Track championships: STC athletes win three golds. — *Page C1*



Hastings Tribune
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'Rocket Man'

Students learn about space technology.

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Emergency responders bill vetoed by Heineman

NATE JENKINS
The Associated Press

LINCOLN — Four days after lawmakers left the Capitol for the year, Gov. Dave Heineman vetoed four of the bills they had passed on the last day of the legislative session — including one aimed at helping emergency responders.

The flurry of vetoes on Monday nearly doubled the governor's total veto count during the session that ended Thursday. And the post-session bill-squashing can't be countered by lawmakers: They don't have a chance to override the vetoes, not even by calling a special session, according to legislative rules.

"I'm disappointed," Sen. Abbie Cornett of Bellevue said of Heineman's veto of her bill (LB819) that would have allowed emergency responders who suffered mental illness after witnessing violent acts to get workers' compensation benefits.

But Cornett said she wasn't surprised. "I was fairly confident this was coming because the business community was against it," she said, adding that she would bring the bill back next year.

Heineman called the bill an attempt to overrule a state Supreme Court decision last year that said workers' comp benefits can only be triggered by physical injuries. The bill, he said, would cause a "significant increase in workers' compensation costs."

"The expansion of workers' compensation coverage is unwarranted and would be costly for state and local governments and their taxpayers," Heineman said in his veto message to lawmakers.

Heineman also vetoed a bill (LB986) and an accompanying spending measure (LB986A) that would have required businesses that sold computers, televisions and other electronic devices to pay fees to the state. The money would have been used for grants to help recycle the increasing amount of obsolete computers and other devices.

"The bill imposes some of the highest and most excessive registration fees in the nation," Heineman said in his veto message.

Please see VETO*/page B2*



BRENT McCOWN/*Tribune*

Bruce Karnatz (left) of Kearney gets directions from yardmaster Sherm Luhn while moving his coal train through the yard Monday night during a model train simulation in the basement of Earl Mullins at Lake Hastings.

Tri-Cities men 'all aboard' hobby

GROUP DISPLAYS LOVE FOR MODEL TRAINS WHILE EARNING PRESTIGIOUS CERTIFICATION

SHAY BURK
sburk@hastingstribune.com

Children often find fascination in the movement of large engines and trains that move products across the country.

For one group of men in the Tri-Cities, that fascination stayed with them into adulthood and turned into a unique hobby.

"I've been playing with model trains officially since I was 10 in the early 1960s," said Mark Malmkar of Kearney. "I can remember when I was even younger than that being fascinated with the trains that I saw on the local main line. I remember seeing the big black steam engines and that would have been before 1956 when they stopped running those. So it's been a long time."

Malmkar was one of more than a dozen model train enthusiasts who met in Hastings Monday night to enjoy their love of trains and participate in a two-hour long simulation.

Earl Mullins of Hastings has had a model train set with tracks, coal miles, communities and multiple train yards in his basement for more than 15 years.

Please see HOBBY*/page B2*



BRENT McCOWN/*Tribune*

Zacharyville yard masters Lester Lorhan (left) and Howard Junker monitor trains as they pass through their yard during a model train simulation Monday night in the home of Earl Mullins.



TONY HERRMAN/*Tribune*

American Legion National Commander Marty Conatser addresses the crowd at the American Legion hall in Sutton Monday.

National Legion Commander stops by Sutton

TONY HERRMAN
therrman@hastingstribune.com

SUTTON — American Legion members need to take a more active role in talking up the benefits of their organization to non-member veterans and also to elected officials.

That is the message that National Commander Marty Conatser brought to the American Legion Hall in Sutton Monday.

"The American Legion is full of people who just do the right thing and don't expect thanks for it so they don't brag about it," he said. "They do it matter-of-factly without expecting thank yous."

Conatser lives in Champaign, Ill. He was in Sutton as part of a four-day statewide tour of U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals.

"In those four days we're making some stops in the state veterans' homes, and we're visiting Legion posts to update them on some issues we're working on nationally from getting more money for the VA hospitals and health care for those issues," he said.

Just before Sutton he visited the Nebraska Veterans Home in Grand Island, where he was shocked by an understaffing of 50 employees.

"That's not acceptable," he said. "We need to get the pay scale raised on some of those. We're competing on the civilian market, the outside market, (where) their pay is $2 to $3 more for skilled nursing care than the state veterans homes. It becomes and economic issue. It's not that people don't want to work at state veterans homes. It's a great facility, it's very clean it's very well taken care of."

Please see SUTTON*/page B2*

Franzens display good will toward others

TONY HERRMAN
therrman@hastingstribune.com

For the last three years LaVern and Connie Franzen have been the faces — and often voices — of the annual campaign for Goodwill Industries in Hastings.

Local Goodwill executives knew the couple, who are in their mid-60s, had been involved with the organization for more than 30 years and approached them about being campaign chairs.

"We consented to do that three years ago thinking it was a one-year experience for us," he said. "But it's been good, and a lot of people have contributed over the last years and it has certainly helped a number of people have access to services they wouldn't have otherwise."

Tom Conlon, Director of Development for Goodwill Industries of Greater Nebraska, said Goodwill chose the Franzens to be the annual campaign chairs in Hastings for a few reasons.

"First of all, they understand Goodwill; they know our mission and they're dedicated to it," he said. "Second, they know the community and the people in the community know LaVern and Connie. Their reputation is superior and people trust them."



Editor's note: This is part of an ongoing series that profiles people within Tribland. To submit ideas, contact news director Deanne Stumpe at 402-461-1252 or dstumpe@hastingstribune.com.

Conlon said Monday that the Hastings campaign has raised just under $7,000. Goodwill Industries in Hastings has doubled the amount for its annual campaign goal this year, asking $10,000. Those funds will be used exclusively for job training and assistance for Hastings residents with developmental disabilities.

"We've got some major gifts to come in and I think we'll hit our goal of $10,000 by the end of the month," he said.

The Franzens originally got involved with Goodwill when their daughter, who has developmental disabilities, was a few years old.

Please see FRANZEN*/page B2*



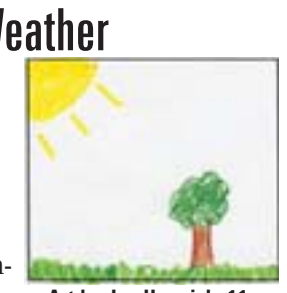
AMY ROH/*Tribune*

Connie and LaVern Franzen are the annual campaign chairs for Goodwill Industries.

Weather

Lo: 45
Hi: 70

Sunny today with north winds shifting to southeast.



Art by Joe Harwick, 11, St. Michael's Elementary

Nation

NICE CATCH

ALBANY, N.Y. — A postal worker is credited with saving a 1-year-old girl's life by catching her after she fell out of a second-story window in Albany, N.Y.

Lisa Harrell was delivering mail to a home late Monday morning when she noticed a baby in a window above the front door. Harrell says the next thing she knew, the baby had fallen into her arms.

When the baby's mother realized what happened, she ran outside and grabbed the girl from Harrell. The woman thanked Harrell and then ran down the street to her mother's house.

Paramedics checked the baby at the scene but found no injuries.

No charges are being filed against the mother, who says she had placed her daughter on a bed that was up against the window. The mother says her back was turned when her daughter crawled out the open window.

The Associated Press

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VOL. 103, NO. 173 ©2008, THE SEATON PUBLISHING CO., INC. HASTINGS, NEBRASKA

Obituaries

Florence Onken

Former Hastings resident Florence Onken, 96, of Aurora, died Monday, April 21, 2008, at Hamilton Manor in Aurora.


Onken

Funeral services are 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 25, 2008, at the Assembly of God Church in Aurora. The Revs. Jim Garfield and Sam Fox will officiate. Burial is at 2 p.m. in Parkview Cemetery in Hastings. Visitation is 5-8 p.m. Thursday at Higby-McQuiston Mortuary in Aurora.

Condolences may be sent to www.higbymortuary.com.

***

Florence C. Onken, the daughter of William H. and Harriet Dora (Sanders) Meester, was born in Clay County, Neb., on July 28, 1911. She grew up in Deweese and attended school through the 8th grade. On April 29, 1930, Florence was united in marriage to Russell E. Onken. During their early years of marriage they lived in Deshler, Fairbury and then moved to a farm east of Glenvil in 1943 and years later moved to a farm northeast of Aurora. When the children were grown, Florence babysat for a family in Aurora and then worked for J.C. Penny's, which became Parker's Clothing until they closed. She then went to work for Gambles until the owners retired. They moved to Hastings in 1973, where they took care of Russell's parents. They moved back to Aurora in 1997. Russell passed away on November 18, 2004. Florence belonged to the Extension Club and Christian Church Ladies Aid, when she was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, four sisters; and two brothers.

Those left to cherish her memory are her three daughters, Evelyn (Ervin) Bamesberger of Aurora, Rachel (Robert) Scott of Arvada, Colo., and DeEtta (Dallas) Amend of Fountain Hills, Ariz.; half-brother, William Meester of W.Va.; seven grandchildren, David Bamesberger of Naples, Fla., Denese Callen of Livermore, Calif., Kevin Lawrey of Fort Morgan, Colo., Tami Fiedler of Grand Island, Neb., Traci Raber of Grand Island, Neb., Michael Amend of Seattle, Wash., and Russell Amend of South Riding, Va.; 13 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Florence P. McKee

Former Franklin resident Florence Pearl McKee, 104, of Lakewood, Colo., died Friday, April 18, 2008, in Lakewood.

Services are 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 23, 2008, at First United Methodist Church in Franklin with the Rev. Neil Kloppenborg officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery at Franklin. Visitation is 6-8 p.m. today at Hutchins Funeral Home in Franklin.

Beth E. Johnson

Former Shickley resident, Beth E. Johnson, 91, died Saturday, April 19, 2008, in Grand Island.

Services are 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 25, 2008, at United Methodist Church in Shickley. Burial will be in Geneva Public Cemetery at Geneva. Visitation is 1-8 p.m. Thursday at Farmer and Son Funeral Home in Geneva.

Memorials may be given to the family.

Jon Smith

Hastings resident Jon Smith, 40, of 122 East 14th St., died Monday, April 21, 2008, at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital in Hastings.

Services are pending at Livingston-Butler-Volland Funeral Home and Cremation Center in Hastings.

Allman Brothers cancel annual Beacon shows

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Allman Brothers Band has canceled its annual run of performances at the Beacon Theatre as founding member Gregg Allman continues to recover from hepatitis C.

The band had been scheduled to play 15 sold-out shows at the Beacon — an annual run of concerts that draws people from all over the country who pay several hundred dollars for tickets to see the blues-rock legends.

The band usually plays in March but previously said it was postponing those shows until the fall while Allman recovered from hepatitis C, a blood-borne disease that can lead to cirrhosis of the liver or liver cancer.

On Friday, the Allman Brothers Band announced on its Web site that the shows would be rescheduled for early 2009, the 40th anniversary of its founding.

"New York's a second home to us," Allman, 60, said in a statement. "We love playing there and are as disappointed as anybody not to be able to get there this time."

Ebert hopes to attend film fest despite surgery

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Roger Ebert hopes to make it to his annual namesake film festival this week despite hip surgery.

The 65-year-old film critic was recovering Friday at a Chicago hospital from minor hip surgery after a recent fall.

"The show must go on," Ebert said in a statement posted on his Web site. "I am doing fine and if the doctors clear me, I will be there to welcome our guests."

Scheduled guests at the 10th annual film festival include Ang Lee, Richard Roeper, Richard Corliss and Christine Lahti.

The 2008 "Ebertfest" — sponsored by the critic's alma mater, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign — will be held Wednesday through Sunday.

A film critic at the Chicago Sun-Times for more than 40 years, Ebert has undergone a series of cancer surgeries in recent years, including the removal of a growth on his salivary gland and a tracheostomy, a procedure that opens an airway through an incision in the windpipe, that left him unable to speak.

Streisand pulls out of bash

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel says Barbra Streisand has pulled out of a celebration of the country's 60th anniversary next month.

Streisand was one of the big-name guests slated to appear at a Jerusalem convention hosted by Israeli President Shimon Peres beginning May 13.

The American diva was supposed to perform a rendition of the Hebrew prayer Avinu Malkeinu, or "Our Father Our King."

But Peres' office said Tuesday that Streisand has now announced she will not be coming. It says she gave no reason for the sudden cancellation.

NewsMakers

Miley Cyrus look-alike

NEW YORK — Is that Miley Cyrus flashing some skin?

Less-than-wholesome photos of a girl bearing a close resemblance to the 15-year-old superstar are making the rounds on the Internet.

One photo shows the Cyrus look-alike tugging at her white tank top to reveal a green bra. In another shot, she flaunts her bare midriff while draped over a young male, who rests his hand on her hip. Another shot shows her cuddling up to the same guy.

This isn't the first time risque photos of someone resembling Cyrus have circulated online. In recent months, shots have surfaced of a girl posing in her underwear and bikini.

Cyrus, star of the TV show "Hannah Montana" and role model for countless young girls, is one of the biggest — and most G-rated — acts in the country. Cyrus' "Best of Both Worlds" tour sold out arenas, and her successful 3-D concert film collected $31.3 million in its opening weekend in February.

The upcoming "Hannah Montana" movie will be filmed in Tennessee and Los Angeles, beginning early next month. The movie is scheduled for release May 1, 2009.

The actress-singer's publicists Jill Fritzo and Meghan Prophet didn't return messages from The Associated Press seeking comment. An assistant to Cyrus' manager, Jason Morey, referred the AP to Prophet.

Sparks' vocal problem

NEW YORK — Vocal problems have forced Jordin Sparks to temporarily withdraw from Alicia Keys' tour and cancel all performances for the rest of the month, a representative for the "American Idol" champ said Monday.

"All of her April activities have been postponed or canceled so she can take care of her voice properly," a 19/Jive Records spokeswoman told The Associated Press.

The 18-year-old singer, whose hits include "Tattoo" and "No Air," was scheduled to be the opening act on Keys' tour, which kicked off over the weekend in Hampton, Va. In addition to missing the tour's first month, Sparks was forced to cancel a planned performance at the Earth Day Network & Green Apple Festival concert in Washington, D.C.

But Sparks, who is under a doctor's care, is expected to rejoin Keys' tour in May or perhaps sooner if she progresses, the label said.

"Jordin Sparks is on vocal rest and is expected to make a full and complete recovery," according to a statement from 19/Jive Records. "Sparks has been going nonstop over the past two years and now she's going through the normal course of learning how to manage and care for her voice."

Sparks was the youngest winner of "American Idol" when she won the talent competition last year. She released her self-titled debut album late last year.

A friendly match



KATHY WILLENS/*AP*

Tennis player Maria Sharapova complains about the tennis ability of her opponents, "Late Show With David Letterman" host David Letterman and actor Billy Crystal as the trio taped a segment outside the show's studios in New York on Monday.

Hasselhoff in hospital

LOS ANGELES — The Hoff's hospitalized.

Former "Baywatch" star David Hasselhoff was taken to the University of California, Los Angeles Medical Center on Saturday to have something removed above his eye, his publicist, Judy Katz, told The Associated Press Monday.

"He's fine, he had something removed, he's coming out tonight," Katz said, declining to elaborate on what was removed.

Rumors that Hasselhoff checked into rehab were not true, Katz said.

Hasselhoff, 55, was treated in a hospital for alcoholism in October.

Court documents released last week show Hasselhoff's divorce settlement calls for him to pay $25,000 a month to support ex-wife Pamela Bach and their two teenage daughters. Bach and Hasselhoff share joint custody. They were married in 1989 and divorced in 2006.

Birthdays

Actor, Jack Nicholson is 71. Filmmaker John Waters is 62. Rock musician Peter Frampton is 58.

Quote of the day

"All our knowledge begins with the senses, proceeds then to the understanding, and ends with reason."

– Immanuel Kant

Fact of the day

The Army-McCarthy hearings were the first nationally televised congressional inquiry.

Number of the day

69,898 — approximate area (in square miles) of the state of Oklahoma.

Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Tribland

The following couples recently applied for marriage licenses at the Adams County Clerk's Office: Tom J. Halstrom and Alicia R. Cramer, both of Grand Island; Matthew James Belville and Faith Angela Senff, both of Gibbon; Robert Edward Simmons and Kylee Jo Terwey, Kevin DeWayne Boyd and Tera Ann Montey, Jason Scott Hissong and Summer Ann Crosby, and Brandon Lee Pracht and Jessica Rae Fesuluai, all of Hastings.

Webkinz Extravaganza April 25 to 27, Allen's Toy Department. Free Webkinz with $10 toy purchase. Join us Saturday from 2:00 to 4:00 for games and prizes. While supplies last. -Adv.

Kalena M. Lee of 206 N. Eastside Blvd. reported Saturday that her vehicle was damaged at her residence.

Knights of Columbus stag Thursday, May 1, serving barbecue ribs and lamb fries 6:00 to 8:00; $9.00. All welcome, no membership. -Adv.

It was reported Saturday that a gift card owned by Menards, 3400 Osborne Drive East, was stolen from the store.

$1.00 Longnecks every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 5:00 to close at Hastings Keno. -Adv.

It was reported Saturday that a purse owned by Linda A. Baker of 1906 W. Boyce St. was taken from 1115 W. Second St.

$700 Reward! Lost near Pauline...two German Wirehairs, 4-years-old male, female...one blondish, one black and grayish, bobbed tails. 402-463-5359, cell. -Adv.

St. Michael's salad luncheon, Monday, May 5, 11:00 to 1:30. -Adv.

A parked vehicle owned by Chance G. Wilhelms of Blue Hill was reportedly struck Saturday by a hit-and-run driver on Ninth Street near Pine Avenue.

Attention residents of Adams County: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day Saturday, April 26, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Fairgrounds. 463-0705, Hastings Solid Waste Facility. -Adv.

Vehicles reportedly driven by Sean M. Wigert of 807 E. Fifth St. and Michael A. Darling of 1701 W. Sixth St. collided Saturday on North Shore Drive and South Shore Drive.

Big G ACE plant tent open Mondays thru Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sundays 9:00 to 6:00...locally grown. -Adv.

Vehicles reportedly driven by Jennifer D. Koehler of Fairfield and Leroy D. Hinz of Nelson collided Friday at 3803 Osborne Drive West.

VFW Wednesday hamburgers, hotdogs and more! -Adv.

Vehicles reportedly driven by Rebecca L. Delashmutt of 106 E. South St. and Marisa J. Cardenas of 2305 W. Seventh St. collided Friday on Burlington Avenue near E Street.

Clocks and watches of all types cleaned and repaired. Authorized service center. Will pick up and deliver. 308-832-0671. -Adv.

A vehicle reportedly driven by Kayla M. Cusatis of 702 S. Boston Ave. No. 43 Friday struck a parked vehicle owned by Jacob M. Thompson of 5465 W. Valley Road on Sixth Street near Pine Avenue.

May Baskets available at Allen's Hallmark Department. -Adv.

Vehicles reportedly driven by Nhan Nguyen of 2321 W. Seventh St. and Jeffrey A. Davis of 2705 W. Seventh St. collided Saturday at Laird Avenue and Bateman Street. Nguyen, 17, was treated and released at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital.

Eagles, Wednesday, taco night, 6:00 p.m. All welcome. -Adv.

Vehicles reportedly driven by Joel J. Pedroza of 606 S. Hastings Ave. and Leland E. Mitchell of 714 S. Lincoln Ave. collided Friday at South Street and Lincoln Avenue.

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

Ronald G. Vacek of 823 N. Second Ave. reported Friday that his vehicle was damaged in the 800 block of North Second Avenue.

Happy hour all day Wednesdays at DAV. All welcome. -Adv.

Melissa L. Carman of 508 W. H St. reported Friday that cash was taken from her vehicle at her residence.

Hastings Tribune Classified ads and much more now on our website Free! www.hastingstribune.com Click Encore. -Adv.

A parked vehicle owned by Amber L. Patterson of 825 N. Hewett Ave. was reportedly struck Friday by a hit-and-run driver on Hewett Avenue near Ninth Street.

We buy your old gold. Imperial Jewelers, downtown Hastings, 722 West 2nd, 463-3744. -Adv.

Deanna L. Johnson of 2830 N. Wendell Drive reported Friday that her cell phone was taken from 810 Maplewood Ave.

It was reported Friday that an unknown motorist left Uncle Neal's Country Convenience Store, 202 E. Second St., without paying for $33 in fuel.

Seiler & Parker, P.C., L.L.O., Law Firm seeks paralegal/legal secretary. See classifieds. -Adv.

Shannon Samuelson Law Office now open. 402-463-0535. -Adv.

Two weeks left for Mohawk's Spring Sale. Bohrers Floors, 827 West 1st, Hastings. -Adv.

Ty Girlz interactive dolls...buy one get one free! Allen's Toy Department. -Adv.

Nicole R. Wharton of 1617 W. Bateman St. reported Friday that her residence was damaged.

Smoke-free bingo, Knights of Columbus, Wednesday, 7:00; two pigs, $300 and $400. -Adv.

Chihuahua and cocker pups, live bait. Dan's Pet Palace. -Adv.

Area funerals

Wednesday, April 23

◆ **Wilma Griffith**, 93, of Carleton, 10:30 a.m. at Bethel Church of The Brethren in Carleton.

◆ **Florence McKee**, 104, of Lakewood, Colo., 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Franklin.

◆ **Gary Struss**, 57, of Hastings, 2 p.m. at Brand-Wilson Funeral Home chapel in Hastings.

◆ **Roberta Woolston**, 88, of Hebron, 1 p.m. at First Christian Church in Hebron.

Thursday, April 24

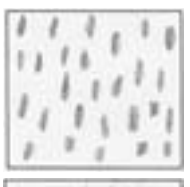
◆ **Evelyn Anderson**, 88, of Minden, 11 a.m. at Minden Cemetery in Minden.

Tribland five-day forecast

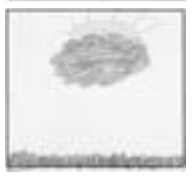
Art by Joe Harwick, 11, St. Michael's Elementary



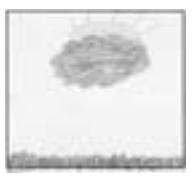
Sunny Today
High: 70 **Low:** 45
Wind: North 10-15
Winds changing to southeast at night.



Rainy Wednesday
High: 68 **Low:** 55
A 40 percent chance of showers in afternoon, increasing to 60 percent at night.



Partly cloudy Thursday
High: 75 **Low:** 48
A 30-percent chance of showers all day.



Partly cloudy Friday
High: 62 **Low:** 42
Cooler as thunderstorms clear off in the morning.



Sunny Saturday
High: 68 **Low:** 43
A 20 percent chance of showers at night through Sunday.

Today's weather records

High: 96 in 1989
Low: 26 in 1951

Local weather

◆ **From 7 a.m. April 21 to 7 a.m. April 22**

High Monday	65	April precipitation	2.75
High in 2007	79	April 2007 precipitation	.33
Overnight low	34	Year to date precipitation	5.08
Overnight low in 2007	59	Jan. to April '07 precipitation	4.10
Precipitation last 24 hours	0.00		



JEFF CHIU/*AP*

The price board of a Chevron gas station is shown in San Francisco, Monday. Rising gasoline prices tightened the squeeze on drivers Monday, jumping to an average $3.50 a gallon at filling stations across the country.

No Child Left Behind faces changes

NANCY ZUCKERBROD
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Unable to push education fixes through Congress, the Bush administration is taking its own pen to the No Child Left Behind law.

Education Secretary Margaret Spellings says she plans to make a host of changes to the education law through regulations being unveiled today.

Among the biggest changes will be a requirement that by the 2012-13 school year, all states must calculate their high school graduation rates in a uniform way.

States currently use all kinds of methods to determine their graduation rates, many of which are based on unreliable information about school dropouts, leading to overestimates.

States will be told to count graduates, in most cases, as students who leave on time and with a regular degree. Research indicates students who take extra time or get alternatives to diplomas, such as a GED, generally don't do as well in college or the work force.

While states will no longer be able to use their own methods for calculating grad rates, they will still be able set their own goals for getting more students to graduate. Critics say that allows states to set weak improvement goals.

The six-year-old education law is President Bush's signature domestic policy initiative. The law requires testing in reading and math in grades three through eight and once in high school. The stated goal is to get all kids working at grade level by 2013-14.

Lawmakers recently tried but were unable to pass an updated version of the law due to disagreements over how to judge schools and teachers, among other things. Without a renewal, the existing law stands.

Spellings has been taking steps in recent months to make changes from her perch. However, the proposed regulations amount to the most comprehensive set of administrative changes she has sought so far.

"The Congress, I guess because of the political and legislative climate, has not been able to get a reauthorization under way this year," Spellings said in an interview. "I know that schools and students need help now, and we are prepared to act administratively."

The regulations call for a federal review of every state policy regarding the exclusion of test scores of students in racial groups deemed too small to be statistically significant or so small that student privacy could be jeopardized. Critics say too many kids' scores are being left aside under these policies.

The regulations also call for school districts to demonstrate that they are doing all they can to notify parents of low-income students in struggling schools that free tutoring is available. If the districts fail to do that, their ability to spend federal funds could be limited under the proposal. The department estimates only 14 percent of eligible students receive tutoring available to them.

An even smaller percentage of kids who are allowed to transfer to higher-performing schools make that switch, in part because they aren't always informed of vacancies on time. The regulations require schools to publicize open spots at least 14 days before school starts.

The administration's proposal also would tighten the rules around the corrective steps schools must take once they've failed to hit progress goals for many consecutive years.

The administration is seeking public comments before finalizing the regulations in the fall.

Regulations can be overturned by a new administration. Spellings said that's unlikely in this case, because the rules she is proposing have widespread support. She said she hoped the ideas would help shape the legislative debate on Capitol Hill whenever the law is revisited there.

"I think these things will help the law work better in the field ... and I think they are ways for the Congress to have a good jumping-off place when they start on their work," she said.

Drivers feeling gas squeeze

ADAM SCHRECK
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Cabbies here complain their take-home pay is thinner than it used to be. Trucking companies across the country are making drivers slow down to conserve fuel. Filling station owners plead that really, really, the skyrocketing prices aren't their fault.

And the rest of us? With gas prices now averaging $3.50 a gallon nationwide, according to AAA and the Oil Price Information Service, more and more Americans who have to drive are weighing the need for each and every trip.

"To get to the doctors and all that, it's an awful lot of money," said Carol Licata, a 75-year-old retiree from Arnold, Pa., who said a larger portion of her fixed income is now going toward gas. "I don't drive that often, but have to take necessary trips ... and (gas) takes a big chunk out of our budget."

Some would-be drivers are considering less energy-dependent alternatives simply for money's sake.

In Los Angeles, for example, fiction writer Brian Edwards sold his gas-guzzling Ford truck and now relies on his skateboard or the bus to get around. Sharon Cooper of Chicago, meanwhile, said she is planning to buy a bicycle to use on her 2 1/2-mile commute to work.

And everyone, it seems, is more than willing to join in the griping.

"It's hell," said legal aide Zebib Yemane, who spent $5 on gas for her Chevy compact at a 76 station in downtown Los Angeles just so she could make it to a cheaper gas station east of the area.

"When going downhill, I used to step on the gas. Now I don't," said Yemane, who said she normally spends $80 a week on fuel and asks people for rides and takes the bus to save money.

"Bottom line, we can't afford it no more, man. It's too much," Bak Zoumane said as he filled up his yellow cab at a BP station in midtown New York. The West African immigrant said his next car will likely be a hybrid so he won't have to pay so much at the pump.

Gasoline prices typically rise in the spring as stations switch over to pricier summer-grade fuel and demand picks up as more travelers take to the road.

But this year prices are rising even faster than normal, experts say, because of the massive jump in benchmark crude prices, which spiked to a record $117.76 a barrel Monday before settling a record settlement price of $117.48 on the New York Mercantile Exchange, up 79 cents from the previous close. It was the sixth day in a row prices set new records.

Those soaring prices are putting added strain on refiners and filling-station operators, which are struggling to pass the higher feedstock costs onto consumers. So even as drivers pay more, retailers — the most public face of the oil business — are getting increasingly squeezed.

"The farther you get from the wellhead, the greater the misery," said Tom Kloza of the Oil Price Information Service in Wall, N.J. "There's a lot of stations across the country that are literally on the brink of bankruptcy."

Rice: Carter warned not to talk to Hamas

ANNE GEARAN
The Associated Press

KUWAIT CITY — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said today the Bush administration explicitly warned former President Jimmy Carter against meeting with members of Hamas, the Palestinian faction that controls the Gaza Strip and which is regarded by the U.S. as a terror group.

Rice, attending a regional meeting on Iraq's security and future, contradicted Carter's assertions that he never got a clear signal from the State Department. Rice told reporters that the U.S. thought the visit could confuse the message that the U.S. will not deal with Hamas.

"I just don't want there to be any confusion," Rice said. "The United States is not going to deal with Hamas and we had certainly told President Carter that we did not think meeting with Hamas was going to help" further a political settlement between Israel and the Palestinians.

Carter said top Hamas leaders told him during seven hours of talks in Damascus over the weekend that they are willing to live next to Israel, but a top Hamas official said the group would never outright recognize the Jewish state.

Separately today, a Hamas official said the militant group has softened its demands for a cease-fire with Israel.

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If you don't win keep on counting

Scripps Howard News Service

The Zimbabwe Electoral Commission says it needs more time to recount the results of 23 parliamentary seats from the March 29 election. Meanwhile, the commission says it is not ready to announce the results of the presidential election.

You don't have to be a political science major or even a particularly corrupt ward boss to know what's going on here. Autocratic President Robert Mugabe almost certainly lost the parliamentary vote and very likely lost the presidential election. But he's going to keep the commission counting and recounting until he wins.

The results will be hopelessly tainted and no one will credit the outcome except for diehard Mugabe supporters desperate to keep their place at the public trough. Mugabe will explode in anger and he will unleash the security forces on the opposition as indeed he has been doing throughout the election cycle.

Zimbabweans have been fleeing their economically ruined country in droves to South Africa bringing with them credible reports of Mugabe's thugs sweeping the countryside beating and terrorizing opposition supporters.

The opposition party, the Movement for Democratic Change, says 10 of its members have been killed, 500 injured, 400 arrested and 3,000 families displaced, mostly when roving gangs burned their homes. The party's leader, Morgan Tsvangirai, has taken refuge in South Africa. He came close to beating Mugabe in 2002 and may have done so except for government cheating and intimidation.

Former U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, who brokered the settlement of a contested election in Kenya, asked almost plaintively, "Where are the Africans? Where are the leaders and the countries in the region? What are they doing? How can they help resolve the situation?"

Zimbabwe's neighbors clearly want to see Mugabe leave office peaceably with one exception, South African President Thabo Mbeki who has uncritically supported Mugabe while the aging strongman systematically destroyed one of the most prosperous nations in Africa.

Mugabe remains a hero to Mbeki for his role in the long guerrilla war that eventually forced the white minority government to cede power. But that was 28 years ago and Mugabe, at 84, has become just one more in a long, depressing line of corrupt African tyrants.

Voice of the People

YMCA RESTRUCTURING

I was shocked and saddened to read the article about Terry Shuck and the YMCA parting ways (Hastings Tribune, April 18).

When I think of the YMCA, I think of Terry. For me, he's the face of the Y. All of my dealings with him over the past three years have been very positive. He has been helpful, friendly and professional. He's everywhere — visible and involved. He's caring about his job, doing it well, practicing what he preaches.

Now, after 15 years of dedicated service, he's been restructured out. What a terrible way to treat someone.

I don't know the ins and outs of what happened, but I cannot imagine the YMCA without him. I'm sure it will suffer.

Please bring Terry back!

Kathy Rysiew
Hastings



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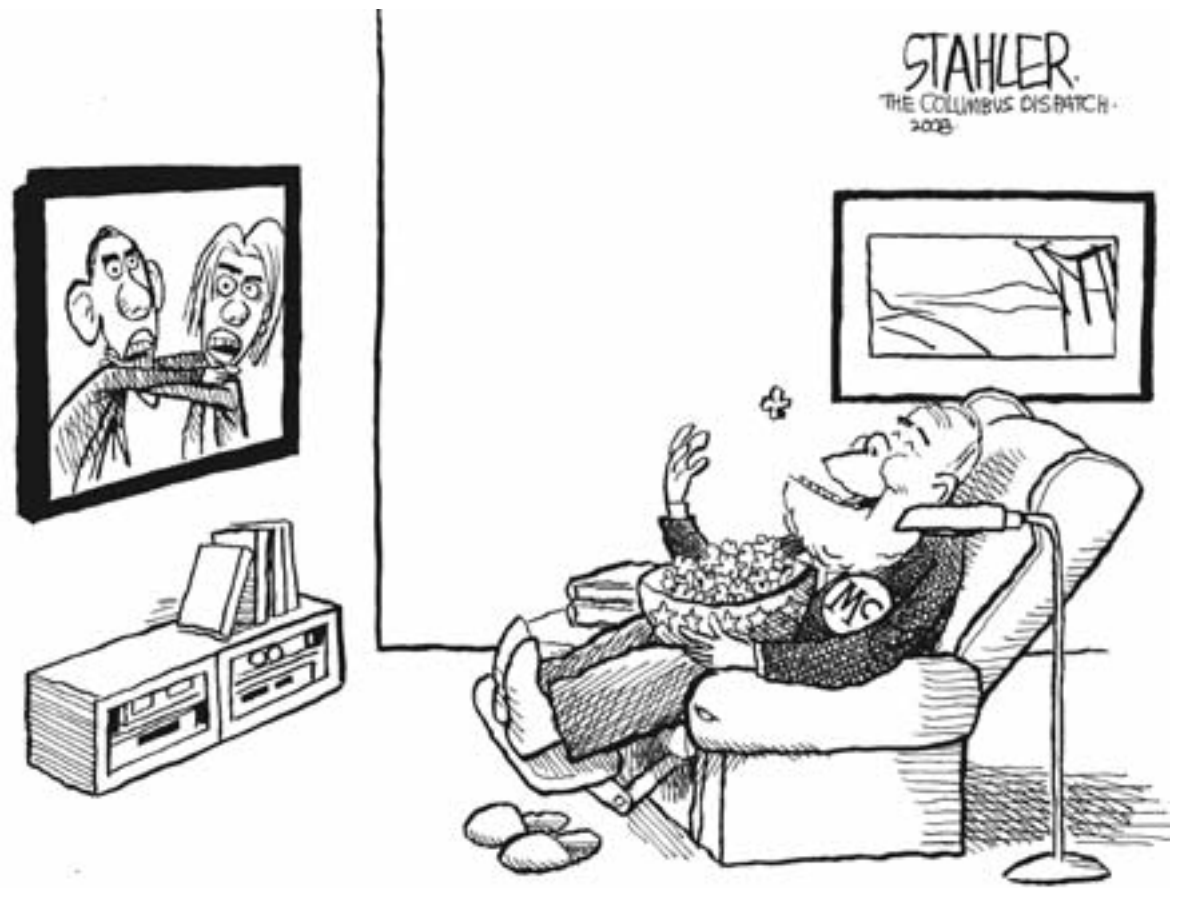
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Yesterday

2007 — Racers from across the state gathered at Motorsport Park Hastings for the first solo event since the park opened in the fall of 2005.

1998 — The Hastings Noon and Sunrise Rotary Clubs and the Hastings Noon Serotoma Club were committed to raising funds to help with the renovation of the City Auditorium.

1988 — A triptych by local artist LaDell Stonecipher was unveiled as part of the centennial anniversary of the Hastings Regional Center.

1978 — Deborah Hardin Quirk won the first Individual Development Program Speakoff at the Nebraska Business and Professional Women's Club convention.

Doctor's orders: Decide Democrats



Clarence Page

Physician Howard Dean is wrestling with every doctor's nightmare: a patient who has cold feet about taking his advice. The Democratic National Committee chairman's patient is his party, particularly its superdelegates, who appear destined to be the tie-breaking deciders in the quest by Sens. Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama for the party's presidential nomination.

Superdelegates are the party leaders and elected officials who are not pledged as a result of the primaries or caucuses to vote for a particular candidate. About 320 of them, 35 percent of the total delegate count, still were uncommitted, Dean said, and he wanted them to make up their minds by the final primaries on June 3.

"I need them to say who they're for, starting now," Dean told CNN's Wolf Blitzer after Clinton and Obama debated in Philadelphia. The party "cannot give up three months of campaigning and active healing time," he said.

That's what is expected to happen if the primaries and caucuses have not chosen enough pledged delegates for either Clinton or Obama to clinch the nomination. The decision would go to the full Democratic National Convention in late August. That's a delight for journalists because it means real news would break out.

And that's a horror for the party, which would rather have a nice, well-staged pageant of unity than actual debates, arguments and all-night food fights beneath the unblinking gaze of heat-seeking media.

Enough, says Dean. It's time for that drama to end. Now.

But, is anyone listening? The longer the undecideds hold out, the more they matter to both campaigns, which actively are wooing them. Everyone loves to be wooed. But it is not good for the party's future. Democracy is good. Indecision is crippling and self-destructive.

Last week's debate in Philadelphia illustrated the problem. At a time when Democrats should be getting their message together to do battle with Sen. John McCain, the presumptive Republican nominee, their front-runners were stuck in another high-profile event that focused mercilessly on their weaknesses more than their strengths.

As numerous critics have noted, ABC's Charles Gibson and George Stephanopoulos spent too much of the debate's first hour on hot-button tabloid questions. But, in fairness to the moderators, that agenda was set largely by events.

Voters do need to hear more about how the candidates will deal with the Iraq war, our faltering economy, the mortgage crisis, national security, the weak dollar, rising oil prices, gaps in health care, student loans and taxes. But the big differences on these urgent issues are not between Clinton and Obama, but between each of them and McCain, who has enjoyed a free ride and a boost in his approval ratings during the prolonged Democratic slugfest. Frustration at being forced yet again to face each other in their 21st debate seemed to show in the faces of Clinton and Obama. They looked exhausted, bored and eager to debate McCain. But first they had to face yet another round of hot-button "character" questions, justified by the need of Democrats to assess their electability.

Obama seemed prepared to answer a new question on the character theme. How well did he know his Chicago neighbor and former fellow foundation board member William Ayers, the former member of the Weather Underground Organization, a violently radical 1960s and early-1970s group? Ayers, now a college professor and education consultant, has been a model citizen for more than 20 years. Yet, conservatives like Fox News Channel host Sean Hannity have been accusing Obama of an Ayers "relationship" for weeks as if Obama were a fellow bomber.

Obama noted that Ayers' bomb-making days occurred "when I was 8" and, for good measure, pointed out that President Bill Clinton had pardoned two other members of the Weather Underground. Score two for Obama.

But the debate scraped bottom when, before Obama was asked about gasoline prices or some other urgent issue, he was asked why he does not wear an American flag pin. Straight out of an Internet-based smear campaign against Obama, the question begs a larger question: Why does no one ever seem to ask Clinton or McCain why they don't wear flag pins?

But, as long as Democrats remain undecided as to who their nominee will be, the lingering electability question will continue to give undeserved significance to such emotionally-charged trivia. The superdelegates need to make their feelings known, sooner rather than later, for the good of their party. Campaigns lose when they're forced to put too much attention on themselves and too little on us, the voters.

Sometimes even superdelegates forget that.

Clarence Page is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

It can be little things that count most



Dan K. Thomasson

There are some inescapable axioms in presidential politics. Americans seldom choose a candidate perceived as too far right or too far left. Voters frequently cast their ballots for the "lesser of two evils." They generally are voting against rather than for and their first consideration always is economic even during an unpopular war. If the economy is booming, the party in power generally can count on retaining the White House.

There are, of course, exceptions to this last rule. Former Vice President Al Gore's ridiculous mismanagement of his 2000 campaign following a period of almost unprecedented economic growth is among the most notable.

But most prominent of political truisms is the one that states that as much as we would like the quadrennial exercise in selecting a leader to be about the pertinent issues of the day, it mainly is the small things that decide a candidate's fate.

Former Michigan Gov. George Romney lost the Republican nomination by misspeaking about being brainwashed about Vietnam. Sen. Edmund Muskie of Maine was forced out of the race for the Democratic nomination after appearing to cry during a press conference. Front running Gary Hart of Colorado lost his chance at the Democratic nomination because of a silly challenge to the press. President Ford's remark that he considered Poland a free country was key in his reelection loss to Jimmy Carter. Richard Nixon's five o'clock shadow cost him a crucial debate with John Kennedy. Carter's whining about a national malaise was a major factor in his defeat.

The list of those whose seemingly insignificant gaffes have undone campaigns is lengthy, stretching from the earliest days of the Republic. So there is no surprise that the "small stuff" has suddenly become increasingly relevant in the current campaign for the Democratic nomination.

As much as Sen. Barack Obama would like it not to be, this race could turn on questions about his patriotism as represented by his failure to wear a flag button in his lapel; his pastor's anti-American diatribes; his wife's stated disdain for her country (until he began to run for the Senate and then the presidency); his remarks in San Francisco about the values of small town Pennsylvanians that have led to charges of elitism and his associations with former violent Vietnam War protestors, even though they have been leading quiet, productive lives for decades.

At the same time, Sen. Hillary Clinton, who has moved quickly to take advantage of Obama's vulnerability, has her own "I wish I hadn't said that" problems, including the mistake that haunts her most — a false claim that she was under fire during a visit to Bosnia as first lady. She has admitted her misstatement and apologized several times, but the allegation of untruthfulness and untrustworthiness keeps rising from the incident, and her opponent is not about to let her forget it.

The two moderators of the recent Clinton-Obama debate, ABC's Charles Gibson and George Stephanopoulos, have been roundly criticized for pandering to the sensational and unfairly questioning Obama about such triviality — at least as he sees it — while doing far less to Clinton. Caught off guard, Obama quickly tried to make the two newsmen the issue following the debate. In reality, both men were doing their jobs, asking questions a growing number of voters see as important to determining the real character of those running for the nation's highest office.

Would the moderators have done better to concentrate solely on health care, education, Iraq, immigration and so forth? Maybe. But the last half of the show given over to those problems produced little of interest and none of the lively sparks that marked the first half. Besides, the candidates are monotonously similar in their positions, all of which have been thoroughly argued during the last 15 months.

Obama seems not to understand that despite his almost rock star charisma, brilliance on his feet and boyish sincerity, few people know who he really is or much about him beyond the bare essentials. He has been on the public scene such a miniscule time that there is little information available to define his true character, certainly not enough to take a chance solely on the promise of change. Clinton on the other hand has been examined from all angles for the last 16 years. There are few mysteries there.

The little things then that may offer a clue to the real person, while they may seem irrelevant and unfair, in reality are extremely important at such a crucial time.

Dan K. Thomasson writes a column for Scripps Howard News Service.

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Local

STUDENT PROTEST

HASTINGS — Hastings College students are among those making a statement about their right to bear arms — and they say that includes on college campuses.

Three Hastings College students wore empty holsters to class on Monday in an attempt to get lawmakers to allow concealed guns on campus.

The three are members of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus. The movement began following the Virginia Tech shooting a year ago that left 33 people dead.

They do not think concealed weapons should be banned on college campuses.

Hastings College group leader Jamie Brisbin says the protest was intended to show fellow students that they are defenseless against an attack.

Nebraska is one of 29 states that prohibits concealed weapons on college campuses.

State

CHILD HIT WITH PIPE

OMAHA — Forensic experts testified that Amber Harris likely died from massive blows to the head, possibly caused by a 2-inch pipe.

A video of the 12-year-old's remains shown Monday during the murder trial of Roy Ellis Jr. showed a sizable hole in her skull.

Forensic scientists told jurors that Amber was hit two or three times, but one blow was probably enough to kill her.

Amber was last seen getting off her school bus in November 2005. Her remains were found six months later in a city park.

Ellis is charged with first-degree murder in Amber's death. Police have said DNA evidence from the girl's bookbag connects him to the crime.

Also testifying Monday, as the trial entered its second week, were the two men who found Amber's remains. They say they were investigating paranormal activity in the park and found a skull in a wooded area.

INCEST SENTENCE

COLUMBUS — A 37-year-old Columbus man who pleaded guilty to attempted incest has been given three to five years in prison.

Authorities say the man's 31-year-old sister reported that he had drugged her with prescription sleeping pills and raped her.

The Associated Press is not using his name in order to protect his sister's identity.

Judge Robert Steinke of Platte County District Court says he followed sentencing recommendations from attorneys on both sides.

As part of an agreement with Platte County prosecutors, the man also pleaded no contest to a charge of making terroristic threats. In return, a charge of first-degree sexual assault was dropped.

The Associated Press

Calendar

HASTINGS

◆ **DivorceCare Support Group**, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, First St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

◆ **Narcotics Anonymous**, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, 401 N. Lincoln Ave.

◆ **Gamblers Anonymous**, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital Education Building, Room D.

◆ **Parkinson's Support Group**, 2 p.m. Wednesday, First St. Paul's Lutheran Church Youth Center, 918 W. Fourth St. For more information, call 402-463-8081.

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

◆ **Al-Anon**, 8 p.m. Wednesday, First United Methodist Church.

Lotteries

WINNING NUMBERS

Monday

Nebraska Pick 5 . . . **14-18-28-33-35**
Jackpot: $74,000
Nebraska Pick 3 . . . . . **6-9-8**
2by2 . . . . . **Red 2-25, White 12-25**
Kansas Pick 3 . . . . . **7-3-5**
Super Kansas Cash . . **3-4-13-21-24**
Super Cashball 19

HPS board wrangles over air conditioning

MEMBERS QUESTION SPENDING $90K ON UNITS

CHARIS UBBEN
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Monday's vote of the Hastings Public Schools Board of Education over bids to install air-conditioning units in the Longfellow cafeteria and Morton gymnasium and an air-handling unit in the Hastings Senior High band room provoked discussion about when to start the school year.

During the regular monthly board meeting, board member Nicky Ockinga pointed out that more than $90,000 was going to be spent on the units.

She used the opportunity to remind the board that beginning school a week later could save the expense — or at least some wear and tear — on air conditioners.

"Air conditioners are expensive, and they break down," Ockinga said.

Parents and members of the community approached the board earlier in the meeting to complain about rising class sizes, particularly in kindergarten through third grade. Ockinga noted that money to be spent on air conditioning units could instead be used to hire additional teachers.

Board member Jackie Maynard said she believes the schools would use their air-conditioning systems much more than one week at the beginning of the year, so starting a week earlier would not change too much.

Board member Chad Phinney reminded the board that HPS will start a week later than usual next year, moving in the direction that Ockinga and Boyd had indicated they wanted. The air conditioners should help with the heat in schools, Phinney said.

Board member Trish Boyd said that she would like to see students comfortable in school, but she sees a disconnect between installing the air conditioners and the board's February vote to begin school at its traditional time.

"We need to be a little bit more organized in the direction we want to go and stick to that direction," Boyd said.

Boyd agreed with Ockinga that, had the start been postponed, it would have saved some wear and tear on the air conditioners. She also noted that money formerly allocated for use only on buildings and sites items is now able to be spent elsewhere, because of a change in the district's policy on use of the cooperative fund.

Building and sites money is needed for the new middle school, she said.

"We need to be very careful about what we spend our money on in building and stes," Boyd said.

Board member Jessica Meeske

***Please see HPS**/page B1*



BRENT McCOWN/*Tribune*

Major James Clegern of Offut Air Force Base helps Longfellow fourth-grader Peyton Ford shoot off a rocket Monday at Hastings College.

'Rocket Man' brings space to Earth

LONGFELLOW STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT SATELLITES, ROCKETS, MOONS

CHARIS UBBEN
cubben@hastingstribune.com

"Rocket Man" Major James Clegern of Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha told Longellow fourth- and sixth-graders Monday that they have their own link to outer space.

"You are holding in your hand a communication device that is speaking to satellites as we speak!," he said.

Clegern was talking about cell phones, which he explained shoot their signal to a cell tower, which, for long-distance calls, relays it to a station, which bounces it off a satellite, which shoots it to the recipient.

"You may not realize it, but you use space stuff every single day," he said.

Clegern was teaching Longfellow students about the space program Monday in a session in the Wilson Auditorium at Hastings College. Clegern had filled the front of the room with posters of shuttles, a space suit and pictures of the International Space Station. A small, yellow rocket and a slender, 4-foot-high blue one were close at hand.

Clegern earned his title of Rocket Man for his presentation called "Space and Rocketry" that he has given over the last 15 years to students of various grade levels. About 60 Longfellow students attended the session Monday.

He started out by asking students what they would do in outer space. One fourth-grader responded that she would "jump around a lot," leading to a discussion of the gravity differences between Earth and its moon.

The Rocket Man created an interactive environment for students, gathering their input and rewarding answers with space-themed rulers and large stickers. He asked students what tools or ingredients would be necessary for a successful space station and they offered guesses like oxygen, a first aid station and a bathroom. Clergern said that several space station designers have left out that all-important bathroom on past designs.

Sixth-grader Nicholas Shaffer said later that he was interested in learning about the space station.

"It was built piece by piece," Shaffer said.

Clegern also threw in fun facts for students, like telling them that astronauts can get tired of eating cafeteria food on the space station.

"Did you know that, just a few years ago, they made a special delivery of Pizza Hut pizza to the space station?" he asked.

The discussion moved on to satellites and analyzed a photograph that was dark with little white dots in several places. Students made observations of the photo, mentioning that it had been taken at night, that it was of the United States and that the white dots were lights in U.S. cities. Answering Clegern's questions, they noted the photo showed a higher population in the East Coast than in the West and that, by taking a series of similar photographs over time, changes in the location and density of lights could show where U.S. population had changed.

"Folks get paid a lot of money to do what you all just did here in the last five minutes," Clegern said.

Discussion then moved to rockets, Clegern's specialty. He told students that

***Please see ROCKETS**/page B1*



BRENT McCOWN/*Tribune*

Major James Clegern of Offut Air Force Base points out the rocket boosters on the space shuttle during a presentation to Longfellow students Monday.

Wallace student's poster to become billboard

CHARIS UBBEN
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Wallace fourth-grader Samantha Granstrom was grinning Monday when she learned that her poster created for a local contest would soon be covering a Hastings billboard.

"I think it's so cool that it's going to be big and on display for the whole town!" Granstrom said.

The poster depicts in vibrant colors a family taking a walk together. It was drawn for the "Fun with My Family" poster contest sponsored by the All Of The Pieces Council, a partnership effort by the United Way, Crossroads Center and Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital.

The AOTPC is a subdivision of the South Central Partnership and works to prevent child abuse and make people aware of its existence.

The organization's poster contest was new this year and made possible by an $885 grant from the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation as part of its "Re-Think Your Reaction" campaign. This campaign makes the point that bad reactions leading to abuse can be the result of high stress levels in parents.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, AOTPC members said, and the poster contest was to encourage awareness of child abuse. Students were asked to draw an activity that families could do together.

Students in the fourth and fifth grades enrolled at all Adams, Clay and Webster County schools — the counties the council covers — were invited to participate.

At Wallace, Ashley Petr, Megan Petr, Eliza Donley and Becky Rose, all fourth graders, also were honored for their posters. Other poster scenes included families fishing, picking corn and playing Monopoly together.

"We had our strongest response from this school," AOTPC member Chris Junker said.

Each of the girls received a gift bag of prizes donated by area agencies and businesses. These included games, gift certificates for restaurants and other items.

"The package will have something fun to do with your family," AOTPC member Susan Danehey told winners.

Council member Barbara Frei, of Crossroads, also told all Wallace students that they would be receiving a pinwheel at the end of the school day. The wheels were part of the "Winds of Change" campaign to cultivate awareness of child abuse. Frei asked students to plant the pinwheels in their front yards or gardens as a reminder for the community.

Granstrom's poster will be placed on a billboard in Hastings soon. Location is not yet known.

HU raises concerns about addition

PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVES THREE LOTS

SHAY BURK
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The Hastings Planning Commission gave its approval to a three-lot addition in north Hastings Monday, despite concerns from Hastings Utilities.

There were a total of five applications related to Lots 1, 2 and 3 of the Prairie Hills Addition, to be located at the intersection of 33rd and 35th streets.

HU Manager Marv Schultes told the commission that issues concerning the sewer line still were being debated between HU staff and developer Alan Anderson.

He said the flood plain and other issues have raised some conflicts as to where the line will be laid. For that reason, he asked that these agreements be approved contingent on an agreement being made regarding the utilities issue.

Board member Keith Napier said the Planning Commission's approval of this addition has nothing to do with the utilities. He said that is something to be left up to HU and the developer.

Besides, Napier said, the landowners wouldn't be able to secure building permits without assurance that utilities will reach all the lots.

Future landowner David Schram said he and the other landowners, Sean Daly and Tim Zimmerman, weren't planning to start building until there were paved roads and utilities to the area.

The commission unanimously recommended approval of the applications, including one to change the comprehensive plan designation to residential low-medium density and approve the preliminary/final plat for the proposed Prairie Hills Addition. The commission also recommended approval of applications to rezone the proposed Lots 1, 2 and 3 of Prairie Hills Addition from Agricultural to R-1 Single Family Residential District and bring the properties into the corporate limits of the city. All applications must go to the Hastings City Council for final approval.

At the meeting, the commission also:

◆ Unanimously recommended approval of an application to rezone the entire block between First and Second streets and Burlington and Lexington avenues from I-1 Light Industrial to C-2 Central Business District.

◆ Unanimously recommended approval of the request of the Community Redevelopment Authority for addition of three areas to the city's Blight and Substandard Determination Study. Those areas include land between Burlington and Bellevue avenues from B to F streets; the residential neighborhood between Third and Sixth streets from just east of Eastside Boulevard to California Avenue; and Good Samaritan Village and adjacent mobile home parks and highway commercial areas.

◆ Unanimously recommended approval of the application of Prairie Loft Center for Outdoor and Agricultural Learning for a conditional use permit for outdoor and agricultural education including the harboring of animals.

State

SOLDIER STALKED WIFE

OMAHA — A judge has refused to reduce bail for a 20-year-old solider accused of threatening to kill his wife.

Jason Talamantes was arrested earlier this month at the Omaha airport after arriving from service in Korea. He was arrested on outstanding warrants for intimidation, domestic assault and stalking charges.

Talamantes' attorney had asked the Douglas County judge to reduce Talamantes' bail from $200,000 to $10,000.

Talamantes' next court appearance is in May.

He is accused of asking his aunt to obtain a semiautomatic rifle and have someone kill his wife.

The Associated Press

Democrats leading fundraisers in state

AMONG PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDERS, DEMS OUTRAISE GOP IN NEBRASKA

ANNA JO BRATTON
The Associated Press

OMAHA — Democratic presidential candidates are still outraising Republicans in Nebraska, where February caucuses invigorated the state party and lifted hopes of competitive races in the fall.

Overall, Democratic presidential candidates had raised $625,285 in Nebraska by the end of March, compared with $426,467 for Republicans, according to the latest fundraising numbers from the Federal Election Commission.

"The Republicans have most always outraised us here, and they're not doing that," state Democratic Party Chairman Steve Achelpohl said Monday.

Democrat Barack Obama has taken in the most Nebraska cash — nearly $307,000 by the end of March. Obama and his wife, Michelle, visited Nebraska in February in the days leading up to the Democratic caucus, and his numbers were helped by a high-dollar August fundraiser hosted by billionaire investor Warren Buffett in Omaha.

Hillary Rodham Clinton raised more than $244,000, according to the FEC.

By comparison, Republican John McCain had raised more than $106,000 in the state, finally overtaking Mitt Romney and Rudy Giuliani, who have left the race.

Matt Miltenberger, executive director of the Nebraska GOP, said he expects McCain might come to Nebraska before the November election, which could boost fundraising efforts.

While McCain has the nomination wrapped up, "The Democrats are still fighting it out," Miltenberger said. "They need every last dime."

Nationally, Democratic presidential contenders had raised nearly $525 million by the end of March, while the Republicans totaled about $335 million.

Achelpohl said some limited polling has shown that Obama could be competitive in Nebraska, although no scientific polls have yet been reported. Achelpohl is a Democratic superdelegate who has endorsed Obama, as have four of the five other superdelegates.

At the February caucuses, Obama won 16 of Nebraska's 24 pledged delegates. Clinton won the remainder. Thousands of Democrats turned out for the first-ever events, overwhelming preparations in some counties.

Nebraska and Maine are the only states where electoral votes can be split between candidates. Three of Nebraska's five electoral votes are awarded to the candidate who wins the popular vote in each of the three congressional districts, and the other two go to the candidate who wins the state's overall popular vote.

If Obama won the popular vote in the more urban and diverse 2nd District, which includes Omaha, or in the 1st District, which includes the Lincoln and several universities, he could chip off one or two of the state's electoral votes.

But that would be unusual. The state's electoral votes have never been split, and the last Democrat to win the state vote was Lyndon Johnson in 1964.

Presidential candidates file fundraising reports throughout the election cycle, including one due monthly from now until November.

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Local

Taco soup

The Hastings College Peer HIV Education Organization is hosting a taco soup luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday at the college's Stone Health Center, 843 N. Turner Ave.

A freewill offering will be collected with proceeds for the Peace Corps HIV/AIDS prevention programs in Ghana, West Africa. Alex Peterson, formerly of Hastings, is in charge of the programs.

Garage sale

The Hastings Parks and Recreation Department's citywide garage sale will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 3 at the Hastings City Auditorium.

Tables are limited to the first 50 registrants.

Registration forms are available at the Parks and Recreation office at 310 E. D St., or www.cityofhastings.org/parks.

For information, call Jeff Hassenstab at 402-461-2324.

Region

Wine tasting

MINDEN — A special evening of entertainment will be uncorked here Saturday with a wine tasting and a musical program.

Beginning at 5 p.m., James Arthur Vineyards of Raymond will showcase its Nebraska wines along with hors d'oeuvres at the Minden Opera House. Those in attendance will receive a complimentary wine glass bearing the MOH logo.

Then, at 7:30 p.m., Pippa White will present "I Can't Give You Anything But Songs," a program on the life and works of Dorothy Fields.

White, a well-known performer from Lincoln, will be accompanied by Vincent T. Leonard, staff accompanist for the dance program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Reservations for the wine tasting and musical program may be made separately by calling MOH, 308-832-0588, or online at www.mindenoperahouse.com.

NAD tour

CLAY COUNTY — The Clay County Historical Society will sponsor a charter bus tour of the old Hastings Ammunition Depot Sunday.

Narrator for the tour will be Walt Miller of Hastings, who has worked for years to research the history of the NAD. Miller is a frequent lecturer on NAD history and is a member of the Adams County Historical Society board of directors.

The bus will leave the north side of the courthouse square in Clay Center at 2 p.m., and will pick up additional passengers at 2:30 p.m. at the historical marker denoting the old NAD main gate east of Hastings.

The bus will return to the NAD marker about 4:30 p.m. and be back in Clay Center at 5 p.m.

Advance registrations are required. For information, contact Ruth Nelson at 402-

Mariachi Luna y Sol to headline festival

Event to include games, food samples and dancing

JOHN HUTHMACHER
johnh@hastingstribune.com

South central Nebraskans will get a sampler of specialties inspired from South of the Border at the Dia de los Niños/Dia de los Libros festival event from 2-6 p.m. Sunday at the City Auditorium, 400 N. Hastings Ave.

Mariachi Luna y Sol, an Omaha-based Mariachi band, will headline the festival with a performance at 3 p.m. Also slated to appear are: Gongorian the Clown; 9-year-old singer Sebastian Aguilar and El Grupo de Mamas Saludables (Healthy Moms Group), who will dance the Zumba, an aerobic-type activity set to Latin music.

The multicultural, family-friendly event will include children's activity booths with crafts, games, and prizes; a library card sign-up; free book giveaway for children 12 and under; and traditional Hispanic foods for sampling. Families are encouraged to bring a dish to share.

"Basically, it's a day to celebrate children and literacy, or reading," said Kathryn Brockmeier, spokeswoman for the Hastings Public Library, which is one of the sponsors for the event. "The celebration borrows from the Latin and South American Holiday of Children which falls on April 30. Children's author Pat Mora expanded it to include the celebration of literacy in the U.S. beginning in 1997."

More than 500 people are expected to participate in the festival, which will include dancing to Mariachi Luna y Sol from 3-6 p.m. One of the only Latino groups to be nominated in 2006 and 2007 by the Omaha Entertainment Awards in the Live Music Category, the group currently is putting the finishing touches on a new album that features some of Omaha's best youth performers.

During the last few years, band members have studied with maestros from across the country — as well as Mexico — to improve their repertories and become better musicians. In 2007, the group assisted Mannheim Steamroller in a performance at the Qwest Center in Omaha.

"For myself, I don't think I've ever heard a good live Mariachi before," Brockmeier said. "It's difficult to get Mariachi to perform in central Nebraska. Bringing them to Hastings will be a treat, not only for those who are familiar with Mariachi, but for those who've never heard it before."

The festival marks the first-ever celebration of Dia de los Niños/Dia de los Libros in Adams County, Brockmeier said. Recent events centered on the celebration of the Children's Day/Book Day in Nebraska were hosted in Omaha and Lexington in 2007, Brockmeier said.

Andrea Leyva, entertainment chair for the event, first watched Mariachi Luna y Sol perform in Omaha at the Latino Congress event in November 2007. As one who grew up near the Mexican border between Odessa, Texas, and Mexico, she is particularly impressed by the group's authentic costumes and sound, she said.

"They are great," she said. "They are really authentic Mariachi."

Event sponsors are Hastings Public Library, Hastings Literacy Program, Head Start, Friends of Hastings Public Library, Hastings Police Department, Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce, Children and Adolescent Clinic P.C., and Wells Fargo. The Mariachi concert is sponsored by Wal-Mart Supercenter, Wells Fargo, KRGI-AM 1430 and McDonald's.

Nonprofit organizations and individuals are invited to run a game or activity booth at the festival. For information, visit the library's Web site at www.hastings.lib.ne.us/index.html or call 402-461-2346.

Nebraskans paying record $3.50 per gallon

The Associated Press

OMAHA — Although Nebraska drivers were paying a record average $3.50 a gallon for regular gas on Tuesday, that price was a penny cheaper than the national average — a record $3.51 a gallon.

The Nebraska record breaks the state mark set only a day earlier of $3.49 a gallon for regular, according to the AAA Daily Fuel Gauge Report.

A year ago, the average price for regular gas across the state was $2.84 a gallon.

The average diesel fuel price Tuesday was $4.12 a gallon, compared with $2.97 a year ago.

Nationally, diesel rose overnight to a record $4.20 a gallon.

U.S. gas prices are nearly 66 cents higher than last year, when prices peaked at a then-record of $3.23 in late May.

In spring, gas prices usually rise as companies switch to higher-priced summer-grade fuel and demand rises with vacation travel.

"As we get closer to the Memorial holiday, we normally see extra pressure on demand for more supplies," said Rose White of AAA Nebraska. "That may cause some increase, but right now it's all driven by the price of crude oil."

Gas prices in Nebraska

OMAHA— Average Tuesday prices for regular gas in Nebraska versus a year ago, by city:

City	Average	Year ago:
Columbus:	$3.459	$2.761
Grand Island:	$3.499	$2.849
Kearney:	$3.438	$2.785
Lincoln:	$3.536	$2.917
Norfolk:	$3.519	$2.756
North Platte:	$3.590	$2.908
Omaha:	$3.486	$2.793
Statewide:	$3.502	$2.836

Source: AAA Daily Fuel Gauge Report: http://www.fuelgaugereport.com

Oil prices hit a record $117.76 a barrel Monday before closing at a record $117.48 on the New York Mercantile Exchange — up 79 cents from the previous close. It was the sixth day in a row of record prices.

And on Tuesday morning, the May delivery price of light, sweet crude oil surged past $118 a barrel on the exchange.

Those soaring prices are straining refiners and fuel retailers, which struggle to pass the higher prices to consumers.

"The farther you get from the wellhead, the greater the misery," said Tom Kloza of the Oil Price Information Service in Wall, N.J.

White noted that in 2004, oil prices averaged $36 a barrel.

"Usually, with every $1 increase in crude oil prices, we can see retail gasoline prices rise at least 2 cents per gallon," White told The Grand Island Independent.

The United States and other countries have been pushing oil-rich nations to increase production as a way to meet demand and help lower prices.

On Tuesday, the secretary-general of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries announced that OPEC plans to boost production target capacity by 5 million barrels a day by 2012, spending $160 billion over the next four years.

The secretary-general, Abdalla Salem el-Badri, said a weak dollar and speculators share the blame for the recent surge in oil prices.

Economic developments in China, India and other countries have been raising demand on worldwide fuel supplies.

White said India and China are building new refineries and that, later this year, the U.S. may begin importing India's excess production and relieve demand-driven price pressures.

Police looking for woman

The Associated Press

BEATRICE — Gage County authorities continue to search for a 37-year-old woman who went missing last week.

Sheriff Millard Gustafson said in a statement issued Monday that his office is conducting a foot search of the rural area surrounding Ann Marie Kelley's home near Filley.

Kelley was last seen the morning of April 15 at her home. Her vehicle, a gray 1991 Plymouth Voyager with Nebraska registration 3-A8045, is also missing.

An aerial search was conducted Saturday, but Gustafson said there was no sign of Kelley.

Gustafson said deputies have received possible leads from police in Albion and Omaha, and they're investigating those tips.

Rockets: Students learn about space technology

Continued from page A5

inventors used Newton's laws to design the rocket, especially the third law that states that "every action has an equal and opposite reaction." Then Clegern asked students to guess the cost of the Saturn V rocket that launched U.S. astronauts on their mission to the moon. After seven guesses ranging from $100,000 to $700 million, they found the correct answer of $450 million.

Following a short lesson on launch safety, Clegern and the kids trekked across to a baseball field at the college to launch four rockets of their own. The launching gave students a way to see exactly what they had been learning about.

"We learned that small rockets are just the same as a big rocket," fourth-grader Erica Thompson said.

"I didn't know that rockets had parachutes," said Alex Kleinjan, also a fourth-grader.

Clegern was assisted on his launches by student launch and recovery teams, chosen randomly. One team captain was selected from each team by picking a number between one and 20. Brisk winds made each rocket launch an adventure and some students were surprised at what they saw and heard.

"I thought it would be a lot louder than it was," said fourth-grader Jasmine Einnell.

"I thought it was interesting that the rocket would go 250-400 feet in the air," Grace Hueske said. The fourth-grader added that she thought her class's rocket had soared at least that high.

Longfellow fourth-grade teacher Michelle Kerr noted that the time with Rocket Man was a great activity for the fourth-graders, who had been studying stars and constellations this winter. They had also received an e-mail from Nebraska astronaut Clayton Anderson while he was living on the space station and heard him speak at a Longfellow all-school assembly in March.

HPS: Board wrangles air conditioning, school start date

Continued from page A5

said she worried money spent on air conditioners now would be wasted if some sites need to be changed in the future.

Meeske asked when the Facilities Advisory Committee, a group overseeing the current facilities study, would be able to report to the board on which school buildings need to be repaired or changed.

"My concern is, spending money on that, two to three years down the road, we may not be using it," Meeske said.

Jim Heyen, board president, said money for the air conditioners was going directly to the welfare of students and therefore was worth the cost. If the district has money, he said, it wants to spend that money on its students.

When board members had finished giving input, Superintendent Craig Kautz reminded them that not all school buildings are created equal within the HPS district. Half of the buildings currently have air conditioning and half do not, he said.

Kautz told Meeske that at one point he, too, had wondered how long money should be invested in aging buildings.

"I think, as long as kids are in the building, you do have to keep investing in those buildings," Kautz said.

Kautz also noted that last year's community survey had made it clear that parents want air conditioning in schools more now than they had in the past. He also reminded the board that it had decided to install the units in past meetings and was only now being asked to accept bids for them.

Three votes on the separate air-conditioning and air-handling units passed, with seven in favor and one — Ockinga — against. Board member Pam Deal was absent.

Also at the meeting:

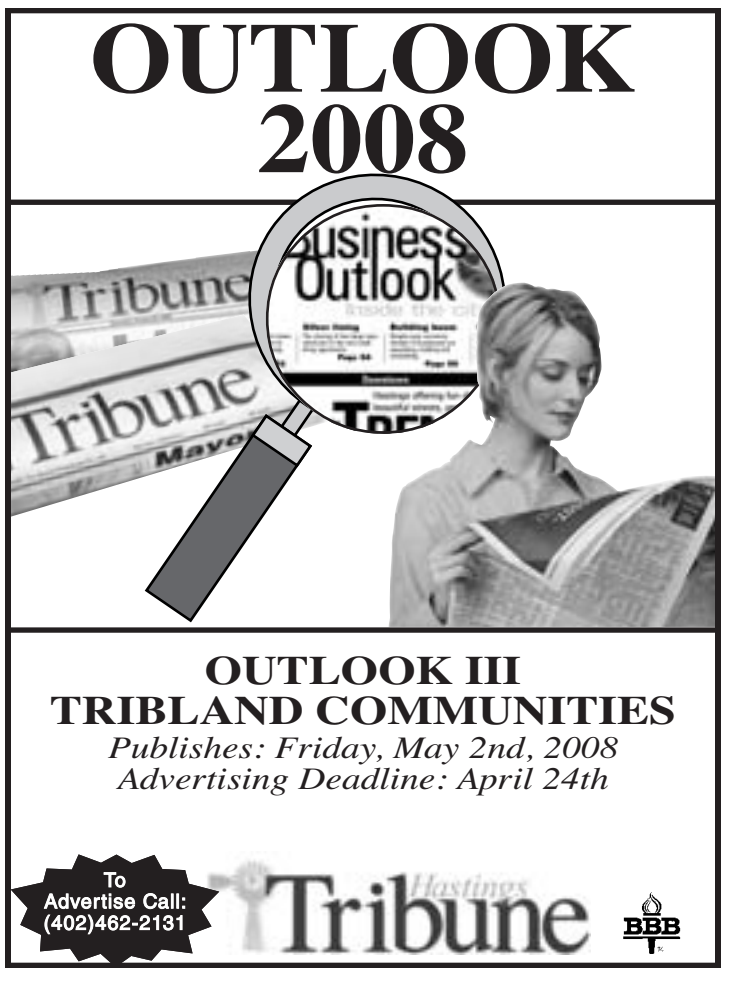
◆ Two parents of elementary school students urged the board to reduce class sizes, especially in the early elementary grades.

◆ Two community members told the board that they would not want it to fund a middle school busing program.

◆ Fourteen HPS staff members were presented certificates to commemorate their nomination for 2008 Educator of the Year by George White of the Hastings Scottish Rite of Free Masonry.

◆ The board increased the superintendent's salary for the 2008-09 school year to $151,925, up from $147,500. Board president Jim Heyen noted that the board has been pleased with Kautz's work as superintendent over the past year.









BRENT McCOWN/*Tribune*

Head dispatcher John O'Neill (center) of Grand Island gets train positions from roaming dispatcher Jim Wells who gets them from passenger train engineer Richard King of Grand Island during a model train simulation Monday night.

Hobby: Tri-Cities men have love for trains

Continued from page A1

Over time, Mullins has shared his love of model trains with others.

Last summer, Mullins and about five other members of the Tri-City Model Railroad Association came together to earn their master model railroader certification from the National Model Railroad Association.

The national association brings together model railroad enthusiasts from across the country to promote the development and enjoyment of the hobby. The master railroader title is a distinction that can only be earned by those that have obtained at least seven of the eleven achievement certificates through the building and operating of a model railroad.

In all, the group worked more than 50 hours meeting in Mullins' basement each Monday for four months to serve the various positions as dispatcher, roaming dispatcher, yardmaster and engineer in order to earn the master railroader distinction.

On Monday, about a dozen enthusiasts met to hold a two-hour simulation just for fun.

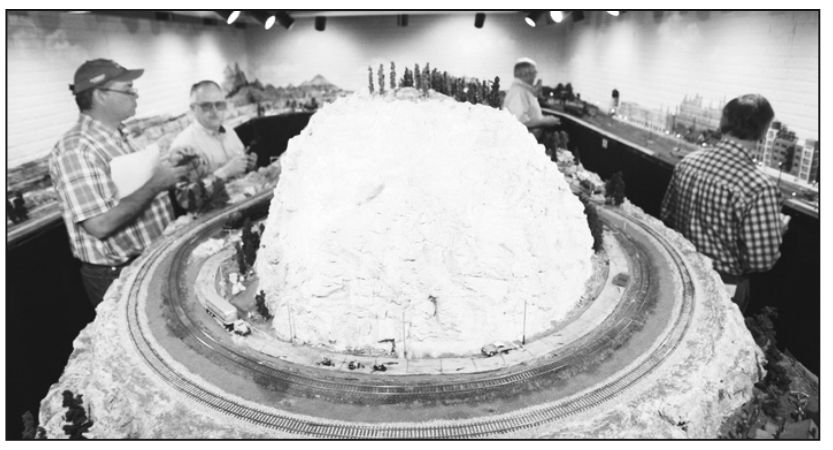
"It's fun just to be together. We have a lot of camaraderie," said John O'Neill, the head dispatcher for the event. "We learn things from each other. It's also a chance to use some of your modeling skills."

As the dispatcher, O'Neill, who lives in Grand Island, has many very important jobs, with the first being to keep all the trains in line and prevent any collisions.

"It's a dispatcher's job to control the train traffic," O'Neill said. "You tell people when they can make movements, stop when appropriate and keep the higher priority trains moving on schedule."

While these trains are much smaller than the real thing, O'Neill said they try to run these simulations using the same rules as the real trains of the time. This model railroad is based in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

"We try to do it like the real railroads do it," Malmkar said. "So there can be a lot of learning. There's rules tests and everything."



BRENT McCOWN/*Tribune*

From left: Bruce Karnatz, Sherm Luhn, Howard Junker and Lester Lorhan monitor and operate model trains Monday night.

O'Neill said the dispatchers job is equally important in both real life and in the model simulations.

"When you see the trains stopped all the time that's because things aren't going very well," O'Neill said. "You make your best money when everything is moving."

In the model simulation, there were priority trains which received the fast track around the railroad tracks, with the top priority being the fresh meat train.

O'Neill said this car is cooled with packed ice, not the refrigerated cars like used today. That meant the meat had to be moved faster to keep it from spoiling.

Other trains on the line during this simulation included trains carrying grain, cattle, various freight and passengers.

Malmkar was responsible for the train carrying the governor to each of the stops on the campaign trail and the warden's train picking up prisoners on the way to Phillips Prison. Each of the locations are named after friends and family.

While some of the participants had years of experience in model trains, the coal train engineer, Bruce Karnatz of Kearney, is certainly the rookie of the bunch with just two years of experience.

"It sounded like a lot of fun and these are a bunch of good guys," Karnatz said about his reasoning for joining the group.

"It's just kind of relaxing and it takes your mind of everything else," he said.

California Zephur Passenger Train engineer Richard King is also a relative newcomer to the world of model trains.

"My son said to me a few years ago, 'What are you going to do when you retire, dad.' And I said, 'I thought I'd come live with you.' The very next Christmas he bought me a model train layout and said, 'You need a hobby,' " King said.

And with that King said he started playing with trains and was addicted. Over the last few years, he has been working to build his own railroad in his basement with the help of friends and fellow enthusiasts.

He recently took a trip to Tucson, Ariz. where he was able to tour the homes of several other model railroaders who were able to give him suggestions and ideas for his own model.

"It's not a competitive hobby," he said. "You talk to any of these guys and they'd all help you out to do whatever you need. They're so helpful."

Even with a few electrical snags, the group's simulation lasted just about two hours before all the trains had made their complete routes.

At the end of each engineer's shift, they even dropped off the cars and backed their engines into the engine houses for the night.

"It's all just like the real railroad," Mullins said. "The layout is nicely done. So it looks real. And this is just a nice group of guys to work with."

Franzen: Couple plays major part in Goodwill campaign

Continued from page A1

"She was involved in the preschool, training and education kinds of programs at that point," LaVern said.

The family used education programs not affiliated with Goodwill, but still recognized Goodwill's importance.

"We have seen through all of this time, the value to the individual, to the community and to the whole society, people who have the capability to learn to whatever level they can is going to benefit them," he said.

As campaign chairs, it is the Franzens' responsibility to help with community contacts, to assist in finding people who will make the calls and to be familiar with the whole program, LaVern said.

"The funds that are raised, we obviously have to be comfortable that everything is going for the right cause and is going to be used the right way," he said. "We were certainly convinced early on that the dollars raised in Hastings are going to stay here and that's always important to hear that and know that it's going to go for, in this case, for services to individuals and not to pay electric or gas bills."

Connie helped make phone calls during the campaign's phonathon, April 14.

"I enjoy calling at the telethon and meeting students from Central Community College who helped," she said. "It's very rewarding to get pledges. More than anything, I enjoyed seeing the students getting involved. Because at the beginning they were scared and by the time the evening was done, they had a lot of confidence. It's good for them to find out what the community is doing for everybody."

LaVern said he enjoys seeing that growth in the students as well.

"This is a good experience for them and I think there is real value in the younger people getting involved in the community," he said.

When it comes to fundraising for the Goodwill, Conlon said the Franzens have different attributes.

"I think Connie is a hard worker, she will get right in there and make phone calls to people," he said.

LaVern edited the letter Goodwill sent out asking for donations.

"He's a detail man and he's quite good," Conlon said.

Both husband and wife are people persons, he said, and they talk to community members one on one "as a friend."

"They're very easy going," he said. "They don't pressure anybody. They just explain the need and they're very persuasive."

Overseeing the annual Goodwill campaign isn't LaVern's only outlet for detail and working with people.

He's the outgoing Central Community College president. LaVern's last day in the CCC-Grand Island office is June 30, and he'll spend the following three months finishing up projects.

July 1 will be his 41st anniversary with the three-campus system.

LaVern said both positions are about relating to people.

"Just being comfortable with whatever activity is going on in front of you and being ready to communicate with people whenever necessary," he said.

Veto: Heineman turns away bill for emergency responders

Continued from page A1

It would have required businesses that sold 500 to 1,000 devices annually to pay a $1,000 fee; $7,500 for sales of 1,000 to 5,000; and a $20,000 fee for sales of more than 5,000.

Sen. Don Preister of Omaha is being pushed out of the Legislature by term limits so won't be around next year to introduce the bill again. He has said about 10 states have similar legislation.

The last measure nixed by Heineman on Monday called for a $100,000 study of whether management of state funds that are invested should be done in-house by state employees instead of outside firms.

The invested money has a variety of purposes, including pension funds for all state employees, county employees outside of Douglas and Lancaster counties, public school employees and teachers outside of Omaha, the state's judges and members of the state patrol.

Sen. John Synowiecki of Omaha, another term-limited senator, said the state spends more than $20 million annually to outside firms to manage the state's investments. The Nebraska Investment Council, which oversees the funds, requested the study to see if it would be wise to have state employees do the work, he said.

"We export literally millions of dollars to these outside firms," Synowiecki said.

In his veto message, Heineman cited a previous study by the council, the ability of the council to use its existing budget to look at the issue, and a downturn in the economy.

"I do not believe that it is prudent to spend additional state investment income in these uncertain economic times when investment returns are expected to be significantly lower than previous years," he said.

Fuel economy rules to be released

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON— The nation's fleet of new cars and trucks will be required to achieve 31.6 miles per gallon by 2015, The Associated Press has learned.

Transportation Department Secretary Mary Peters was outlining the plan on Earth Day, setting a schedule that was more aggressive than initially expected by industry officials.

The plan responds to a new energy law pushed by Congress and signed by President Bush that requires the fleetwide average of new cars and trucks to meet 35 mpg by 2020.

New cars and trucks will have to meet a fleetwide average of 31.6 mpg by 2015, said a government official familiar with the proposal. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, was not authorized to speak about the plan, which will set standards from 2011 to 2015.

Under the plan, the fleet of new vehicles will be required to achieve 27.8 mpg by 2011, with passenger cars achieving 31.2 mpg and pickup trucks, sport utility vehicles and vans reaching 25 mpg by that year. By 2015, the efficiency of cars will be required to meet 35.7 mpg while the fleet of trucks would need to achieve 28.6 mpg.

The plan is expected to save $54.7 billion gallons of oil over the life of the new vehicles built between 2011-2015.

It will add an average cost of $650 per passenger car and $979 per truck by 2015, the official said.

Sutton: National Legion commander delivers special message to crowd

Continued from page A1

The Grand Island home has a capacity of 260 residents, but has a current census count of 216.

"They're not meeting the needs of the veterans because they're so short on staffing," he said. "We need the local Legionnaires to touch their elected officials and explain the need for quality health care at the state veterans home."

It all goes back to a money issue," Conatser said. "It's hard to say it that way, but it's absolutely true. It is a money issue about paying the staff what they can earn in a private nursing home."

Conatser said he was using his tour not just to talk to veterans, but also to listen to their concerns.

"I'm also here to meet one-on-one with some of the veterans so they can tell me what's important to them here in Nebraska," he said.

He said the feedback has been great.

"They're saying, 'You know, I didn't think about that. Why haven't I told my niece or nephew that we're here and if they need someone and they're on active duty here's the 1-800 number,' " he said. "I'm getting great feedback that we're not reaching out and telling the story right."

Conatser stressed the importance of reaching out to younger veterans. Often, he said, when soldiers return from active duty they only care about soldiers from their own era.

"We can't expect them not to — we did," he said. "We're all guilty, but we outgrew it because we heard of the different things the American Legion does."

Conatser said when he visited Iraq in 2007, he met a soldier who gave him an enthusiastic greeting. The soldier told Conatser he had saved his family.

Due to work, that soldier moved his family three weeks before his deployment. So, when his wife thought she'd blown up the family car, she didn't have anyone nearby to turn to and began to panic.

The soldier called the American Legion for help, and three members came to the family's home to look at the car.

"(The car) wasn't blown up, it broke a serpentine belt," he said.

It cost less than $20 to fix that problem and show one family the value of belonging to the American Legion.

"I want to thank each one of you for what you do right now," he said. "You do great things in your community; you do great things for the children and youth of your community with scholarships and boy scouts and you've done it for years. You're the mainstay of the American Legion. I need you to start talking good about the American Legion."


Brandee Schram

Laurie Zimmerman
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Markets

Tuesday's noon local markets

Corn	5.64
Soybeans	12.56
Milo	5.31
Wheat	8.77

Stocks of local interest

The following stocks of local interest were traded today:

	Last	Chg.
BN Santa Fe	99.28	-.61
Berkshire Hathaway A	127,700	-500
Berkshire Hathaway B	4,251.25	-23.75
ConAgra	23.63	-.56
Eaton Corp.	86.41	-1.53
Ingersoll Rand	44.90	-1.03
Level 3	2.33	-.04
McDonald's	58.52	-.15
PepsiCo	68.71	-1.19
TierOne	8.85	-.02
Tricon Global Restaurants	38.41	-.66
Union Pacific	136.55998	-1.24
Wells Fargo	29.19	-.08
Williams Cos.	37.75	+.82
Wal-Mart	55.99	-.39

Rescue plan aims to help struggling homeowners

JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Homeowners staggering under mounting mortgage debt and facing foreclosure could get cheaper, government-backed loans under Democrats' housing rescue plan.

But first, lenders would have to agree to wipe out part of their debt. And the borrowers would have to show they could afford the new mortgage. They also would have to agree to share any future profits on the home with the government.

The plan would be a massive expansion of the Federal Housing Administration, the Depression-era mortgage insurer. FHA would take on $300 billion in new loans for as many as 1 million distressed homeowners, most of whom otherwise wouldn't qualify for a government-backed loan.

Taxpayer dollars would be at risk should borrowers default on their new mortgages. The FHA, however, would have some non-taxpayer money to cover losses. The agency would collect a 3 percent fee on the refinanced loans, as well as annual 1.5-percent premiums, and share a portion of borrowers' future proceeds if the property is refinanced again in the future or sold.

The measure by Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., the House Financial Services Committee chairman, is scheduled for a committee vote this week and is expected to move through the House in early May. A similar bill is taking shape in the Senate. The Bush administration is backing the same concept, although on a much smaller scale.

By relaxing FHA standards, Frank's bill would allow a whole new swath of homeowners who are currently too financially strapped to qualify for a government-insured loan to do so. That includes people who are badly behind on their mortgage payments, have poor credit and hefty debt, and those who owe more than their homes are worth.

It's unclear how many would qualify, however, even under far looser FHA standards. Also an open question: whether mortgage servicers would agree to participate in the voluntary program.



VICTOR CALZADA/*AP*

Calvin Smith (left) helps his son John Calvin Smith, 3, sign a Mother's Day greeting card for his mother, Army Capt. Lourdes Smith, during Hallmark Cards' Military Support day April 15 at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Adding audio

HALLMARK BATTLES E-CARD TREND WITH RECORDABLE GREETINGS

DAVID TWIDDY
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Look-ing to follow up on the success of its greeting cards that play music and sound clips, Hallmark Cards Inc., is letting customers get into the act.

On Monday, in time for Mother's Day, the nation's largest greeting card seller is releasing a line of recordable cards that allow the sender to save a 10-second message on a computer chip embedded in the card, followed by a 15-second snippet of music.

As part of the release, Hallmark is focusing on mothers deployed overseas with the military. The company plans to travel to five U.S. military bases — the first visit was held Tuesday at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas — and allow the children of military personnel to record greeting cards, which Hallmark will then mail overseas in time for Mother's Day and Father's Day.

"It's an emotional value," said Sarah Gronberg, publicity manager for the Kansas City, Mo.-based company. "We found the strongest reaction from parents. When they see this sort of thing exists, it (resonates) because if you can capture your kid's voice when they're little or when they're not around you, that's when you see the largest emotional connection."

Hallmark introduced some of the cards at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony earlier this year and got several celebrities to make recordings, including Tom Hanks, Billy Joel, John Mellencamp and Chevy Chase. Gronberg said Hallmark is working with the military to send cards with some of these recordings to military personnel whose children weren't able to participate in this month's recording sessions.

The cards, which sell for $5.99 each, use a voice prompt to instruct users to press and hold a button inside the card and record a message, which is then followed by the music.

The tunes for the eight designs available for Mother's Day range from the sentimental — Tanya Tucker's "Here's Some Love" and Phil Collins' "You'll Be in My Heart" — to the alternative motherly greeting of Tag Team's "Whoomp! There It Is."

Once the senders are satisfied with the message, they tear out a paper insert to lock it into the sound chip's memory. As long as the insert remains in the card, the message will be erased when the card closes and can be rerecorded.

Andre du Broc, an editorial director for the line, said that feature prevents card store shoppers from leaving "inappropriate" messages on the cards before they're purchased.

The card's battery has enough power for 220 plays, he said, and the card can be rerecorded multiple times.

"I'm excited to see what comes back from this," du Broc said, pointing out he plans to use a recording of himself as a child for his Mother's Day card. "If YouTube shows us anything, it's that we're a very creative people."

The Sound Cards line, which now includes several hundred designs and songs, has proven a winner for Hallmark in the two years since it went on sale. While the privately held company doesn't break out sales figures for the cards separately, it said last month that they helped fuel an 8 percent rise in 2007 companywide revenue to $4.4 billion.

Combined with a 3 percent rise in card sales in 2006, the Sound Cards have turned around a card business that had remained flat for several years as e-mails and e-cards became more popular.

Hallmark's main competitor, Cleveland-based American Greetings Inc., has sold its own line of sound and music cards for more than a year, said spokesman Frank Cirillo, adding that it also has been popular and expanded to several hundred cards. Besides sound, American Greetings also sells cards with blinking lights and animated images.

While American Greetings doesn't currently have a recordable card, Cirillo said the company is experimenting with that, as well as other ways to add value and interest.

"We're constantly looking at ways to advance the line," he said.

But both companies acknowledge there is a limit. Customers will pay only so much for a greeting card, regardless of the nifty bells and whistles.

"The innovation platform here is becoming broader and broader and we're trying to meet customer demand," Cirillo said, "but also provide a value-priced product."

Hallmark and American Greetings are searching for ways to keep their paper-and-ink products, which have existed for more than a century, relevant in a modern world where e-mail, cell phones and streaming video keep people connected over long distances. Hallmark is betting a recordable card does that.

"It's a crafted sentiment," Gronberg said. "That mom's laying down to sleep at night, she can listen to her kid's voice immediately. She doesn't have to make that 2.0 connection."

Audit: FDA still lacking in foreign inspections

AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING SURE ALL DRUGS SOLD IN U.S. ARE SAFE

KEVIN FREKING
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Food and Drug Administration is making progress in conducting more inspections of foreign drug manufacturers, but still inspects relatively few facilities.

The agency conducted 30 such inspections in the last fiscal year and plans to conduct at least 50 this year, according to government auditors.

The FDA is responsible for overseeing the safety and effectiveness of drugs marketed in the United States regardless of where they are manufactured. Concerns about the inspection program were recently highlighted, auditors said, when the agency learned that contaminated doses of the blood thinner heparin had probably come through a Chinese plant that the agency had never inspected.

About $10 million was dedicated for foreign inspections in the latest fiscal year. Auditors estimate the FDA would need far more resources to inspect, every two years, each of the 3,249 foreign drug establishments listed by the agency.

"However, FDA's plans currently call for incremental increases that will have little impact in the near future to reduce the interval between inspections," auditors said.

The Government Accountability Office's report will be part of a hearing Tuesday by a House oversight and investigations subcommittee.

The auditors said it's just too early to determine the effectiveness of the FDA's plans for improved oversight of foreign facilities. For example, the agency has said it's exploring the creation of a cadre of investigators who would conduct foreign inspections, but it has not provided any additional details or time frames.

Also, the agency plans to establish foreign offices in three Chinese locations — Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. Later, it will consider setting up locations in India, the Middle East, Latin America and Europe.

Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt, who returned Saturday from a visit to Asia, said he's been insistent with trading partners that if they want access to U.S. markets, they have to meet U.S. standards for quality and safety. At the same time, too much reliance on inspections could deter trade.

"If we begin to constrain consumers' ability to get products, that creates other pressures," Leavitt said. "We have to find the right balance between regulation and market demands."

Energy prices hamper Midwest economy

The Associated Press

OMAHA — High energy prices have led to languishing economic growth and continued job losses in 10 Midwestern and Plains states, according to a survey of rural bankers.

The overall economic index for the region rose slightly to 47.5, from 46.3 in March, still weak and below the nearly two-year low of 50 measured in February.

An index greater than 50 indicates a growing economy over the next three to six months. Last April's reading was 66.9.

The April new hiring index rose slightly to 43.4, from March's 42.5.

Farmers aren't the only ones hurting from higher energy prices, according to the survey.

"Higher fuel costs are crippling loggers and truckers needed to haul wood," said Brian Nicklason, president of Woodland Bank in Remer, Minn.

The survey includes Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. The average community population covered in the survey is about 1,300.

"Higher energy prices appear to be the culprit in the (index's) downturn," said Creighton University economics professor Ernie Goss.

Goss and Bill McQuillan, chief executive officer of City National Bank in Greeley, Neb., created the monthly survey of rural bank presidents and chief executives.

More than 80 percent of bankers expect the fallout from the recent subprime mortgage crisis to generate higher compliance and regulatory costs.

"Any time there are abuses of the financial system by the large financial firms, community banks pay the price," said Jim Stanosheck, CEO of State Bank in Odell, Neb.

The farm equipment sales index was a strong 71.4 in April, down slightly from 72.5 in March but up from 64.3 in April 2007. The farmland price index stood at 71.3, down from March's 78.1

Retail sales remained unchanged from March's weak 40.3, down significantly from 53.3 in April 2007.

April's home sales index rose slightly to 33.6, from March's 25.8.

Bank indicators were mixed for April. Farmers pushed loan volumes up, to 57.3 from 54.5 in March. Checking deposits declined for a third consecutive month, to 54.8 from 61.2 in March and 67.5 in February.

Meanwhile, certificates of deposit and other savings instruments rebounded to 57.3 from March's 51.5.





TONY GUTIERREZ/*AP*

Law enforcement officials control foot and vehicle traffic into the San Angelo Coliseum in San Angelo, Texas, Monday. Genetic testing began Monday on 416 Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints children in state custody who have been in temporary housing at the coliseum.

DNA sought from parents

MICHELLE ROBERTS
The Associated Press

ELDORADO, Texas — DNA samples from members of a West Texas polygamist sect could help sort out their complex family ties and reunite children taken from their parents, but an attorney for the group fears they could also be used to prosecute church members for abuse.

A judge ordered last week that the DNA be taken to help determine the parentage of the 437 children, many of whom were raised in enormous three-story houses with half-siblings.

Some of the adults have been ordered by the state to submit to testing. Others are being asked to do so voluntarily. The testing on possible parents in the sect's compound was to begin today, but how many will take part is unclear.

Rod Parker, an attorney for the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, said he is afraid authorities secretly intend to use the DNA to build criminal cases against members of the group. But state Child Protective services spokesman Greg Cunningham said: "We're not involved in the criminal investigation. That's not our objective."

Authorities believe the sect forces underage girls into marriages with older men. No one has been arrested, but a warrant has been issued for member Dale Barlow, a convicted sex offender who has said he has not been to the Texas site in years.

Ten lab technicians hired by the state spent Monday collecting samples at the San Angelo coliseum and fairgrounds serving as a shelter for the children who were removed from their Eldorado compound during an April 3 raid.

Some of those technicians were to be sent to Eldorado today to collect samples from the possible parents. Family relationships are immensely tangled within the sect, where multiple mothers live in the same household and children refer to all men in the community as "uncles."

Authorities say they need to figure that out before they begin custody hearings to determine which children may have been abused and need to be permanently removed from the sect compound, and which ones can be safely returned to the fold. For now, they're all in state custody because child welfare officials believe sexual abuse has occurred or could occur imminently because of the teachings of the sect.

Mental evaluation likely for teen

SEANNA ADCOX
The Associated Press

CHESTERFIELD, S.C. — The parents who called police after discovering their teenage son had ordered bomb-making materials on the Internet likely averted disaster at his high school, a sheriff said today.

Ryan Schallenberger, 18, was arrested Saturday after his parents called police because he had ordered 10 pounds of ammonium nitrate, which they retrieved after getting a delivery notice from the postal service, authorities said.

"We applaud these parents and we're very thankful they chose to be concerned and they chose to get involved. We feel like they saved a lot of life in our county," Chesterfield County Sheriff Sam Parker said Tuesday on ABC's "Good Morning America."

Schallenberger's parents had sought help from mental health experts even earlier in the week when he slammed his head into a wall, but the clinic offered no help, authorities said Monday. His parents took him to a hospital but he was not badly injured, said prosecutor Jay Hodge.

Schallenberger was charged with making a bomb threat and was to be charged Tuesday with possession of bomb-making material, Hodge said. The prosecutor said he would request at a bail hearing Tuesday that the teen undergo a mental health evaluation.

Schallenberger's mother and stepfather are "heartbroken," Parker said Tuesday.

"They were very concerned about his future education. I kind of explained to them and told them we've got to deal with two options here, we've got to deal with his education or with his life," the sheriff said.



BRETT FLASHNICK/*AP*

Ryan Schallenberger, 18, a student accused of planning a bomb attack on Chesterfield High School, in Chesterfield, S.C., stands before a judge, as he is assigned a court-appointed attorney, Monday.

Ammonium nitrate is a fertilizer that can be used as an ingredient in explosives and was employed in the deadly 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. Authorities said Schallenberger bought the ammonium nitrate on eBay.

Police said that after they were called by his parents, they discovered a hate-filled journal lauding the Columbine killers, an audiotape to be played after Schallenberger died during his rampage and a year's worth of plans for the bombing that included a hand-drawn map of the school.

"He's just a soft-spoken little kid," Hodge said. "But he's done something and threatened to do something that's very violent."

Disney workers find rings

The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Walt Disney World seems to have worked its magic on a Massachusetts couple who accidentally threw away three platinum and diamond wedding rings.

While tidying up their villa as they prepared to leave the park late last week, Paul Campanale dumped a cardboard bowl, not knowing the container inside it held his wife Karen's engagement, wedding and five-year-anniversary rings.

Park employees warned the couple from Worcester, Mass., that recovering the jewelry was all but impossible. So on Friday, the Campanales and their two children loaded onto a Magical Express bus and headed to the airport.

Back at the Wilderness Lodge resort, executive housekeeper Drew Weaver realized that trash from the Campanales' villa hadn't reached the industrial-size compactor yet. He and seven other volunteers donned protective clothing, emptied a parking lot bin and waded through bag after bag of rubbish to find the rings. And they did.

Bush gets backing on trade push

BEN FELLER
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Showing off chummy relations with his North American neighbors, President Bush shared green onion omelets, grits and sides of Canadian bacon this morning to open the last day of a summit showing solidarity on cross-border trade.

Bush, Mexican President Felipe Calderon and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper ate the family style breakfast at Dooky Chase's Restaurant which was flooded by four feet of water during Hurricane Katrina. The establishment, a gathering place for black musicians and politicians in the 1960s, is owned by Leah Chase, known as the "Queen of Creole Cuisine."

Bush, stymied by Congress in his final push to broaden U.S. trade, is highlighting his support north and south of the border. In meetings throughout the day, Bush will defend the economic benefits of trade and tout efforts to make traveling across borders less of a hassle.

This year's North American summit is not expected to produce any bold agreements. Instead, the leaders were expected to wind up with a statement of cooperation on important but bureaucratic areas, like disaster response and recalls of unsafe products.

Bush is well aware of a rising anti-trade sentiment, whether on Capitol Hill, on the campaign trail of Democrats who want his job, or among a disaffected work force.

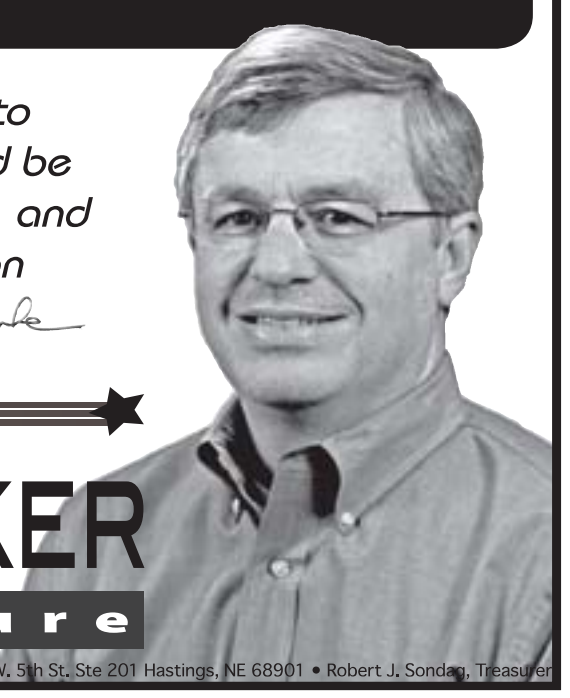
"All of us want to make sure we're treated fairly, and we can do that," Bush said after meeting with Harper and Calderon individually. "This summit comes at an opportune time to reaffirm the benefits of the trading arrangements between our three nations."

Bush wants Congress to ratify free trade deals with Colombia, Panama and South Korea.

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- **Our Way of Life.** Without a strong voice for rural values, our children, our jobs, our future will not be represented.
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- **Water.** Without a strong voice for irrigators, the future of agriculture will continue to be controlled by urban Senators.
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VOTE
Chuck
SHOEMAKER
Legislature

Paid for by Chuck Shoemaker for Legislature Committee • 420 W. 5th St. Ste 201 Hastings, NE 68901 • Robert J. Sondag, Treasurer

LEGAL NOTICE OF MEASURE TO BE VOTED UPON AT A SPECIAL ELECTION OCCURRING AT THE STATEWIDE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 13, 2008

BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

Also included is Statement of Explanation in Italics Prepared by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council

PROPOSED BY THE 2007 LEGISLATURE PROPOSED AMENDMENT NUMBER 1

A vote FOR this amendment will authorize the Legislature to permit certain cities to invest public endowment funds in the same manner as would a prudent investor. The cities, acting with care, skill and diligence, would be responsible to act exclusively to protect and benefit the public endowment investments subject to limitations as the Legislature may provide.

A vote AGAINST this amendment will retain the existing restrictions that prohibit investments in stocks of private corporations and associations.

A constitutional amendment to allow the investment of public endowment funds by cities authorized by the Nebraska Constitution to establish a charter.

❑ **For**

❑ **Against**

TEXT OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT NUMBER 1

THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION, RESOLVE THAT:

Section 1. At a special election on May 13, 2008, the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of Nebraska shall be submitted to the electors of the State of Nebraska for approval or rejection:

To amend Article XI, section 1:

XI-1 No city, county, town, precinct, municipality, or other ~~sub-division~~ subdivision of the state, shall ever become a subscriber to the capital stock, or owner of such stock, or any portion or interest therein of any railroad, or private corporation, or association, except that, notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the Legislature may authorize the investment of public endowment funds by any city which is authorized by this Constitution to establish a charter, in the manner required of a prudent investor who shall act with care, skill, and diligence under the prevailing circumstance and in such investments as the governing body of such city, acting in a fiduciary capacity for the exclusive purpose of protecting and benefiting such investment, may determine, subject to such limitations as the Legislature may by statute provide.

Sec. 2. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors in the manner prescribed by the Constitution of Nebraska, Article XVI, section 1, with the following ballot language:

"A constitutional amendment to allow the investment of public endowment funds by cities authorized by the Nebraska Constitution to establish a charter.

For
Against."

Respectfully submitted,

John Gale

Secretary of State

(Publish three times, weeks of April 21, April 28 and May 5)

Pelini's Huskers undergo spring renewal

ERIC OLSON
The Associated Press

LINCOLN — Bo Pelini's priority this spring was to begin converting the new age football players recruited by Bill Callahan into old-school Cornhuskers.

So far, so good, Pelini said Monday.

"It's not like you can go out and make trades or draft," he said. "What we're trying to do is take the gentlemen on campus and develop them and push them to reach their potential and make them as good as they can possibly be."

All these players were recruited to Nebraska by Callahan, and many of them were drawn by his pro football pedigree. Pelini said he's driven to make the charges he inherited want to play as much for the "N" on their helmets as for the NFL.

This spring, that meant developing what Pelini sees as the bedrock of any program.

"It's the passion you play with — the discipline, technique, fundamentals and little things that make the difference in the end," Pelini said. "Effort, that comes first in our defense.

"We talk about taking the gray out of it. It's pretty black and white what we're asking them to do. The schemes and X's and O's, that stuff will come in time."

Pelini's message to his players about committing themselves to the greater good of the program was reinforced when more than 80,000 fans turned out for the spring game on Saturday.

"That sends a bolt of energy through your team," Pelini said. "The more our current players are exposed to that, the more they start feeling that sense of responsibility they have when they put that 'N' on the side of their helmet."

Leaders have started to emerge, Pelini said. He pointed to quarterback Joe Ganz and linemen Matt Slauson and Lydon Murtha on offense and lineman Barry Turner, linebacker Phillip Dillard and safety Larry Asante on defense.

"The key is having a culture that runs throughout your team and finding the right guys to enforce that culture and promote it and make sure if there's a crack in the foundation that they seal it real quick," Pelini said. "I think that's what is happening. Guys are buying in, developing better relationships and trust that is going to help us be successful and stay together for a long period of time, through good times and bad."

Pelini said the offense finished the spring ahead of the defense. Offensive coordinator Shawn Watson was retained from Callahan's staff and plans to use generally the same philosophy, except with greater emphasis on the running game.

The defense is being retooled, with Pelini preferring zone schemes, heavy pressure and a run-to-the-ball mentality.

***Please see NU**/page C2*



ANNA MOSTEK/*Tribune*

Nebraska head coach Bo Pelini and his brother, defensive coordinator Carl Pelini, watch the Red-White spring scrimmage Saturday at Memorial Stadium in Lincoln.

Central Nebraska Track Championships



BRENT McCOWN/*Tribune*

St. Cecilia's Riley Nikkila clears the bar in the boys pole vault Monday during the Central Nebraska Track Championships in Grand Island. Nikkila won the event with a mark of 13 feet, 9 inches.

19 vaults later, Nikkila wins

O'Keeffe adds first-place finish in 1,600 for Bluehawks

VINCE KUPPIG
vkuppig@hastingstribune.com

GRAND ISLAND — Riley Nikkila is used to exuding lots of energy in a track and field meet.

But Monday's Central Nebraska Track Championships was something the St. Cecilia senior has never quite experienced.

It took 19 vaults before Nikkila finally won the pole vault in his first of four events at Grand Island High School.

"I'm beyond tired," Nikkila said following his finial event of the evening, the 1,600-meter relay. "Nineteen (vaults) is way too many, way too many. I don't even know if I do that many in practice. It was a little different, but I worked through it."

Nikkila cleared 13 feet, 9 inches — three times — in the pole vault to give the St. Cecilia boys one of two first-place finishes at the Central Nebraska Track Championships. Junior Jim O'Keeffe added a gold in the 1,600, winning in a season-best time of 4 minutes, 41.40 seconds.

Nikkila also competed in the 300 hurdles individually while running legs of both the 400 and 1,600 relays for the Bluehawks to go with his 19 vaults — all in a span of five hours.

Nikkila finished fifth in the 300 hurdles in a time of 42.01 seconds, while St. Cecilia's 400 relay team was sixth in a time of 45.48 seconds and the 1,600 relay team also was sixth (3:39.94).

"Usually in a practice, I'll do my running and then vault," Nikkila said. "So I'm used to being tired when I vault. Today, I got my vaults in first and then I had to run. It was a little backwards.

"I'm used to 10 vaults at a maximum. And to go nine more than that is almost like vaulting twice in one day. It made a big difference in my legs and my arms, kind of feeling like they weren't there."

The pole vault was one of the most competitive events of the meet, with six different competitors clearing 13-9. Three — Grand Island's Cody Friedrichsen and Heartland's Wade Janzen — were still tied for first after initial ties were broken from the missed attempts at earlier heights, leading to a vault-off.

The three each were given four attempts at 14-3, with none of them clearing the height. The bar then went back down to 13-9, and only Nikkila and Friedrichsen cleared the height.

***Please see BOYS**/page C3*

Freshman Jackson leads St. Cecilia girls

BRENT McCOWN/*Tribune*

St. Cecilia's Charise Farmer leads the 1600-meter run at the Central Nebraska Track Championships in Grand Island on Monday.



RYAN MURKEN
rmurken@hastingstribune.com

GRAND ISLAND — If St. Cecilia freshman Abby Jackson was nervous in her first trip to the Central Nebraska Track meet, she certainly did a good job of hiding it.

Jackson earned three top two finishes in her first appearance at the showcase meet at Grand Island High School's Memorial Stadium on Monday, including anchoring the Hawkettes' 3,200-meter relay team to a first-place finish.

"It was a great experience," Jackson said. "There are definitely a lot more people here than what I am used to at our meets. But that just helps me do better."

Jackson finished second in both the 400 and the 1,600 relay while also adding a fourth-place finish in the 200.

Her time of 59.79 seconds in the 400 was her best time of the season and was just half-a-second slower than Grand Island's Suzanne Higgins.

"I think she handled things very well today," St. Cecilia coach Alan VanCura said of Jackson. "She is pretty easygoing and doesn't get rattled by too much. You just tell her what to do, and she goes out and does it."

***Please see GIRLS**/page C3*

AC sweeps team titles

Brei sets school record in triple jump

HASTINGS TRIBUNE
sports@hastingstribune.com

MINDEN — The Adams Central boys and girls track teams swept the team titles at the Marsh Beck Invitational on Monday.

The Adams Central girls finished with 141 points to edge second place Holdrege by a single point, while the Minden girls finished third with 92 points.

The Patriot boys team cruised to their team title, finishing with 151 points. Cozad was second with 108 points, while Minden was third with 91.

Creighton Brei led the Adams Central boys with a pair of first-place finishes, winning both the long jump and the triple jump on Monday. Brei won the long jump with a leap of 20 feet, 2 1/2 inches and set a new school record in the triple jump with his distance of 45-1.

The Patriots got first place finishes from Nick Stine in the high jump (5-10), Taylor Overmiller in the 800-meter run (2:06.90) and Justin Drudik in the 400 (55.88).

***Please see AC**/page C3*

Steinbrenner: Joba will not be rushed into rotation

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Hank Steinbrenner thinks Joba Chamberlain can become an elite starting pitcher but realizes his place is in the bullpen for now.

"We're not going to rush him," the New York Yankees co-chairman said Monday at the team's spring training complex. "I think most people agree with me, including the baseball people and most of the fans, that sooner or later it would be nice if he was a starter."

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said Steinbrenner and the team's front office were in agreement on the role of the 22-year-old right-hander, who is 1-0 with a 1.42 ERA as Mariano Rivera's setup man this year after going 2-0 with an 0.38 ERA in 19 games when he arrived in the major leagues last season.

"Hank and I talked. We didn't need to," Cashman said. "We were on the same page yesterday. We're on the same page today. And we're on the same page moving forward. Joba Chamberlain is bullpen because it's where he's needed the most right now as well as because he has an innings limit. He can't start because of that innings limit or he'd have to stop starting here at some point."

***Please see JOBA**/page C2*

Baseball

AL Standings

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	14	7	.667	—
Baltimore	11	8	.579	2
New York	10	10	.500	3½
Toronto	10	10	.500	3½
Tampa Bay	8	11	.421	5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	11	7	.611	—
Kansas City	9	10	.474	2½
Minnesota	9	10	.474	2½
Cleveland	7	12	.368	4½
Detroit	7	13	.350	5

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	12	8	.600	—
Oakland	12	8	.600	—
Seattle	10	10	.500	2
Texas	7	13	.350	5

Monday's Games

Boston 8, Texas 3
Detroit 5, Toronto 1

Tuesday's Games

Texas (Padilla 2-1) at Detroit (Verlander 0-3), 6:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Jer.Weaver 1-3) at Boston (Beckett 2-1), 6:05 p.m.
Toronto (Litsch 2-0) at Tampa Bay (Shields 1-1), 6:10 p.m.
Cleveland (Sabathia 0-3) at Kansas City (Meche 1-2), 7:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Wang 3-0) at Chicago White Sox (Contreras 1-1), 7:11 p.m.
Minnesota (Hernandez 3-0) at Oakland (Blanton 1-3), 9:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Guthrie 0-1) at Seattle (F.Hernandez 2-0), 9:10 p.m.

Wednesday's Games

Texas (Mendoza 0-2) at Detroit (Rogers 1-3), 6:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Garland 2-2) at Boston (Matsuzaka 4-0), 6:05 p.m.
Toronto (Halladay 2-2) at Tampa Bay (Hammel 1-1), 6:10 p.m.
Cleveland (Carmona 2-1) at Kansas City (Tomko 1-2), 7:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Mussina 1-3) at Chicago White Sox (Vazquez 3-1), 7:11 p.m.
Minnesota (Bonser 1-3) at Oakland (Gaudin 1-1), 9:05 p.m.
Baltimore (D.Cabrera 1-0) at Seattle (Silva 3-0), 9:10 p.m.

NL Standings

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Florida	12	7	.632	—
New York	10	8	.556	1½
Atlanta	10	9	.526	2
Philadelphia	10	10	.500	2½
Washington	5	15	.250	7½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	13	6	.684	—
St. Louis	13	7	.650	½
Milwaukee	11	8	.579	2
Cincinnati	8	12	.400	5½
Houston	8	12	.400	5½
Pittsburgh	7	12	.368	6

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	14	5	.737	—
Colorado	9	10	.474	5
San Diego	9	11	.450	5½
Los Angeles	8	11	.421	6
San Francisco	8	12	.400	6½

Monday's Games

Florida 10, Pittsburgh 4
Chicago Cubs 7, N.Y. Mets 1
Atlanta 7, Washington 3
L.A. Dodgers 9, Cincinnati 3
Houston 10, San Diego 3
St. Louis 4, Milwaukee 3
Philadelphia 9, Colorado 5
Arizona 4, San Francisco 2

Tuesday's Games

St. Louis (Lohse 2-0) at Milwaukee (Parra 1-1), 12:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Figueroa 1-0) at Chicago Cubs (Lilly 0-3), 1:20 p.m.
Florida (Nolasco 1-1) at Pittsburgh (Maholm 0-2), 6:05 p.m.
Washington (Lannan 0-2) at Atlanta (Smoltz 3-0), 6:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Kuo 0-0) at Cincinnati (Volquez 2-0), 6:10 p.m.
San Diego (Peavy 3-0) at Houston (Backe 1-2), 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Myers 2-1) at Colorado (Francis 0-2), 7:35 p.m.
San Francisco (Zito 0-4) at Arizona (Webb 4-0), 8:40 p.m.

Wednesday's Games

St. Louis (Wellemeyer 2-0) at Pittsburgh (Snell 2-1), 6:05 p.m.
Florida (Miller 0-2) at Atlanta (Bennett 0-0), 6:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Santana 2-2) at Washington (Redding 3-1), 6:10 p.m.
Houston (Sampson 0-2) at Cincinnati (Arroyo 0-2), 6:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Hamels 2-2) at Milwaukee (Bush 0-3), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Hill 1-0) at Colorado (Morales 1-1), 7:35 p.m.
San Francisco (Cain 0-2) at San Diego (Maddux 2-1), 9:05 p.m.
Arizona (Haren 3-0) at L.A. Dodgers (Lowe 1-1), 9:10 p.m.

College Results

EAST

Albright 5, Kutztown 4
Bates 17-19, Emerson 2-1
Brandeis 6, Mass.-Dartmouth 0
Bryant 7, Brown 4
Bucknell 5, Navy 4
Colby 10, Thomas 5
Curry 7-5, W. New England 3-12
Delaware Valley 6, Ursinus 5
Dickinson 6, Messiah 3
Elms 10, Clark U. 8
Fisher 10-4, Maine-Farmington 0-0
Fitchburg St. 11-5, Bridgewater, Mass. 3-9
Gordon 4-1, E. Nazarene 1-5
Mass. College 9-3, Worcester St. 4-8
Mass.-Lowell 1, New Haven 0
Misericordia 12, Baptist Bible, Pa. 0
Plymouth St. 4-11, Lyndon St. 3-0, 1st game, 8 innings
Salem St. 17-3, Mass. Maritime 2-4
Stonehill 4, Merrimack 3
Wesley 15, Phila. Biblical 3
Westfield St. 5-2, Framingham St. 1-3
Wilkes 15, Marywood 3

SOUTH

Georgia St. 12-19, Alabama A&M 2-3, 1st & 2nd game, 5 innings, 10-run rule
Oglethorpe 15-6, Toccoa Falls 3-2

MIDWEST

Bellevue 3-5, Central Christian 2-4
Cincinnati 6, Xavier 4, 11 innings
Eureka 6, Principia 4
Gustavus 10, St. Mary's, Minn. 5
Ottawa 3-0, Kansas Wesleyan 1-10
S. Dakota St. 22, Presentation 3
Webster 11, MacMurray 4

SOUTHWEST

TCU 6, Dallas Baptist 4

FAR WEST

Stanford 13, Santa Clara 6

Baseball America Top 25

	Record	Pv
1. Miami	33-4	1
2. North Carolina	34-7	4
3. Florida State	34-5	3
4. Missouri	28-10	6
5. Stanford	21-12	10
6. Arizona State	31-6	2
7. California	26-10	8
8. Nebraska	28-7	9
9. Rice	31-10	11
10. Georgia	27-12	13
11. San Diego	31-11	12
12. South Carolina	29-11	14
13. Oklahoma State	27-11	18
14. Wichita State	30-7	7
15. Cal State Fullerton	23-13	15
16. UC Irvine	24-9	5
17. Vanderbilt	28-11	17
18. Texas A&M	33-7	19
19. Michigan	28-8	21
20. Coastal Carolina	33-7	22
21. Mississippi	25-15	16
22. Kentucky	30-9	25
23. Arizona	25-11	NR
24. North Carolina State	27-12	NR
25. Long Beach State	23-14	NR

Collegiate Baseball Top 25

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Miami, Fla.	33-4	496	2
2. Florida St.	34-5	495	1
3. North Carolina	34-7	492	4
4. Arizona St.	31-6	490	3
5. Georgia	27-12-1	487	7
6. Rice	31-10	485	9
7. Wichita St.	30-7	482	5
8. Texas A&M	33-7	480	8
9. San Diego	31-11	477	13
10. Nebraska	28-7-1	475	10
11. Missouri	28-10	472	11
12. South Carolina	29-11	470	12
13. Stanford	21-12-2	464	14
14. California	26-10-2	461	15
15. Ca. St. Fullerton	23-13	457	18
16. Virginia	31-11	454	17
17. U.C. Irvine	24-9	451	6
18. Oklahoma St.	27-11	449	25
19. Michigan	28-8	446	—
20. Vanderbilt	28-11	444	22
21. Coastal Carolina	33-7	442	—
22. N.C. State	27-12	440	—
23. Kentucky	30-9	438	23
24. Notre Dame	25-10-1	436	—
25. Arizona	25-11	434	—

Basketball

NBA Playoff Schedule

FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-7)
EASTERN CONFERENCE

Boston vs. Atlanta

Sunday, April 20: Boston 104, Atlanta 81, Boston lead series 1-0
Wednesday, April 23: Atlanta at Boston, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 26: Boston at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Monday, April 28: Boston at Atlanta, 7 p.m
Wednesday, April 30: Atlanta at Boston, TBA, if necessary
Friday, May 2: Boston at Atlanta, TBA, if necessary
Sunday, May 4: Atlanta at Boston, TBA, if necessary

Detroit vs. Philadelphia

Sunday, April 20: Philadelphia 90, Detroit 86, Philadelphia lead series 1-0
Wednesday, April 23: Philadelphia at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Friday, April 25: Detroit at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Sunday, April 27: Detroit at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, April 29: Philadelphia at Detroit, TBA, if necessary
Thursday, May 1: Detroit at Philadelphia, TBA, if necessary
Saturday, May 3: Philadelphia at Detroit, TBA, if necessary

Orlando vs. Toronto

Sunday, April 20: Orlando 114, Toronto 100, Orlando lead series 1-0
Tuesday, April 22: Toronto at Orlando, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 24: Orlando at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 26: Orlando at Toronto, 2 p.m.
Monday, April 28: Toronto at Orlando, 6:30 p.m., if necessary
Thursday, May 1: Orlando at Toronto, TBA, if necessary
Saturday, May 3: Toronto at Orlando, TBA, if necessary

Cleveland vs. Washington

Saturday, April 19: Cleveland 93, Washington 86
Monday, April 21: Cleveland 116, Washington 86, Cleveland lead series 2-0
Thursday, April 24: Cleveland at Washington, 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 27: Cleveland at Washington, Noon
Wednesday, April 30: Washington at Cleveland, TBA, if necessary
Friday, May 2: Cleveland at Washington, TBA, if necessary
Sunday, May 4: Washington at Cleveland, TBA, if necessary

WESTERN CONFERENCE

L.A. Lakers vs. Denver

Sunday, April 20: L.A. Lakers 128, Denver 114, L.A. Lakers lead series 1-0
Wednesday, April 23: Denver at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 26: L.A. Lakers at Denver, 4:30 p.m.
Monday, April 28: L.A. Lakers at Denver, 9:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 30: Denver at L.A. Lakers, TBA, if necessary
Friday, May 2: L.A. Lakers at Denver, TBA, if necessary
Sunday, May 4: Denver at L.A. Lakers, TBA, if necessary

New Orleans vs. Dallas

Saturday, April 19: New Orleans 104, Dallas 92, New Orleans lead series 1-0
Tuesday, April 22: Dallas at New Orleans, 6 p.m.
Friday, April 25: New Orleans at Dallas, 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 27: New Orleans at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 29: Dallas at New Orleans, TBA, if necessary
Thursday, May 1: New Orleans at Dallas, TBA, if necessary
Saturday, May 3: Dallas at New Orleans, TBA, if necessary

San Antonio vs. Phoenix

Saturday, April 19: San Antonio 117, Phoenix 115, 2OT, San Antonio lead series 1-0
Tuesday, April 22: Phoenix at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Friday, April 25: San Antonio at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 27: San Antonio at Phoenix, 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 29: Phoenix at San Antonio, TBA, if necessary
Thursday, May 1: San Antonio at Phoenix, TBA, if necessary
Saturday, May 3: Phoenix at San Antonio, TBA, if necessary

Houston vs. Utah

Saturday, April 19: Utah 93, Houston 82
Monday, April 21: Utah 90, Houston 84, Utah lead series 2-0
Thursday, April 24: Houston at Utah, 9:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 26: Houston at Utah, 9:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 29: Utah at Houston, TBA, if necessary
Friday, May 2: Houston at Utah, TBA, if necessary
Sunday, May 4: Utah at Houston, TBA, if necessary

Golf

PGA Tour FedExCup Leaders

Rank Name	Points	YTD Money
1. Tiger Woods	17,745	$4,425,000
2. Phil Mickelson	10,081	$2,488,830
3. Stewart Cink	8,474	$2,105,512
4. Vijay Singh	8,302	$2,092,417
5. Geoff Ogilvy	8,182	$2,147,400
6. K.J. Choi	7,876	$1,801,432
7. Boo Weekley	7,747	$1,768,985
8. Justin Leonard	6,891	$1,716,802
9. Steve Stricker	6,677	$1,518,039
10. Sean O'Hair	6,476	$1,430,500
11. J.B. Holmes	6,210	$1,536,195
12. Andres Romero	5,789	$1,501,099
13. Ryuji Imada	5,581	$1,233,047
14. Trevor Immelman	5,432	$1,518,676
15. D.J. Trahan	5,400	$1,153,822
16. Daniel Chopra	5,224	$1,311,724
17. Jim Furyk	5,199	$1,295,180
18. Rory Sabbatini	4,891	$1,090,480
19. Steve Lowery	4,831	$1,151,288
20. Johnson Wagner	4,815	$1,085,569
21. Luke Donald	4,696	$1,118,600
22. Aaron Baddeley	4,652	$1,031,087
23. Ernie Els	4,636	$1,066,000
24. Stuart Appleby	4,476	$1,067,235
25. Chad Campbell	4,475	$1,020,886
26. Brandt Snedeker	4,409	$1,132,258
27. Bart Bryant	4,372	$990,442
28. Padraig Harrington	4,287	$1,105,897
29. Jeff Quinney	4,078	$986,116
30. Robert Allenby	4,055	$943,971
31. Anthony Kim	3,915	$840,760
32. Steve Marino	3,745	$895,883
33. Peter Lonard	3,573	$891,466
34. Steve Elkington	3,469	$782,290
35. Cliff Kresge	3,387	$792,978
36. John Senden	3,334	$746,248
37. Jerry Kelly	3,329	$804,673
38. Woody Austin	3,293	$853,181
39. Stephen Ames	3,211	$764,445
40. Brian Gay	3,078	$821,620

GPAC

Monday's Results

Softball

Midland Lutheran 7-9, York 3-10
Northwestern 3-9, Dakota Wesleyan 2-0 (5)

Baseball

Northwestern 6-3, Mount Marty 1-6(9)

Hockey

NHL Playoff Schedule

FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-7)
EASTERN CONFERENCE

Montreal vs. Boston

Thursday, April 10: Montreal 4, Boston 1
Saturday, April 12: Montreal 3, Boston 2, OT
Sunday, April 13: Boston 2, Montreal 1, OT
Tuesday, April 15: Montreal 1, Boston 0
Thursday, April 17: Boston 5, Montreal 1
Saturday, April 19: Boston 5, Montreal 4
Monday, April 21: Montreal 5, Boston 0, Montreal wins series 4-3

Pittsburgh 4, Ottawa 0

Wednesday, April 9: Pittsburgh 4, Ottawa 0
Friday, April 11: Pittsburgh 5, Ottawa 3
Monday, April 14: Pittsburgh 4, Ottawa 1
Wednesday, April 16: Pittsburgh 3, Ottawa 1, Pittsburgh wins series 4-0

Washington vs. Philadelphia

Friday, April 11: Washington 5, Philadelphia 4
Sunday, April 13: Philadelphia 2, Washington 0
Tuesday, April 15: Philadelphia 6, Washington 3
Thursday, April 17: Philadelphia 4, Washington 3, 2OT
Saturday, April 19: Washington 3, Philadelphia 2
Monday, April 21: Washington 4, Philadelphia 2, series tied 3-3
Tuesday, April 22: Philadelphia at Washington, 6 p.m.

N.Y. Rangers 4, New Jersey 1

Wednesday, April 9: N.Y. Rangers 4, New Jersey 1
Friday, April 11: N.Y. Rangers 2, New Jersey 1, N.Y.
Sunday, April 13: New Jersey 4, N.Y. Rangers 3, OT
Wednesday, April 16: N.Y. Rangers 5, New Jersey 3
Friday, April 18: N.Y. Rangers 5, New Jersey 3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Detroit 4, Nashville 2

Thursday, April 10: Detroit 3, Nashville 1
Saturday, April 12: Detroit 4, Nashville 2
Monday, April 14: Nashville 5, Detroit 3
Wednesday, April 16: Nashville 3, Detroit 2
Friday, April 18: Detroit 2, Nashville 1, OT
Sunday, April 20: Detroit 3, Nashville 0

San Jose vs. Calgary

Wednesday, April 9: Calgary 3, San Jose 2
Thursday, April 10: San Jose 2, Calgary 0
Sunday, April 13: Calgary 4, San Jose 3
Tuesday, April 15: San Jose 3, Calgary 2
Thursday, April 17: San Jose 4, Calgary 3
Sunday, April 20: Calgary 2, San Jose 0, series tied 3-3
Tuesday, April 22: Calgary at San Jose, 9 p.m.

Colorado 4, Minnesota 2

Wednesday, April 9: Colorado 3, Minnesota 2, OT
Friday April 11: Minnesota 3, Colorado 2, OT
Monday, April 14: Minnesota 3, Colorado 2, OT
Tuesday, April 15: Colorado 5, Minnesota 1
Thursday, April 17: Colorado 3, Minnesota 2
Saturday, April 19: Colorado 3, Minnesota 2

Dallas 4, Anaheim 2

Thursday, April 10: Dallas 4, Anaheim 0
Saturday, April 12: Dallas 5, Anaheim 2
Tuesday, April 15: Anaheim 4, Dallas 2
Thursday, April 17: Dallas 3, Anaheim 1
Friday, April 18: Anaheim 5, Dallas 2
Sunday, April 20: Dallas 4, Anaheim 1

Soccer

MLS Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Kansas City	3	1	1	10	7	5
Columbus	3	1	0	9	8	6
Chicago	2	1	1	7	6	2
New England	2	2	1	7	7	7
Toronto FC	2	2	0	6	5	8
New York	1	1	1	4	3	3
D.C. United	1	3	0	3	5	9

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
FC Dallas	2	0	2	8	8	4
Colorado	2	2	0	6	7	5
Real Salt Lake	1	2	1	4	6	5
CD Chivas USA	1	2	1	4	7	8
Los Angeles	1	2	1	4	6	9
San Jose	1	2	0	3	2	3
Houston	0	1	3	3	5	8

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Thursday's Game

New England at FC Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Kansas City at Toronto FC, 2:30 p.m.
Houston at Columbus, 6:30 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at D.C. United, 6:30 p.m.
Colorado at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Chivas USA at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

Sunday's Game

San Jose at New York, 2 p.m.

Thursday, May 1

New York at Toronto FC, 6 p.m.

Saturday, May 3

Chicago at New England, 6:30 p.m.
Kansas City at Columbus, 6:30 p.m.
Chivas USA at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Real Salt Lake, 8 p.m.
FC Dallas at San Jose, 9 p.m.

Sunday, May 4

D.C. United at Colorado, 2 p.m.

Transactions

Baseball

National League

CINCINNATI REDS—Purchased the contract of INF-OF Jerry Hairston Jr. from Louisville (IL). Designated INF Juan Castro for assignment. Activated RHP Matt Belisle from the 15-day DL.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Activated RHP Russ Springer from the 15-day DL. Optioned INF Rico Washington to Memphis (PCL).

Basketball

National Basketball Association

DETROIT PISTONS—Named Scott Perry assistant to the president of basketball operations.

MILWAUKEE BUCKS—Named Scott Skiles coach.

Football

National Football League

CINCINNATI BENGALS—Announced LB Odell Thurman has been reinstated by the NFL after being suspended for the last two seasons because of violations of the league's substance abuse policy.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS—Re-signed DT Darrell Reid, OG Dylan Gandy and TE Bryan Fletcher.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS—Signed OL Wade Smith to a two-year contract.

PITTSBURGH STEELERS—Signed OT Max Starks to a one-year tender offer.

Hockey

National Hockey League

MINNESOTA WILD—Reassigned C-LW Benoit Pouliot and D Erik Reitz to Houston (AHL).

Soccer

Major League Soccer

CHICAGO FIRE—Signed G Tyler Kettering.

HOUSTON DYNAMO—Named Rocky Harris vice president.

College

ARKANSAS—Announced the retirement of John McDonnell, track and field coach, at the end of this season.

ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF—Fired Jalana Brown, softball coach. Named Tim Munn, softball coach.

COLORADO—Announced men's basketball freshman C-F Caleb Patterson has asked to be released from his scholarship.

DRAKE—Named Mark Phelps men's basketball coach.

ELON—Named Brian Tracy assistant athletic director for external affairs.

GEORGIA TECH—Signed Bond Shymansky, women's volleyball coach, to a four-year contract extension.

HANOVER—Named Jim Watts women's soccer coach.

JACKSONVILLE STATE—Named James Green men's basketball coach.

NORTHEASTERN—Announced the resignation of Laura Schuler, women's ice hockey coach, effective May 28.

OHIO STATE—Announced freshman C Kosta Koufos has decided to declare for the NBA draft.

ST. FRANCIS, PA.—Announced the resignation of Bobby Jones, men's basketball coach.

ST. JOHN'S—Announced men's basketball sophomore G Larry Wright and freshman G Mike Cavataio have decided to transfer.

SOUTH FLORIDA—Named Frank Wintrich associate director of strength and conditioning and Ray Weisenbarger strength and conditioning assistant.

SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA—Named Ferrell Trimm assistant football coach.

TIFFIN—Named David Walkosky football coach.

Tribland

TUESDAY

College baseball: York College at Hastings College ..... 5 p.m.
College men's golf: Hastings College at GPAC Championships ..... 9 a.m.
College women's golf: Hastings College at Region III Preview ..... 10 a.m.
Prep boys golf: Adams Central at Kearney Catholic Invite ..... 9 a.m.
Prep boys soccer: Hastings High at Kearney ..... 5 p.m.
Prep girls soccer: Hastings High at Kearney ..... 5 p.m.
Prep girls tennis: St. Cecilia at Adams Central ..... 4 p.m.
Prep girls tennis: Hastings High at Grand Island ..... 4 p.m.
Prep track and field: Adams Central at Fillmore Central ..... 4 p.m.

Area Schedule

Prep track and field

Blue Hill, Harvard at Doniphan-Trumbull Invitational
Bruning-Davenport, Deshler, Lawrence-Nelson, Thayer Central at Del Wicks Invitational
Sutton at Heartland Quadragular

Prep boys golf

Sandy Creek at Doniphan-Trumbull
Franklin at Kearney Catholic Invitational
Exeter-Milligan, Lawrence-Nelson, Superior, Wilcox-Hildreth at Blue Hill Invitational
Cyndi Piel Memorial Invitational in Red Cloud
Rock Hills Invitational

WEDNESDAY

College softbball: Hastings College at Midland Lutheran (DH) ..... 5 p.m.

Tuesday's TV broadcasts

College baseball	Station
6:30 p.m., Nebraska at Creighton	NET
NBA Basketball	**Station**
6:30 p.m., Playoffs, First Round, Dallas at New Orleans, Game 2	TNT
8:30 p.m., Playoffs, First Round, Phoenix at San Antonio, Game 2	TNT
NHL Hockey	**Station**
6 p.m., Playoffs, First Round, Washington at Philadelphia, Game 7	VERS
9 p.m., Playoffs, Calgary at San Jose, Game 7	VERS
Soccer	**Station**
1:30 p.m., UEFA Champions League, Liverpool vs. Chelsea	ESPN2

Tuesday's radio broadcasts

College Baseball	Station
4:45 p.m., York College at Hastings College	KHAS (1230 AM)
6 p.m., Creighton at Nebraska	KICS (1550AM)
Major League Baseball	**Station**
6:35 p.m., Cleveland at Kansas City	KICS (1550 AM)
6:35 p.m., Cleveland at Kansas City	KXPN (1460 AM)

Wednesday's TV broadcasts

Boxing	Station
8 p.m., Light welterweights, URango (19-1-1) vs. Vilches (53-7-2)	ESPN2
Major League Baseball	**Station**
7 p.m., N.Y. Yankees at Chicago White Sox	ESPN
NBA Basketball	**Station**
7 p.m., Playoffs, First Round, Atlanta at Boston, Game 2	TNT
9:30 p.m., Playoffs, First Round, Denver at L.A. Lakers, Game 2	TNT
Soccer	**Station**
1:30 p.m., UEFA Champ. League, Barcelona vs. Manchester United	ESPN2

Wednesday's radio broadcasts

College Baseball	Station
6 p.m., Nebraska at Creighton	KHAS (1230 AM)
Major League Baseball	**Station**
6:35 p.m., Cleveland at Kansas City	KICS (1550 AM)
6:35 p.m., Cleveland at Kansas City	KXPN (1460 AM)

Local

HC MEN'S GOLF

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — The Hastings College men's golf team was tied for second place after the first day of the GPAC men's golf championships Monday at Green Valley Golf Course. The Broncos shot a 311 Monday, six strokes behind leader Dakota Wesleyan and tied with Dordt.

Will Logsdon led the Broncos with a 74 Monday, shooting a 39 on the front nine before coming back with a 35 on the back nine, putting him in fourth place after the first day. Northwestern's Luke Vermeer led after the frist round with a 70 Monday.

Also for Broncos, Nathan Gile shot a 78, Brian Primavera a 79, Jon Tanner an 80 and Rob Shannon an 82.

The second round started today at 9 a.m.

FRANKLIN TRIANGULAR

FRANKLIN — The Franklin boys track and field team won its own triangular Monday, finishing with 64 points. Axtell was second with 43 points, followed by Silver Lake with 31.

On the girls side, Axtell won with 55 points. Silver Lake was second with 42, followed by Franklin with 41.

Boys team results

1, Franklin 64; 2, Axtell 43; 3, Silver Lake 31.

Boys individual results

Long jump — 1, Brady Benson, AXT, 19-2.
Triple jump — 1, Corey Blair, FRA, 38-7.
High jump — 1, Ben Olerich, FRA, 6-0.
Shot put — 1, Justin Swedburg, AXT, 43-8.
Discus — 1, Justin Swedburg, AXT, 124-4.
100 — 1, Kurtis Fritson, FRA, 11.3.
200 — 1, Kurtis Fritson, FRA, 23.8.
400 — 1, Kurtis Fritson, FRA, 52.2.
800 — 1, Brady Benson, AXT, 2:13.
1,600 — 1, Steele Erickson, FRA, 5:08.7.
3,200 — 1, Steele Erickson, FRA, 11:19.8.
110 hurdles — 1, Reid Choquette, SL, 15.8.
300 hurdles — 1, Reid Choquette, SL, 42.8.
400 relay — 1, Franklin 45.6.
1,600 relay — 1, Silver Lake 3:44.9.
3,200 relay — 1, Axtell 9:06.9.

Girls team results

1, Axtell 55; 2, Silver Lake 42; 3, Franklin 41.

Girls individual results

Long jump — 1, Tracia Norblade, AXT, 14-10.
Triple jump — 1, Kaylie Mellema, AXT, 32-0.
High jump — 1, Rachel Walton, FRA, 4-8.
Shot put — 1, Kersha Kahrs, FRA, 27-6.
Discus — 1, DJ Brandt, AXT, 101-9.
100 — 1, Rachelle Lennemann, FRA, 13.5.
200 — 1, Rachelle Lennemann, FRA, 28.7.
400 — 1, Shala Nelson, AXT, 1:06.9.
800 — 1, Taylor Lucas, FRA, 2:38.9.
1,600 — 1, Cami Bruckman, SL, 5:38.9.
3,200 — 1, Cami Bruckman, SL, 12:29.7.
100 hurdles — 1, Alyssa Becker, AXT, 18.1.
300 hurdles — 1, Alyssa Becker, AXT, 55.4.
400 relay — 1, Axtell 56.5.
1,600 relay — 1, Axtell 4:51.3.
3,200 relay — 1, Silver Lake 10:56.0.

Joba: Pitcher won't be rushed into rotation

Continued from page C1

Cashman expects the switch to the rotation to come sometime this year.

"He'll finish out as a starter. He won't start as a starter," the GM said.

Chamberlain helped Nebraska reach the College World Series in 2005, where he beat Arizona State for the only CWS win in program history.

Steinbrenner has high expectations for Chamberlain in the major leagues, comparing his potential to that of Boston ace Josh Beckett.

"We need a Beckett, we don't have one, and he's the one that can do it." Steinbrenner said.

He regrets that Chamberlain, a starter last year in the minors, became a setup man to patch a hole in the bullpen last year.

"Slowed his development. I wouldn't have done it," he said.

Steinbrenner would like to see the move to the bullpen come sooner rather than later but understands the move to the rotation will be slowed by innings limits.

"If it doesn't, he'll be great for us in the bullpen, but we all want to see him as a starter." Steinbrenner said.

Two other young pitchers, Phil Hughes and Ian Kennedy, have struggled this season. Steinbrenner said he is remaining patient with the pair.

"You have to remember they're still rookies," he said.

In other news, third baseman Alex Rodriguez has a mild strain of his right quadriceps and will rejoin the Yankees on Tuesday in Chicago.

A-Rod was injured Sunday in New York's 7-1 win at Baltimore. He returned to New York rather than accompany the team to Chicago, where the Yankees start a series against the White Sox on Tuesday night. Rodriguez was to see a physical therapist later Monday, Yankees spokesman Jason Zillo said.

Rodriguez will be evaluated again Tuesday, according to Zillo, who was unsure whether A-Rod would be available to play in the series opener.

Steinbrenner said Rodriguez's status is day to day.

"They told me he's going to be fine," Steinbrenner said. "It's not going to be a big deal."

Yankees reliever Kyle Farnsworth is appealing a three-game suspension announced Saturday for throwing a pitch behind the neck of Boston slugger Manny Ramirez last Thursday.

"I do know for a fact that Farnsworth did not intend to throw it exactly where it went, that close to behind his head," Steinbrenner said. "That's not what he intended. I thought Manny handled it with class, his response. Kyle is doing his job, backing his team. But he did not intend to put it in that spot."

Ramirez told Boston-area reporters he thought that Farnsworth did not deserve the suspension.

Ex-Husker Mike Rucker to announce retirement

MIKE CRANSTON
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Mike Rucker, the second-leading tackler in Carolina Panthers history and one of the franchise's most recognizable players, is retiring after nine seasons.

A team official said today that Rucker would make the announcement at an afternoon news conference at Bank of America Stadium.

The move comes 10 weeks after Rucker decided he'd try to play for at least one more season. But the 33-year-old Rucker recently began having second thoughts, and the Panthers had decided not to re-sign the unrestricted free agent.

"One day it just hit me that it's time. It's time," Rucker told The Associated Press by phone. "There are about 50 different reasons why. You can think of a lot of reasons why you can keep playing, but the reasons why you should stop outweigh them."

Rucker said the finality of the decision hit him as he picked out the suit he would wear to the news conference this morning. But he's looking forward to spending more time with his wife and three children and increase his work with the numerous charitable and business activities he's involved in.

"I have no doubt," Rucker said. "It's just the physical part of having to do this day that's difficult."

Rucker, who played college football at Nebraska, was Carolina's second-round pick in 1999. At 6-foot-5 and 270 pounds, Rucker had the combination of size and quickness that made him one of the anchors of the Panthers' defensive line.

Rucker helped Carolina reach the Super Bowl in the 2003 season and the NFC championship game in 2005, and he ranks second in the team's 13-year history with 553 tackles and 55 1/2 sacks. He was also involved in numerous off-field charitable activities and business interests in the Charlotte area, including a day-care center he opened several years ago.

Rucker suffered the first major injury of his pro career, a torn anterior cruciate ligament left knee, near the end of the 2006 season. Determined not to end his career, Rucker underwent a grueling rehabilitation and was back on the field for the start of training camp seven months later.

Rucker acknowledged he was favoring his left knee early last season, but his numbers picked up once he shed a bulky brace. Rucker returned to his starting spot on the defensive line and finished with 57 tackles and three sacks

But Rucker started wondering if he was close to retirement near the end of last season, especially after his close friend and teammate, safety Mike Minter, retired during training camp.

Rucker was in tears after what turned out to be his final home game in December, but he told reporters he would wait until a couple of months after the season to make a decision.

Rucker said in February his body felt good and he planned to play in 2008. Rucker also wanted to be in the NFL with his younger brother, Martin, a tight end from Missouri expected to be taken in this weekend's NFL draft.

But Carolina, looking to get younger on the defensive line after being next-to-last in the NFL with 23 sacks in 2007, did not re-sign Rucker. Second in team history with 139 games played, Rucker started to question whether he wanted to try to play for another team. General manager Marty Hurney sidestepped questions on Rucker during a predraft news conference on Monday.

The Panthers could turn to the draft to find Rucker's replacement opposite defensive end Julius Peppers.

NU: Huskers undergo spring renewal

Continued from page C1

"They're eager and they're learning every day," Pelini said. "What I've seen is guys getting better. How that's going to equ



BRENT McCOWN/*Tribune*

Hastings High's Bryce Knaub competes in the boys shot put during the Central Nebraska Track Championships Monday in Grand Island. Knaub placed second in the event.

Boys: Nikkila wins pole vault

Continued from page C1

With the bar at 14 feet, neither Nikkila nor Friedrichsen were successful, causing the bar to go back down to 13-9. This time, Nikkila cleared the bar on his third vault while Friedrichsen came up short on his three attempts. Friedrichsen came into the meet as the favorite, having cleared 14-6 earlier the season.

"I got lucky and he didn't clear that one," Nikkila said of clearing 13-9 for the third time Monday.

St. Cecilia coach Vince Pelster, in his 29th year as the Bluehawks' head coach, said he has never seen anything quite like Monday's pole vault competition.

"It was an interesting day," Pelster said. "It's the first time I've ever seen a tie jump-off. And to see one that took that many jumps was kind of impressive. I think that wore on the other three events of the day. You don't normally think of pole vault as being a stamina event. But it proved to be so today."

Before Monday, Nikkila had cleared 13-9 only three times in his career — both at the Superior meet last week when he set a school record with a vault of 14-0 3/4.

Nikkila's personal best in the pole vault before this year was 13-6, a mark he set last year while placing fifth at the Class C state meet.

"A lot better than I thought it would so far," Nikkila said of how the year is going in the pole vault. "Coach has been telling me ever since the second or third meet that I was going to keep getting up there. I've tried four or five meets in a row for that (school record of 14 feet) and for it finally come at Superior is a great accomplishment."

O'Keeffe, who is rarely pleased with his performances on the track, admitted he was satisfied with winning the 1,600 against some of the best competition in the state. He cut eight seconds off his best time of the season coming into the meet.

O'Keeffe was behind the leaders much of the race before passing them in the final corner of the track.

"I was really hoping to go under 4:40, but I think the wind kind of (affected) that a little bit," O'Keeffe said. "I knew I had a shot at winning even though I was sitting in about fifth. I just hadn't run a good time yet this year.

"I was happy. It's encouraging. ... This is a little bit more satisfying than in the past. But I'm still not running the times I'd like to. I just have to work harder, I guess."

Said Pelster: "It was nice to see him win the (1,600) because he told me that he wanted to run the (1,600) because he thought he could beat the field. It's nice when you've got a boy that's that confident."

O'Keeffe felt he had a good chance to win the 800, too. But he got stuck in the middle of the field, even getting a cut on his shin from one of the runners' cleats during the race, and finished fourth with the time a 2:07.88.



BRENT McCOWN/*Tribune*

Doniphan-Trumbull's David Hurst (center) competes in the boys 400-meter run Monday in Grand Island.

"I was actually really mad," said O'Keeffe, who also ran a leg of the 1,600 relay Monday. "I was boxed in the whole time. If I just would have hit my (personal best) this year, I would have won. I was expecting to go under that. If I wasn't so boxed in — I was passing people in lane five."

Individually, Kelan Buhr led Doniphan-Trumbull at the meet with a fifth-place finish in the triple jump (42-8). The Cardinals' 400 relay team finished fourth in a time of 44.49 seconds.

Hastings High sent only its throwers to the meet, with Bryce Knaub competing in both the shot put and discus and Cody Weber competing in the shot put.

Knaub finished second in the shot put with a toss of 52-7 1/2, while Weber was fourth (50-4 1/2). Grand Island Northwest's Hadley Cooksley won with a mark of 53-8.

The last time the Cooksley and Knaub competed in the same meet, at Northwest's triangular on April 8, Knaub won with his best toss of the year with a mark of 54-2.

The two will see each other again at the Holdrege invitational Friday. Hastings and Northwest also are in the same district, meaning they'll compete against each other at districts May 8 in Lexington.

"We're pretty good friends," said Knaub, who was fifth in the discus (153-11) with his best mark of the year. "It's fun to throw against him.

"We've always been friends. Our schools are close, and we're rivals. But it's always fun to throw with him."

Boys results

Long jump — 1, Johnson, Northwest, 22-6 3/4; 2, Wall, Hampton, 21-6 3/4; 3, Klingsporn, High Plains, 21-0 1/2; 4, Moravec, GICC, 20-10 1/4; 5, Kuck, Central City, 20-7 1/2; 6, Smith, Loup City, 20-7 1/2; 7, Hurst, Doniphan-Trumbull, 20-7; 8, Voichahoske, Fullerton, 20-6; 9, Friedrichsen, Grand Island, 20-3; 10, Soto, Grand Island, 19-11 1/4.

Triple jump — 1, Smith, Loup City, 44-2 3/4; 2, Wall, Hampton, 43-10 3/4; 3, Englund, Northwest, 42-11 1/2; 4, Kilchriste, Palmer, 42-10 1/2; 5, Buhr, Doniphan-Trumbull, 42-8; 6, Moore, Cross County, 42-5 3/4; 7, Kuck, Central City, 42-4; 8, Thome, Spalding/Spalding Academy, 40-11.

High jump — 1, Rennau, Wood River, 6-3; 2, Voichahoske, Fullerton, 6-3; 3, Englund, Northwest, 6-1; 4, Snyder, Cross County, 6-1; 5, Sealey, Hastings St. Cecilia, 6-1; 6, Deines, Ravenna, 5-11; 7, Martin, Broken Bow, 5-11; 8, Hand, Doniphan-Trumbull, 5-9; 9, Poss. St. Paul, 5-9.

Discus — 1, Weakland, Aurora, 168-2; 2, Henry, Loup City, 166-7; 3, Cline, Grand Island, 158-8; 4, Cooksley, Northwest, 157-8; 5, Knaub, Hastings, 153-11; 6, Stokely, Broken Bow, 152-6; 7, Bender, High Plains, 143-5; 8, Rowe, St. Paul, 109-9.

Shot put — 1, Cooksley, Northwest, 53-8; 2, Knaub, Hastings, 52-7 1/2; 3, Rodine, High Plains, 50-8; 4, Weber, Hastings, 50-4 1/2; 5, Kobza, High Plains, 50-2; 6, Rodriguez, Aurora, 48-9 1/2; 7, Zimmerman, GICC, 47-2 1/2; 8, Gaston, Broken Bow, 47-2 1/2.

Pole vault — 1, Nikkila, Hastings St. Cecilia, 13-9; 2, Friedrichsen, Grand Island, 13-9; 3, Janzen, Heartland, 13-9; 4 (tie), Mills, Northwest, 13-9; 4 (tie), Pomajzl, Northwest, 13-9; 6, Holmquist, Burwell, 13-9; 7 (tie), Hendrickson, Broken Bow, 13-3; 7 (tie), Chrisman, Heartland, 13-3; 9 (tie), Leth, Ord, 12-3; 9 (tie), Diehl, Northwest, 12-3.

100 — 1, Johnson, Northwest, 10.74; 2, Cooper, St. Paul, 10.79; 3, Christensen, Grand Island, 11.05; 4, Shermer, Loup County, 11.16; 5, Cheek, Grand Island, 11.22; 6, Samuels, St. Edward, 11.26; 7, Thome, Spalding/Spalding Academy, 11.33; 8, Lee, Central City, 11.56.

200 — 1, Cooper, St. Paul, 21.68 (new meet record/Roth, Adams Central, 21.9, 1999); 2, Johnson, Northwest, 22.15; 3, Shuda, Northwest, 22.52; 4, Christensen, Grand Island, 22.62; 5, Gebhardt, North Loup-Scotia, 22.72; 6, Samuels, St. Edward, 23.27; 7, Lobeda, Aurora, 23.52; 8, Lee, Central City, 23.71.

400 — 1, Gebhart, North Loup-Scotia, 51.42; 2, Samuels, St. Edward, 52.56; 3, Lobeda, Aurora, 53.34; 4, Nielsen, St. Paul, 53.50; 5, Chrisman, Heartland, 53.64; 6, Uhrich, Wood River, 53.81; 7, Hurst, Doniphan-Trumbull, 54.32; 8, Young, Hastings St. Cecilia, 54.41.

800 — 1, Pflasterer, Northwest, 2:04.32; 2, Snyder, Burwell, 2:05.93; 3, Meradith, Cross County, 2:06.80; 4, O'Keeffe, Hastings St. Cecilia, 2:07.88; 5, Broekemier, Central City, 2:09.23; 6, McClaren, Grand Island, 2:10.29; 7, Trumler, Centura, 2:11.36; 8, Werner, Grand Island, 2:12.22; 9, Zysett, Hastings St. Cecilia, 2:13.40; 10, Guerrero, Wood River, 2:16.58; 11, Uhrich, Wood River, 2:19.20.

1,600 — 1, O'Keeffe, Hastings St. Cecilia, 4:41.40; 2, Nason, Northwest, 4:42.50; 3, Broekemier, Central City, 4:43.00; 4, McClaren, Grand Island, 4:45.50; 5, Buhlmann, Broken Bow, 4:59.63; 6, Palmer, Ansley, 5:00.36; 7, Willnerd, Hastings St. Cecilia, 5:04.50; 8, Haden, Aurora, 5:08.10; 9, Yockey, Gibbon, 5:08.29; 10, Wetovick, Fullerton, 5:11.84; 11, Guerrero, Wood River, 5:13.43.

3,200 — 1, Martinez, Grand Island, 10:28.13; 2, Petersen, Broken Bow, 10:29.63; 3, Thompson, Northwest, 10:35.19; 4, Pflasterer, Northwest, 10:45.18; 5, Kittoe, Litchfield, 10:49.98; 6, Sheldon, North Loup-Scotia, 10:52.17; 7, Carder, Boone Central, 10:52.55; 8, Ray, Spalding/Spalding Academy, 10:53.38; 9, Rodriguez, Wood River, 10:54.57; 10, Ritz, Central City, 11:03.67; 11, Willnerd, Hastings St. Cecilia, 11:06.38.

110 hurdles — 1, Moravec, GICC, 14.64; 2, Holmquist, Burwell, 15.16; 3, Webben, Shelton, 15.55; 4, Grotzky, Grand Island, 15.65; 5, Osberg, Grand Island, 15.68; 6, Peters, Hampton, 15.69; 7, Marten, Broken Bow, 16.04; 8, Bender, High Plains, 16.05.

300 hurdles — 1, Moravec, GICC, 40.50; 2, Holmquist, Burwell, 40.71; 3, Paige, Northwest, 41.30; 4, Bender, High Plains, 41.80; 5, Nikkila, Hastings St. Cecilia, 42.01; 6, Bartels, Heartland Lutheran, 42.85; 7, Wissing, Wood River, 43.65.

400 relay — 1, Grand Island (Christensen, Hudiburgh, Cheek, Tomlin), 43.86; 2, Northwest 44.00; 3, St. Paul 44.47; 4, Doniphan-Trumbull 44.49; 5, Ravenna 45.14; 6, Hastings St. Cecilia 45.48; 7, Aurora 45.69; 8, Ord 46.55.

1,600 relay — 1, Grand Island (Tomlin, Miller, Werner, Christensen), 3:33.23; 2, Northwest 3:35.21; 3, St. Paul 3:38.66; 4, Aurora 3:38.94; 5, Wood River 3:39.46; 6, Hastings St. Cecilia 3:39.96; 7, Ord 3:42.64.

3,200 relay — 1, Northwest (Randolph, Stutzman, Nason, Pflasterer) 8:34.50; 2, Grand Island 8:41.95; 3, Aurora 8:42.10; 4, Hastings St. Cecilia 8:45.75; 5, St. Paul 8:49.52; 6, Central City 8:52.99; 7, Broken Bow 8:58.75; 8, Centura 8:58.97.

Girls: STC wins relay

Continued from page C1

Jackson had some familiar company in the 400 as teammate Anne Boyd finished third, right behind Jackson in a time of 1:02.20.

"It helped having her in there with me," Jackson said of Boyd.

"She is always pushing me because I know she will be right there with me. She pushes me every day in practice, too, so it's nice to have her there with me."

Jackson earned a gold medal in her first race of the day as she teamed with Morgan Dubas, Emily O'Keeffe and Boyd to run away from the field in the 3,200 relay with a season-best time of 10:18.44.

Monday's time was more than 15 seconds better than the Hawkettes' previous season best and was 11 seconds better than second-place Aurora.

"I think we had a lot of good performances today," VanCura said. "I was happy with our relay teams. I think some of our kids really responded and did a nice job."

Jackson also ran the anchor leg on the St. Cecilia 1,600 relay team that finished second in 4:14.80.

Audrey Gaspers, Boyd, Dubas and Jackson were one second off their best time of the season in the 1,600 relay and finished behind only Grand Island, which won the event in 4:10.20.

"We didn't run our best time — but still, considering Anne and Abby did a lot of running today and in this type of meet, you don't have the long recovery that you would in a normal meet. So I am happy with that team," VanCura said. "All in all, I was very proud of our kids and happy with how they performed today."

Nicole Baumgart joined Jackson as the other individual medalist for the Hawkettes, finishing second in the high jump by clearing 5 feet, 1 inch.

Four different individuals cleared 5-1 on Monday, but Central City's Lexi Malm won the event by clearing the winning height in the fewest number of attempts.

"Nicole Baumgart was a nice surprise in the high jump," VanCura said. "Nicole has that ability to hit a 5-3 or 5-4 jump. She had a good chance at 5-3 and didn't get there today. But she had a great day."

Girls results

Long jump — 1, Armes, Grand Island, 17-5 3/4; 2, Krolikowski, Grand Island, 17-1 1/4; 3, Dethlefs, St. Paul, 17-0 1/4; 4, Fredrickson, GICC, 16-5 1/2; 5, Williams, Heartland Lutheran, 15-9; 6, Pearson, Gibbon, 15-7 1/4; 7, Knuth, Grand Island, 15-5 1/4; 8, O'Boyle, Grand Island, 14-9 1/2.

Triple jump — 1, Dethlefs, St. Paul, 35-3 3/4; 2, Johnson, Northwest, 35-1; 3, Moyer, Aurora, 34-10; 4, Entz, Ansley, 34-2; 5, Mohr, Twin River, 33-8 3/4; 6, Dubbs, Wood River, 33-7 1/2; 7, O'Boyle, Grand Island, 33-3 3/4; 8, McMahon, Grand Island, 32-4 1/4.

High jump — 1, Malm, Central City, 5-1; 2, Baumgart, Hastings St. Cecilia, 5-1; 3 (tie), Krolikowski, Grand Island, 5-1; 3 (tie), Clement, Nebraska Christian, 5-1; 5 (tie) Rouzee, Northwest, 4-11; 5 (tie), Czapla, Twin River, 4-11; 7 (tie), Jones, Broken Bow, 4-11; 7 (tie), Busboom, Hastings St. Cecilia, 4-11; 9, Pearson, Gibbon, 4-11; 10, Dubbs, Wood River, 4-9.

Discus — 1, Henderson, Aurora, 124-1; 2, Statler, GICC, 123-4; 3, Sautter, Wood River, 120-4; 4, Forsman, Aurora, 117-1; 5, Wells, Boone Central, 111-8; 6, Paul, Cedar Rapids, 109-3; 7, Herbig, Central City, 104-9; 8, Thelen, Burwell, 97-8.

Shot put — 1, Statler, GICC, 38-11; 2, Griffith, Aurora, 38-8 1/2; 3, Sautter, Wood River, 38-0; 4, Ashby, Aurora, 35-11; 5, Johnson, Northwest, 35-7; 6, Gowen, Grand Island, 35-1 1/2; 7, Hitchcock, Burwell, 34-7 1/2; 8, Boshart, Wood River, 33-10 1/2.

Pole Vault — 1, Peters, Heartland, 10-9; 2, Anderson, Northwest, 10-3; 3 (tie), Riedy, Northwest, 10-3; 3 (tie), Pattison, Northwest, 10-3; 5, Kunze, Grand Island, 9-3; 6, Janzen, Heartland, 9-3; 7 (tie), Jackson, Hastings St. Cecilia, 9-3; 7 (tie), McMahon, Wood River, 9-3.

100 — 1, Armes, Grand Island, 12.46; 2, Brannagan, Shelton, 12.65; 3, Jorgensen, Grand Island, 12.70; 4, Trejo, Palmer, 12.90; 5, Woods, Nebraska Christian, 12.98; 6, Hamilton, Broken Bow, 13.04; 7, Butt, Central City, 13.06; 8, Gumb, Burwell, 13.07.

200 — 1, Armes, Grand Island, 25.73; 2, Jorgensen, Grand Island, 25.98; 3, Brannagan, Shleton, 26.15; 4, Jackson, Hastings St. Cecilia, 26.24; 5, Woods, Nebraska Christen, 26.54; 6, Gumb, Burwell, 27.14; 7, Schnitzler, Central City, 27.53; 8, Paul, Cedar Rapids, 27.86.

400 — 1, Higgins, Grand Island, 59.24; 2, Jackson, Hastings St. Cecilia, 59.79; 3, Boyd, Hastings St. Cecilia, 1:02.20; 4, Paul, Cedar Rapids, 1:02.94; 5, Johnson, Broken Bow, 1:03.74; 6, Brandt, Shelton, 1:04.18; 7, Hall, St. Paul, 1:05.41.

800 — 1, White, Broken Bow, 2:26.11; 2, Moyer, Aurora, 2:29.93; 3, Kime, GICC, 2:30.27; 4, Dexter, Burwell, 2:31.59; 5, Grosshans, Aurora, 2:33.56; 6, Grabowski, Ravenna, 2:37.23; 7, Resh, Shelton, 2:38.89; 8, Stankoski, Twin River, 2:39.37; 9, Shoemaker, Central City, 2:40.81; 10, Miller, Grand Island, 2:40.87; 11, Gillming, Gibbon, 2:43.05; 12, O'Keeffe, Hastings St. Cecilia, 2:46.14.

1,600 — 1, White, Broken Bow, 5:18.04; 2, Huebert, Heartland, 5:41.56; 3, Kluthe, North Loup-Scotia, 5:47.00; 4, Shoemaker, Central City, 6:03.35; 5, Wolinski, St. Paul, 6:09.79; 6, Sundberg, High Plains, 6:11.67; 7, Farmer, Hastings St. Cecilia, 6:12.93; 8, Kelly, Twin River, 6:19.45; 9, Achtenberg, Ravenna, 6:21.91; 10, Cave, Twin River, 6:39.75.

3,200 — 1, Huebert, Heartland, 12:10.73; 2, Kluthe, North Loup-Scotia, 12:11.97; 3, Smith, Boone Central, 12:41.86; 4, Bader, Boone Central, 12:50.98; 5, Lundstrom, Heartland, 12:54.46; 6, Glade, Grand Island, 12:58.59; 7, Peterson, Ord, 13:13.59; 8, Case, Gibbon, 13:16.84; 9, Roetzel, Northwest, 13:22.32; 10, Farmer, Hastings St. Cecilia, 13:33.79; 11, Kelly, Twin River, 13:53.26; 12, Walenz, Hastings St. Cecilia, 14:16.11.

100 hurdles — 1, Fredrickson, GICC, 15.66; 2, Klute, Heartland, 15.96; 3, Janzen, Heartland, 16.32; 4, Bygland, Boone Central, 16.40; 5, Malm, Central City, 16.58; 6, Arnold, Broken Bow, 16.88; 7, Cambern, Ansley, 16.94; 8, Briggs, Broken Bow, 17.73.

300 hurdles — 1, Higgins, Grand Island, 46.30; 2, O'Boyle, Grand Island, 47.50; 3, Arnold, Broken Bow, 47.50; 4, Fredrickson, GICC, 48.90; 5, Gaspers, Hastings St. Cecilia, 49.10; 6, Klute, Heartland, 49.40; 7, Briggs, Broken Bow, 50.30.

400 relay — 1, Shelton (Brandt, Rouse, Clevenger, Brannagan) 51.95; 2, St. Paul 52.90; 3, Northwest 52.35; 4, Central City 52.83; 5, GICC 52.86; 6, Hastings St. Cecilia 53.83.

1,600 relay — 1, Grand Island (Higgins, Jorgensen, O'Boyle, Armes) 4:10.2; 2, Hastings St. Cecilia 4:14.8; 3, Broken Bow 4:16.1; 4, Shelton 4:22.6; 5, Burwell 4:23.0; 6, Aurora 4:26.7; 7, Gibbon 4:28.9; 8, Wood River 4:30.8.

3,200 relay — 1, Hastings St. Cecilia (Dubas, O'Keeffe, Boyd, Jackson) 10:18.44; 2, Aurora 10:29.44; 3, Burwell 10:31.49; 4, Twin River 10:38.26; 5, Elba 10:42.90; 6, Grand Island 10:43.85; 7, Wood River 10:46.44; 8, Shelton 10:47.83; 9, Doniphan-Trumbull 10:59.30; 10, Elba 11:05.99; 11, Ord 11:06.23; 12, High Plains 11:24.90.

AC: Patriots sweep team titles

Continued from page C1

Adams Central also received first-place finishes from the 1,600 relay team of Andrew Bohlen, Nick Elsberry, Nolan Sedlak and Drudik with a time of 3:44.30 and the 3,200 relay team of Bohlen, Elsberry, Overmiller and Jordan Barrett with a time of 8:44.00.

Minden was led by Al Sanabria, who won both the 1,600 and 3,200. Sanabria won the 3,200 by more than a minute with a time of 10:17.02 and placed first in the 1,600 in 4:52.00.

Jalynda Hodson led the Adams Central girls team with a pair of first-place finishes. Hodson won the high jump by clearing 4-7 and also won the 1,600 in a time of 6:02.00. The Patriots also received a first-place performance from Rebecca Rockefeller in the triple jump with a leap of 32-5 1/4.

Minden got individual championships in both hurdle events as Neale Stadler won the 300 hurdles in 51.38 seconds and teammate Lindsey Sitorius won the 100 hurdles with a time of 16.50 seconds.

The Minden 1,600 relay team also finished first in a time of 4:22.00.

Boys team results

1, Adams Central 151; 2, Cozad 108; 3, Minden 91; 4, Broken Bow 63; 5, Holdrege 60; 6, Grand Island Central Catholic 42; 7, Gibbon 8.

Boys individual results

Long jump — 1, Creighton Brei, AC, 20-2 1/2; 2, Nathan Arlt, AC, 19-11 1/2; 3, Brandon Wallace, GIB, 19-5 1/2.

Triple jump — 1, Creighton Brei, AC, 45-1; 2, Jacob Holcomb, BB, 40-6; 3, Adam Svoboda, HOL, 40-4 1/4.

High jump — 1, Nick Stine, AC, 5-10; 2T, Brandon Meyer, GICC, 5-8; 2T, Creighton Brei, AC, 5-8.

Shot put — 1, Matt Henry, COZ, 52-6 1/2; 2, Kyle Cardenas, COZ, 49-7; 3, Michael Wurst, COZ, 47-8 1/2.

Discus — 1, Matt Henry, COZ, 142-7; 2, Noel Scott, BB, 131-3; 3, Gavin Blum, MIN, 130-4 1/2.

Pole vault — 1, Adam Russell, HOL, 11-6; 2, Adam Pracht, BB, 11-0; 3, Jordan Smith, MIN, 11-0.

100 — 1, Jason Luong, COZ, 11.09; 2, Brandon Woldt, COZ, 11.2; 3, Ethan Doggett, BB, 11.34.

200 — 1, Jason Luong, COZ, 22.68; 2, Brandon Woldt, COZ, 23.22; 3, Brian Golka, GICC, 23.54.

400 — 1, Justin Drudik, AC, 55.88; 2, Ryan Holbrook, COZ, 56.21; 3, Louis Strydom, HOL, 56.94.

800 — 1, Taylor Overmiller, AC, 2:06.9; 2, Jarid Holliday, MIN, 2:07.3; 3, Max Anderson, MIN, 2:13.5.

1,600 — 1, Al Sanabira, MIN, 4:52.0; 2, Jarid Holliday, MIN, 4:53.02; 3, Taylor Overmiller, AC, 4:54.8.

3,200 — 1, Al Sanabria, MIN, 10:17.02; 2, Weston Walton, GICC, 11:26.94; 3, Nick Elsberry, AC, 11:36.12.

110 hurdles — 1, Adam Svoboda, HOL, 15.78; 2, Spencer Choquette, MIN, 16.53; 3, Micah Lindblad, AC, 16.95.

300 hurdles — 1, Ryan Holbrock, COZ, 44.19; 2, Micah Lindblad, AC, 44.69; 3, Shane McCormick, BB, 45.55.

400 relay — 1, Cozad 45.67; 2, Broken Bow 47.0; 3, Minden 47.58.

1,600 relay — 1, Adams Central 3:44.3; 2, Grand Island Central Catholic 3:48.7; 3, Holdrege 3:55.4.

3,200 relay — 1, Adams Central 8:44.0; 2, Holdrege 8:51.2; 3, Minden 9:12.1.

Girls team results

1, Adams Central 141; 2, Holdrege 140; 3, Minden 92; 4, Cozad 88; 5, Broken Bow 27; 6, Grand Island Central Catholic 18; 7, Gibbon 12.

Girls individual results

Long jump — 1, Danielle Everett, HOL, 15-5; 2, Riley Sickels, HOL, 15-5 1/4; 3, Audrey Jacobsen, MIN, 15-1 3/4.

Triple jump — 1, Rebecca Rockefeller, AC, 32-5 1/4; 2, Emily Chrisinger, COZ, 32-5; 3, Riley Sickels, HOL, 31-8 1/2.

High jump — 1, Jalynda Hodson, AC, 4-7; 2T, Jordan Braithwaite, BB, 4-6; 2T, Lea Ann Jameson, MIN, 4-6.

Shot put — 1, Carly Henry, COZ, 41-4 1/2; 2, Carlie Pinkleman, COZ, 40-3; 3, Erika Beck, MIN, 35-5 1/2.

Discus — 1, Carlie Pinkleman, COZ, 115-1 1/2; 2, Shacari Canas, COZ, 113-6; 3, Carly Henry, COZ, 112-3.

Pole vault — 1, Kellie Fetger, HOL, 10-0; 2, Kristin Killough, HOL, 10-0; 3, Rebecca Rockefeller, AC, 9-6.

100 — 1, Tabitha Kreutzer, HOL, 12.58; 2, April Niederklein, AC, 12.75; 3, Abby Niederklein, AC, 13.0.

200 — 1, Tabitha Kreutzer, HOL, 26.25; 2, Abby Niederklein, AC, 27.64; 3, Morgan Riley, COZ, 27.98.

400 — 1, Tabitha Kreutzer, HOL, 1:02.58; 2, Morgan Riley, COZ, 1:04.18; 3, Katie Phelps, AC, 1:05.97.

800 — 1, Tessa Kreutzer, HOL, 2:31.1; 2, Sadie Jons, MIN, 2:35.2; 3, Jami Fowler, AC, 2:35.4.

1,600 — 1, Jalynda Hodson, AC, 6:02.0; 2, Ashley Dailey, HOL, 6:11.17; 3, Erica Burr, HOL, 6:18.4.

3,200 — 1, Rashelle Smith, HOL, 13:32.0; 2, Amanda Sadd, AC, 13:41.0; 3, Lindsey Sypherd, AC, 13:46.0.

100 hurdles — 1, Lindsey Sitorius, MIN, 16.5; 2, Brittany Foged, COZ, 16.9; 3, Gabe Minnick, BB, 17.08.

300 hurdles — 1, Neale Stadler, MIN, 51.38; 2, Whitney Buschkoetter, AC, 52.08; 3, Lindsey Sitorius, MIN, 53.14.

400 relay — 1, Holdrege 52.1; 2, Adams Central 53.0; 3, Minden 53.3.

1,600 relay — 1, Minden 4:22.0; 2, Adams Central 4:25.9; 3, Holdrege 4:38.9.

3,200 relay — 1, Holdrege 10:46.0; 2, Adams Central 10:48.0; 3, Minden 11:15.0.

Colts RB Keith arrested outside nightclub

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Colts running back Kenton Keith was arrested after refusing to leave a nightclub parking lot that was being cleared by police.

Keith was charged early Sunday with misdemeanor counts of disorderly conduct, resisting law enforcement, public intoxication and contributing to the delinquency of a minor, because a man he brought to the club with him was 19, police said.

He was released from jail later Sunday on his own recognizance. His initial hearing is set for Wednesday.

Officers working security tried to clear a crowd from the parking lot of the Cloud 9 club after it closed at 3 a.m. Sunday. The 27-year-old Keith and several others refused to leave and were laughing, dancing and joking, police said.

Police eventually ordered them to put their hands on a vehicle, but Keith refused and took out a cell phone to record the incident, according to an Indianapolis police report.

Keith kept saying, "I'm a Colts player, I'm a Colts player," the report said.

Police handcuffed him when he refused to put his hands behind his back and he was taken to jail, police said.

There was no phone number in the Indianapolis area for Keith, a graduate of Omaha Benson High School. The Colts said in statement that the team was aware of the arrest but had no comment about the specifics of the case.

"Any incident involving any players with law enforcement we view very seriously, and we will act accordingly," team president Bill Polian said in the statement.

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Novelist — Levin
4 Dog-ear
8 RN's group
11 Mental confusion
12 On vacation
13 Change address
15 Kind of vaccine
16 Clear on things
18 Pine for
20 Net surfers
21 Wolf down
23 Katherine — Bates
24 Bard or minstrel
27 Eager
29 Center
32 After midnight
33 Nevada town
34 Previous
35 Gotcha!
36 Jagged rock
37 Directed
38 Protein source
39 Not there
40 Opera or symphony
41 Free of
42 Hightailed it
44 Wedding gown feature
47 Prefix with red
51 Townspeople
55 Free electron
56 Not all
57 Watermelon shape
58 She has a habit
59 Little kid
60 Chapeau's place
61 What did I tell you?

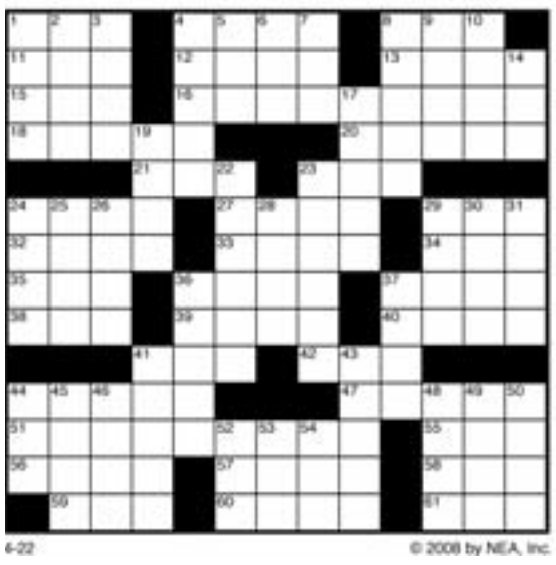
DOWN

1 Doubtful
2 Audition hope
3 Water, in Tijuana
4 Zoologist's study
5 Have
6 Young chap
7 Do batik
8 Act funny
9 Bump or knot
10 Maintain
14 Koch and Wynn
17 "Hasta —!"
19 Solar plexus
22 Did road work
23 More drawn-out
24 Strategy
25 Waikiki's island
26 Coup d'—
28 Duffel filler
29 Stack
30 Karachi language
31 Comb producers
36 Porcelain
37 Rhine port
41 Annoyed
43 Bride's walk
44 Appliance store display
45 Public disorder
46 — matter
48 Bygone auto ornaments
49 Dissolute one
50 Klein of fashion
52 Understood
53 Day before
54 Informer

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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Boy should bond with dad at home and not out hunting

DEAR ABBY: I am writing in response to the letter from "Concerned Grandpa" (Feb. 11), regarding his son-in-law taking his 4-year-old grandson hunting. I'll bet you were inundated with mail from both sides of this issue.

I fail to see how a 4-year-old can comprehend the safe use of a firearm, or navigate through the terrain to locate prey and return safely home.



Dear Abby

Before the industrialized age, people were forced to hunt to put food on their tables. Today, whether they consume the meat or not, the majority of hunters (I use the term very loosely) are not "hunting." They are camouflaged, hiding in blinds or in tree stands waiting for the prey to wander by. Some even put out bait to lure the animals to their location.

There is no skill in hiding, waiting for an animal to wander by to be shot. These people are animal snipers. A true hunter would stalk prey using a bow and arrow for the kill. That son-in-law would better serve his son by staying home with him and teaching him real life skills. — WALTER M. IN FLORIDA

DEAR WALTER M.: You are correct that my office was inundated with letters from readers on both sides of this issue. The comments ranged from child endangerment and cruelty to animals to the proper use of guns. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I started hunting with my dad and grandpa at the age of 4. It forged a bond between us that lasted until their deaths. Learning to be a hunter is also learning responsibility — specifically gun safety, game laws, and a deep respect for the animals and nature.

Even though you referred to hunting as "killing for sport," please remember: License fees help to pay for game habitat and management. Habitat and proper management assure a healthier game population and the survival of many species through conservation efforts. Also, children schooled in the safe handling of firearms at an early age aren't as likely to be involved in gun violence. — CARING HUNTER, WALTERS, OKLA.

DEAR ABBY: I was a preschool teacher for several years, and the children who were the biggest bullies and least socialized were always — and I mean ALWAYS — the ones graphically exposed to the killing of animals. These children were aged from 3 to 5, the same age as the grandson in South Carolina.

The gentle, studious, most popular children never spoke of hunting, but the bullies would talk at length about killing, guns and blood. It affected their emotional stability and ideas about death.

Please urge Grandpa's son-in-law to wait until his son is old enough to understand death before allowing him to participate in it. The bonding and skill-building experience will be more meaningful and less traumatizing if the family waits. — LOVES CHILDREN — AND HUNTING — IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABBY: If the boy's parents are responsible hunters, they may be teaching their son gun safety, nature and wildlife conservation during these expeditions. Grandpa should thank his lucky stars that the boy has a father who cares enough about his son to spend time with him. Many fathers just can't be bothered. — GAL HUNTER IN N.Y. STATE

DEAR ABBY: We can't trust our political leaders not to injure others while hunting. How do you trust a 4-year-old to abide by the rules and understand the consequences of breaking them? I can't even get my 4-year-old son to wash his hands after he goes to the bathroom! — CONCERNED MOM, MARSHALLVILLE, OHIO

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

Astrograph

Your Birthday

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

You're likely to handle yourself quite admirably in the year ahead in situations where you play a leadership role. However, when it comes to arrangements that require you to be a follower, it could be a different story.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Franklin D. Roosevelt once said, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself," and that is advice you need to follow. Otherwise, doubts will cause you to fail at something that could have been successful.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) It isn't being stingy to turn down a loan to a friend that you really can't afford to make, so don't think ill of yourself. Follow your common sense instead of your emotions in this case.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Don't ruin all the arrangements you've already made trying to please everybody — which is impossible, no matter how hard you try. Do the best you can and let the chips fall where they may.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You may believe a friend is in the position to open an important door for you, but, in reality, this might not be true. If your pal tells you he or she can't comply, believe this person or you'll make yourself sick.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Your desire to mingle amicably with a group of new people is admirable, but your judgment with regard to strangers may not be too keen. Keep your guard up, especially when something doesn't seem right.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) An invitation you and your spouse receive might appear to be special and exciting to you, but should your one-and-only think differently, don't get upset. He or she might have a good reason for it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) It's important to be realistic about something you want and whether you can afford it or not. Unfortunately, you might rate your financial position far better than it actually is and suffer the consequences.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) There is a strong possibility that you might allow someone who is a user to take advantage of your generous nature. Interestingly, you will know you're being had, yet simply won't care.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) It's important to realize that if you're not getting the type of results you require, chances are you have designed a faulty game plan. Go back to the drawing board to fashion a successful route.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Ask yourself why people who seldom do anything for you are the ones you are now catering to. To make matters worse, you are ignoring reliable pals. Reverse that.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Stop yourself from jumping in and buying something impulsively. Instead, carefully analyze the item as to whether it is worth the price, even when offered by a well-intentioned friend.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You know full well that an important objective is definitely achievable, yet you would rather believe otherwise. As a result, you will handle things in a manner that will sabotage success.

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Frugal Living — Keep the love alive in your relationship

BY SARA NOEL
United Media

A relationship needs glue to make the long haul. Apart from the unforgivable, many people simply need time to reconnect. Shared love is an investment. And much like your budget, you've got to track this, too. I hear a lot about couples who have date nights. I've been married only 10 years, but I'd like to share ways I've discovered to reconnect with my husband.

RITUALS: Daily rituals such as making the coffee or a simple hug each morning show you care. Other rituals include phone calls, going for walks, bringing home pleasant surprises, doing the dishes or reading the newspaper together. I call them rituals, but they're also kind gestures. These are the little things that connect couples but aren't as intense as deep conversations. Maybe for you it's holding hands or flirting.

HUMOR: Especially when you're having a rough day, keeping a sense of humor helps you connect. I use character quotes from movies and impersonate people we know. You can write a short note or send an e-mail. I send my husband articles and cartoons that might interest him. Show you're interested in his or her day.

GRATITUDE: A simple thank you or compliment shows you care. Offer to cook dinner or give a massage. Show your appreciation and use words.

RECOGNIZE: Seize opportunities to connect. Important conversations don't happen every day. You have to seek the moments that foster them. It's all in the timing. You could be in the car together and notice something beautiful. Shared beauty can open the heart to unexpected communication. These are the moments to share hopes and dreams or talk about memories. They're reminders that you're still in it together.

ACTIVITIES: While taking a class together or enjoying a sport or hobby can be fun, playing cards or even cleaning can bring you together, too. It might seem like a good idea to do activities that only one partner enjoys, but, in the long run, that doesn't add to the relationship. It is nice sometimes, but not all the time. You don't have to be 100 percent compatible to be happy together. You can feel you don't have much in common, but you should understand each other deeply.

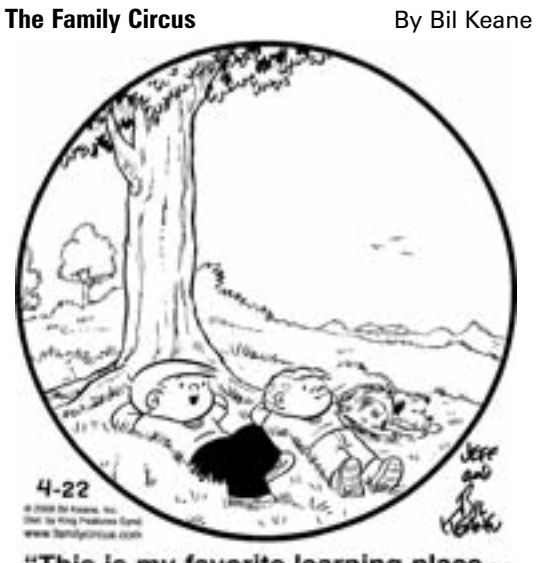
SPONTANEITY: There's comfort in familiarity, but sometimes it's nice to mix things up. This doesn't have to be complicated, like going skydiving or bleaching your hair. It can involve sharing new experiences together, such as taking a new route home, wine tasting, listening to new music or trying new foods. Relationships are like seasons. They cycle and change. Roll with it.

BELIEVE: Have faith that your partner has the best of intentions. No one is perfect, and we all make mistakes. Learn to forgive and encourage. Your responses to even the mundane moments count. Know in your heart that it's not too late to give more to your relationship. Good relationships often take work, negotiation, sacrifice and compromise. Love isn't simply an emotion: It's a consistent action. If you've neglected the important person in your life, reach out. Reconnect.

Rubes By Leigh Rubin



The Family Circus By Bil Keane



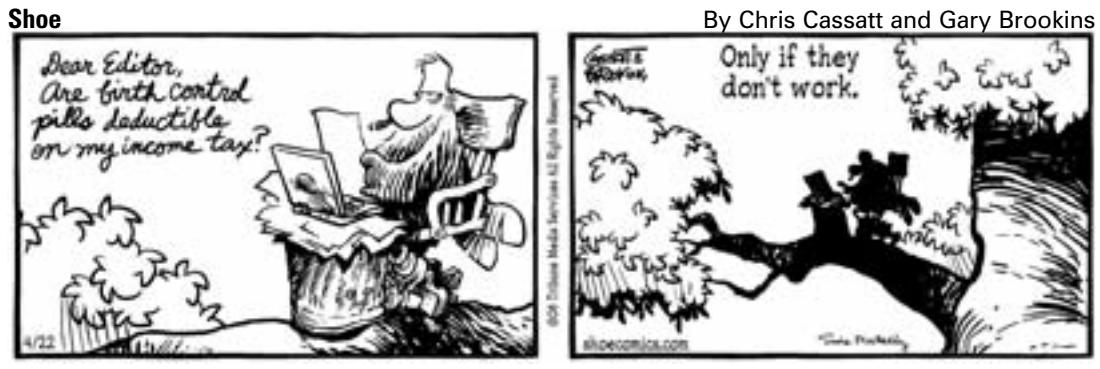
Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



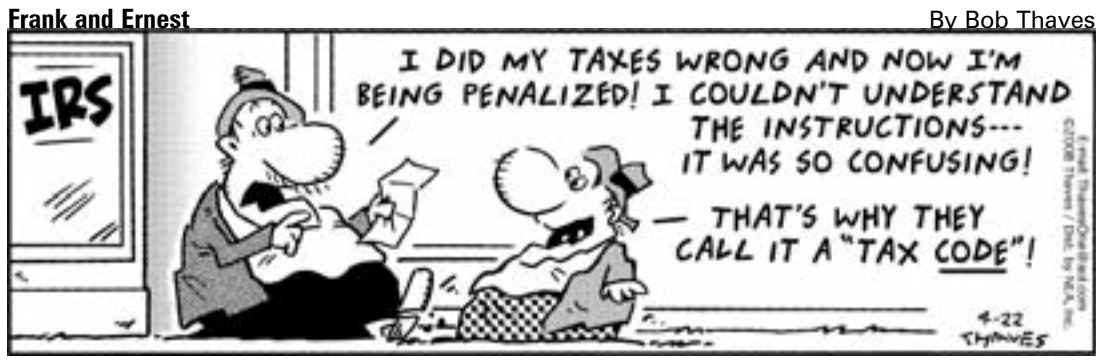
Grizzwells By Bill Schorr



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



Yesterday, it won, but not today

First, today's question about dummy: He is tabling his hand. He has a long suit, and the contract is in no-trump. Where should he put that long suit?

Before we get to this deal, what is the most common mistake made by declarers below expert level?



Phillip Alder

The answer: not taking enough time at trick one. You should take at least 30 seconds to count winners and losers, and to formulate your campaign.

Take your time with this deal. You are South, in three no-trump. West leads a fourth-highest spade six. Yesterday, when both the North and South hands were the same as today's, we learned that it is correct to call for dummy's king. Here, though, East captures the king with his ace and returns the spade 10. How would you continue?

You have eight top tricks: one spade, three hearts, two diamonds and two clubs. The ninth will come from clubs, but if you lose a club trick, maybe the defenders will cash too many spades.

Hold up your spade queen until the third round. Then, striving to keep West off the lead, cash your ace and king of clubs — do not take the club finesse.

Here, the club queen drops and you win an overtrick. But if the queen does not appear, play a third club. If West takes the trick, hope the spades were 4-4. If East has the club queen, either he has no spade left or the spades were 4-4.

When dummy tables a hand containing a long suit that is not trumps, he should not not put it down on his right, where the trump suit would normally go. Declarer might forget that he is in no-trump and think that the long suit is trumps.

North
♠ K 5
♥ 6 4 3
♦ A 5 3 2
♣ J 10 8 7

West
♠ J 9 7 6 4
♥ 10 5
♦ 10 9 8 6
♣ Q 4

East
♠ A 10 3
♥ J 9 8 7 2
♦ Q J
♣ 6 5 2

South
♠ Q 8 2
♥ A K Q
♦ K 7 4
♣ A K 9 3

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 6

Phillip Alder is a columnist for Newspaper Enterprise Association.

Nation

Product shows

BURBANK, Calif. — A newly formed NBC Universal production unit is teaming up with an advertising agency to create programs around sponsors' products, the company said.

NBC Universal Digital Studio will work with a division of Omnicom Group Inc. to create programs that help advertisers sell their products, the entertainment giant announced in a statement Thursday. The programming will be broadcast on NBC Universal's digital properties, such as Web sites.

Digital Studio's first productions, which will premiere this summer, are a science-fiction series starring Rosario Dawson called "Gemini Division" and a quirky comedy about a college-aged zombie called "Woke Up Dead," said NBC Universal, a unit of General Electric Co.

The Associated Press



GLEN WILSON/*AP*

In this image released by Universal Pictures, Jason Segel is shown in a scene from "Forgetting Sarah Marshall."

Hollywood underdog finally getting his chance

Jason Segel goes full frontal as latest Apatow comedy star

JAKE COYLE
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES — From Ernest Borgnine in "Marty" to Jon Favreau in "Swingers," Hollywood has long portrayed sensitive men humbled at the feet of cold-hearted women.

But never has a guy been put down quite like Jason Segel in "Forgetting Sarah Marshall." In his breakout role, Segel reveals his knack for a raw vulnerability that would be depressing if it wasn't so funny.

And "reveals" is the operative word.

In the opening scenes, Segel's character misinterprets the reason for his girlfriend's urgent visit. Instead of a roll in the hay — and he has completely disrobed in preparation — Sarah Marshall has come to dump him.

Utterly distraught, he doesn't cover up for Marshall (Kristen Bell) — or for the camera. In several full frontal shots, Segel completely bares himself.

The R-rated gag is already the most-talked about scene in the film. It's culled from an experience the 28-year-old Segel — who wrote "Sarah Marshall" — had several years ago. He says it's presented "almost verbatim" in the movie.

"This naked breakup commenced and, honest to God — maybe this is part of the problem — all I kept thinking was, 'This is ... hilarious,'" Segel recalls.

In a recent interview on the set of "How I Met Your Mother," where he is a co-star, the 6-foot-4 Segel is much like his characters suggest he would be: good-natured and a little sheepish.

"He kind of has a gentle giant thing going on," says "Sarah Marshall" director Nicholas Stoller, who's also a close friend of Segel's. "His eyes naturally look hurt, but he's not actually a depressed guy. He's a very positive, happy guy."

A Los Angeles native, Segel was "noticed" when Paramount's president of casting happened to be in the audience of his high-school production of Edward Albee's "The Zoo Story," which Segel says he was putting on "for almost no reason at all."

After a few small film roles, Segel's career began in earnest when Judd Apatow cast him in "Freaks and Geeks," the revered high school comedy that was canceled in 2000 after one season. It has since established a fervent cult following, and was a foundational experience for Apatow, Segel and much of the young cast, which included Seth Rogen and James Franco.

As Nick Andopolis, Segel was both exceptionally earnest and terribly awkward — trying to impress girls with his 29-piece drum set, for example. In Apatow's next TV show, the similarly short-lived "Undeclared" (2001-2002), Segel played a lovelorn long-distance boyfriend.

"It's always funny to watch Jason get beat up on and suffer," says Apatow, who produced "Sarah Marshall." "He's just fun to watch feel pain and that's always what made me laugh about him."

Says Segel: "Judd and I really collided on the idea that, for some reason, I'm able to remain likable while getting awfully close to the creepy line. It's one of my strange skills, so we've definitely cultivated that for ten years now."

After "Undeclared," Segel was out of work until Apatow's fortunes skyrocketed with 2005's "The 40 Year-Old Virgin."

On a Thursday soon after the film opened, the two went to a Laker game. Apatow informed him: "'Listen, I can get movies made now. Are you writing?'"

Segel told him about "Forgetting Sarah Marshall," sent him an outline the next day, and received contracts from Universal by Monday. Still shaking his head, Segel says, "It's ridiculous. It's nuts."

In the film, Segel's character attempts to get over Marshall by taking a trip to a resort in Hawaii, where, coincidentally, Marshall is staying with her new boyfriend, a British rocker played by Russell Brand.

Many of the supporting roles are filed by Apatow regulars — Paul Rudd, Jonah Hill, Bill Hader — but the new love interest, a hotel receptionist, is played by Mila Kunis ("That '70s Show").

It's received strong reviews and been heavily promoted by the studio, thanks largely to Apatow's track record. Besides "Virgin," he produced "Superbad" and directed "Knocked Up" — in which Segel played Rogen's friend, the aggressive and cheesy seducer.

"My character in 'Forgetting Sarah Marshall' couldn't be more different than my character in 'Knocked Up,' but sadly, I think there's some of me in both," says Segel. "It really depends on how much I've had to drink."

He's currently filming "I Love You, Man," co-starring Rudd; he's writing a script titled "Five-year Engagement" that Stoller will direct and Apatow will produce; and he's writing a script with Stoller for a new Muppet movie for Disney. (Segel counts Kermit, "the original Tom Hanks, the everyman," as a major inspiration.)

At any rate, Segel doesn't expect to run out of real-life material for his films.

"I'm filled with horribly awkward moments," he says. "It's probably why I don't sleep very well."

'Sarah Marshall' not another forgettable raunchy comedy

"Forgetting Sarah Marshall" is all about Jason Segel. Segel, who wrote and also stars in it, is perfect as a sweet, sensitive schmuck (Peter Bretter) who has been dumped by his girl friend (Kristen Bell as Sarah Marshall) and can't seem to get a life.



Bob Mundy

It's also crude and funny and, whether you're interested or not, Segel offers up that rare nude shot: male frontal nudity, however brief (no pun intended) as well as a lingering shot or two from the other direction. There's also lots of sexual innuendo and a fair amount of simulated sex, about 100 percent of which is more comic than erotic.

Peter is heartbroken when Sarah breaks the news. It isn't made any easier because Sarah is a television star and Peter works on the same show as a music coordinator. It feels even worse when she admits her involvement with a pretentious, self-absorbed British rock star (Russell Brand is a scene stealer).

Peter's idea of an antidote is to become a sexual gadfly. It doesn't work. He is still a sobbing couch potato most of the time, so he decides to go to an upscale hotel in Hawaii, hoping that he might bump into Sarah. Of course he does, she is there with her new rocker boyfriend.

Will he and Sarah get back together or will he find true love elsewhere? That is the question. The answer is it doesn't much matter because the plot is thin and we are ready to go in whatever direction Segel and director Nicholas Stoller take us. This isn't because we don't like these people, because, for the most part, we do, although they all seem a bit juvenile for their mid-20s age.

No, we don't care much because this isn't a film about plot, it's about situation comedy sketches in which the entire cast does a great job of creating their individual characters. Besides which, the writing is clever and crisp and the scenes are short and nicely edited so that when one doesn't work you don't much notice because you are already into another one that does.

Minor characters that keep popping back on screen include Jonah Hill as a star struck waiter, Paul Rudd as an aging surf board instructor and Bill Hader as Peter's irreverent step-brother. As for the ladies in Peter's life, they don't have much in the way of laugh lines but we can understand how he could fall for Sarah as well as Rachel (Mila Kunis), a hotel employee. Or is Rachel, as someone suggests, just being nice to him because she's from customer service?

Bob Mundy of Omaha is the movie reviewer for the Tribune. Contact Munday by e-mail at bmundy@pfinancial.com

'Deal' lawsuit thrown out

GREG BLUESTEIN
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Georgia's highest court on Monday threw out a lawsuit contending that NBC's "Deal or No Deal" violated state anti-gambling laws when it invited viewers to take part in a game via text message.

The Georgia Supreme Court ruled unanimously against Michael and Michele Hardin, who wanted NBC to repay them and other state residents for the cost of sending 99-cent text messages in hopes of winning a prize on the hit show's "Lucky Case Game."

The game challenged at-home viewers to guess which of six on-screen gold briefcases was the lucky case.

The couple's lawyer, Jerry Buchanan, called the game an illegal gambling operation and said state law allowed residents to retrieve money because "gambling contracts are void."

NBC attorneys, however, said the game was a promotional tool and not a lottery.

In is ruling Monday, the court said the text messages cannot be classified as a bet or a wager, and the state law "offers no avenue of recovery to plaintiffs."

The suit did not indicate how much the Hardins or other Georgians might have spent on the game. Calls to Buchanan and Joe Loveland, an attorney representing NBC, were not immediately returned.

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Greek-Style Pizza

Prep time: 30 minutes Cook time: 17 minutes

½ C. Mayonnaise dressing with extra virgin olive oil
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
2 T. grated parmesan cheese
½ t. dried oregano leaves, crushed
1 (10-inch) pre-baked pizza crust, thin style
1 C. cherry tomatoes, halved
2 C. baby spinach leaves
½ small red onion, thinly sliced
½ C. feta cheese

Preheat oven to 450°F. In small bowl, combine mayonnaise dressing, garlic, Parmesan cheese and oregano. On cookie sheet, arrange pizza crust. Spread with mayonnaise mixture, then top with tomatoes. Bake 12 minutes or until tomatoes are soft. Top with spinach, onion and feta. Bake an additional 5 minutes or until cheese is melted. Yield:6 servings.

Nutrition information per serving: Calories 260, Calories From Fat 110, Saturated Fat 3.5g, Trans Fat 0g, Total Fat 13g, Cholesterol 20mg, Sodium 620mg, Total Carbohydrate 28g, Sugars 3g, Dietary Fiber 2g, Protein 8g, Vitamin A 10%, Vitamin C 8%, Calcium 20%, Iron 10%



Pasta Salad With Roasted Vegetables

Pasta Salad with Roasted Vegetables

Prep time: 20 minutes Cook time: 25 minutes

¾ C. mayonnaise dressing with extra virgin olive oil, divided
2 T. balsamic vinegar
½ t. seasoned pepper
6 C. assorted fresh vegetables zucchini, red and yellow peppers and/or red onion, sliced
⅓ C. sliced kalamata or pitted ripe olives
1 C. loosely packed chopped fresh basil leaves
1 16 oz. box fusilli pasta, cooked, drained and cooled

Preheat oven to 400°F.

In medium bowl, blend ¼ cup mayonnaise dressing, vinegar and seasoned pepper. Stir in vegetables. On jelly-roll pan, arrange vegetable mixture. Roast, stirring once, for 25 minutes or until vegetables are crisp-tender. Cool.

In large bowl, combine vegetables with remaining ingredients. Serve immediately or cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

Tip: Add cut up cooked chicken or flaked, drained tuna for a simple main dish. Yield: 8 servings

Nutrition information per serving: Calories 340, Calories From Fat 100, Saturated Fat 1.5g, Trans Fat 0g, Total Fat 11g, Cholesterol 5mg, Sodium 320mg, Total Carbohydrate 51g, Sugars 7g, Dietary Fiber 3g, Protein 9g, Vitamin A 25%, Vitamin C 160%, Calcium 2%, Iron 8%

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Hamas willing to accept cease-fire

DIAA HADID
The Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Hamas has softened its position and is willing to accept a cease-fire in just the Gaza Strip, dropping a demand that the truce immediately include the West Bank, the group's senior representatives said today.

The move marked a significant concession by Hamas as Egyptian mediators try to halt fighting between Palestinian militants and the Israeli army in Gaza. For weeks, Hamas insisted on a mutual cease-fire in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Hamas lawmaker Salah Bardawil said the group is now ready for a cease-fire that "will begin in Gaza, and then move to the West Bank" sometime in the future. Another senior Hamas official also confirmed the group's new position.

Israel regularly carries out airstrikes and military incursions against Palestinian rocket squads in Hamas-controlled Gaza, a strip of land bordering southern Israel. While Israel is conducting peace talks with the rival Palestinian government in the West Bank, the Israeli army continues to carry out arrest raids in that territory as well.

Bardawil said Hamas was willing to soften its stance to ensure the deal's success. He said Hamas' exiled political leader, Khaled Mashaal, agreed to the proposal, indicating that all Hamas members including its hard-line militant wing must abide by the decision.

Egyptian mediators initially suggested the proposal, Bardawil said. Negotiators planned to discuss the proposal with Egypt again on Thursday, and then the Egyptians will relay the deal to Israel, he said.

Al-Qaida No. 2 says Iran trying to discredit attack

MAGGIE MICHAEL
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — Osama bin Laden's chief deputy denied a theory today that Israel carried out the Sept. 11 attacks and blamed Iran and Shiite Hezbollah for spreading the idea to discredit the Sunni al-Qaida's strike against the U.S.

The comments in a recording posted on an Islamic Web site reflected the increasing criticism by al-Qaida's No. 2 leader Ayman al-Zawahri against Iran. Al-Zawahri has accused Iran in recent messages of seeking to extend its power in the Middle East, particularly in Iraq and through its Hezbollah allies in Lebanon.

The authenticity of the two-hour audio recording could not be independently confirmed. But the voice sounded like past audiotapes from the terror leader, and the posting where it was found bore the logo of Al-Sahab, al-Qaida's official media arm.

It was the second of two messages answering questions that were posted to Islamic militant Web sites earlier this year.

One of the questioners asked about the theory that has circulated in the Middle East and elsewhere that Israel was behind the 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Al-Zawahri accused Hezbollah's Al-Manar television of starting the rumor.

"The purpose of this lie is clear — (to suggest) that there are no heroes among the Sunnis who can hurt America as no else did in history. Iranian media snapped up this lie and repeated it," he said.

"Iran's aim here is also clear — to cover up its involvement with America in invading the homes of Muslims in Afghanistan and Iraq," he said.

Iran cooperated with the United States in the 2001 U.S. assault on Afghanistan that toppled al-Qaida's allies, the Taliban.

Answering questions about Iraq in Tuesday's tape, al-Zawahri said the insurgent umbrella group led by al-Qaida, called the Islamic Nation of Iraq, is "the primary force opposing the Crusaders and challenging Iranian ambitions" in Iraq, he said, referring to the Americans.

Hawking: Alien but primitive life likely

SETH BORENSTEIN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Famed astrophysicist Stephen Hawking has been thinking a lot about the cosmic question, "Are we alone?" The answer is probably not, he says.

If there is life elsewhere in the universe, Hawking asks why haven't we stumbled onto some alien broadcasts in space, maybe something like "alien quiz shows?"

Hawking's comments were part of a lecture at George Washington University on Monday in honor of NASA's 50th anniversary. He theorized that there are possible answers to whether there is extraterrestrial life.

One option is that there likely isn't life elsewhere. Or maybe there is intelligent life elsewhere, but when it gets smart enough to send signals into space, it also is smart enough to make destructive nuclear weapons.

Hawking said he prefers the third option:

"Primitive life is very common and intelligent life is fairly rare," he then quickly added: "Some would say it has yet to occur on earth."

So should you worry about aliens? Alien abduction claims come from "weirdos" and are unlikely. However, because alien life might not have DNA like us, Hawking warned: "Watch out if you would meet an alien. You could be infected with a disease with which you have no resistance."

The 66-year-old British cosmologist, who suffers from ALS and must speak through a mechanical device, believes "if the human race is to continue for another million years, we will have to boldly go where no one has gone before."



LAWRENCE JACKSON/*AP*

Professor Stephen Hawking of the University of Cambridge, helps mark the 50th anniversary of NASA, Monday at George Washington University in Washington.

Hawking compared people who don't want to spend money on human space exploration to those who opposed the journey of Christopher Columbus in 1492.

"The discovery of the New World made a profound difference to the old. Just think we wouldn't have had a Big Mac or KFC."

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1 Card of Thanks

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Larry

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8 Happy Ads

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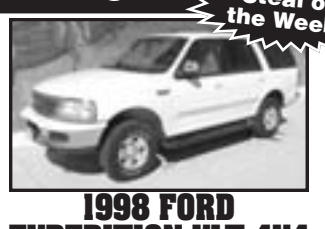
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Sudoku

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ 4/22

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

MONDAY'S ANSWERS

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

Difficulty Level ★ 4/21

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AGP

AGP Corn Processing (Ethanol) has immediate openings for Material Handlers. This 12 hour fixed shift schedule offers every other three-day weekend off. Starting wage is $13.86 per hour increasing to $14.86 after probation. Job offers 45¢ per hour increase working nights. AGP is a growing, stable company with an excellent record of promoting from within. AGP offers an excellent benefit program, matching 401K program and competitive pay. The position includes duties of truck and railcar material handling, scale operation, light maintenance assignments, and plant sanitation. Candidates must be able to read and write, pass a pre-employment physical, drug screening, and background check. Applications are available at the plant located at 2801 East 7th Street or Work Force Development in Hastings. Selected applicants will be contacted, no phone calls please.

PROGRAM & PRE-OWNED SPECIALS

2007 CHRYSLER 300 TOURING Leather, Loaded, Factory Warranty **only $20,837**
2007 CHRYSLER PACIFICA TOURING All Wheel Drive, Leather, Factory Warranty **only $19,895**
2007 JEEP LIBERTY LIMITED 4X4 Red, Leather, Loaded, Factory Warranty **only $18,743**
2007 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY LX Stow & Go, Loaded, Factory Warranty **only $17,897**
2006 DODGE DURANGO LIMITED 4X4 Leather, Loaded, DVD, Factory Warranty **only $21,995**
2007 DODGE CALIBER SXT Loaded, Factory Warranty **only $12,995**

2001 CHEVY VENTURE LS Loaded **only $5,995**
2005 DODGE STRATUS SXT Loaded, Sedan, Low Miles **only $11,995**
1999 FORD WINDSTAR GL Loaded **only $3,995**
2005 DODGE DAKOTA QUAD CAB 4X4 SLT, Loaded, Low Miles **only $18,995**
2005 FORD RANGER EDGE 4x2, Only 9,500 Miles, Auto **only $11,470**
2005 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE Stow & Go, Loaded **only $10,998**

1998 FORD EXPLORER 4x4, XLT, Loaded **only $5,995**
2004 OLDSMOBILE ALERO GL Loaded, Like New, 4 Door **only $7,640**
2001 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY LX Loaded **only $4,995**
2001 SATURN SC1 COUPE Sporty **only $3,995**
1989 CHEVY 1/2 TON PICKUP Runs Great **only $950**
1997 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT Loaded **only $2,990**

SUPER SALE — SPRING DEALS ARE IN THE AIR. — SUPER SALE
CHRYSLER — DODGE
0% APR FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS(1) Plus Loyalty Cash
0% APR FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS(1) Plus Loyalty Cash
LIFETIME POWERTRAIN WARRANTY — All backed by the BEST warranty in the business with unlimited mileage.

(1) 0% APR financing for 60 months equals $16.67 per month per $,1000 financed for well-qualified buyers with 10% down through Chrysler Financial. Not all buyers will qualify. Excludes Chassis Cab. (2) Factory-to-dealer cash allowance. Dealer contribution may affect final price. (3) See dealer for a copy of limited warranty and details. No deductible. Non-Transferable. Not available on SRT, diesel and certain fleet models.
Dodge and HEMI are registered trademarks of Chrysler LLC.
Chrysler Financial

TOWN & COUNTRY SIGNATURE SERIES — $1500 CASH ALLOWANCE — Plus $1,000 Loyalty Bonus Cash — A $1525 VALUE AT NO EXTRA CHARGE.(3) Dual DVD Rear Entertainment System
ASPEN LIMITED SIGNATURE SERIES — 0% APR FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS or $5,000 Rebate — A $1500 VALUE AT NO EXTRA CHARGE.(3) MyGIG Entertainment System(4) And Power Sunroof

2008 CHRYSLER 300 TOURING SIGNATURE SERIES (NEW)
MSRP.....$33,470
REBATE.....$2,000
GREAT PLAINS DISCOUNT.....$2,501
BOTTOM LINE $28,969 #3044
TOTAL DISCOUNT $4,501

2009 DODGE JOURNEY SXT (NEW) ALL NEW MODEL, Loaded
MSRP.....$23,935
REBATE.....$1,000
GREAT PLAINS DISCOUNT.....$1,734
BOTTOM LINE $21,201 #7841
TOTAL DISCOUNT $2,734

2008 DODGE RAM 1500 BIG HORN 4X4 SLT QUAD CAB (NEW)
MSRP.....$38,100
NATIONAL REBATE.....$5,500
CHRYSLER LOYALTY REBATE.....$2,000
GREAT PLAINS DISCOUNT.....$4,424
BOTTOM LINE $26,176 #7823
TOTAL DISCOUNT $11,924

2008 CHRYSLER ASPEN LIMITED 4X4 SIGNATURE SERIES (NEW)
MSRP.....$40,085
REBATE.....$5,000
GREAT PLAINS DISCOUNT.....$3,745
BOTTOM LINE $31,340 #3067
TOTAL DISCOUNT $8,745

2008 DODGE DAKOTA SLT EXT. CAB 4X2 (NEW)
MSRP.....$26,300
REBATE.....$1,500
GREAT PLAINS DISCOUNT.....$2,265
BOTTOM LINE $22,535 #7824
TOTAL DISCOUNT $3,765

2008 DODGE NITRO SLT 4X4 (NEW)
MSRP.....$27,205
REBATE.....$750
GREAT PLAINS DISCOUNT.....$1,755
BOTTOM LINE $24,700 #7840
TOTAL DISCOUNT $2,505

2008 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT (NEW) • Stow & Go, Dual DVDs
MSRP.....$30,825
NATIONAL REBATE.....$1,500
CHRYSLER LOYALTY REBATE.....$1,000
GREAT PLAINS DISCOUNT.....$3,224
BOTTOM LINE $25,101 #7809
TOTAL DISCOUNT $5,724

2008 DODGE 2500 SLT 4X4 DIESEL QUAD CAB (NEW)
MSRP.....$46,310
NATIONAL REBATE.....$4,500
CHRYSLER LOYALTY REBATE.....$2,000
GREAT PLAINS DISCOUNT.....$5,308
BOTTOM LINE $34,502 #7838
TOTAL DISCOUNT $11,808

2008 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING SIGNATURE SERIES (NEW)
MSRP.....$32,410
NATIONAL REBATE.....$1,500
CHRYSLER LOYALTY REBATE.....$1,000
GREAT PLAINS DISCOUNT.....$2,913
BOTTOM LINE $26,997 #3061
TOTAL DISCOUNT $5,413

2008 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY (NEW) • Touring, Stow & Go
MSRP.....$29,075
NATIONAL REBATE.....$1,500
CHRYSLER LOYALTY REBATE.....$1,000
GREAT PLAINS DISCOUNT.....$2,520
BOTTOM LINE $24,055 #0
TOTAL DISCOUNT $5,020

Toll Free 877-278-7296
*Bottom line prices include all rebates & coupons.
0% in lieu of National Rebate w.a.c.
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GRADUATION'S FAST approaching. Order your special graduate a one-of-a-kind cake design! Free delivery. 308-390-6743.

Computer Repair

COMPUTER REPAIR: In-home service. Reasonable rates. Virus, Spyware removal; tuneups; upgrades. 9 a.m-9 p.m. daily. 984-8001.

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COUGAR MAINTENANCE. Custom woodworking and fence, remodeling, cabinets, furniture, molding, decks and sheds. Insured. BBB, Chamber of Commerce member. Call 402-461-4674.

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SWEETY'S CUSTOM ENGRAVING / SANDBLASTING. Bike, auto, knife, gun cabinet and gun engraving. 402-463-5709.

Gutters

HYLDEN CONSTRUCTION. Gutters, siding, trim, windows, doors. Call Steve at 402-462-5439.

Handyman

CALL DL'S SERVICE AND REPAIR. House repairs, maintenance, concrete, landscaping, yard work, big/small. 17 years. 402-469-9755.

PREPAY YOUR Classified ads and save 30%.

Handyman

CARPENTRY; PAINTING; sheet rock; window, door trim; storm doors; decks; siding; soffitt; cleaning out gutters, garages, yards. 402-831-0833.

HANDYMAN: Roofing, concrete, painting, home repairs, lawn care. Insured. 10 years experience. Reasonable. 462-2660, 460-6756.

Home Improvement

CHUCK'S BUILDING AND REPAIR. Chuck Wiseman. No job too small. 402-751-2443; cell, 402-984-2544.

STEVE'S CONSTRUCTION. Interior/exterior, new and remodels. Quality work. Insured. Member of the Better Business Bureau. 463-3094.

Landscaping

ROCKS, ROCKS, ROCKS: Landscape rocks of all types. We deliver. Call NEBRASKA BOULDERS, 402-262-2230.

Lawn/Garden Care

22 YEARS experience commerical and residential mowing. Reasonable rates. Friendly, dependable service. PONTINE ENTERPRISES, LLC, 461-4763.

8 YEARS experience. Commercial, residential mowing, spring cleanup. NEEMOW LAWN CARE, Ken Neemeyer, 402-463-5720. Where Quality is to be Expected!

CALL 461-1241 to list your ad in classified.

Lawn/Garden Care

A PERFECT time to sign up for full service lawn care. QUEEN CITY LAWN CARE, LLC, 469-2467.

AERATING, power raking, weekly mowing and more, any size lawn. Call Omar for free estimate. 402-460-8305.

AFFORDABLE AND DEPENDABLE: Weekly mowing and trimming. Residential lawn care at affordable price. 308-991-1578.

L&K LAWN CUTTERS. Lawn mowing, trimming, edging, garden tilling. Free estimates. Family owned and operated. 402-984-3743.

PHIL'S TILLING SERVICE. No job too large or too small. Free estimates. 402-831-7837, ask for Phil

T&D MOWING and spring cleanup. 10 years combined experience. 463-0152

TEENAGE BROTHERS will mow yards. Reasonable prices. Call 463-3071 or 463-9352.

Painting

25+ YEARS experience in painting, interior/exterior. Job well done. Reasonable rates. Free estimates. 402-984-1938 or 402-752-3769.

HONEY DO'S. Specializing in painting, interior and exterior. Free estimates. 402-463-7054. Tim and Hank Yurk, owners.

ATTENTION PAINTERS! "At Your Service" is the place to advertise. Call Joyce for details, 461-1241.

Painting

INTERIOR, EXTERIOR painting and staining. Experienced. Reasonable. John, 402-462-9863 or 469-3192.

Photography

ATTENTION AREA high school seniors! Our 2008 senior specials are now on! With a senior portrait order receive 1/2 price sitting fee and many other senior specials. Call WEBER'S STUDIO, 402-462-9839.

CREATING MEMORIES PHOTOGRAPHY. Call for senior price list. Spaces limited. 402-746-3548.

Piano Tuning

FARBER'S PIANO TUNING & REPAIR: $5 off your first tuning. Call Mike, 308-826-2715 or 308-440-9186.

Siding/Gutters

SIDING, VINYL windows, custom trim, exterior home improvement. Call Doug Lemonds — 460-7806

Stump Removal

STUMP REMOVAL: Get rid of those ugly stumps. Free estimates. 463-4769, 460-0518.

Tree Service

INDUSTRIAL WEED control, tree spraying for Bagworm. Free estimates. 463-6500, Dave at PINE PATCH TREE FARM.

LEETCH TREE SERVICE: Tree trimming, removal, topping, spraying, stump removal and firewood. 402-705-2539.

Hastings Tribune
Call 461-1221 to Subscribe

53 Health Care

DISABLED WOMAN needs experienced overnight help in her home. 402-463-3735.

54 Office/Clerical

PARALEGAL/LEGAL SECRETARY
Compensation commensurate with experience, retirement plan, paid vacation, legal experience and knowledge of probate practice preferred. Send resumes to Adam D. Pavelka, Seiler & Parker, P.C., L.L.O., P.O. Box 1288, Hastings, NE 68902-1288 or apavelka@hastingslawfirm.com. All replies confidential.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR
ESU #9 seeks a person with strong organizational, communication and interpersonal skills. Must be able to work independently as well as support a department through data management, calendar and registration management, workshop development and set up, and related clerical duties.
Association of Applied Science degree in Office Technology and/or qualified experience. Must have two years of experience in an increasingly responsible clerical position and a strong ability to multi task. Must have strong computer skills with knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite and experience with other common application software.
Hourly wage compensation dependent on qualifications; excellent benefit package. Applications close at noon 5/2/08. Contact Jan at P.O. Box 2047, Hastings, NE 68902 or 402-463-5611.

SECRETARY: Experience and references required. Must be able to work Saturdays. Wolfe Cycle Sports, 1016 S. Burlington, Hastings. 462-5544, ask for Susan.

55 Sales

POSITION AVAILABLE SALES DEPARTMENT
New and used car and truck salesperson. Excellent company benefits. We will train the right person. Apply in person: Matt Kuhr, Sales Department, Kerr Chevrolet, Inc., 800 S. Burlington, Hastings.

RETIREMENT HAS opened a sales position based out of our Hastings store. This position involves selling to new and existing customers in south central Nebraska. The ideal candidate will be motivated by sales, be organized, and have computer skills. The position is paid on commission, is full-time, and will include benefits. A vehicle will be provided. Send resume and earnings history to:
Business World Products
Attn: Mike Florek
634 West 2nd Street
Hastings, NE 68901
mikef@bwphastings.com

56 Restaurant

FULL AND part-time cook, wait staff and bartender positions now available at Hastings Keno Sports Bar and Grill. Experience helpful but not necessary. Apply in person between 2-5.

HELP WANTED: Various positions. Apply within. Godfather's Pizza. 1008 S. Burlington Ave.

McDonald's

HIRING DAY. On site interviews. Thursday April 24, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Can apply early online at: www.mcstate.com

LANDMARK BACK Rib now looking for kitchen manager/cook and part-time wait staff. Stop by for application.

LOOKING FOR flexible individuals to work nights and weekends. Positions ranging from part time to 40 hours. Apply in person. 729 S. Burlington.

TACO JOHN'S
A WHOLE LOT OF MEXICAN.

PLACE YOUR Classified ad today. Call 461-1241, Tribune for fast, fast results.

56 Restaurant

NOW HIRING: Wait staff and cooks. Apply in person at Little Jake's, 1104 West J.

57 Technical & Trade

BODY SHOP TECHNICIAN
Great opportunity for someone in the field of auto body repair
- Super facility
- Competitive wage
- 401k plan
- Paid vacation and holidays

Call 462-4105 and set up an appointment with Craig Melvin, Paul Spady Buick, 2850 Osborne Dr. East, Hastings, NE 68901.

FULL-TIME TECHNICIAN position available. Apply in person. Frontier Ford, 3101 Osborne Dr. West.

GRADER OPERATOR
Adams County Road Department is accepting applications for a grader operator. A Class B CDL is required or must be obtained within 90 days. Adams County is an EOE and is a drug-free workplace. Job descriptions and applications are available at the Adams County Hwy. Dept., 415 N. Adams Central Ave., Juniata, NE, Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Deadline for applications is May 1, 2008, at 12:00 p.m.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for a technician installer of electronic communication equipment. Experience helpful, however, not required. We will train the right individual. Competitive wages, health insurance, retirement plan, vacation, paid holidays and advancement possibilities are some of the benefits. Please send resume to P.O. Box 1723, Hastings, NE 68902

59 Trucking

CDL: Wardcraft Homes Moving Crew is a 30-year-old local company and seeking Class A or B CDL drivers to join the crew. If being involved in moving 60-ft. houses down the road and setting them on foundations sound interesting to you, come and apply. A drug test is required prior to being hired. Must be 21 years old and have a good driving record. Full-time position with competitive wages, insurance, holiday pay, vacation and retirement program available. Apply in person at Wardcraft Homes in Minden, NE, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CLASS A CDL OTR and local truck drivers to drive late model Peterbilts. Home weekends. 402-469-4830.

DRIVER NEEDED: CDL Class A. Local and midwest hauling. 402-984-2571.

DRIVERS NEEDED. HOME NIGHTLY. Competitive wages with bonuses. Benefits include 401k, medical, dental, paid holidays and earned time off. Class A or B CDL required. Apply at Consolidated Concrete, 2000 N. Baltimore, Hastings, or 402-463-3479. EOE

DRIVERS WANTED: May include some away from home. CDL required. Bladen Sand and Gravel, 402-756-1261.

60 General

CARPENTER'S HELPER Experience preferred. Must have transportation. Call 461-7838, 4-6 p.m.

DUE TO increased business, Ampride South at 1410 West "J" St. has full or part-time positions available on all shifts. A shift differential is available to overnight employment. **Full** benefit package plus 4¢ per gallon gas discount for full-time employees. **Immediate start**. Applications available at Ampride South, located at 1410 West "J" St. **Come work for the Best!**

EARN $6.55-$10/hour, detasseling this summer. Rate depends on quality, safety, commitment. For application, 402-984-8674.

60 General

HIBBETT SPORTS is hiring a Manager in Training. Relocation required. Send resumes to Jaquelynn.Nowak@hibbett.com. Hibbett Sports conducts drug testing. www.hibbett.com

HIRING CONCRETE laborers, form setters and concrete finishers. Must have experience and be reliable. Plainsman Construction, 402-461-3842 or 402-751-2262.

LOADER OPERATOR wanted in Franklin-Naponee area. Experience preferred, but will train right person. Bladen Sand and Gravel, 402-756-1261.

MAINTENANCE WORKER
Adams County Roads Dept. is accepting applications for a full-time labor position with Adams County. A Class B CDL is required or must be obtained within 90 days. Adams County is an EOE and is a drug-free workplace. Job descriptions and applications are available at the Adams County Hwy. Dept., 415 N. Adams Central Ave., Juniata, NE, Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Deadline for applications is May 1, 2008, at 12:00 p.m.

RENTAL CLERK
Immediate opening with local company. Full-time hours. Duties include: sales, payment taking, delivery, collections and show floor work. This job can lead to our management training program if desired. Great hourly wage and benefits. Must have excellent driving record, be in great physical shape in order to deliver products and be drug free. Bilingual a plus. Apply in person. Ace Rent-To-Own, 1049 W. 2nd St., Hastings.

Vending Machine Technician
Person needed to enter our service department to work on vending machines. This is a fast-paced position that will involve delivery, set up and maintenance of all sorts of vending machines. Person must be a high school graduate, be mechanically inclined and have some knowledge of electronics. Prior experience preferred but we will train the right individual. Person must be able to lift and carry moderate to heavy materials. Job requires a person of high integrity, a good work ethic, a good driving record, ability to relate to the public and have good references. Person must be available for on-call duty one week out of six. Please apply in person. No telephone calls, please.
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. of
PEPSI
Hastings, Inc.
3800 Osborne Drive East
Hastings, NE 68901

60 General

WANTED: FUN PEOPLE Wait person: Evenings and weekends. Apply within, The Kensington, 233 N. Hastings Avenue. No calls please.

61 Part Time

Tribune

GREAT PART-TIME JOB. Retirees encouraged to apply. Part-time customer service representative. Approximately 20 hours per week. Contact Galen, Circulation Dept., Hastings Tribune, 402-461-1220.

PART-TIME babysitter needed in my home. 6 years and 15 months old. Hours vary. 402-705-3093.

PART-TIME COOK needed: Benefits available. Apply at Homestead Assisted Living, 1116 Sycamore Ave., Hastings. 461-3841.

PART-TIME janitor position open. Wolfe Cycle Sports, 1016 S. Burlington.

PART-TIME med aide. Every other weekend and on call. 7-3 and 3-11 shift. 463-6021.

POSITION AVAILABLE for nights and weekends. 20-25 hours per week. Come work in a great atmosphere with friendly people. Apply at Uncle Neal's, 734 S. Burlington.

PROJECT ASSISTANT
ESU #9 seeks person with strong organizational, communication and interpersonal skills for responsible part-time, flexible position 10-15 hours per week. Must be able to work independently with minimal supervision. Associate of Applied Science degree in Office Technology and/or qualified experience. Experience in coordinative/secretarial functions required. Must have strong computer skills and know Mac computer operations, Microsoft Office Suite and desktop publishing. Hourly wage is $9.00 with no benefits. Applications close May 2. Contact Chris Collins at P.O. Box 2047, Hastings, NE 68902; or 402-463-5611 for an application.

WEEKEND NIGHT Auditor needed immediately. Apply at Quality Hotel and Convention Center, 2205 Osborne Drive East, next to Garden Cafe.

70 Pets

1-YEAR-OLD spayed Beagle mix. Her shots updated. 402-726-2337

HI! My name is Penny. I'm a registered female Boston terrier, looking for registered male Boston terrier for possible romance. Please call 402-460-6533.

MADISON BIRD, animal and gardening items consignment auction: Sunday, April 27, 9 a.m., Madison County Fairgrounds, Madison, NE. 402-379-1845. www.madisonauction.com

CPI
Cooperative Producers, INC.

NOW HIRING

- **Giltner** - Service Station Technician
- **Grand Island** - ASE Certified Auto Technician
- **Hastings**- Experienced Elevator Maintenance & Repair
  Outside Grain
- **Juniata**- Feed Mill Assistant
  Seasonal Bookkeeper
  Outside Fertilizer
- **Trumbull** - Outside Grain/Fertilizer

Apply now to join a leader in agriculture serving 29 communities in South Central Nebraska. CPI knows what it takes to get extraordinary employees and we are willing to do what we can to get you. If you are reliable, hardworking individual apply today at any CPI location or call Brooke at 402-463-5148.

BENEFITS:
- Health, life and dental insurance
- Two separate retirement plans
- Competitive wages
- Paid Vacations and Holidays.

EOE/M/F
Chemical testing required

70 Pets

AKC CHIHUAHUA pups: 1st shots, wormed. 3 male, 3 female. 402-772-7231

REGISTERED MALE Boston Terrier seeks female Boston for one night stand. 308-832-0764, Minden.

77 Appliances

Your WHIRLPOOL and TOSHIBA Dealer
ROGER'S, INC.
1035 S. Burlington
463-1345

79 Computers

COMPUTER REPAIR: House calls. Reasonable rates. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. 984-8001.

89 Lawn & Garden

2006 JOHN DEERE 155C riding mower: 48" deck with bagger and mulch plate, 25-hp. Very low hours. $2,800/best offer. 402-984-4884.

GRASSHOPPER SALES AND SERVICE
Hi-Line Motors, Kenesaw
402-752-3498
www.hilinemotors.com

92 Health Care Supplies

INVACARE TWIN-SIZE hospital bed: Full, electric, with mattress. Asking $500. 402-463-9796.

96 Want To Buy

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

100 Unfurnished Apartments

1-BEDROOM or efficiency. Laundry, air. No pets. Agent. 902-9373.

2-BEDROOM: Appliances, laundry hookups. $350-$450. No pets.
Embassy Square
462-4032

BRENTWOOD MANOR
Fully furnished luxury unit on month-to-month basis. No pets. Reservations for upcoming unfurnished units. Agent. 463-0843.

CALIFORNIA PINES and South Pine Apartments offer room to spread out! 2- and 3-bedroom duplexes. Lawn care provided. VISA/MasterCard. Call for availability and your tour today! 402-469-0830.
www.perryreid.com

CHATEAU IMPERIAL
Townhomes and Apartments
Call Jeff Today
402-463-4111

Property Management Group
402-461-4902

100 Unfurnished Apartments

CLEAN, unique, large: No smoking/pets. 460-6922. Photos at: cicadadwellings.com

Equal Housing Opportunity
All real estate advertising in the Fair Housing Act makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1 (800) 669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1 (800) 927-9275.

HERITAGE MANOR
Now accepting applications for large 1-bedroom, main floor apartment. Utilities paid. On-site laundry, off-street parking, appliances furnished. Elderly and disabled encouraged to apply. Stop by 945 West H to pick up application or call 463-5953.

NICE, CLEAN 1-bedroom: Refrigerator, stove, central air. 402-519-1010.

PARKLANE APARTMENTS
(MALL AREA)
Very nice 2-bedroom apartments with appliances, central air/heat, $495. Garages available, $40. No pets. 461-4100.

2- AND 3-BEDROOM: Spring into your new apartment at Regency Heights, Hastings, and take advantage of our current special...ONE MONTH FREE and only $99 Security Deposit! Nice large floor plans, controlled entry, and 100% money saving electric! Call Patti today at 1-402-462-5205. www.perryreid.com/regencyheights

AGP
A Cooperative
LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
AGP Corn Processing Inc is currently seeking a Laboratory Technician for its Hastings' facility. This is a full-time position.
The Laboratory Technician is responsible for performing predetermined analyses and maintaining proper laboratory records.
Duties and Responsibilities:
- Conducts various lab tests of corn mash, distillers grain and fuel ethanol for quality control and quality assurance programs. Documents findings and communicates results to Lab Supervisor and Plant management.
- Conducts various lab tests of plant effluent wastewater for process control and review.
- Evaluates lab results and maintains proper laboratory records for management and department review.
- Performs analysis preparations, equipment and laboratory cleanup.
- Performs other duties as assigned by the Lab Supervisor.
- Work shift is rotating 10 hour days - days rotate - not hours.

Selected candidates will have the following minimum qualifications:
- High School diploma or equivalent;
- Lab experience on analytical instrumentation required or Associate's degree in Chemistry, Biology or Science.
- Ability to safely use chemicals required.
- Computer background preferred.
- Must be able to organize, multi-task & prioritize.

AGP offers competitive wages, medical, retirement and 401(K) benefits. Applications may be picked up at the Nebraska Job Service in Hastings or email resume to mditsworth@agp.com or mhoneycutt@agp.com. Selected candidates will be required to take a physical and drug screen and pass a criminal background check.
EOE/M/F
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

100 Unfurnished Apartments

AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY: 2- and 3-bedroom apartments. Newly refurbished units. Income-based rent. Utility allowances. Basements, off-street parking. No pets. 463-5953 or stop in and see Dawn at 945 West H.

Rentals of All Types
Rader Real Estate
463-2323 • 463-1165

102 Duplexes For Rent

1-BEDROOM: $320 plus utilities. 463-1890.

2-BEDROOM: Garage, appliances, laundry hookups. Extra nice. No smoking/pets. Lease. 984-0897.

719 W. 9th: Brick, 2-bedroom, appliances, finished basement. Private backyard. $700. 460-1398.

103 Town Houses For Rent

MEADOWS TOWNHOUSES: 3-bedroom, 1 1/2-bath, dishwasher, walk-in closets, washer/dryer hookups, attached garage. No pets. $475/$450. 328 and 340 Walden Circle. NIFA guidelines. EHO. Housing vouchers welcome. A must see! 402-984-9663, U.S. Property.

104 Houses For Rent

1-, 2-, 3- and 4-BEDROOM: $400-$650 month. 461-0442, 408-248-1464.

1513 W. 5TH: Newly remodeled 2-bedroom with gas fireplace. All appliances furnished including washer and dryer. Fenced yard and large 2-car garage. No smoking or pets. $700. 462-5776, 8-5 p.m.

2-BEDROOM: New carpet, paint, appliances. Off-street parking. No pets. Deposit. 463-3589.

3- AND 4-BEDROOM: Rent to own. Air, garage. $650-$950. 402-461-3213.

IN JUNIATA: All new 3-bedroom, air, garage. $650. 469-3539.

106 Shared Living

MALE LOOKING for roommate to share 2-bedroom house. 463-2246.

108 Office Space

OFFICE SPACE
Single office, double office, up to 4 office suites available. Very nice. Conference and meeting room available. 461-4100.
Landmark Center

111 Storage/ Warehouse

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115 Acreages For Sale

4-BEDROOM: 2-bath, new roof, siding, windows. Many outbuildings on 10 acres. Fairfield area. Call 402-984-4818, 984-1417.



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116 Houses For Sale

1011 E. 9TH: 2-bedroom. Joyce Schlachter, Broker, 402-462-5794.

1019 N BURLINGTON: Elegant 5-bedroom, 4 bath house. Max Realty, 461-3333

2 LARGE bedroom home in Wilcox, NE, with basement, fenced-in yard, 24'x26' carport, 20'x22' garage, new furnace in 2003. Across the street from the park, LARGE lot, new sidewalk, A LOT of storage!! 308-478-5381 or 308-470-1254.



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One and one-half story. Built in 1997. 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath, double car attached garage, fenced-in back yard. Nice cul-de-sac. 402-462-8082.

916 BRENTWOOD: 3-bedroom, 1.75-bath. Owner finance. $100,000/offer. 863-438-8974, 815-838-3042.

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Ron Skrdla, Broker 463-5995

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738 WEBSTER
2 bedroom, hardwood floors, [illegible] area.
$67,900



3007 LAKEPARK LN.
3 bedroom home in the Lake Hastings area.
$165,000



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2+1 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room, attached garage. **$89,500**



509 S. GARFIELD
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The Hastings Tribune would like to let you know about our "Bundle of Joy" ad in the Classifieds. For $19.95 you can share your good news, get a T-shirt for your little one and a clipping of the ad.*

Contact Charlene or Joyce at 461-1241 or 800-742-6397 or stop by the Hastings Tribune to place your ad.

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Hastings Tribune
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CALVING EASE Angus bulls for sale: A-I sons of RJ Carolina and G13 Structure. Hand fed and great disposition. Will keep bulls until May 15. Ash Creek Ranch, Clint Bostock. 402-469-8223 or 402-771-2295.

FOR SALE: Registered Angus Yearling Bulls. Popular AI sires. Mo's Angus - Mike Overleese, Riverton, NE. 402-746-3240 or work 402-746-3339.

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135 Livestock

PERFORMANCE TESTED registered angus bulls at Parr Angus at Red Cloud. 402-746-3523 or 402-746-4528 cell.

SCHONEBERG HORSE Sale: April 26, Clay Center, NE. Cataloged horses 12:00. 402-773-4289.

136 Livestock Items

RITCHIE WATERS parts, sales, installation. Authorized Adams County dealer. 402-756-6500.

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137 Hay/Seeds

FULL LINE of crop protection chemicals. Call Pohlmeier Ag Chem, Lawrence, NE, 402-756-7252.

WE DELIVER. Net-wrapped native grass, grass mixes, alfalfa, cane hay, large rounds, small squares. Inavale. Ron Nelssen, 402-746-2920.

139 Machinery

LUNDELL 18-ft. stalk shredder: Good condition. $700/ offer. 469-5274.

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116 Houses For Sale

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Kathy Tessman, Broker, 463-3555

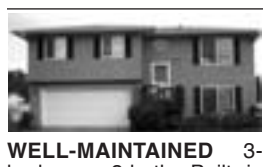
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FOR SALE By Owner: Lake view, great floor plan, 5+ bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 fireplaces. 469-4777.

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2727 West 2nd - 461-4100



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116 Houses For Sale

HOME Darla Bruna, Broker 461-6930

117 Factory-Built Homes

1995 28'x46' Champion manufactured home. 3-bedroom, 2-bath. Open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, attached bath and closet on master bedroom. 402-744-4711.

NO MONEY DOWN: Assume $54,000 loan on this year 2000 Dutch modular. 4-bedroom/2 bath, 2,000 sq. ft. Located in Hastings. 402-469-8980.

118 Mobile Homes For Sale

2 AND 3-BEDROOM homes for sale. Owner financing available. Blue Ribbon Homes, 463-2421.

2 and 3-BEDROOM late model mobile homes for sale. Already set up and ready to move in. Will finance if needed. Bring your income tax refund in and own your own home today. Diane, 469-4777.

NEW/USED 2- and 3-bedroom, 2-bath. $17,900-$49,900. Rentals and lot spaces also available. Kingswood Plaza, Hastings. 402-201-9670.

119 Residential Lots

1940 W. "B" ST.: Land consists of 4 lots. House as is, needs extensive repairs or demolition. Asking $25,000/best offer. 402-659-2431, 402-705-3047.

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

124 Recreation Property

2004 CHAMPION Mobile home: 2-bedroom, 1-bath. Like new. North Shore Marina at Harlan County Reservoir. 402-499-8567.

JOHNSON LAKE vacant 50'x100' lot on deeded land. Third lot west of Lake Shore boat ramp in Lakeview Acres in the main bay. Includes 1-year-old floating dock. $34,900. 308-468-6135.

130 Auction Sales

PARR AUCTION
Dave Parr, associate, Gateway Realty. 756-6135

RANDY RUHTER, Auctioneer and Broker, 2837 W. Hwy. 6, Hastings, NE, 402-463-8565.

Ruhter Auction and Realty Inc.

List your ad, call 461-1241!

Legals

Notice

In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska

Estate of EMMA HABA, Deceased. Estate No. PR08-54

Notice is hereby given that on April 9, 2008, in the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska, Mary Ellen Gurney, whose address is 737 5th Avenue, Hastings, Nebraska 68901, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with the Court on or before June 16, 2008, or be forever barred.

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

Jennifer Fleischer
#20990
Baird & Griess
P.O. Box 121
Clay Center, Nebraska 68933
(402) 762-3524
(402) 762-3525 Fax
April 15, 22, 29, 2008

Legals

Notice

In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska

Estate of MARCELLA C. RUNDUS, Deceased. Estate No. 07-155

Notice is hereby given that a final account and report of administration and a Petition for Complete Settlement and Petition for Determination of Inheritance Tax have been filed and are set for hearing in the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska, located at 500 West Fourth Street, Hastings, Nebraska, on April 30, 2008, at or after 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Susan K. Alexander
730 West 3rd Street
P.O. Box 1151
Hastings, Nebraska 68902-1151
(402) 463-7088

Susan K. Alexander
#17235
Attorney at Law
730 West 3rd Street
P.O. Box 1151
Hastings, Nebraska 68902-1151
(402) 463-7088
Attorney for the Estate
April 8, 15, 22, 2008

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF MIKE TRADER, INC.

Articles of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of Mike Trader, Inc. were filed with the Secretary of State on April 1, 2008. The Articles of Amendment provide that the name of the Corporation shall be changed to MJT, Inc.

Mike Trader, President

D. Charles Shoemaker
Shoemaker, Witt & Burns
420 West 5th Street, Suite 201
Hastings, Nebraska 68901
April 8, 15, 22, 2008

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on April 17, 2007, the undersigned filed a petition, as mother and next friend of Joshua David Smallfoot, a minor, in the District Court of Adams County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which is to change the name of the petitioner from Joshua David Smallfoot to Joshua David Hill. You are further notified that the petitioner intends to present her petition to the Court on Tuesday, May 27, 2008, at 1:15 p.m., or as soon thereafter as she can be heard. At that time any persons objecting to such change of name may be present and present their objections to the court.

Catherine A. Hill, Mother and Next Friend of Joshua David Smallfoot, a Minor

Richard C. Witt, #16787
Shoemaker, Witt & Burns
P.O. Box 309
Hastings, Nebraska 68902-0309
402-463-6671
Attorney for Plaintiff
April 22, 29, 2008

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ADAMS COUNTY, NEBRASKA
JANETH PEDROZA vs. CESAR GARCIA

TO CESAR GARCIA, DEFENDANT:

You are hereby notified that on April 11, 2008, Plaintiff Janeth Pedroza filed a Complaint against you in the District Court of Adams County, Nebraska, as Case No. CI08-239, the object and prayer of which is a dissolution of your marriage, custody of Axel C. Garcia, and related property and support orders.

You are required to answer said Complaint on or before 30 days after the final publication of this Notice. Hearing on the Complaint will be held on Wednesday, June 18, 2008, at 11:30 a.m., in the District Court courtroom of the Adams County Courthouse, 4th and Denver, Hastings, Nebraska.

JANETH PEDROZA, Plaintiff

Richard C. Witt, #16787
Shoemaker, Witt & Burns
P.O. Box 309
Hastings, Nebraska 68902-0309
402-463-6671
Attorney for Plaintiff
April 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2008

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

The following described real estate will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder in the hall inside the west door on the ground level in the Adams County Courthouse, Hastings, Nebraska, on Wednesday, June 4, 2008, commencing at 9:30 a.m. and remaining open until 10:00 a.m. or the bidding ceases whichever is later. The highest bidder must pay the purchase price in full in cash or by bank cashiers check forthwith after the sale is closed and will receive a Trustee's Deed to the real estate. The property is being sold "as is" and subject to any unpaid real estate taxes. The Trustee's Deed shall operate to convey to the purchaser, without right of redemption, the Trustee's title and all right, title and interest and claim of the Trustor and of all persons claiming by, through or under them, including all such rights and claims acquired by the Trustor or his or her successors in interest subsequent to the execution of the Deed of Trust. The real estate is Lot Two (2), Lakeview Second Addition, a subdivision in the City of Hastings, Adams County, Nebraska.

THE BANK OF DONIPHAN, Trustee

Howard E. Tracy, #14236
The Legal Professional Corporation of Howard E. Tracy
706 West Koenig Street
Grand Island, Nebraska 68801-6556
(308) 382-5154
April 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2008

Legals

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder in the Lobby of the Adams County Courthouse, Hastings, Nebraska on the 21st day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock a.m.:

Lot One Hundred Eight (108), A.M. Ghost's Addition to the City of Hastings, Adams County, Nebraska, according to the recorded plat thereof,

more commonly known as: 422 South New York Avenue, Hastings, Nebraska 68901.

The property is being sold "as is" and subject to any unpaid real estate taxes, assessments and any lien or interest superior in right which may affect the subject property. The highest bidder will deposit $500.00 in cash or certified funds with the Trustee at the time of the sale, which shall be non-refundable, and the remaining amount due must be paid in cash or certified funds to the Trustee by 4:00 p.m. on the day of the sale; except this requirement is waived when the highest bidder is the current Beneficiary. The successful bidder shall be responsible for applicable transfer fees or taxes including the documentary stamp tax.

DATED 8th day of April, 2008

STEFFI A. SWANSON, Substitute Trustee (10303)
Law Offices of Steffi A. Swanson, P.C., L.L.O.
1902 Harlan Drive, Suite A
Bellevue, Nebraska 68005
(402) 292-7700
April 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2008

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder in the Lobby of the Adams County Courthouse, Hastings, Nebraska on the 21st day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock a.m.:

Beginning 33.5 feet East of the Southwest corner of the Southwest quarter (SW 1/4) of Section 15, Township 5 North, Range 10 West of the Sixth P.M., Adams County, Nebraska; running thence North 450.42 feet; thence East parallel to the South Section line 208.71 feet; thence South, parallel to highway right-of-way 450.42 feet to the South Section line; and thence West on said section line 208.71 feet to the place of beginning.,

more commonly known as: 4170 West Powerline Road, Ayr, Nebraska 68925.

The property is being sold "as is" and subject to any unpaid real estate taxes, assessments and any lien or interest superior in right which may affect the subject property. The highest bidder will deposit $500.00 in cash or certified funds with the Trustee at the time of the sale, which shall be non-refundable, and the remaining amount due must be paid in cash or certified funds to the Trustee by 4:00 p.m. on the day of the sale; except this requirement is waived when the highest bidder is the current Beneficiary. The successful bidder shall be responsible for applicable transfer fees or taxes including the documentary stamp tax.

DATED 8th day of April, 2008

STEFFI A. SWANSON., Substitute Trustee (10298)
Law Offices of Steffi A. Swanson, P.C., L.L.O.
1902 Harlan Drive, Suite A
Bellevue, Nebraska 68005
(402) 292-7700
April 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2008

In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska

IN THE INTEREST OF JENNIFER HOANG A CHILD UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE.	))))	Case No. JV06-224 ORDER FOR NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

Now on this 1st day of April, 2008, in this matter came on for consideration before the Court for an order of service of summons and notice by publication.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that personal service or residential service of summons or notice cannot be made upon Tri Van Hoang and any other person who claims a parental interest in the above-named child and that after diligent and reasonable search and inquiry, the whereabouts of Tri Van Hoang and any other person who claims a parental interest in the above named child cannot be ascertained, and that said person who may claim an interest in Jennifer Hoang is a child under eighteen years of age, should be given notice of this proceeding by publication as provided by law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE COURT that summons and notice of this proceeding in the above entitled matter shall be given by publication once each week for three weeks and that the form of said notice and summons shall be as follows:

In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska

IN THE INTEREST OF JENNIFER HOANG, A CHILD UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE.	))))	Case No. JV06-224 SUMMONS & NOTICE

TO: TRI VAN HOANG and any other person claiming parental interest in the above named child
GREETINGS:

You will take notice that a proceeding concerning JENNIFER HOANG, a child born on or about December 9, 2003, alleging said child is a neglected and/or abandoned child and requesting termination of parental rights, is pending in the above-named court and that an arraignment hearing on the request for an order terminating the parental rights of said Tri Van Hoang will be held on the 6th day of May, 2008, at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

You will further take notice that this is a proceeding to terminate your parental rights to the above-named child in order that the child can be placed for adoption.

You are commanded to appear personally before this Court at the time and date stated and answer to the allegations herein or you will be forever barred, and this Court will make determination and disposition, including the termination of parental rights, which will allow said child to be adopted if said disposition is in the best interests of said child.

Dated this 1st day of April, 2008.

BY THE COURT:
Tom Hawes
Clerk Magistrate

April 8, 15, 22, 2008

In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska

IN THE INTEREST OF KATHY HOANG A CHILD UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE.	))))	Case No. JV06-225 ORDER FOR NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

Now on this 1st day of April, 2008, in this matter came on for consideration before the Court for an order of service of summons and notice by publication.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that personal service or residential service of summons or notice cannot be made upon Tri Van Hoang and any other person who claims a parental interest in the above-named child and that after diligent and reasonable search and inquiry, the whereabouts of Tri Van Hoang and any other person who claims a parental interest in the above named child cannot be ascertained, and that said person who may claim an interest in Kathy Hoang is a child under eighteen years of age, should be given notice of this proceeding by publication as provided by law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE COURT that summons and notice of this proceeding in the above entitled matter shall be given by publication once each week for three weeks and that the form of said notice and summons shall be as follows:

In the County Court of Adams County, Nebraska

IN THE INTEREST OF KATHY HOANG, A CHILD UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE.	))))	Case No. JV06-225 SUMMONS & NOTICE

TO: TRI VAN HOANG and any other person claiming parental interest in the above named child
GREETINGS:

You will take notice that a proceeding concerning KATHY HOANG, a child born on or about March 7, 2001, alleging said child is a neglected and/or abandoned child and requesting termination of parental rights, is pending in the above-named court and that an arraignment hearing on the request for an order terminating the parental rights of said Tri Van Hoang will be held on the 6th day of May, 2008, at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

You will further take notice that this is a proceeding to terminate your parental rights to the above-named child in order that the child can be placed for adoption.

You are commanded to appear personally before this Court at the time and date stated and answer to the allegations herein or you will be forever barred, and this Court will make determination and disposition, including the termination of parental rights, which will allow said child to be adopted if said disposition is in the best interests of said child.

Dated this 1st day of April, 2008.

BY THE COURT:
Tom Hawes
Clerk Magistrate

April 8, 15, 22, 2008

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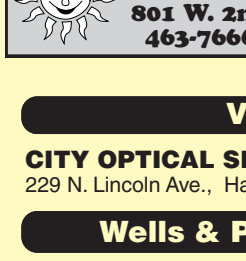
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