last year's pace because cheaper gasoline means consumers have more money.

COULD THIS LEAD TO BROADER TURMOIL, THE WAY THE SUBPRIME MORTGAGE CRISIS DID?

It is already having some ripple effects, but the energy market isn't nearly as big or far-reaching as the housing market.

When oil prices were high, lots of banks, including some of the biggest on Wall Street, made loans to energy companies to finance drilling in North Dakota, Texas and elsewhere. Dealogic estimates that the oil and gas industry has roughly $500 billion in outstanding debt. According to the Federal Reserve, there is $11 trillion in outstanding residential mortgage debt.

Drug prices to rise

Prices for some drugs continue to reach new highs.

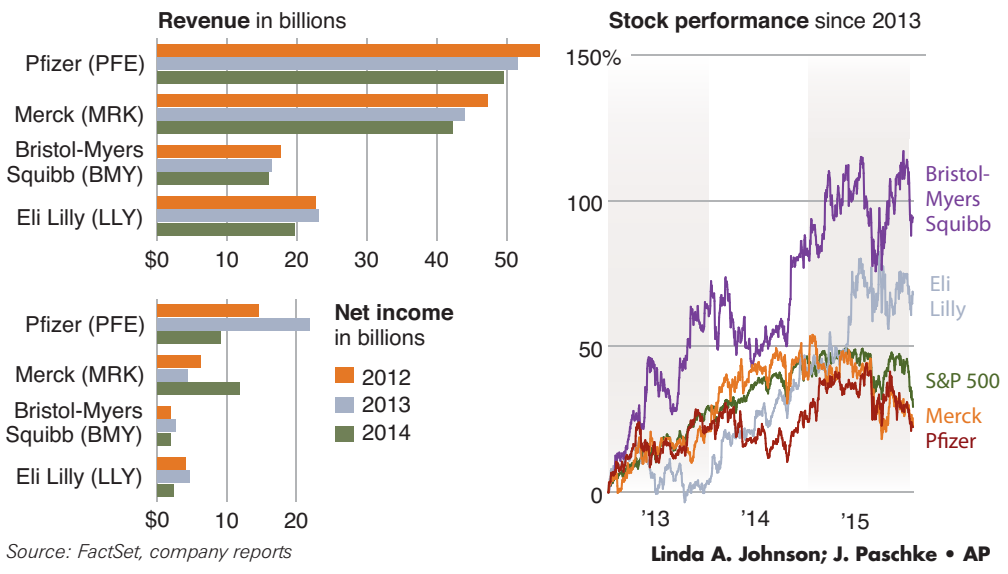
The top U.S.-based drug makers — Bristol-Myers Squibb, Eli Lilly, Merck and Pfizer — have raised prices so far this year on many drugs. More than half of the increases are 10 percent or more — far above inflation.

This continues a pricing trend. Although increasing generic drug competition cut into their sales over the past four years, major drugmakers offset much of that, partly by hiking prices at least once a year.

The companies continued to earn billions, and their shares rose steadily, both reasons they're good investments, according to Deutsche Bank's Gregg Gilbert. And the recent market downturn makes their shares a good buy.

More importantly, they have had multiple innovative, high-priced drugs approved recently, including Pfizer's breast cancer drug Ibrance and hepatitis C drug Daklinza from Bristol-Myers.





Source: FactSet, company reports

Linda A. Johnson; J. Paschke • AP

Gun collection poses challenge



Bruce Williams

DEAR BRUCE: My 80-year-old father has an extensive gun collection, with many period pieces and specialty guns. While I can certainly pick out the Civil War musket, I have no idea what some of the other pieces are, or what they may be worth.

I am an only child, so all of the dissolution issues will become my responsibility. While I understand how to sell the house and my name is on all his bank accounts, what do you recommend I do about this collection? — **K.A.**

DEAR K.A.: There are many reputable dealers who would be happy to discuss with you the sale of the collection. By making inquiries, you will find the same names come up, depending on the size of the collection.

It may be worth a great deal and may be worth very little, but please do your research before selling. When the time comes, if you can't make the inquiries, ask your attorney to do so. He should have no problem finding several reputable dealers for you.

DEAR BRUCE: What do you think is the best way for me to start saving money? I am 35 years old and work full-time. I have been through a really rough time in the past 20 years, which took away all my savings. I make $37,000 a year. — **Reader**

DEAR READER: The toughest thing to do is recognize you're not doing what you should be doing. In other words, you're not putting away at least a small portion of your income.

You say you make $37,000 a year. That's not a lot of money to live on, but at least 10 percent ought to go into savings the day you get your paycheck. When you reach $1,000 or more, start looking into opening a brokerage account. I do wish you well.

DEAR BRUCE: A former business associate owes me over $1,000 and won't pay. Can I file a complaint against his credit report with the credit bureaus? What information do I put in the complaint? — **Reader**

DEAR READER: The reality is, for $1,000, you're better off to forget it. Yes, you can file a complaint in small claims court, but the chances of collecting are very slim, and putting the information in the form of a complaint, even if it's all acknowledged, will do you no good. It's unfortunate that he stuck you for a $1,000, but I encourage you to stop spinning your wheels. Trying to get something put on a credit report is essentially a useless endeavor.

Bruce Williams is a columnist for the Newspaper Enterprise Association. Contact him at bruce@brucewilliams.com or P.O. Box 503, Elfers, FL 34680.

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