

## Harnessing wind power can work for county

In Kansas, especially northwest Kansas, the weather forecaster may not be able to accurately predict the rain and snowfall but they never miss the wind forecast because the wind almost always blows. So, why not put that wind energy to work.

Gas and oil prices are high and it looks like the price will continue to climb. That's why it seems reasonable to "harness" the wind and make it work for us instead of wearing us out. There are already a few wind-generating operations established but more are needed. However, while the wind is "free," the cost of a generator for one of these giant pinwheels runs \$1.5 to \$2 million, plus they need to have adequate electric transmission lines nearby.

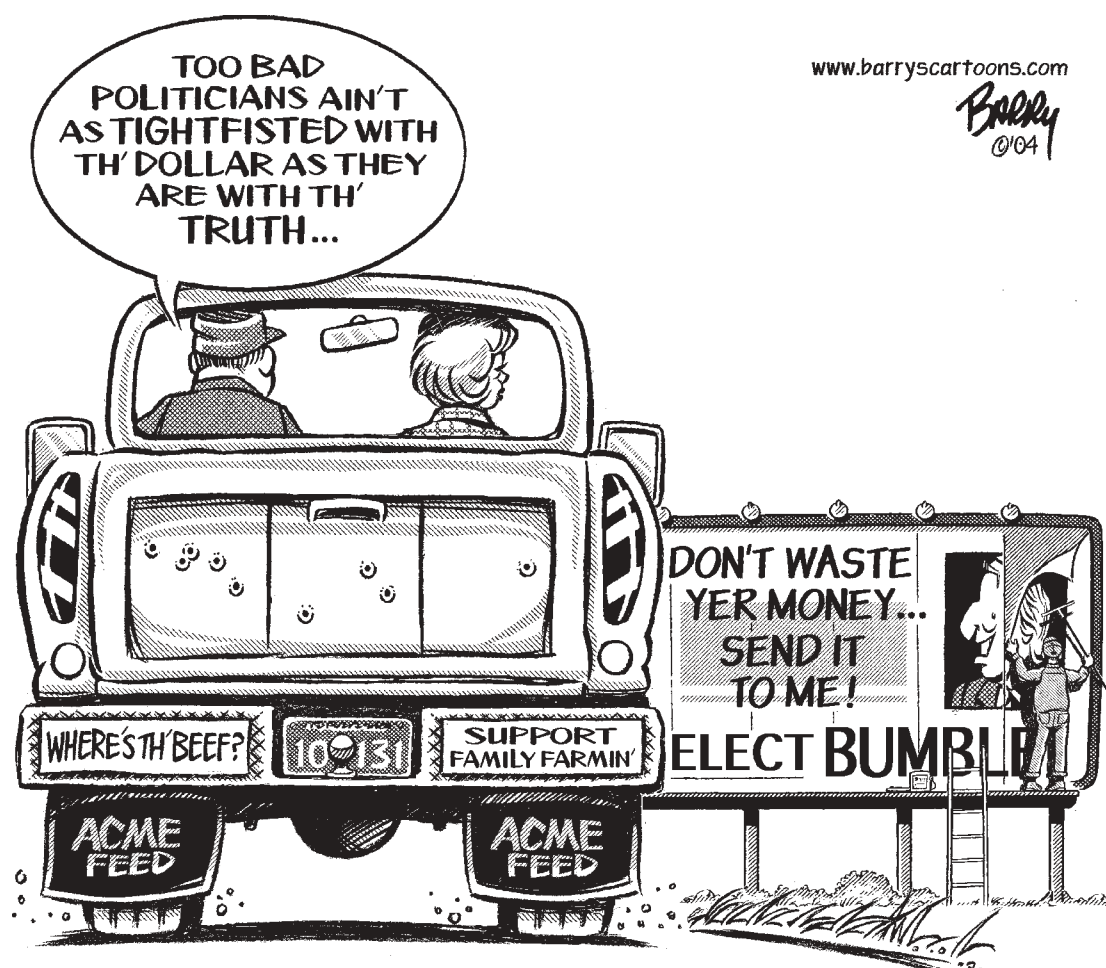
While it sounds simple and one of the best things since Post Toasties, there are several drawbacks such as when the wind blows. Records show that the highest velocity of wind is in the early morning and it is lowest in the evenings. Neither of these times is when air conditioning and refrigeration is needed most in homes and businesses. There is also a problem for those thinking about leasing

their ground to hold these wind-generated industries.

Senator Stan Clark reported that he has been concerned because the leases had clauses which prohibited the landowner from disclosing the contents to any third party. There was no way of negotiating or deviating from their contract nor knowing what was being offered to others — was everyone being treated equally?

However, the Senate passed legislation to make public the terms and conditions of wind lease agreements. Now, can wind rights be separated if the property is sold such as when mineral rights are separated? Who will be responsible for the equipment — the landowner?

These are all problems which can be worked out. With the increasing needs and rising costs of gas and oil, maybe some of the county landowners need to look into wind energy. It may be a way of bringing profits to the county, and, the way the wind blew over the weekend, there might be energy stored up to last for a long time. —Karen Krien



## Writer recommends movie

Letter to the Editor:

There are four reasons why people should see "The Passion."

For several weeks you've been hearing a lot about Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ." No doubt any movie release from the Academy-award winning superstar-director would draw the public's interest, but this film is about the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Gibson, the star of Mad Max and Lethal Weapon, has many people wondering just what the movie will be like.

Even before the final script was approved, some groups who'd never actually seen the film - expressed concern over its portrayal of Jews, and there were Christians concerned about the Biblical accuracy of a Hollywood film. I believe these fears are unfounded, and you will want to see this movie. Here are four reasons why:

First, this movie is a magnificent work of art; it may very well be

### Letter to the Editor

Gibson's masterpiece. From the opening frames, you can see that Gibson has taken great care to craft a movie with historical detail and authentic artistry. It's an intimate and personal film that keeps you close to the story. In other words, this isn't a film full of panoramic, Cecil B. De Mille crowd scenes. This is a film that gets in your face, or rather, puts you into the face of Jesus as He wrestles with - but then submits to - the final steps of His mission on earth.

"The Passion" is not your average, sometimes cheesy, Bible movie with stilted, King James dialogue between beautiful people following a Mr. Rogers-mystical Jesus. This Jesus is real with sweat and calloused hands, and bloodied and bruised from the beatings. The entire film is spoken in Aramaic and Latin (with English subtitles), giving you a chance to hear familiar

conversations in the language in which they were originally spoken.

You cannot be emotionally passive while watching this film; it grabs you by the gut from the very first image and does not let you go even after the credits roll (the movie is too intense for anyone under 13, and for that reason it is appropriately rated "R").

Second, this movie will be a cultural event that will have everyone talking similar to what happened when the mini-series "Roots" was first broadcast. This movie already dominates discussions at work, restaurants and churches. Your neighbors will be asking about it and your kids will be wondering about it.

Third, this movie destroys all the sterile stereotypes of a meek and mild Jesus - those myths and caricatures created by the enemies AND the friends of Christ. After seeing this film, you will no longer be able to cling to the fantasy that Jesus was a milquetoast Messiah.

Fourth, this movie powerfully tells the story of the defining moment in world history. In the western world we've dated everything according to these last few hours of Christ's life. We time the sequence of history with BC and AD, recognizing that the death of Christ forged a permanent line through the days of Man.

Even if you choose not to believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, you cannot deny that His life was the most significant one in human history. Why would you want to miss a film that shows you why He is considered so significant?

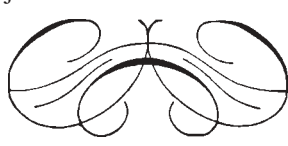
Pastor Richard Garcia  
St. Francis

## Hangin' With Marge

### Spirit

I don't know how everyone feels about this Spirit robot on Mars and usually I don't write much about the current events but this one just has me going crazy. NASA has spent \$820 million on two rovers to find out the geological evidence on Mars. All that money and "Spirit" only worked for five days without repairing its computer chip. Really now, is this necessary? They say they want to know if there has been life on Mars in the past and if there is water up there. In the first place if there was life there it isn't really any of our business. We have enough people to worry about down here. On the water side, even if it is there what are they going to do, pipe it down here? Anyone that can envision an underground railroad with a track and tunnel can see that pipeline now! Not that we don't need water here but that isn't the issue here. They tell us that if there is water up there they want to make air and fuel out of it like they do on the submarines. They separate the oxygen from the helium. The oxygen is

used for breathing and the helium is mixed back into the ocean. It seems to me that they would use more fuel getting up there and back than they could ever generate for us. Even I can't imagine a pipe line for air. I wish they would spend our tax dollars just a little wiser.



**GOD SAYS**  
Even so the tongue is a little member and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!  
James 3:5

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## News From the Past

### 15 years ago - 1989

New owners of Busby Service Oil, formerly owned by Doug Busby, are Randy and Kathie Weis. After 45 years operating under the Busby name, the business will now operate under a new title, Weis Oil Company.

The construction of the elevator in the Cheyenne County Courthouse is now underway. The cost of the elevator is \$178,875 of which Cheyenne County will pick up 18.5 percent.

Academic Bowl team members from the high school competed in Colby with the following students participating: Peter O'Brien, Shaun White, Jeff Neel, Jared Douthit, Stephanie Renk, Joanna Scoby, and Shelly Bier.

The Cheyenne County Recreation Commission has announced the appointment of Connie Jenkins as Recreation Director.

Six St. Francis Community High School students did well at the State Piano Festival held in Hays. Attending the festival were Emily Vandike, Lisa Raile, Shawn Rogers, Tobi Davis, Tricia Douthit and Mindy Kite.

### 35 years ago - 1969

Scouts Douglas Leibbrandt, Bruce Jensen and John Henry Jr. will be awarded the coveted Eagle Scout badge at a court of honor on Feb. 10.

Mr. and Mrs. Rod Richardson have taken over the ownership of the Pla Mor Recreation in St. Francis.

Opal Winston has announced the opening of a new store in St.

Francis this week, "Hers", is featuring a full line of girls wear through size 14, and sportswear for Juniors and Ladies. The new store is located in the newly remodeled building on the corner of Washington and Scott.

Construction is progressing rapidly on the new Catholic Church in St. Francis. Builders Supply is the contractor.

The Chamber voted on a recreation levy which would provide for a full adult and youth recreation program.

A crowd of approximately 200 attended the annual Soil Conservation District meeting in Bird City. There were 222 posters and 100 essays entered in the contest.

Tony Gienger gave a talk entitled "Shall I Smoke" at the Plum Creek 4-H meeting.

### 45 years ago - 1959

The Silver Arrow, the Explorer Scouts highest award, will be presented to four scouts and two leaders of Post 120. Those receiving the award will be James Lundin, Kenneth Horwege, and David Garrison plus Dr. C.W. Wilson, advisor and James N. Bonnell, former advisor.

Miss Betty McBee began work Feb. 2 as Home Economics Agent for Cheyenne County.

Seniors on the semester honor roll at the St. Francis Community High School include Irene Doggett, Ray Garrison, Sue Hendricks, Sharon Little, Judi Raile, Jeanice Wellons and Larry Wickwar.

## Capitol Hotline

The Legislative Reference Section of the Kansas State Library operates the Legislative Hotline year round starting with the 2004 Legislative Session which convenes Jan. 12. The hotline provides all Kansans with toll-free access to Kansas Legislative activity and documents. The hotline number is 1-800-432-3924. The same number is also available for hearing impaired TTY calls. The Legislative Reference Section will also assist in contacting legislators who will then return constituent calls.

The Legislative Reference Section will assist with questions concerning general and specific information on the Kansas Legislature including bill introduction, sponsorship, amendments, status, history and information related to other legislative action and issues. The Legislative Reference Section will also provide copies of bills, calendars, journals, committee agendas and other legislative documents. Bills and other legislative documents are also available in Braille for the visually impaired.

The Legislative Reference Section maintains a complete collection of current and historical legislative documents including bills, interim reports, journals, calendars, session laws, statutes, as well as other documents that can be useful in legislative research. The section also maintains a permanent index to Kansas legislation including all bills, amendments and conference reports.

The Legislative Reference Section also maintains an extensive current and historical collection of Kansas newspaper clippings on state government, politics and public policy issues.

Roll call voting records on individual legislators are also available.

## Worship Warms the Heart

<p><b>Wesleyan Church</b> Hwy 36 • 734-2727 Pastor Scott Baker Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Church of Christ</b> 332-2380, Pars. 332-3424 502 W. Spencer Norman Morrow - Minister Bible Class 9 a.m. Morning Worship 10 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>First Christian Church</b> 332-2956 • 118 E. Webster Sunday School 9:20 a.m. Church Service 10:30 a.m. Wed. night Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Grace Assembly of God</b> 332-2925, Pars. 332-2899 208 E. 2nd Rev. Rob Meyer Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 Sunday Eve. Service 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Living Water Fellowship Ministry</b> Pastors: Terry &amp; Tiffany Glasco Downtown Bird City 785-734-2363 Sunday: Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Worship &amp; Word 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m. Last Sunday evening of Month: Healing Service 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>United Methodist Church</b> Church Office 332-2292, Church 332-2254, 512 S. Scott Pastor Marvin Zimbelman Pastor Jack Abendschan Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Salem Lutheran Church</b> 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Peace Lutheran Church</b> 202 N. College 332-2928 Pars. 332-2308 Pastor David Rossbach Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b> 2nd &amp; Scott • 332-3921 J.W. Glidewell, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wednesday prayer service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.</p>

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