

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2006

\$1.25

# GREAT BEND TRIBUNE WEEKEND Edition

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### DEATHS

Herman Krug, 92, Denver, Colo.  
Wilma Utherta Stephens, 78, Hoisington  
Agnes Louise Condit, 88, Great Bend  
Helen J. Menzer, 90, Olmitz

See Obituaries, Page A5  
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### Snow likely

High 31, low 21 today.  
Details on Page A2



### SEE PARADE



INSIDE!



### NCAA TOURNAY

WSU advances  
A9



### Polly want some coffee?

Project helps the poor  
B1

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## Legislators bound for special session

TOPEKA (AP) — Legislators were on a highway to a bipartisan plan for boosting state aid to public schools, but they appear to have exited onto a road that dead ends in a special session this summer.

Leaders' hopes have faded for passing a plan to phase in an increase of between \$500 million and \$660 million over three years. Rank-and-file lawmakers have seen projections for a huge budget shortfall in the third year, and the Senate has rejected a bill to expand gambling to help fill the hole.

Backers of a three-year plan haven't given up completely but acknowledge sup-

port for the idea has waned. They also acknowledge that a single-year plan isn't likely to provide anywhere near the money the Kansas Supreme Court deems necessary.

If legislators don't satisfy the court with the plan they pass before the regular session ends in May,



Sebelius

BOUND continued on A14

### Special sessions of the Kansas Legislature:

- 1874: 7 days, called by Gov. Thomas Osborn, a Republican, to deal with a grasshopper plague destroying crops.
- 1884: 6 days, called by Gov. George Glick, a Democrat, to deal with an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in cattle.
- 1886: 28 days, called by Gov. John Martin, a Republican, to resolve redis-

tricting and deal with appropriations issues.

• 1898-99: 17 days, called by Gov. John Leedy, a Populist, to impose new regulations on railroad charges.

• 1903: 3 days, called by Gov. Willis Bailey, a Republican, to enact emergency flood relief legislation.

SESSIONS continued on A14

### A visit inside the walls of a prison teaches students

## TOUGH LESSONS

By TERRY SPRADLEY  
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With the clang of a heavy metal door, the lives of several Scott City high school students turn into one of long empty hallways, concrete beds, and locked doors.

Fortunately, for these students their confinement is temporary.

The Larned Correctional Facility hosts several tours a year, showing students and other groups the inside of a world they will hopefully never see.

The correctional facility has basketball courts, computer study centers, and commons areas that one might expect to see on a typical college campus, but look closely and the signs of confinement are ever apparent.

Security cameras peer down the hallways and monitor each of the rooms, red mushroom-headed buttons protrude from several walls, and always there is the sound of a door closing behind you.

"These are panic buttons," Warden Karen Rohling says as she pointed to one of the red knobs. "Push this and there will be several security officers here in a matter of sec-

TOUGH continued on A14



TERRY SPRADLEY/ Great Bend Tribune

Scott City High School student, Michelle Lane volunteers to be cuffed and belted for demonstration purposes. Karen Pounds' Psychology class saw many aspects of prison life during the tour.

## Andereck retires from 33-year education career

By PAM MARTIN  
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HOISINGTON — Dean Andereck spent 33 years of a 34-year education career in Hoisington, with 21 of those years as principal of the Hoisington Middle School.

He will be retiring at the end of this school year.

"I'm getting out while I still enjoy it," Andereck said with a laugh.

Andereck taught 28 fourth- and fifth-grade students his first year of teaching at Burns, a small town near Wichita, before taking a fourth grade teaching position at Hoisington.

"I never had a desire to teach at a bigger city," he said.

And Hoisington turned out to be just right.

While teaching and coaching, Andereck attended Fort Hays State University to get his masters in education. In 1985 he accepted the middle school principal position. He thrives on working with the students.

"I'm a student principal," Andereck said.

A little game he keeps in his desk serves as a reminder of his teaching years. Every Friday he would let his fifth-grade students try and get the plastic ball, attached by string to a plastic basketball player figure, into the basket. The student with an "A" grade got four tries, down to one try for a "D." One basket equaled a pack of gum, on up to a can of pop for four baskets. The kids looked forward to that every Friday, he said.

Middle school kids, sixth through eighth grades, "come in as kids and go out as



Andereck

RETIRES continued on A7

Crew members just want to help

By DALE HOGG  
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They just want to help and learn some life lessons along the way.

That is all the 15 members of Venture Crew 188 ask of their experience in this co-ed Boy Scout unit sponsored by Sunflower Community Support, a division of Sunflower Diversified

Services.

The crew members manned a concession stand at the old Barton County Fair Grounds Saturday afternoon, serving food to those attending an auction there. This marked the second time the members had

HELP continued on A14



DALE HOGG/ Great Bend Tribune

Venture Crew 188 members Brenda Jackson and Leanea Ditus serve Delphine Hickey and Rosie Schremmer. The crew operated a fund-raising concession stand at an auction Saturday.

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# Bound

Continued from Page A1

the court could do what it did last year — tell lawmakers exactly how much to spend and set a deadline. Gov. Kathleen Sebelius would be forced to call a special session.

“My feelings are even stronger that we’re on a path to a special session,” said Sen. John Vratil, R-Leawood, one of the first legislators to predict such a session.

In Kansas, special sessions often are dreaded, and they’re not routine. There have been 21 in the 145 years since statehood, and last year’s was the first in more than 15 years. The last time there were special session sessions in consecutive years was 1933-34.

One reason House members want to avoid a special session is they are up for election this year, and the law says they can’t raise campaign funds from lobbyists and corporations during a legislative session — including special sessions.

Prospects for a special session remain higher than usual as long as the Supreme Court

retains jurisdiction over a lawsuit in which justices said lawmakers hadn’t lived up to a constitutional obligation to provide enough money for schools.

The court prodded legislators into increasing spending by \$290 million, or more than 10 percent, putting total state aid to Kansas’ 300 school districts at more than \$3 billion. But the justices deemed last year’s increase sufficient only for “interim purposes.”

This year, legislative leaders appeared to cruise for weeks toward a relatively peaceful resolution. Republicans, Sebelius and her fellow Democrats all said GOP leaders were keeping rancor from creeping into talks over school finance.

One reason was the Jan. 9 report from the Legislative Division of Post Audit, saying legislators had to spend an additional \$400 million to meet judicial and constitutional mandates. The division works for the Legislature.

House leaders drafted a \$500 million plan; Senate leaders’ was worth \$660 million. Both provided additional

money for programs that help at-risk children, particularly those living in a few urban districts, without hurting rural schools.

But absent new revenue, both would cause a budget shortfall next year. If it were ignored, it would grow to more than \$600 million the following year. Other existing financial obligations would contribute to the problem, too.

Senate leaders pinned their hopes on a gambling bill, even though nothing has passed their chamber since 1993. Failing Thursday night was a measure allowing casinos in Wyandotte County and far southeast Kansas, as well as slot machines at three dog and horse tracks.

“I’m still on target for a three-year plan, but I don’t believe right now there’s support in the Senate for a three-year plan,” said Education Committee Chairwoman Jean Schodorf, R-Wichita.

Nor does there seem to be much support in the House, where the Select Committee on School Finance jettisoned a firm commitment to large spending increases for a second and third year.

# Tough

Continued from Page 1

onds.” The officers use these red buttons in case a fight or uprising occurs. Rohling told the group there has never been a problem while a tour group was in the facility but there is always that chance. “A call for assistance can also go out over the radios, so if you see several officers moving fast clear the way by backing up against the walls as quickly as you can.”

The correctional facility houses approximately 150 inmates. These inmates are at the Larned Correctional Facility because they need mental treatment that they are unable to get at the other prisons in Kansas. Many are maximum-security prisoners.

The students in the tour group retain a smile and jovial attitude as the group passes through the workout and learning centers, all the while passing prisoners of minimum security that are working out, playing a piano, or just lining the hallway. However, the attitude takes a somber change as the class passes through the high security central command post.

Automated doors open and close as a security officer in a glass booth pushes buttons allowing the tour group to pass through the different sections. A head count is taken to verify the number in the group, another button is

pushed and the group passes through a doorway leading into the maximum-security wing of the prison. Again the sound of a heavy door closing behind them lends an eerie feeling of isolation to the tour.

“These inmates are under 23-hour lockdown,” Correctional Councillor 2 David Brown said. They are only allowed out of their cells for an hour a day, five days a week. One of the girls in the group looks into a tiny glass window of a cell door, and almost immediately, the face of an inmate fills the glass peering back at her from inside. The student jumps back in shock and surprise.

The smiles and light-hearted attitude of the tour is gone as Brown continues talking about the maximum-security wing of hallway E1. An empty cell is opened and several students from the group enter the confined living area, several fidget with their heads down as Brown points out damage to the interior of the door and other items in the small white room.

An angry inmate has stuffed toothpaste in the speaker box to muffle commands from the guards. The interior of the heavy metal door has scars and bends from an inmate repeatedly kicking against it. “They will actually bend these doors,” Brown says as he points to the lower corner of the massive door.

Brown also explains a large plastic guard that covers one of the doors at the end of the hallway. Prisoners will get mad and try to throw urine or feces through the cracks of the doors at officers, Brown explains. The plastic shield or smaller sandbag-looking blocks are put in place temporarily to prevent that.

Outside the guests are shown the small caged runs the inmates are put into when it is time for their one hour a day exercise periods. Some are no more than a concrete run with nothing in it. One of the students asks what the men do in there. Warden Rohling answers that they just walk. She points out that some of the exercise units have basketball goals, and chin up bars for the inmates the request that type of exercise.

By the time the tour group gets out of the maximum-security unit, a more somber mood is apparent. A collective sigh of relief is almost audible as they return to the slightly more hospitable conference and office area just behind the metal detectors and initial guard position they passed through only two hours earlier.

The tour of the facility is over, but the group is not finished with their reality check of life behind bars.

Three inmates from the Stop Violence group are wait-

# Sessions

Continued from Page A1

• 1908: 16 days, called by Gov. Edward Hoch, a Republican, to deal with regulation of railroad rates, create a primary election and respond to a financial panic with banking legislation.

• 1919: 4 days, called by Gov. Henry Allen, a Republican, to have the Legislature ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, providing voting rights for women.

• 1920: 20 days, called by Allen to deal with social unrest caused by a coal miner’s strike and to pay Kansas National Guard expenses.

• 1923: 7 days, called by Gov. Jonathan Davis, a Democrat, after learning \$25 million in bonds wouldn’t cover voter-approved payments to World War I veterans.

• 1928: 3 days, called by Gov. Ben Paulen, a Republican, to draft an amendment to the Kansas Constitution to allow the state to build and maintain highways, so it wouldn’t lose federal funds.

• 1930: 11 days, called by Gov. Clyde Reed, a Republican, to draft a constitutional amendment on tax policy and respond to a Kansas Supreme Court decision on tax issues.

• 1933: 27 days, called by Gov. Alf Landon, a Republican, to investigate the forging of municipal bonds and to respond to federal banking and work relief laws.

• 1934: 6 days, called by Landon, to revise and extend a moratorium on mortgage foreclosures.

• 1936: 7 days, called by Landon, to draft a constitutional amendment to allow the state

to participate in the federal Social Security program.

• 1938: 22 days, called by Gov. Walter Huxman, a Democrat, to make further changes to welfare laws and increase state funding.

• 1958: 17 days, called by Gov. George Docking, a Democrat, to respond to a budget crisis brought on by the Kansas Supreme Court’s striking down a mineral severance tax.

• 1964: 6 days, called by Gov. John Anderson, a Republican, to deal with legislative redistricting in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court’s historic one-person, one-vote ruling.

• 1966: 14 days, called by Gov. Bill Avery, a Republican, to deal with legislative redistricting again, in the wake of another U.S. Supreme Court decision striking down a Kansas law.

• 1987: 6 days, called by Gov. Mike Hayden, a Republican, in an unsuccessful attempt to enact a comprehensive highway program.

• 1989: 2 days, called by Hayden, to extend home and business owners’ deadline for paying property taxes.

• 2005: 12 days, called by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, a Democrat, to respond to a Kansas Supreme Court order that legislators provide an additional \$143 million to public schools.

Sources: Kansas State Library, House and Senate Journals, 1874-2005.

# Help

Continued from Page 1

been food vendors.

“Last time, we were more hands on” and helped the scouts, said Amanda Urban, crew advisor. This time, the scouts, all clients of Sunflower, worked on their own.

“We just want to learn stuff like how to help people out in the community,” said member Brenda Jackson. She also said they learn life skills.

“I just want to help out,” said member Ivan Smith. He said the customer service skills he learns are also beneficial.

Urban said the group wants to raise money to purchase

uniforms and to give back to organizations such as the humane society which is wanting to purchase a new truck.

Crew members take part in “all kinds of community service,” Urban said. They retire flags, take part in food drives, as well as go camping and swimming.

This all fits into Sunflower Community Support’s mission. Urban said its goal is to help integrate the clients into the community as much as possible and help them become more independent.

She also noted the group members are open to any community service project, they just need to be asked.

## Dear Community Friend —

As a community partner with Central Kansas Medical Center, I would like to invite you to view our new publication, *Healthcare for your Life*.

This hospital guide gathers all the information patients need into one convenient publication. *Healthcare for Your Life* showcases CKMC’s continuum of services along with practical patient information, the patient bill of rights and a financial review.

Because we want to be good stewards of our financial resources, we will focus distribution of the guide on the people it was intended for - our patients. If you would like to see it for yourself, it can be viewed and printed from our Web site, [www.ckmc.org](http://www.ckmc.org)

I hope you’ll take a moment to view Healthcare for Your Life. I think you’ll be pleased to see the full scope of healthcare services available to people in Central Kansas.

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