

# Heat and bright sun can be bad for tomatoes

Ordinarily, tomatoes grow and ripen faster as temperatures increase, up to about 85 degrees Fahrenheit. When daytime temperatures exceed 100 degrees Fahrenheit and nighttime temperatures remain in the 80s, tomatoes may experience several problems.

One of these is that the ripening process may seem to slow down rather than increase. We have heard many gardeners complaining about their tomatoes being slow to ripen this year. Fruit may also be injured by bright sun resulting in a condition known as sunscald.

When fruits are exposed to bright sun and heat, a light-yellow, leathery surface develops on the fruit. This will eventually turn brown, and the fruit



## dana belshe

• ag notebook

will start to rot. Sunscald is worse in vines with sparse foliage or in situations where wind has moved the foliage around suddenly.

This year we had an unusual spring with hot, dry weather prevailing in the early part of the spring season when tomatoes should have been producing large, lush vines. This resulted in many tomato vines being fairly small and sparse while initiating their first fruits. We have

observed many tomato plants this year with fairly sparse foliage that were loaded with fruit. In addition, flowers may fall off plants from high temperature injury. A deep, thorough soaking every week or so is important to reduce water stress during this process. Do not water frequently or shallowly. This may be worse than no water at all. Pigments in tomatoes do not form properly above 95 degrees Fahrenheit. Harvest tomatoes when they show the first blush of red color and allow them to ripen indoors rather than in the extreme heat.

# Banker contributions help Senate opponent in primary

By John Hanna  
*Associated Press Writer*

TOPEKA — Don Steffes used his power as chairman of the state Senate's banking committee to make a lot of bankers uncomfortable. In recent weeks, they've been returning the favor.

Steffes, of McPherson, is in a tough Republican primary race against Jay Scott Emler, an attorney and former telecommunications executive who lives in Lindsborg but has his law office in McPherson.

Campaign finance records show

that Emler's campaign received at least \$24,625 from bankers, banks and bank holding companies — almost two-thirds of his outside cash contributions.

Steffes had support from other kinds of lenders, such as savings and loans, and he received about a third of his cash contributions from large companies and political action committees that give regularly to incumbent legislators.

However, the importance of the banking industry as a source of money for Emler's campaign was striking.

"I think it's a mistake on the part of the bankers, but it's a free country," Senate President Dick Bond, R-Overland Park, himself a bank executive, said Wednesday. "The appearance is not good for the banking industry."

Though contributions from the banking industry enabled Emler's campaign to raise more money than Steffes, the incumbent senator hoped to turn the situation to his political advantage.

"It's a question for the people of Kansas: Can a Senate seat be bought by one special interest group?" Steffes said.

Emler and Chuck Stones, a lobbyist for the Kansas Bankers Association, said Steffes' implication that Emler is a tool of angry bankers is nonsense.

Emler said he was able to raise money from bankers after expressing only a willingness to listen to their concerns.

"He is trying to make banking an issue," Emler said. "That's his issue, not my issue."

Emler received \$1,000 contributions, the maximum allowed by state law, from both the Kansas Bankers Association and the Community Bankers Association of Kansas.

A check of his report against a current directory of the Kansas banking industry showed that bank executives and directors contributed at least

\$9,150 to his campaign from Jan. 1 through July 20. Banks gave another \$6,850 and bank holding companies, \$6,625.

The banking industry gave him 64 percent of the \$38,000 in cash contributions he collected. He also loaned his campaign \$10,000.

Earlier this month, Steffes took out a \$5,000 loan to prevent his campaign from finishing the period in debt.

Steffes received \$6,350 from insurance industry sources, as well as another \$2,975 from non-bank lenders, such as savings and loans and credit unions. He got \$1,200 from the banking industry.

Lobbyists, political action committees and large corporations gave him another \$8,650, accounting for about 34 percent of the \$25,000 he raised in cash contributions. Those contributors had diverse interests but are frequent donors to incumbents.

In 1998, Steffes, as chairman of the Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee, championed legislation to prevent state-chartered banks from escaping state taxes. That same year, his criticism prompted Bank Commissioner W. Newton Male to resign.

The next year, he pushed legislation to reorganize state regulation of banking, arguing the commissioner's office was too cozy with the industry.

"We have basic philosophical differences with Sen. Steffes," Stones said. "He's done everything in his power the past four to six years to harm small, independent community banks."

Steffes said the Legislature soon will be writing new regulations for a deregulated financial services industry that includes insurance companies, savings and loans, credit unions and even pawn shops and short-term loan companies.

He said if the bankers defeat him, they will control the legislative process.

"Everyone will be afraid to cross them," Steffes said.

# Oklahoma tribe wants to bring casino to state

LAWRENCE (AP) — An Oklahoma Indian tribe with a Kansas history wants to build a casino, hotel, convention center and museum near the Lawrence Municipal Airport.

The Delaware Tribe of American Indians, based in Bartlesville, Okla., is negotiating to buy about 80 acres of farmland near the airport for the project, Chief Dee Ketchum said Tuesday.

The entertainment complex would employ as many as 1,800 people and have room for 4,000 guests, Ketchum said.

Profits would be channeled into education programs for the tribe's 10,500 members, including 400 families in Kansas.

However, the tribe would have to ob-

tain the U.S. Interior Department's approval to use the land for a casino, then negotiate a compact with Gov. Bill Graves.

A compact between Graves and the tribe would require the Legislature's approval as well.

Earlier this month, tribal officials met with Graves to review the regulatory process.

"It's a long process," said Don Brown, the governor's spokesman. "We're at the starting point and right now I don't think anyone can clearly determine where the finish line is."

The proposed casino and conference complex already is drawing fire from would-be neighbors.

The critics include Kelvin Heck, a Lawrence realtor whose two out-of-

state cousins own the 80-acre field being considered for development. Heck's cousins have indicated they are willing to sell the land.

"I don't think that the casino brings anything positive to Lawrence," he said. "It doesn't seem like a logical situation to me at all. If it went away tonight I'd be a happy camper."

Four tribes with long-established reservations in Kansas — the Iowa, Kickapoo, Prairie Band Potawatomie and Sac and Fox — already operate casinos on their land.

Other tribes, including the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma, have sought to develop casinos in the Kansas City area and elsewhere but those plans have died or remain mired in federal courts.

Ketchum doesn't expect his tribe's efforts to meet the same fate.

From 1830 to 1867, the Delaware tribe lived on a 2-million-acre reservation in northeast Kansas, from the edge of Topeka to the Wyandotte County line, including Douglas County.

"We're looking to repurchase some of our old reservation," he said. "We're prepared to build a first-class facility that the state and city would be very proud of."

The tribe also envisions bringing entertainers from Branson, Mo., and establishing an "all tribes" museum would offer a place for education and historical materials.

"Even if it went smooth, it's a two-year project at best, if not more," Ketchum said.

# Senator says flier gives misinformation about votes

SENATE, from Page 1

Under those statements there are bullets which say Mangan wants to get more state money for schools in the 40th District so students here can "compete with those in eastern Kansas' larger schools."

It says Clark voted against bills that would have given districts more state money, which would give students here that competitive edge. The flier says Clark voted against Senate bill 527 in 1996; 643 in 1998; and 171 in 1999, along with House bills 2098 in 1997; 2249 in 1998 and 2893 in 1998. "Mangan wants to find more money for rural districts which have declining enrollments and allow schools access to new technology," the flier says, "and Clark votes against more state money for special education, which taxpayers in local schools districts must pay for."

"Steve Mangan sends all his children to our northwest Kansas public schools," it says. "Clark does not send his child to our northwest Kansas public schools."

After receiving the flier at his home, Sen. Clark responded by sending out press releases and talking with reporters across the state today.

"This flier says I do not support our schools," the Oakley Republican said. "Two of the bills they say I voted against, I voted for."

Clark sent out copies of legislative voting records on the bills. The 36-page document explains the bills and lists which legislators voted for against the bill, or amendments.

In some cases, Clark voted against an amendment to a bill, but then voted for the bill after revision — in it's final form. He said he wanted more money for northwest Kansas schools, not less.

"One of the bills (HB 2249), I voted against provided \$18 (per student) to schools with less than 1,700 students and \$50 (per student) to schools with more than 1,700 students," Clark said in the press release. "None of the 36 school districts within my legislative district comes near 1,700 students."

Sen. Clark said he did vote for a bill that provided a \$50 increase for all students in the 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 school years.

Mangan said he has not studied the bills the flier says Sen. Clark voted against, adding he doesn't feel that the situation will hinder his chances Tuesday when the two Republicans face off.

As for the remaining bills the flier lists, Clark said the records show that

at the time he voted identically to Sen. Jerry Moran, who is now U.S. representative for the 1st District.

"These (bills) are more than four years old," said Clark, "and in each case Jerry Moran and I voted identically. That says I was definitely voting for the best interest of western Kansas."

In his press release, Clark says, "I have consistently voted for adequate funding for special education. I supported \$20 million additional funding this year and 12.25 million last year."

Sen. Clark said it's true his 8-year-old son, Will, is not in a public school, because Clark and his wife have decided to home school him.

"I am the only legislator with school-age children that move their children to Topeka," said Clark, noting the last session ran between January 9 and April 10.

"Home schooling allows us to remain together as a family," he said. "We choose not to enroll Will in the Topeka school system."

Clark said he and his wife decided not to put their son in Topeka schools,

"partly for safety," and because "there would be no continuity in subjects."

"He experiences many opportunities at the Legislature I would have enjoyed as a child," Clark said.

The senator, a photographer by trade, said he will not bow to any special interest groups, but claims his opponent has.

"You have trusted me, you know I am not power hungry," he said in his statement. "You know I will not sell my soul to special interests because I believe every citizen in the 40th District is special."

"Their (the Kansas National Education Association and the Kansas Livestock Association) thirst for power and control in unquenchable," the statement says. "They want a person that will carry their water and they think they have their man."

Mangan said although he shares the same beliefs as the two associations' members, he is not running for them, and is not running simply to get Clark out of office.

"We're not a rubber stamp for anyone," he said.

# Water may cause danger to babies; source and remedy being sought

WELLS, from Page 1

teria, but younger children's systems do not.

Nitrate levels of 10 to 20 milligrams per liter pose a risk to pregnant women and children under 1. Levels of 20 to 40 milligrams per liter pose a danger to a wide range of people and livestock. If the levels are over 40, the water should not be drunk by people or animals.

Readings were taken on May 22 and July 7 on well No. 2, the city said. The average concentration is 12.03 milligrams per liter, probably safe for adults

but a possible danger to babies. The water is mixed with that from other wells in the city system, but federal rules require the warning because some users could be getting a higher concentration.

Symptoms of the disease can be developed rapidly in infants, within a period of days. They include a shortness of breath and blueness of the skin.

The notice urged parents of young children to seek an alternative drinking source for their young kids.

"The levels here are relatively low," said Pickman, "and we are searching for the source and a remedy."



## ACT NOW! VOTE

August 1, 2000

Elect  
Richard "Rich" Miller  
Sheriff  
of  
Sherman County

It's time for a change.

(Paid by Richard Miller, Jolene, Treasurer)

# When Governor Graves needed a leader, he chose Steve Mangan



August 1 vote for Steve Mangan  
to be your  
Republican State Senator  
40<sup>th</sup> District

**Gov. Graves selected Steve Mangan to lead his Agricultural Advisory Board and serve on the Railroad Task Force Committee**

***Paid for by  
Mangan for Senate, Mark Smith, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 631 • Tribune, KS 67879 • (316) 376-4411***

## ANDERSON REALTORS

Presents

## OPEN HOUSES Saturday, July 29



302 Main  
12:00-2:00



718 W. 13th  
2:30-4:00

## ANDERSON REALTORS

1208 Main • Goodland • 785-899-7571

Rose Anderson-Broker-Owner 785-899-7464

DeWayne Anderson-Broker-Owner 785-899-5595

Robert Jones-Assoc. Broker 785-899-6135

website: www.anderson-realtors.com

E-mail: randersn@goodland.ixks.com

