



## Country squabbling over Muslim terrorist

Pass the blame. The country is fractured and squabbling over our response to the Muslim terrorist threat. Rather than seeking common ground for the unified effort, our leaders in Washington spend their time vilifying and undermining each other. The bitter, divisive attitude runs all the way down to the local coffee shop. Democrats and liberals characterize President Bush and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld in terms that would make Venezuelan President Hugh Chavez Frias, that old buddy of Fidel, proud. Republicans respond by blaming everything on Bill Clinton for not finding Osama bin Laden, and boy is he touchy on that subject. He'd probably rather talk about Monica. Mr. Bush had eight months to get Osama, President Clinton replied, and all his people did was make fun of the Clinton crew for being "obsessed" with chasing him. Truth is, while Mr. Bush has pretty well eliminated bin Laden as an operational force, neither president caught him. It's a draw. There is enough blame to go around, and if we don't start working together, there'll be even more. We are crazies a global movement by radical Islamists. These people are clear about their goal — nothing short of world domination, conversion to Islam at the point of a sword and elimination not just of Christianity, but other world religions in turn. The West can no more afford to ignore this threat than it could the Red menace of the last century.

The fact that it is led by a few nut jobs who hide in caves does not make the movement a joke. Far from it. These people are serious, and they have friends. We are ill suited as a nation for this kind of fight. We are ever prepared to go invade some country and set matters right, but we want our troops home the next day. As victims of imperial power, we have no taste for empire. We lack the ruthless nature needed to enforce our rule on others, and it goes against our tradition. We argue endlessly about the occupation of Iraq, though in absolute terms you'd have to say it's been a success: No major terrorist attacks in the five years since 9/11, and a cost that's bearable. It's fascinating that American liberals point constantly to the deaths of 2,600 U.S. troops, but never mention the thousands of Iraqis killed, so many that no one in this country bothers to count them. Perhaps the next president will give us the leadership we need to deal with this devil. Perhaps by the time he or she takes office, it'll be too late. Like all evil in this world, this trouble will pass. The question we must answer is the price we will pay to fend it off, or the price we will pay if the radicals, as they sometimes do, succeed. It's not too much of a stretch to compare this time to the days before World War II, when many in this country, liberal and conservative, strove to avoid the inevitable conflict. Even 9/11 has not given us the resolve to deal with this one. And until we unite in our efforts, nothing will. — Steve Haynes

## Hangin' With Marge

Summers End

By Margaret Bucholtz



I really hate to see the summer end. I had gotten so much enjoyment out of working in my yard and the thought of not being able to get out there and pull weeds is really kind of depressing. Hoeing is something I cannot do. Every time I hoe a weed it perks right back up the next morning like it is waving at me. That is why I pull them instead of hoeing them. When Casey and Lezlie went on their anniversary weekend trip this summer, they asked me if I would take care of the kids and go in and water their flowers. I couldn't wait for them to leave so I could work in their yard. They dropped off the children and immediately I loaded them back up and said, "Kids we are going to town to work in the yard."

Both kids groaned a little but they hopped in the jeep and away we went. Lexi wanted to mow and I told Joey he could help pull weeds. I went into the back and there was this spot that had some flowers coming but I could see gobs of weeds. In fact I got so busy pulling weeds I didn't realize the kids were in the house watching television. I got that spot weeded and moved on to the next one. Pulled more weeds and there in the middle of the weeds was this strange looking thing. It looked like a dead tree seedling so I started pulling on it and sure enough a piece of root came out. Finally it got hot so I gathered up the children and came home. I

was so proud of all the work I had done and was looking forward to Lezlie and Casey seeing how nice the flower spots looked. When they came home and drove out to pick up the kids I asked them if they had been home yet, and I was sure my eyes were beaming with joy. They both looked at each other and shook their heads "yes." Thinking they probably hadn't had time to check out the backyard I said, "Did you see your flower spot I weeded?" Lezlie said, "Yes, we did and those spots were wild flowers and you pulled everything except for the cosmos." Immediately Casey said, "You even pulled out the trumpet vine we have been babying for months now." As my eyes turned dull and my face red I told them I was sorry. Casey told me "Don't worry about it, but if you and Kurt leave for a weekend Lez and I would like to come out and take care of your flowers." Believe me, Kurt and I have been here all summer guarding the gates to the flowers. We all laugh about it now, but I am sure it really wasn't that funny to them when they first saw it.

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**GOD SAYS**

Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

I Peter 5:5-7

**TO BE A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGNER, A CANDIDATE MUST HAVE PEOPLE SKILLS, POLITICAL SAVVY, CHARISMA, AND...**

**.. AND A HUMONGOUS STOMACH!**

**FUNDRAISER**

Barry @06

## News From the Past

**15 years ago - 1991**  
Jan-Phillip Schneider, a foreign exchange student from Germany, is living with his host family, Roger and Dotty Lewis. Diane Werbert, an exchange student from Belgium, is living with Jerry and Colleen Renk, Kelly and Beth.

The drivers license examining station in St. Francis will close effective Sept. 15. Drivers in Cheyenne County that need to take the examination will now have to drive to Goodland or Colby.

The sidewalks on the third block of Main Street are now being torn out and the paver brick is being laid. Last week the city crew installed the pedestrian lighting along the south side of the street. Many people have commented on the Main Street improvements.

The Kansas Department of Transportation has decided to place a stop sign at each intersection on the frontage road. They feel this will decrease the number of accidents and have more

city traffic using the highway.

Judy Mallett, DVM, has joined the Republican Valley Clinic where she will be assisting Dr. Tom Keller. Dr. Mallett worked at the clinic this spring on an externship.

The Northwest Kansas League Sportmanship Award has arrived in St. Francis. Sainty is the second school in the league to receive the honor of displaying the traveling trophy.

Salem Lutheran Church will celebrate its 90th anniversary on Sept. 22.

**20 years ago - 1986**  
The St. Francis School System has two new teachers, Michele Marostica and Carla Robben. Marostica will teach junior high school science and coach and Robben will teach fourth grade.

Returning volleyball letter winners include Lorna Hilt, Sarah Ochsner, Susan Hilt, Crystal DeGood, Alisa Goodale, Sherri Bracelin and Libby McCall.

Swim team award include: Andy Poling, high point swimmer for the season; Corey Schleip, most im-

proved swimmer; Jason Johnson, outstanding swimmer; Dallas Rogers, runner-up for most improved; Kevin Lampe and Shari Kechter, perfect attendance for the swim season. Beth Gabel is the coach.

Care Flight, also known as the Kansas University Air Ambulance, visited St. Francis. There were here to promote a new service being offered to northwest Kansas.

Members of the football cheerleading squad are Libby McCall, Crystal DeGood, Kari Milliken, Alisa Goodale, Lorna Hilt and Adele Cram. Volleyball cheerleaders are Wendy Hilt, Karah Dankenbring and April Montoya.

**40 years ago - 1966**  
Riverside Recreation Association has reached their goal of 180 family memberships, thereby completing the financial requirements for their loan from the Farmers Home Administration to develop the family recreation center.

## Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



This column will not win me points on the home front, but here goes. Having not been raised in rural Kansas, there are many things that I still need to learn. To survive in the country, a city boy must adapt. This includes driving on dirt roads. Since I learned to drive, each year brought months of driving in rain, sleet, ice, mud and snow. This I can do. But driving country roads is quite different. When I still had my Jeep, even with four-wheel drive, when dirt turned to mud I often found myself in the ditch. As soon as moisture found these dirt trails they became

the texture of a Marie Calendar's silk pie. When they are dry the country roads still want to control my way. It will seem as if I'm moving at a good pace when suddenly my rear tires want to swerve sideways. What make this worse is when I ride along with my wife and another in-law. They sense my unease and for some reason this forces them to drive faster. As I clutch an arm rest, press my foot against an imaginary brake pedal and close my eyes, we rocket down twisting and turning paths of fear. "You just need to find the grooves," Lezlie tells me.

Coming back from a recent Historical Society outing in the country we were traveling in Margaret's Jeep. I'm pretty sure she was going a little over the speed limit and driving in the grooves. We reached a hill and her groove was taking us up on the wrong side. I later asked Lezlie what happens when a vehicle comes along the same groove from the other direction? She laughed and said, "You just skid a little and go around each other, Silly." At least I'm still the champion when it comes to city driving!

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**Praise the Lord**

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<b>United Methodist</b> Church Office 332-2292, Church 332-2254, 512 S. Scott Pastor Morita Truman Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	<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.	<b>First Baptist Church</b> 2nd & Scott • 332-3921 J.W. Glidewell, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
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<b>St. Francis Community Church</b> 332-3150 204 N. Quincy Street Pastor: David Butler Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.	<b>Clough Valley Church of Hope</b> 12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF Pastor Jason Howard 332-3152 Saturdays 8 p.m. CT or 7 p.m. MT	<b>St. Francis Equity</b>
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