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Western & Protection

The Star-Press

Serving Coldwater, Protection, Wilmore and Comanche County for more than 140 years!

Volume 143 / Issue 15 | Official Newspaper for Comanche County, All Cities, Townships and USD 300 | November 12, 2026

Local Business Celebrates More Than 80 Years in Operation

BY SUSAN EDMONSTON
Editor Emeritus

Are you aware that a local business in Protection has been operating for more than 80 years?

Known by Filson's Cattle Chutes in the beginning, later Filson's Manufacturing, it is now known as Filson's Livestock Equipment.

Gary Filson remembers watching his father, Ben, make his first cattle chute. It was 1946, in the Filsons' garage. Since then, the company has passed through two more generations with Ben's sons, Gary and Larry Filson, and Gary and Charlotte's son, Kendal Filson.

Kendal Filson started working in the family business from the time he was in the fourth grade and he is still there. The highlight of his job is the daily contact with people from all over the country. He travels some, but spends most of his time in Protection overseeing the general day-to-day running of the business.

Filson Manufacturing is located at 102 South Broadway and is open weekdays. It has expanded from a half block and now covers the whole block plus property to the east and south, displaying its livestock products: hydraulic chutes, chutes and headgates, tubs and sweeps and alleys, palp cages and tilt tables. This equipment is ideal for all sizes of operations from feedlots and veterinarian services, heavy cattle usage, down to the rancher handling only a few head of cattle.



SUSAN EDMONSTON / The Star-Press

The Filson Manufacturing building, in Protection, is now known as Filson Livestock Equipment. Pictured (L to R) is Charlotte Filson, Gary Filson, Hiedi Napierala, Carla Filson and Kendal Filson.

The business has done well through the years but Gary Filson said, "With this business you can have a good year and a bad year all in the same year."

"In 1973, we were behind on our orders 16 weeks," he said. "When the cattle market broke, orders were cancelled and we were caught up within 30 days. But we still had payments on four trucks.

"This is when you wished you worked for the other guy. It was an education but we certainly didn't take a salary that year and fortunately we survived."

The company has built a reputation of quality equipment and reliability throughout the United States as well as Canada, Puerto Rico, Mexico, overseas in England, China, Israel, Australia, Honduras and several countries in South America.

In the 1970s, Filson's had 30 employees. In 1980, there were 20. Currently, the company is operating with 10 employees welding and assembling the products.

In the June 26 edition of the *Protection Press*, Filson estimated, conservatively, that the firm built 1,500 to 2,000 chutes each year.

As the cattle industry has changed, other livestock products have been added. Today, Filson's has a full line of equipment to meet the needs of cattlemen throughout the USA and abroad. Filson's can also customize products to the needs of individual customers.

Filson's History

The first cattle chute was constructed in 1946, by Ben Filson. As time went on, Ben was asked by area farmers and ranchers to

See **FILSON'S** / *Page 2*

Timberwolves Take Down Trego Community; Advance to Sectionals

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

The South Central football team is moving on to the Sectional round of the Class 1A-I football playoffs after the Timberwolves beat Trego Community 38-28 at home Friday night.

While it was a close game throughout, head coach Brett Westrup said that the Timberwolves played a great game against a tough team.

"I was excited about that game because I knew that was going to be a game that we were going to go four quarters, and we were going to have to play our best football to win," Westrup said. "And, you know, the last couple weeks, we haven't had to play very good even to win because we played some really bad teams.

"But I knew they (the Golden Eagles) were going to be a good team and I was excited to see how the boys were going to (respond). We had to fight some adversity and that's good."

The head coach said that the Timberwolves had some penalties that he didn't think were the right call but others that he described as

See **FOOTBALL** / *Page 6*



PAULA BRADLEY / The Star-Press

Members of the South Central and Trego Community football teams shake hands following last week's Regional matchup in Coldwater. The Timberwolves won a hard-fought 38-28 decision to advance.

Four Lady Timberwolves Earn All-League Honors

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

Four South Central volleyball players were named to the Southern Plains Iroquois Activities Association all-league volleyball teams.

Outside hitter Ellie Murphy was a first-team selection. She finished the season with 203 kills, a 92 percent serving percentage, 32 aces and 243 digs.

"Ellie was a strong presence at the net and contributed on both offense and defense," said head coach Cindy Snyder.

Libero Bretlynn Westrup was a first-team selection. She led the Lady Timberwolves with 353 digs.

"Bretlynn played an important role in keeping the ball alive and helping the team transition from defense to offense," Snyder said.

Middle hitter Kate Herd was a second-team selection. She finished the season with 229 kills, an 85 percent serving percentage and 13 aces.

"Kate provided a strong offensive presence and was a consistent contributor at the net," Snyder said.

Setter Piper Price was a second-team selection. She tallied 511 assists, 279 digs, a 94 percent serving percentage and 21 aces.

"Piper did an outstanding job running the offense, distributing the ball, and keeping the team organized on the court," Snyder said.

The SCHS head coach said that all four players made significant contributions and she is proud of them for being recognized.

"Overall, these four athletes played important roles in the team's success this season," Snyder said. "Their hard work, dedication, and contributions in their respective positions helped make this a memorable season."



FIRST TEAM ALL-LEAGUE BRETLYNN WESTRUP



FIRST TEAM ALL-LEAGUE ELLIE MURPHY

NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

BOE Question Formation, Appointment Process of Local Rec Commission

STAFF REPORT

Questions surrounding the formation and appointment process of the Comanche County Recreation Commission took center stage at the USD 300 Board of Education meeting, drawing a larger-than-usual crowd and prompting discussion about the district's legal responsibilities.

Charlie Herd addressed the board during public comment, raising concerns about whether the recreation commission was properly established under Kansas law and whether its members were appointed through the required process. Herd referenced Kansas statutes governing public recreation commissions and questioned whether there was documentation showing the school board had formally created the commission, appointed its members and provided public notice allowing community members to apply for positions.

He said he submitted an open records request in October, seeking documentation but had not received the requested records.

See **USD300** / *Page 4*



SUSAN EDMONSTON / The Star-Press

The origination of Filson Mfg. Co. Inc. began when Ben Filson built the first chute in the backyard of his home in Protection, in 1946.

FILSON'S

• *From Page 1*

build a few more chutes. He decided to expand his sales territory and started selling the chutes off the back of his truck at sale barns.

In 1959, his son, Gary Filson, joined his father and by this time, a number of dealers had been established throughout the midwest.

Gary traveled to many farm shows, such as in Great Bend, Pittsburg, Hutchinson, Ft. Worth and Amarillo, Texas, Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Okla., McCook, Neb., and Springfield, Mo.

In 1979, Kendal Filson, joined his father, Gary.

In July of 1981, the Filson office that had been next door to the post office was relocated to the manufacturing plant on Broadway. The vacated building next to the post office then became the Protection City Hall.

Filson Family History

Ben Filson's first acquaintance with Protection was as a young man seeking work for the summer. Later, he married and returned although they didn't stay but for a short time.

In 1944, he sold his small farm in eastern Kansas and made his final move to Protection with his wife, Rema, and children, Marlene, Gary, Sondra and Larry. Their children graduated from Protection High School in 1952, 1955, 1958 and 1960.

Filson was doing custom cutting and some farming, when one day someone decided they needed a cattle chute. When he took to his backyard garage in 1946, little did he know he was starting a new business in Protection. He put on his welding hood and began.

The first chute was constructed of odds-and-ends pipe, oneway gears and other material that was necessary to complete it. Gary Filson remembers watching his dad while he figured, cut, placed and welded.

Ben had been a foreman in Coffeyville for a fabrication plant and farmed on the side. It was there he gained the experience that later made him eventually continue in his new venture.

However, Ben didn't go on and completely devote his time to this idea, as he decided to try the car business. After all, the war was over and everyone was in the market for an automobile. The Kaiser-Frazer and Jeep dealership later turned out to be an unsuccessful business.

While it wasn't doing well, fortunately the demand for chutes was growing. By this time, Ben was making cattle guards, stock tanks, horse trailers, gates and other items that someone might special order.

By 1950, though the local demand was good, it certainly wasn't sufficient to stay in business forever. So while chutes were being made Ben took others out and sold them from the back of his farm truck. He generally hit the sale barns, selling directly to the cattleman. In time, he started setting up dealers along the way.

When Gary Filson returned in 1959 after receiving his college degree, he joined his dad. They each would "peddle" their load while delivering the few orders that were coming in. Frequently, they were gone for two weeks at a time, often sleeping in the truck by night to save expenses.

Ben and Gary started attending more fairs, making new contacts there. Gary continued to spend much of his time traveling and selling through the states and Canada. In the 1970s, cattle equipment was taken to Canada every two weeks.

Show items were sometimes shipped ahead (but not often by rail) and Gary would fly to his destination.

He began to attend the large industrial and farm shows that began in the late 1970s. Selling was made easier because farm stores had begun to be more popular throughout the country. Dealerships were now established in the majority of the United States and Canada.

In 1965, Larry Filson returned from college and took over the management of the office. Until his return, this job had been shared by Rema, Ben and Gary in their spare time.

In 1966, through mutual consent, Ben and his wife, Rema, Larry and Gary and his wife, Charlotte, made the decision to incorporate, thus forming Filson Manufacturing Company, Inc.

In 1972, when production was several months behind, they decided to expand and build pickup racks and pieces of all kinds of cattle equipment in Caldwell. This plant was sold in 1976 when those were no longer needed.

As the cattle business has changed, many other livestock related items are now being made: cattle chutes, headgates, loading chutes, stock racks, hay feeders, portable corrals, and crowding alleys.

In the beginning, there were maybe five manufacturing businesses. Now, there are hundreds.

Kendal Filson continues to work toward the growth and expansion of his grandfather's backyard devotion. Both give credit to family and others for helping them obtain these goals.

He is assisted in the office now by his wife, Carla, and daughter, Hiedi Napierala.

WRITER'S NOTE: Caldwell was where Don and Cindy Dellinger were and they came to Protection and opened Don's Place in 1973.

PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Western Star & Protection Press, on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026) 2t

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-7

A RESOLUTION FIXING A TIME AND PLACE AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF A HEARING BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF COLDWATER, KANSAS, AT WHICH THE OWNER(S), HIS OF HER AGENT, LIENHOLDER OF RECORD, OCCUPANTS AND OTHER PARTIES IN INTEREST OF STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN SAID CITY AND DESCRIBED HEREIN MAY APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY SUCH STRUCTURES SHOULD NOT BE CONDEMNED AND ORDERED REPAIRED OR DEMOLISHED AS UNSAFE OR DANGEROUS STRUCTURES.

WHEREAS, the enforcing officer of the City of Coldwater, Kansas did on the 9th day of November, 2026 file with the governing body of said City, a statement in writing that the structures, hereinafter described, are unsafe and dangerous:

Structure on Lot 13 and South 20 Feet of Lot 14 in Block 59 in the Original Town of Coldwater, Comanche County, Kansas. Street address: 209 S. Chicago Ave.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF COLDWATER, KANSAS:

That a hearing will be held on the 11th day of January, 2027, before the governing body of the City at 6:30 o'clock p.m. at 239 E. Main St, in the northeast room, at which time the owner(s), his/her agent, any lienholders of record, any occupant and any other parties in interest, as that term is defined by law, having objection to the ordered repair or demolition of the structure located on:

Lot 13 and South 20 Feet of Lot 14 in Block 59 in the Original Town of Coldwater, Comanche County, Kansas. Street address: 209 S. Chicago Ave.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall cause this Resolution to be published and shall give notice of the aforesaid hearing in the manner provided by Law.

Adopted this 9th day of November, 2026.

/s/ Paul Alvarez, Mayor

ATTEST:
/s/ Kristal Sherman, City Clerk
[SEAL]

COLDWATER WEATHER

By Greg Vanderree

NOVEMBER 4
High 59 / Low 39 / Precip - N/A
NOVEMBER 5
High 59 / Low 44 / Precip - N/A
NOVEMBER 6
High 69 / Low 36 / Precip - .09
NOVEMBER 7
High 58 / Low 34 / Precip - N/A
NOVEMBER 8
High 66 / Low 34 / Precip - N/A
NOVEMBER 9
High 73 / Low 42 / Precip - N/A
NOVEMBER 10
High 74 / Low 42 / Precip - N/A

WHEAT PRICES

Alliance Ag & Grain
Coldwater - 620.582.2251
Protection - 620.622.4619

Tuesday 11/3 5.61
Wednesday 11/4 5.58
Thursday 11/5 5.61
Friday 11/6 5.57
Saturday 11/7 CLOSED
Sunday 11/8 CLOSED
Monday 11/9 5.57
Tuesday 11/10 5.59

GOT NEWS?

Send your news tip to: jasonjump@thestarpress.news



Annual Masonic Lodge Thanksgiving Dinner

Its at the South Central High School in Coldwater on Thursday November 26th. Reservations required. Call 620-582-5044 to reserve before the day. Eat-in reservations start at noon. Carry out meals can be picked up at 11:30-noon. Protection residents can call and reserve a meal. They can pick up their meals at the South Central Grade School in Protection at noon. Free will donation. All proceeds raised will go towards their Scholarships they give out every year to South Central High School Graduating Seniors. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Individuals interested in helping with any of it is to call 620-582-5044 please. Ad Sponsored by Comanche County Lodge No. 295

Interested in saving more on your Medicare Part D prescriptions?

Talk to a pharmacy staff member to learn how you can start saving today!

MAIN STREET PHARMACY
Your Community HealthMart PHARMACY
113 East Main Coldwater, Kansas 67029
Phone (620) 582-2134
Monday thru Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

City of Coldwater

Sewer Cleaning Notification

We will be cleaning sanitary sewers throughout the City the months of November and December.

Sewer lines can develop air pressure or a partial vacuum from the cleaning process. Usually any excess air pressure or vacuum will dissipate through your plumbing vents, but occasionally there are homes with inadequate plumbing vents (no vents, undersized vents, or obstructed vents). In the case of inadequate venting of air pressure could escape through your toilet, floor, sink, tub, or shower drains, causing water to splash out or, a vacuum could draw the water out of your fixture traps causing an unpleasant odor.

To guard against this possibility please:

- COVER ALL FLOOR DRAINS WITH PLASTIC AND PLACE A WEIGHTONTHE PLASTIC
- COVER ALL TOILETS WITH PLASTIC AND CLOSE THE LID ON THE PLASTIC.
- IF YOU SHOULD EXPERIENCE AN UNPLEASANT ODOR, RUN WATER INTO EACH DRAIN TO REFILL THE TRAPS.

Water and drains may be used as normal. The cleaning of sanitary sewer is necessary to help prevent stoppages.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION. OUR APOLOGIES FOR THIS INCONVENIENCE.

If you have any questions, please call
(620) 635-6457

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NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

Past Paragraphs

Protection news from earlier times

Compiled by Dave Webb

125 YEARS AGO
Western Star
Nov. 15, 1901

Protection paragraphs
Pleasant weather continues.

The protracted meetings [revival] came to a close on Wednesday evening and on Thursday morning Revs. Fisher and Hayes [Methodists] went to Coldwater to begin a series of meetings there.

A dance is planned for Friday night of this week. We hear some talk of an oyster supper on Thanksgiving night for the benefit of the band boys. By all means, let's have it.

The band boys will soon be able to give us some "open air" concerts. They are still making rapid progress in their practice.

Marion Bratcher was up from the Strip this week.

John Stokes and Addison Cooper dehorned quite a bunch of cattle last week.

John Taylor had two very fine Norman colts shipped in from Illinois the first of the week.

John and William Taylor are receiving a visit from their brother, Thomas Taylor, whose home is in Illinois.

J.G. Fulton has bought property from W.R. Taylor and is moving here. We are glad to have Mr. Fulton and family as citizens of Protection.

Henry Beltzer, our jeweler, went to Coldwater Monday to do some watch and clock repairing. He is said to be a good workman.

The government has established a "star" mail route between Protection and Charleston, Oklahoma. Notices are posted asking for bids for carrying the mail.

Mr. Tinney and family, of Charleston, now occupy Mrs. Thomas' house and will make their home here this winter. Mr. Thomas is a carpenter by trade.

George Coffee, of Charleston, was a trader in Protection this week.—[Correspondent] "UNCLE BOB."

Protection prattle
How much did you lose on the election?

Al Rodgers shipped his sheep—two carloads—to Kansas City this week.

Mrs. J.L. Hudson, wife of our obliging station agent, went to Wichita Tuesday on a visit for several weeks.

A few of our young people attended the dance last week at the King schoolhouse and all report an enjoyable time.

Theron Myers went to Coldwater Sunday to visit his brother, Harvey, who has been quite sick. He reports Harvey much improved.

The church services here last Sunday were attended by large congregations. Rev. Fisher's sermons seemed to have special force and earnestness. A number of people come down from Coldwater to attend the meetings.—[Correspondent] "JUNIPER."

Cows and calves
Robbins & Alexander shipped two carloads of cattle from Protection to St. Joe last Saturday.

A shipment of calves—600 head—was made last Saturday from Protection by the Young Brothers Cattle Company, who now control the Flag Ranch [north of Protection]. The calves were shipped to Casey & Powers and were unloaded at Powers, Colorado, where they will be wintered. L.F. Young accompanied the shipment.

C.C. Towner loaded two carloads of mixed cattle at Protection yesterday for Kansas City. He shipped several carloads last week.

Several special trains have gone to Clark County again this week for cattle. It would seem that there are not many cattle left in that county by this time.

The number of "For Sale" cattle in Comanche County is now reduced to a small number. Not many more shipments will be made out of the county this fall.

The following prices are being paid for wheat pasture for stock this year: For two-year-olds and over, from 80 cents to $1 per month [about $31.70 to $39.65 in today's dollars]; for yearlings, from 70 cents to 80 cents; for calves, from 50 cents to 60 cents [$19.80 to $23.75 now] per head.

Mail goes south
As noted by one of our Protection correspondents this week, it now seems to be an assured fact that a mail route will soon be opened between Protection and Charleston, Oklahoma, a new post office about 30 miles south of Protection.

The new route is an expedient and necessary one. The rapid increase during the past year in the number of settlers in the Strip entitles the people down there to better mail facilities. During the past six months, at least a dozen post offices have been established in Woods and Woodward counties.

Newsmakers
Conductor Ryan, who had a run over the Englewood branch for the past three or four years, has been transferred to the passenger run from Wichita to Tonkawa, Oklahoma. It is a very desirable and a merited promotion for Mr. Ryan. George Fleming of Wellington takes Mr. Ryan's place on the Englewood run.

O.R. Lemon, of Pratt, was in Coldwater on Monday and Tuesday of this week. He is a stock dealer and came down to see what might be had in this county, not only in cattle but in ranch land. Mr. Lemon lived in Irwin Township, this county, for a few years and is frank to confess that Comanche is one of the best counties in the state for stock-raising purposes.

Pony Thornhill arrived at Protection last week from his home near Gordon, Missouri, on a visit with his brother, A.M. Thornhill. He says that he is well pleased with what he has seen of Comanche County.

Mrs. Fannie Wuchter came up from Protection Saturday and is being treated for some liver trouble by Dr. Northrup. Uncle Peter Wuchter came up from Protection yesterday to see how Mrs. Wuchter was getting along.

Delos Dunton's large ranch residence near Protection is rapidly nearing completion. When completed it will be occupied by Pearl Sanders, one of Mr. Dunton's efficient foremen.

100 YEARS AGO
Protection Post
Nov. 11, 1926

Big sales
Beginning Saturday of this week the doors of two of Protection's leading merchandise establishments will swing open on mammoth bargain carnivals.

Mr. O.B. Doughterty, a salesman of many years experience, has been engaged by Mr. Keller of the Keller Clothing Store and beginning Saturday of this week the entire stock of this exclusive men's and boys' furnishing store will be put on sale.... Mr. Keller is turning it into his first anniversary sale and will make definite and substantial savings to the public.

On Saturday coming, Mr. Heston of the Heston Cash Store will open one of the largest and most extensive sales that he has ever conducted in Protection.

His stock is in charge of Mr. Sheridan as sales manager. Mr. Sheridan is from the Pierpoint Brothers of Omaha, and the entire $35,000 stock [of dry goods and ready-to-wear] is being put on sale at fabulously reduced prices.

News notes
Monday, during the storm, as Roscoe Zane and Al Kirk were driving north of Protection, the sleet and rain clouded the windshield of their car so bad that they could not see where they were driving and they drove into one of the deep ditches north of Mr. Sibbitt's. The car, a Ford roadster, had the top torn from it and the fenders on one side. Neither Roscoe or Al were injured.

Ray and Hubert McLaughlin drove to Wichita Wednesday and attended the stock show. They returned Saturday.

Bachman's Ford Agency reports the sale of two new Fords. One to T.M. Hughes and the other to Merle Simkins.

W. Clyde Pile, publisher of the *Post,* left the paper in the hands of the force and went to Dodge City Thursday on business. He expects to return about Monday.

75 YEARS AGO
Protection Post
November 9, 1951

New business opens
The Comanche County Magneto Service is now in operation in the rear of the Brewer building.

This location is today's Bumper to Bumper store.

The building is owned by Bruce Thomas who recently came to Protection from Wichita where he was employed by Cessna Aircraft as a machinist in the tool and die department.

Mrs. Thomas is the daughter, Helen, of Claude and Laura Simkins east of Protection. She formerly attended and taught school here. The Thomases have four children. They live in the Bob Helman rental property.

Mr. Thomas has had a wide experience the past 30 years in the magneto and electric repair business, having followed this work in various parts of the United States.

While making allowances for possible delays in obtaining parts, Mr. Thomas expects to be able to give reasonably prompt service on all work in his line.

Off the track
A freight derailment on the Santa Fe last Friday between Wilmore and Belvidere made the line impassable and mail was delivered by truck. Section hands had the track cleared and repaired Saturday.

Early-season snow
A heavy snow throughout the day Monday gave the vicinity its first complete blanket of the season. Temperatures reportedly dropped as low as 12 degrees above zero early Tuesday morning.

By Wednesday noon, however, most of the snow had melted and roads and city streets were sloppy messes. The wet snow Monday flattened some feed fields and maize harvest is still delayed, but work will be in full swing soon if drying weather continues on Wednesday and Thursday. Wheat looks mighty good.

Death in Alaska
Ernest and Karl Dale received word Monday that their brother, Ford J., passed away Monday morning, November 5, at Fairbanks, Alaska. He was 70 years old.

Mr. Dale came to Comanche County in 1887 and settled on a farm northeast of Protection. He left here in 1916 and had been in Fairbanks the past 13 years.

He is also survived by another brother, Chet, of Coldwater and a sister, Mrs. Helen Tinkler of Montrose, Colorado.

Mr. Dale was buried in Fairbanks.

55 YEARS AGO
Protection Post
Nov. 12, 1971

Panthers push on
Last Friday evening on the Fowler field, the Panthers scored their ninth [consecutive win this season], defeating the Goldbugs, 23–6.

The Panthers once again proved their defense to be the greatest by holding the Goldbugs to one lone score which was made on a fumble recovery and run 75 yards in the third quarter.

The offense started scoring with a 4-yard run by [Brian] Edmonston and the PAT a kick by [Sid] Herd.

Steve Hazen tackled the Goldbug offense in their end zone for a safety.

Kent Woolfolk put up 6 more for the Panthers on a 9-yard run. The PAT, a kick by Herd, was also good. Ross Girk put up the final points for us when he carried the ball 1 yard for a TD and Herd kicked for the PAT.

Doug Brooks and John Bare are each credited with recovering a Fowler fumble.

The Panthers have come through with flying colors for the regular season of play with a 9–0 record, and a berth in the state playoffs. Friday night the Panthers will meet the Tribune Jackrabbits on their field for the first game of the playoffs.

Support your team.

Snazzy new office
The business office for Filson Manufacturing Company [today's city hall] is a recent addition to Protection that is drawing much favorable comment.

Constructed between the post office and the Protection Cleaners, the front of the building is made out of precast, reinforced concrete and has small rocks embedded in the face of the concrete, giving a sparkling effect. The slabs, weighing more than two tons each and 8 by 12 feet in size, were set into place with a crane.

35 YEARS AGO
Protection Press
Nov. 14, 1991

Music Man rescheduled
The Music Man, the rollicking musical play by Meredith Willson, will come to the auditorium stage of Protection School next week—after a two-week delay....

The play was originally set for November 8 and 9. But Chris Selzer was injured in the final 1991 Protection High School football game, at Lewis on Monday night, November 4.

He was transferred to a hospital at Wichita, examined, and released. Chris plays the lead role of Professor Harold Hill in the musical. That prompted school officials to set the play back a couple of weeks.

Playground project done
Protection School will soon be getting the new playground equipment toward which a number of persons have been working for several months.

The money needed to reach the goal was recently received.

Sponsoring the campaign to raise money for the project was the Mu Nu chapter of Beta Sigma Phi.

Kiowa Creek 4-H Club donated $300 to the project from its recent pizza sales. The Protection Recreation Commission gave $250. An additional $65 was given by community members.

In addition to sponsoring the campaign, Mu Nu gave $1,500 toward the purchase of the new equipment, which will be used by grade school youngsters here.

The play structure has been ordered. It will be delivered within four to six weeks....

Local news
Chester and Alice Baker drove to Great Bend on Tuesday night, November 1. They stayed overnight there with Alice's sister, Fay Smith, and returned home Wednesday.

Pam Moody spent the weekend in Protection with her mother Elaine Moody and her grandmother Elsie Beyler. Pam is attending Wichita State University.

Brenda Jellison of Hutchinson was home over the weekend. She visited Tommy and Vicky Jellison and Gary and Teresa Jellison.

Honored musicians
Last Saturday students from Protection High School auditioned for the annual District V honors choir and band.

Vocal tryouts were live. Making the honors choir were seniors Scharmagne Hazen and Chris Selzer, and junior Jennifer McCarl.

Band tryouts were done by tapes recorded by students. Senior Melisa Petty on the French horn was selected for the honors band.

Choir and band students will travel to the Dodge City Junior High School Saturday morning for rehearsals, followed by a concert Saturday afternoon.

15 YEARS AGO
Protection Press
November 10, 2011

Susie's Scribbles
By Susan Edmonston

A 5.6 magnitude earthquake hit in Oklahoma just before 11 p.m. Saturday night and could be felt in many locations across Kansas.

Our daughter Connie in Halstead felt it. I didn't, but others in Protection did.

Earlier that evening my husband Myron and I had watched the televised K-State/Oklahoma State football game played in Stillwater.

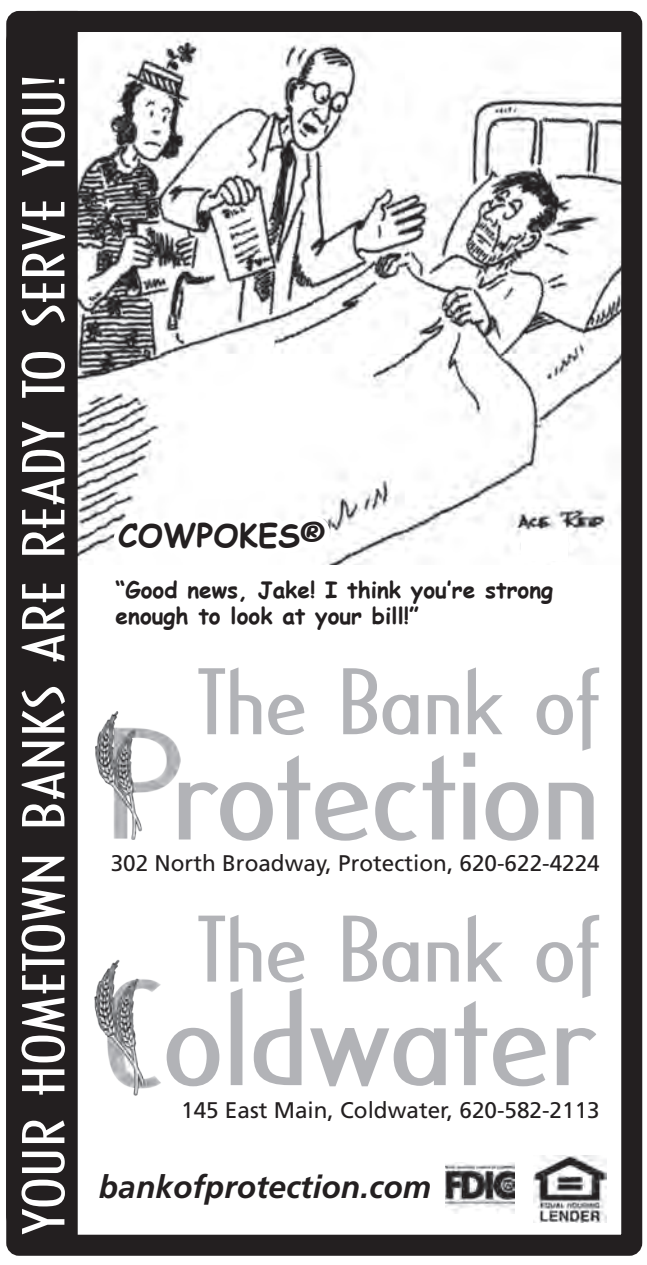
The score was 52–45 and we thought K-State just might tie the ball game in the final play of the game, but OSU prevailed.

Sunday noon the United Methodist congregation had a carry-in meal to welcome La Verne Bolling as minister of the church here. Talk at the tables was about who had felt the earthquake.

Tuesday at the Senior Center Lunch, Jack Loesch and Edith Whitford reported they had experienced the earthquake.

I simply love my grandchildren and I have 10 of them (age 3 months to 20). Two are now in college. I'm always happy when they call or visit.

I'm looking forward to seeing all 10 of them at our house during Thanksgiving vacation this month.



NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

Susie's Scribbles

By Susan Edmonston

When reading about the Filson family in Comanche County History Books, volumes 1 and 2, I read this about Gary:

"Gary started helping his dad in the shop at an early age. He delivered some of his first chutes to La Junta, Colo., at the age of 14, pulling a four-wheel trailer behind a jeep. He often was excused from school to make trips and by age 18 had traveled alone in 22 states.

"Gary worked his way through college receiving his BS degree at Northwestern of Alva, Okla."

Then here is what Larry, his brother, said in a 1975 newsletter to his classmates:

"Since 1965 I have been building a few cattle chutes here in Protection, and as long as there is one cow left, I will be plugging along making a chute or two."

• • • • • • •

Gary and Charlotte Filson have six children: Stephanie graduated in 1974, Kendal graduated in 1978, Mica in 1980, Corey in 1982, Ryan in 1985, and Brook in 1987.

After the last one graduated from Protection High School, Charlotte began to accompany her husband occasionally to the farm shows, especially if they were located close to family members.

She had a lot of positive comments during our interview. One was "the company received only a few hot checks."

Some of their ideas to improve their equipment came from people she and Gary met. One of them came from Frank Edwards, a piano tuner from Bedford, Virginia, who was legally blind from the Korean War and had a cow herd, but still could see good enough. Later, he became a dealer for them.

Gary and Charlotte remarked they had a lot of funny stories to tell about some of the unusual people they met at farm shows. They dealt with the nicest group of people, especially on their travels and had many repeat customers.

One story was about Steve Stephens of Protection (salesperson representing Filson's) who was with them at a booth at a farm show. They met a couple with five cows. Steve walked away and so did Gary knowing they probably wouldn't make a sale. But Charlotte visited with them!

Next year that same couple showed up, now having 10 cows, and said they wanted to speak to Charlotte. They bought the highest price piece of equipment from her, not them!

Charlotte also commented on another show they attended. Two bachelor brothers from Virginia came each year to the Georgia show. They always showed up in brand new cutoff overalls! But while the "Guys" were busy with people looking at equipment, Charlotte entertained "The Boys." Then one year they brought their nephew and wanted her. To her surprise they bought the entire display. She definitely enjoyed those times.

Another story was about Gary staying in hotels, not motels. He entered this place with his suitcase to stay overnight and wondered why there were so many girls around. Well, it was a girls' dorm.

• • • • • • •

Kendal also had a couple of stories.

"My grandpa Ben (who never had a pilot's license) accompanied Dr. Glenn (longtime doctor in Protection) in a two-seater air coupe from Protection to Cuba. Dr. Glenn later flew between a high wire line and a barbed wire fence and wrecked his airplane; therefore he was forbidden to ever fly a plane again."

The other story:

"My grandparents had a dairy in Protection. Gary was walking to deliver some milk and Mrs. Jones ran over him."

I called Gary to check this information. He said, "My parents had 10 cows and my sister Marlene and I milked them morning and evening. I was delivering two quarts of milk to a neighbor. Mrs. Jones (whose husband was the pharmacist in town) saw me and thought I would stop, and I saw her and thought she would stop. We met in the middle and her vehicle bumped me and I fell in the snow but wasn't hurt. I recovered one of the quarts to deliver but not the other."

Gary also added to Kendal's airplane story: "The plane landed in Mississippi and got stuck in the mud and they had to hire someone to help them out. Going on in Cuba was 'The Flying Farmers' and they didn't get there in time to join them."

Also, Gary told me that Ben and Dr. Glenn owned identical planes.

Popular Piece of Cattle Equipment

My husband, a farmer/rancher, really liked having a calf table. It is a specialized piece of livestock equipment used to catch, squeeze, and tilt a young calf onto its side for safe handling.

It allows giving shots safely without the animal kicking or moving, holding the calf still to apply hot or freeze brands, providing clear, safe access to the lower body for castration, and making it easy to place ear tags or treat eye issues.

Features are using a pivot action and the calf's weight to tip the animal sideways smoothly; securing the calf's head and body tightly with the head-gate so it cannot escape; allowing a person to drop the removable bars or swing side pipes away for total access to the animal. Most standard models handle calves weighing up to 450 to 550 pounds.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Happy Birthday: Friends Celebrate No. 68

A celebration of Debbie Brooks', far right, 68th birthday was attended by (L to R) Charlotte Filson, Stephanie Woolfolk, Neva Venhaus and Brooks on Sunday, Oct. 25, in Protection, hosted by Woolfolk and Venhaus. Brooks unwrapped gifts and everyone had a slice of angel food cake made by Woolfolk. Not pictured is Julia Lichtenwalter, who also attended.

ASHLAND LIBRARY NEWS

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, Nov. 14: 1 to 4 p.m. Adult art with Rebel Mahieu. Class cost is $50 per student, all materials supplied. Please RSVP to (620) 635-2589.

Monday, Nov. 16: Noon. Lunch & Learn with Jerry Hodges. Grief through the holidays.

Tuesday, Nov. 17: 6 p.m. Adult Watercolor with Mary Harden. Class cost is $25 per student, all materials supplied.

January Lunch and Learn with JaEtta Felter, Chair of the Children's Cabinet in Kansas and the Chair of the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Kansas.

Monday, Nov. 16: Lunch & Learn. Join us to learn how to deal with the loss of a loved one when the holidays come around. Presented by Jerry Hodges, M.Div., CT, Chaplain and bereavement counselor. Seminar begins at noon. Please RSVP to (620) 635-2589.

Future Books, Activities

Can you suggest some awesome books you would enjoy reading? Also, let us know if you have an idea for a future library activity. The library offers kids' arts and crafts, Cake Club, Lunch & Learns, art shows and more.

Gov.'s Race Still Undecided, Stalemate Could Await Topeka

BY DANE HICKS

The Kansas Informer

Kansas Republicans suffered a major loss of legislative power in the Nov. 3 election, surrendering their 16-year supermajority in the Kansas House while retaining enough seats in both chambers to control the legislative agenda and potentially thwart the priorities of Democratic gubernatorial candidate Cindy Holscher.

Unofficial election results showed Democrats gaining 20 House seats, reducing the Republican majority from 88-37 to 68-57. Republicans still hold a commanding majority in the Kansas Senate, where their 31 seats give them more than the 27 necessary to override a governor's veto.

Holscher held a narrow lead over Republican Senate President Ty Masterson early Wednesday, although the governor's race remained too close to call.

If Holscher wins, the new political arrangement would leave her with considerably greater veto power than outgoing Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly enjoyed during much of her eight-year administration. However, Republicans would still control both chambers and possess the votes necessary to block legislation, spending proposals and policy initiatives opposed by their leadership.

Holscher's campaign priorities include Medicaid expansion, increased public school funding, property tax relief and legalization of recreational marijuana. Each would require legislative cooperation, and Republican leaders have opposed several of those proposals for years.

The House losses also mean Republicans will no longer have the 84 votes necessary to override a gubernatorial veto or approve a proposed constitutional amendment without Democratic support.

The Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee called the election a major victory after Democrats won all 10 House races the organization targeted.

The election also dealt a blow to Republican House leadership. Among those defeated were House Majority Leader Chris Croft and committee chairmen Sean Tarwater, Bob Lewis, Tom Kessler and Bill Sutton.

Tarwater trailed Democratic challenger Sara Kiewiet by just 41 votes in the 27th District, a margin requiring a close-race audit. Republican Rep. David Buehler led Democrat Mika Stilwell by only 67 votes in the 40th District.

But the practical value of the Republican supermajority has been mixed during Kelly's administration. Although Republicans possessed enough seats to override vetoes in both chambers, they repeatedly failed to produce the necessary votes when members of their own party broke ranks.

In 2024, Republicans failed to override Kelly's veto of a roughly $1.5 billion tax-cut package. The House voted overwhelmingly for the override, 104–15, but the Senate fell one vote short with a 26–14 tally after three Republicans joined Democrats. Disagreements within Republican ranks also complicated efforts to impose new property tax restrictions this year.

Nevertheless, the supermajority was far from powerless. Republicans overrode 14 of Kelly's full-bill vetoes in 2025 alone, along with numerous budget line-item vetoes. Those overrides included legislation restricting gender-transition medical treatment for minors, changing election laws and establishing a framework for future income tax reductions. In 2026, lawmakers again used their supermajorities to override Kelly on several significant measures, including participation in a federal school scholarship program and creation of a food assistance fraud detection unit.

USD300

• *From Page 2*

Herd also expressed concern about the amount of taxpayer money involved, noting the commission received more than $25,000 in tax revenue in 2025. He questioned whether taxpayers had been given a fair opportunity to participate in the commission's membership.

Current recreation commission member Aj Prusa addressed the concerns, apologizing and acknowledging she had not been aware of the appointment requirements when she joined the commission in 2020. She said she had not been provided guidelines or instructions regarding the process when she was asked to join and did not realize replacements needed to be approved by the school board.

When she started, it was a board that met maybe twice a year. The current set of members have worked hard to make it what it is and meets much more often now.

She said commission members had worked to improve recreation opportunities for local children and were willing to reapply for their positions if necessary to ensure the commission operates properly and goes the way they've been working towards.

The discussion also raised concerns about the upcoming youth basketball season, with registration approaching in approximately two weeks. Commission members expressed concern that delays in resolving the issue could jeopardize the season.

Prusa expressed the urgency of resolving this matter as quickly as possible so as not to cause any issues in the upcoming pee-wee season the kids always look forward to participating in each year.

Board members discussed several possible ways to move forward, including establishing a new commission and opening applications to the public. A proposed five-member structure consisting of representatives from Coldwater, Protection and Wilmore was also discussed.

Currently, there are two members from Coldwater, two from Protection and one from Wilmore. The board thought that was a fair representation of the entire county. Members also agreed to move forward with that same structure.

Earlier, Herd discussed that the members need to be on rotating four-year terms. However, board members expressed a desire to obtain additional legal guidance before proceeding.

The board ultimately tabled the item, scheduling a special meeting while officials work to determine the appropriate next steps.

The board also postponed consideration of a proposed increase in the recreation commission's mill levy from 1 mill to 2 mills.

In other business, the board approved a bid from Welsch Construction for $6,830 to construct an additional accessibility ramp behind the South Central Elementary and Middle School gymnasium. KAT Construction submitted a bid for $7,000.

The ramp will provide easier access for anyone who might need to enter or exit the back side of the school towards the track for practice, whereas now they would have to go around to the front of the building to get back in.

The board also approved JT Prusa as the middle school assistant basketball coach. Board member Steve Prusa abstained from voting because JT is his son.

Jennifer Cronin's resignation as assistant volleyball coach was also presented. Cronin has served in the position for 21 years and is stepping away to spend more time watching her grandchildren participate in sports.

During school updates, administrators reported a 92 percent attendance rate at recent parent-teacher conferences.

Twenty-eight students were selected for the KMEA regional music festival from the middle school, and middle school music teacher Melanie Thompson was named regional Middle School Music Teacher of the Year.

The district also reported progress on school safety initiatives following a recent Kansas State Department of Education safety presentation for all staff, which included instruction on responding to active threats within the school.

NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

WILMORE NEWS

By Christina Griffin

Wilmore got one inch of rain this week, wheat farmers are happy.

We did a good cleaning at the church on Monday, Nov. 1. We had about 13 or 14 people all working on noble causes. Even one of our newest participants Gayla Redgar was there and did the rug cleaning. They even cleaned out the over head lights, which entails a tall ladder and someone to climb it. Thanks to all who helped and those that sent people.

Roger Unruh has donated a beautiful stained glass window to be installed over the area of the pulpit. It is called The Accession of Christ and they got it years ago out of an old church. They took it to Wichita and had it repaired and now Roger is ready to part with it and have it be in memory of his wife of 47 years, Gaylyn Unruh. What an honor, thanks Roger.

Well Jerrica Glen finally did it, she filled her pew at church. Jerrica and Gene, Tac and Tuff, Jenny and Clark Cronin and three friends of theirs from Pennsylvania. Congratulations Jerrica.

Marilyn Huck did a nice job at piano since Zac Ellis was in Protection fulfilling his obligations with the singing group Joyful Noises. By the way they will appear again at the Soup Supper for Wilmore Federated Church at the Community Center this weekend.

Birthdays this month include Ralph Ring, Tac Glenn had #5 on Sunday and had a very fun party in the park, Bob Delaney and our 65th wedding anniversary on the 18th.

Red Hats met on Thursday, at Dave's Pizza at noon. Johnita Nystrom was the hostess and announce she and her husband will be moving to Newton. The theme was Veteran's Day and I did a little presentation on the very large facility called Fort Rosecrans in San Diego. It is a beautiful location on a hill with the ocean on one side and the bay on the other, established in 1853 by Millard Filmore. Thank you veterans for your service.

We saw Mike Cooley the other day at the post office. He was walking and he carried a big stick. We often see him in one of his many cars or driving his lawn mower but we got to talk to him and life is good.

We had a great carousel day yesterday, Saturday. We had another group from the Pratt Senior Center, there were about eight this time and we also did a house tour. hen Diane Yost, her family and her sister and family from Iowa. They got into it, and Diane and Ernie got to converse in spanish. Carol Unruh came and brought 3 of her grandkids and cookies, one without chocolate for Beau the dog. Come again. Brooke and Jodi Ferrin brought Jodi's granddaughter over for a ride too.

We changed up our schedule and went to Daves Pizza and The Cat in the Hat movie Saturday night because of the soup supper. Good movie but a little long for kids and a good turn out.

We have a new great grandson, born Nov. 7 at 7:04 p.m. and weighed 7 pounds 4 ounces. Lucky number 7, no name yet.

Thanks for having me, see you next week.

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OPINION/SPORTS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

How Broken Promises Led to a Blue Tsunami

By Bob Morris, M³ Publishing, LLC, Managing Editor

For anybody wondering how that blue tsunami could have happened on Election Day last week, the number one reason is simple: Broken promises.

Whether it was the promise not to start new wars, the promise to root out corruption, the promise to reign in Big Tech's influence or the promise to take care of Americans beyond just giving them another tax cut, there were plenty of failures on the part of the Trump administration that led to the 2026 election results.

Don't believe what the neocons and their apologists will tell you. They will go on all day long blaming anything but the war with Iran that they desperately wanted, when the reality is that it's one of the biggest reasons why so many voters cast ballots for Democrats in the 2026 elections.

From the millennials who are tired of these endless wars and getting lectured about their concerns about the cost of living to Trump voters who backed Barack Obama in 2008 and 2012, then went with Trump because he was willing to call out Jeb Bush as much as he would Hillary Clinton, there is a large section of the electorate who has simply had enough with business as usual in Washington D.C.

These voters weren't necessarily fans of Democrats as much as they were either seeing candidates who spoke to their concerns or they saw their vote as the only means they had to send a message to Republicans.

All the cries about what's going on with the culture war or how people need to just change their buying habits will fall on deaf ears when you continue to have the military industrial complex getting rich at the expense of everyone else, while Big Tech folks promise they're going to change the world with artificial intelligence and hyper scale data centers with no thought given to the potential long-term impacts.

If Republicans want to repair the damage done, it's not going to happen through the usual playbook. It's going to require a complete rethinking of the approach that's been taken since World War II.

Here are the things that Republicans – and any Democrat who is serious about governing, for that matter – need to do if they really want to win votes and keep them.

1. Stop getting involved in foreign wars.

The voters are tired of the United States sending money, troops or anything else to deal with overseas wars, whether it's Europe, the Middle East or anywhere else.

Again, the war in Iran is one of the biggest reasons that Republicans went down in defeat in so many federal elections. It's time to admit that and stop making excuses.

2. Stop giving Israel special treatment.

The fact is, too many of our politicians put the interests of Israel above the United States. In fact, Israel wanted the United States to go to war with Iran, despite the majority of voters saying they didn't want it.

Treat Israel the same as any other nation – we engage in diplomacy, we work to get along, we don't rattle the sabres at each other, but we don't coddle, either. There may be times that nations disagree, but that's a sign of a healthy relationship, not preferential treatment.

3. Stop dismissing voter concerns about the price of gas, groceries, health care, housing or anything else.

When Joe Biden was in the White House, Democrats were often tone deaf about concerns about the price of everything as people being too stupid to know how good they had it. With Donald Trump in the White House, plenty of Republicans have been just as tone deaf.

Case in point: When the Republican running for re-election as U.S. Senator to Mississippi was asked about rising beef prices, her reply was that there were "other proteins" people could pick. That's the type of messaging that Democrats will pounce on, because enough of them learned that messaging doesn't go over well with voters.

4. Corruption in government is bad regardless of who is doing it.

One would have a field day listing all the times Democrats benefited themselves at the expense of everyone else when they held power under Biden. But now you could make quite a list of Republicans who are doing that now that they held power under Trump.

It's easy to call out corruption when it's in the party you dislike. It's harder to do that when it's in the party you like, but it's just as important to call it out rather than engage in tribalism.

5. Pay attention to the concerns about data centers.

While some concerns raised about these hyper scale centers to accommodate AI are blown out of proportion, many concerns are valid, whether about the data center itself or the impact of AI. And while there may be ways to mitigate the downsides, it's harder to do that if you go full speed ahead.

And the last thing you should do is tell people how stupid they are to oppose a data center or call them a China lover. No voter is ever going to listen to you if you call them names.

One last bit of advice: The neoconservatives and neoliberals who have ran the show in D.C. for decades have worn out their welcome. Stop listening to them because they have shown that they will never learn.

But the rest of you might learn something if you ignore the D.C. establishment types and pay more attention to the voters who actually decided the 2024 elections, then decided the 2026 elections – even if the outcomes of those elections were decidedly different.



ERNIE AND CHRISTY GRIFFIN

65th Wedding Anniversary

Ernie and Christy Griffin will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on November 18, 2026.

Married in San Diego, California, in 1961, Ernie and Christy have shared a lifetime of love, laughter, and family memories. Together, they have traveled the world, embraced new adventures, and found joy in both far-off destinations and the close-knit community of Wilmore, Kansas.

Through six and a half decades together, they have proven that true love, patience, a good sense of humor and a carousel go a long way. After 65 years, they still enjoy each other's company, which may be their greatest accomplishment!

Sending heartfelt congratulations and much love are their children and their spouses; their four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and their beloved dog,Beau, who has shared many journeys with them while traveling across the country in their RV.

With love,

Heidi & Julien, Peter & Sandy, Sarah, Jakob, Nick, Rhys, CJ, baby Jack and (of course) Beauregard



PAULA BRADLEY / The Star-Press

South Central defender Dakota Thornesberry (19) has his eyes set on the Trego Community quarterback during last week's Regional matchup in Coldwater. SCHS won, advancing to this week's Sectional round.

FOOTBALL

• *From Page 1*

mental mistakes. But he was happy with how the players fought through that and stayed in the game.

SCHS trailed 28-22 at halftime, but shut out the Golden Eagles in the second half while scoring twice. Westrup said the Timberwolves made some adjustments and played well in the second half.

He noted that Trego quarterback Vladon Crawford did a good job of running the ball. Westrup added that Trego used some motion on offense that challenged the Timberwolves defense.

"They would use motions and make us switch coverages and they were able to isolate some guys that got caught, people in the backfield and they caught a couple of really deep passes on us," he said.

Jared Aschenbrenner caught three touchdown passes for the Golden Eagles. Westrup said the Timberwolves then played man coverage on Aschenbrenner and changed things to where the defenders weren't simply watching the motions on offense.

"We just changed our coverage and we used a lineman to jam that guy at the line of scrimmage so he couldn't get off free," Westrup said.

The Timberwolves had 310 total yards of offense while Trego Community had 255 yards of total offense. The Golden Eagles had 178 yards passing to 113 for the Timberwolves, but SCHS had 197 yards rushing while TCHS had 77.

Easton Huck rushed for 112 yards on 22 carries with two touchdowns and completed 15-of-21 passes for 113 yards and two touchdowns. Coda Lindsay had 77 yards rushing for 11 yards and one touchdown. Dakota Thornesberry caught six passes for 60 yards and one touchdown and Parker Price caught six passes for 41 yards and one touchdown.

On defense, Colt Yoder had 14 tackles, four for a loss, Huck had eight tackles, John Willems had seventh tackles, two for a loss, Eli Girk had seven tackles and Thornesberry had six tackles, two for a loss. Willems had two quarterback sacks and Thornesberry and Girk each had one.

Westrup said he was happy to see the Timberwolves (10-0) come away with a win against a quality team.

"It's always fun to win in the playoffs," he said. "There's no bad teams left this time of year. And so it was fun to go out there and compete and take down a good team – a good quality team that had a lot of big wins."

Westrup added it may be the last home game for SCHS as well, because the Timberwolves will be on the road for Sectionals and will likely be on the road for Sub State if the Timberwolves get that far.

"It was good to be able to get a win at home in front of the fans," Westrup said. "And I don't like blowout wins. Blowout wins aren't fun. You want those wins that, you know, you actually have to work for to earn. And that's what this game was."

SCHS will now face Wichita County this Friday at 6 p.m. The Indians are 10-0 for the season as well and beat Ell-Saline 46-24 in the Regional round of the playoffs.

"They've very disciplined," Westrup said. "They have a whole bunch of formations with a whole lot of motions with not very many plays. They just use a lot of different looks to distract you to run the same thing over and over and over."

He said it will be important for the SCHS defenders to stay at home and do their jobs, rather than worrying about the motions.

Westrup added that the Indians are a physical team but he didn't know if they have been tested a lot this year. Wichita County rolled through District 8, shutting out Stanton County, Elkhart and Sublette and giving up just six points to South Gray.

The head coach added that he wouldn't be surprised if the Indians are looking at what happened last year when the teams met up in Sectionals.

"We played them last year at home at our place and it was the same scenario, the Sectionals and we won that game," Westrup said. "And so they're going to be out after us because we ended their season last year. So we're looking forward to the challenge."

He added that the Timberwolves have played well in road playoff games, so he expects the players will embrace the three-hour road trip and look to take care of business.

"We just got to get better at the little things." Westrup said. "We've got to fix the mental mistakes that we had this week with the penalties and the missed reads on defense, missed blocks. We just got to get better at the small things and let the big things take care of themselves."

Westrup said that practice is challenging now that it gets dark sooner, so the Timberwolves will have to be efficient with practice time, from stretching to individual drills to team drills.

CLASSIFIEDS

Call Stephanie at 620.532.3151 to place your classified ad, make changes to your current ad or cancel an ad.

Bar-Six Manufacturing, Inc. is hiring a welder. No experience is required. Must be 18 years old or older, have reliable transportation and the ability to lift 50-plus pounds. Need the ability to work in a shop environment (heat, noise, dust) and a willingness to learn welding and fabrication skills. Need the ability to use basic hand tools. Need a good work eithic and dependable attendance. Apply in person at US-160, in Protection. For more information, call (620) 622-4456.

Comanche County Road and Bridge is looking for heavy equipment operators and laborers. Pay starts at $14, with the possibility of higher pay with experience. If you have questions, please call AJ at (620) 582-5222.

Applications are available at the Road and Bridge Office, 401 S. Philadelphia, Coldwater, or at the County Clerk's office in Courthouse at 201 S. New York Ave., Coldwater. 51tfnc

ON-FARM TIRE REPAIR – Call Kropf Oil Company in Coldwater. 620-582-2391. 1tfnc

Pioneer Lodge has the following openings:

RN or LPN charge nurse full time or part time, C.N.A. Full time or part time, Laundry Aide part time - Stop by for an application or email diana@pioneerlodgeks.org for more information.

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South Central High School Custodian (4 ten-hour days per week) – Please contact the district office if you are interested in a bus driver or substitute teacher position. Applications are available at https://usd300ks.com/en-us/employment-1887b0dc – Positions Open Until Filled.

Send resume and credentials to: Mike Baldwin, Comanche County USD 300, PO Box 721 Coldwater, Kansas 67029.

South Central Middle School is looking for paraprofessionals to work with middle school students. If you are interested please call Matt Jellison at South Central Middle School, at (620) 622-4545 or email at jellisonmatt@usd300ks.com.