

commentary

from other pens...

Money gap no excuse for tapping reserves

The Manhattan Mercury on the legislative session:
... A \$426 million gap between money the state has and money the state needs isn't cause for cheer.
That gap also isn't cause for desperation, however, and doesn't justify tapping the state's emergency fund...
Spending the state's emergency money now is neither wise nor necessary. It's unwise because that one-time solution would only make the state more vulnerable to real emergencies ...
The chief function of siphoning money from the state's emergency fund ... is that it would allow them to avoid even modest tax increases during an election year.
Lawmakers seem loathe to acknowledge that the tax cuts of the late 1990s ... are a good part of the reason the state's in this fix. Lawmakers also refuse to acknowledge that reinstating just some of those taxes is reasonable as part of the solution ...
In their effort to avoid being associated with taxes, lawmakers are contemplating unconscionable cuts in a variety of programs and services ... Our fear is that tapping emergency funds will bring the state closer to an emergency and that excessive budget cuts will make the Legislature's cure worse than the state's ailment.

The Garden City Telegram on teen-age driving:
Teen-age girls have narrowed the gap with teen-age boys, but not in a category that will win them any accolades.
Safety officials say teen girls are pulling even with teen boys in the number of accidents they have while driving.
For every 1,000 licensed 16-year-old girls, 175 got in car accidents in 2000, according to federal accident data ... Accidents for 16-year-old boys decreased slightly during the same period, from 216 to 210 per 1,000 drivers...
Traffic accidents were the leading cause of death for teens 16 to 19 in 2000, with 5,600 killed. Two-thirds were boys...
Still, those are losses that can be addressed. Safety officials have previously sought tougher restrictions on the youngest drivers. It's a course that should be pursued by lawmakers ...
Some restrictions mentioned include driving only during daylight hours, or when accompanied by an adult during nighttime hours.
Such legislation may crimp the style of a 16-year-old on Friday nights, but the guess here is parents would accept the trade-off if it meant their child was safer.
Another potential solution ... would be to increase the education required before issuing teens a driver's license. More road time with a qualified instructor could prove beneficial, and improve safety on the streets and highways for everyone.
When it comes to driving, like most other things, experience is the best teacher.

where to write

U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, 302 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510. (202) 224-4774
U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, 303 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510. (202) 224-6521
U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran, 1217 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 225-2715
State Rep. Jim Morrison, State Capitol Building Rm. 174-W, Topeka, KS 66612. (785) 296-7676
State Sen. Stan Clark, State Capitol Building Rm. 128-S, Topeka, KS 66612. (785) 296-7399
Kansas Attorney General Carla J. Stovall, 301 S.W. 10th, Lower Level, Topeka, KS 66612-1597 (785) 296-3751 Fax (785) 291-3699 TTY: (785) 291-3767

The Goodland Daily News

(USPS No. 222-460. ISSN 0893-0562)
Member: Kansas Press Association
The Associated Press
Inland Press Association Colorado Press Association
National Newspaper Association
e-mail: daily@nwkansas.com

Steve Haynes, President
Tom Betz, Editor/Editorial Page
Rachel Miscall, Managing Editor
Pat Schiefen, Copy editor
Doug Stephens, Sports Editor
Sharon Corcoran, Society Editor **Skilar Boland**, Reporter
Eric Yonkey, **Bill Wagoner**, Advertising Sales
James Schiefen, Adv. Production **Sheila Smith**, Office Manager

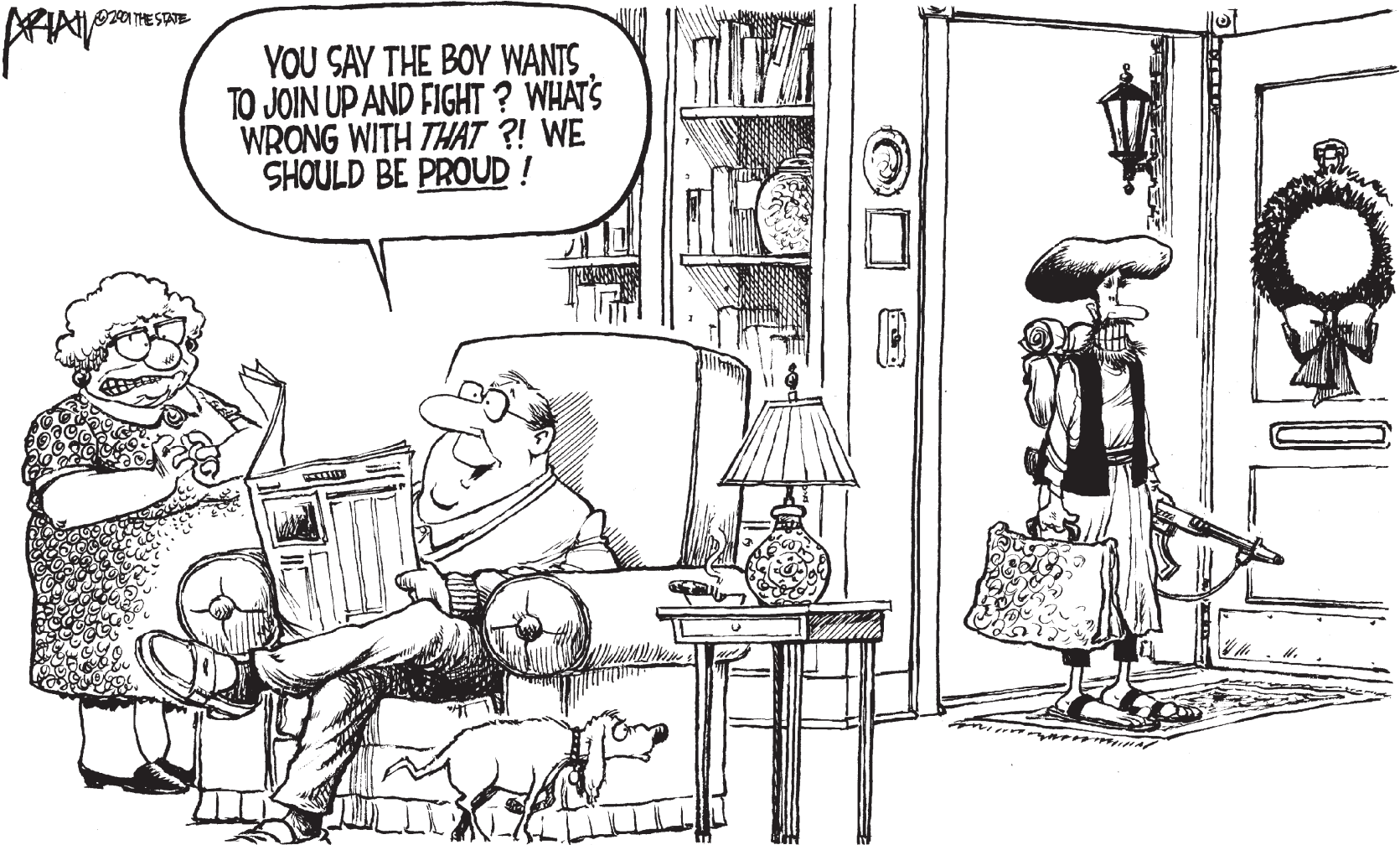
Nor'west Press
Jim Bowker, General Manager
Richard Westfahl **Ron VanLoenen** **Judy McKnight**
Betty Morris **Lana Westfahl** **Helen Diltz**

nwkansas.com
N.T. Betz, Director of Internet Services (nbetz@nwkansas.com)
Evan Barnum, Systems Admin. (support@nwkansas.com)

Published daily except Saturday and Sunday and the day observed for New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, at 1205 Main St., Goodland, Kan. 67735.
Periodicals postage paid at Goodland, Kan. 67735; entered at the Goodland, Kan., Post Office under the Act of Congress of March 8, 1878.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Goodland Daily News, 1205 Main St., Goodland, Kan. 67735.
TELEPHONE: (785) 899-2338. Editorial e-mail: daily@nwkansas.com. Advertising questions can be sent to: gdnadv@nwkansas.com
The Goodland Daily News assumes no liability for mistakes or omissions in advertising or failure to publish beyond the actual cost of the ad.
SUBSCRIPTIONS: In Sherman County and adjacent counties: three months, \$22; six months, \$38; 12 months, \$72. By mail in Kansas, Colorado: three months, \$28; six months, \$50; 12 months, \$95. (All tax included.) Out of area, weekly mailing of five issues: three months, \$25; six months, \$40; 12 months, \$75.

Incorporating:
The Sherman County Herald
Founded by Thomas McCants
1935-1989
THE SHERMAN COUNTY STAR
Founded by Eric and Roxie Yonkey
1994-2001

Nor'West Newspapers
Haynes Publishing Company



Friends good reason to spend some time in city

We went to Denver over the weekend and acted like tourists.
It was great.
Friends from California were planning to be in town to visit relatives and called to say they could meet us for dinner if we could get to the city.
We headed out Saturday morning and checked into our hotel.
As soon as we were unloaded, we walked over to the Brown Palace, one of the premier hotels in Denver and just a short distance from where we were staying.
The Brown was still decorated for Christmas; in fact, all of Denver seemed to be still decorated for Christmas.
As we stood in the mezzanine and looked over the grand lobby, we listened to the harp player and watched people having high tea. Just then a young couple came up behind us and asked us what we were doing in Denver.
Our Goodland editor, Rachel Miscall, and her boyfriend Mitch were standing there smiling. They were at the Brown to make plans for their fall wedding.



cynthia haynes

• open season

While we knew they were having their reception at the hotel, we never dreamed we'd run into them there.
We all went downstairs to one of the less-snooty restaurants for lunch, heard a little of their wedding plans and admired her ring.
Soon they were off to check out the Wolfgang Puck Cafe while we were off to the Denver Art Museum. The museum is free on Saturdays and had a couple of good shows going on, plus their usual collections. Since we only get there a couple of times a year, we always enjoy everything.
After a couple of hours wandering around and looking at paintings, we headed back for our hotel, stopping at Starbucks to get a cup of coffee with enough cream and sugar to overload our systems.

Dylan, Springsteen icons of our generation

Reading the Top 10 list in the Rocky Mountain News last week, I had to go out and buy a couple of the albums.
One is Bob Dylan's latest, "Love and Theft," his first studio album in five years. The other is Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, "Live in New York City," culled from an HBO concert last year.
I couldn't resist either one, but if I had to do it over again, I think I'd skip the Dylan CD and get an extra copy of the Springsteen.
It's not that Bruce is that much more creative than Dylan these days. Both are past their prime as songwriters and performers.
But they are, in very different ways, icons of a generation. Dylan is still trying to crank out new songs, and the don't compare to the stuff of his youth. While he nods to his early work on this album with a pretty good "Lonesome Day Blues," his current versions of old songs often come off as forced and even defensive.
Springsteen knows better. Most of his concert covers his past, and the E Street Band cranks out hit after hit with almost no hint of the songs' age.
Cynthia is not much of a music fan, and when I looked over and saw her singing along to track after track, I got an idea of how powerful those songs are.
While the Beatles have gotten a lot of attention this year with the death of George Harrison, it is Bob Dylan who stands as the oracle of his age. Starting as a 21-year-old bursting onto the national stage in the



steve haynes

• along the sappa

1960s, Dylan penned the words that defined an era.
Something like Shakespeare (and only something, let me emphasize), his lines had a way of entering the language.
It was Dylan who wrote, "You don't have to be a weatherman to know which way the wind blows."
The line came to define the radical thinking of the '60s and gave a name to the most radical group of all, the Weather Underground, or Weathermen, who blew things up and tried to start a revolution.
Ah, the revolution.
"Like a Rolling Stone" gave a name to one of the greatest bands of that era and to the magazine which reported and defined it.
I still like to listen to Dylan, though his voice itself isn't much. His songs are something else. They could be beautiful, lyrical in the voice of another. Think "Mr. Tambourine Man."
Dylan's indecipherable lyrics were cool when we thought of ourselves as young rebels, and if we couldn't make sense out of some of them, or argued endlessly about what they meant, they drove our par-

ents absolutely crazy.
What more could we ask for?
Springsteen never claimed to be a heavy thinker, but he is one of our time's premier storytellers. His sad, evocative ballads tell us story after story about real people. His driving rhythms and melodies opened up a world of characters whose lives we learned while thumping out the beat on the steering wheel.
As a storyteller and balladeer, the Boss had (has) few equals, though Bob Seeger, son of the folk legend, comes to mind.
From "Atlantic City" to "The River," if you love Springsteen, this album is a celebration of all he does best, backed by the band that made it so.
As far as the album of the year on the list, I already had that. I think the critic was a little biased — he had his mind made up by July — but Lucinda Williams' "Essence" is everything he claims.
Williams has a fine, gravely voice that resonates as she recalls her childhood or dreams about a lover. She stared out on the country side, but this album crosses over to folk and rock at will.
Several tracks have gotten a lot of air play, especially on alternative sound stations. And with good reason.
Newly popular after years as an opening act, Williams got to appear last year with Dylan. She said she was overwhelmed to be on stage with her idol, but she deserved it.
Buy "Essence." Buy "Live." If you want Dylan, get a copy of "Highway 61 Revisited."

Red Cross exceeds donor goal

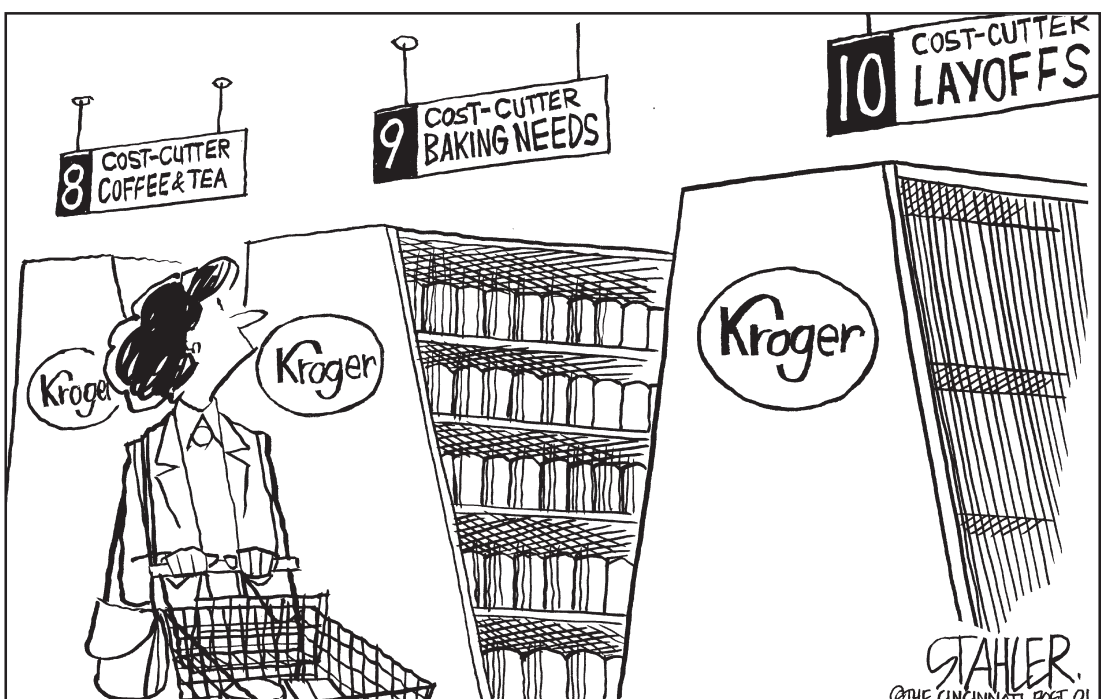
To the Editor:
A big thank you to all the Sherman County donors who made it possible for the Red Cross Bloodmobile to exceed their goal.
A total of 118 people came to donate, 109 units of blood were collected. There were 14 first-time donors, and many of these were Goodland High School students.
Our thanks go to the United Methodist Church for allowing us to use their facility, *The Goodland Daily News* and KLOE radio for publicizing the event, and technical college students and police-



from our readers

• to the editor

men who helped unload and load the equipment.
Special thanks to all the workers who help make this blood drive possible.
Mary Brady and Harriet Demaree
Bloodmobile co-chairmen



berry's world



Letter Policy
The Goodland Daily News encourages and welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be typewritten, and must include a telephone number and a signature. Unsigned letters will not be published. Form letters will be rejected, as will letters deemed to be of no public interest or considered offensive. We reserve the right to edit letters for length and good taste. We encourage letters, with phone numbers, by e-mail to: cdaily@nwkansas.com.