

Fort Hays seeks more higher-ed funding

HAYS (AP) — Fort Hays State University President Edward H. Hammond says that after years of focusing on kindergarten through 12th-grade education, it is time for state leaders to focus on higher education.

Hammonds embarked on a state-wide tour Monday, beginning on the Fort Hays State campus. He was scheduled to make more than 30 stops in a dozen cities throughout the state.

“The primary message of our tour this year is pretty simple,” Hammond said, “that the future of the state depends on our education system.”

Hammond said a new study from the Kansas Board of Regents analyzed the amount of state support for its six universities from 1985 to 2005. It predicts support will soon fall below 25 percent of what the institutions need to operate.

The study also shows that state support for the schools had dropped from 49 percent of their operating budgets in 1985 to 29 percent last year. The amount of the operating budget derived from tuition and fees increased by 8 percent over that time, to 23 percent in 2005.

“This trend ultimately will have a detrimental effect on the quality of education and will increase the

financial burden on hard-working students and their families through higher tuition costs,” Hammond said.

The Board of Regents is recommending a 6 percent increase in the budgets of the state’s six universities for 2007.

Hammond also is calling for the state to address maintenance issues at those universities, which have been deferred for years amid the budget crunch. He said the state has a total maintenance backlog of \$727 million, including more than \$40 million at Fort Hays State.

“This maintenance is necessary to protect the state’s investment in

these buildings, which have a replacement value of \$4.5 billion, and to ensure that we can continue to attract the best and brightest students to our campuses,” Hammond said.

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A message from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Cancer Information Service, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and American Cancer Society.

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to today's Sudoku puzzle is at the bottom of this page.

Test topic: Time for fantasy

By Dr. Joyce Brothers
King Features Syndicate, Inc.

During the coming holidays, some adults might find themselves worrying about fantasies and what, if any, role they should play in our lives.

How important are they in a child's life or in an adult's life? How much do you know about this subject? Here's an opportunity to find out.

1. A child who gets all the straight facts regarding Santa Claus at the beginning is likely to grow up with greater respect for honesty and fewer mental-health problems.
TRUE () FALSE ()

2. Fantasy plays no known role in a child's learning process or in the way he or she plays.
TRUE () FALSE ()

3. If parents listen carefully to their children, they'll probably be informed of when the youngsters are ready to separate fantasy from reality.
TRUE () FALSE ()

4. There's no difference between fantasies and daydreams.
TRUE () FALSE ()

5. A vivid fantasy life can help improve a shaky marriage.
TRUE () FALSE ()

6. Fantasies can be fun, but they rarely make daily living any easier.
TRUE () FALSE ()

7. There's no difference between male and female fantasy life.
TRUE () FALSE ()

ANSWERS:

1. FALSE. A child who is able to

have Santa and other fairy tales and fantasy in his or her life is generally happier and better able to occupy time in a productive way.

2. FALSE. Fantasy seems to be an important link to learning, helps build patience, shows up in the way children play and stimulates creativity.

3. TRUE. When a youngster reaches a certain age, he or she will let a parent know that he or she is ready to move on.

It's important to explain, however, that younger siblings should be able to enjoy Santa until they, too, are ready to grow up.

4. FALSE. Daydreams are often something we create to soothe ourselves, or sometimes for sexual arousal, whereas fantasies are more likely to be related to future goals, and they often help both children and adults strive for and reach those goals.

5. TRUE. It can help, especially when couples can share their dreams and fantasies.

By doing this, they can add variety and excitement to their sex life.

6. FALSE. It's remarkable how much fantasies and daydreams can help when we're forced to wait in long lines, when we're bored or waiting in traffic jams.

7. FALSE. There are usually significant differences in sexual daydreams and fantasies.

Those of males are apt to be more active, involve more aggression and are more related to situations in which they are in power or have control.

Sudoku Answer for 12-06

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