

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.



FYI | You missed National Bomb Pop Day, but it's not too late to enjoy this native KC treat. | C1

SHOWTIME | Woody Allen's latest film, "Whatever Works" (★★ 1/2) works only part-time. | C3

TODAY'S WEATHER: LOW 65, HIGH 85. CHANCE OF MORNING THUNDERSTORMS. FORECAST | B12

75¢

\$1.2 MILLION Lakeside view of 255 Waterford Terrace.	\$2.5 MILLION Lakeside view of 864 Eagle Drive.	\$2.9 MILLION Streetside view of 350 Via Cresta Drive.	\$3.3 MILLION Lakeside view of 86 Woodhaven Lane.

A tough sell, luxury's up for bid



JILL TOYOSHIBA | THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Owners of luxury homes at the Lake of the Ozarks are turning to auctions to get their properties sold in a slow real estate market. This \$2.9 million home at 350 Via Cresta Drive — complete with pool and sculptures of palm trees — is facing auction.

LOCAL

For motorcyclists, veto by Nixon means helmets remain a must

Repealing state's law for adults would have cost too many lives and dollars, he says.

By JASON NOBLE
The Star's
Jefferson City correspondent

JEFFERSON CITY | Coming as close as they've been in a decade, Missouri bikers still won't be feeling the wind in their hair any time soon.

Gov. Jay Nixon on Thursday vetoed a bill that would have let adult motorcyclists

ride without helmets.

The decision came after weeks in which the Democrat avoided comment on the bill and appeared genuinely conflicted over whether to sign it into law.

He called his veto "the safe and cost-effective choice," referring to concerns for bikers and those bearing the price of treating additional and more severe head injuries.

"In terms of lives and dollars, the cost of repealing

Missouri's helmet law simply would have been too high," he said in a statement.

The bill would have exempted riders older than 21, although headgear still would have been required on interstates. The exemption also would have expired in five years.

Tony Sheppard, founder of the motorcycle organization ABATE for Missouri, said he was neither sur-

SEE VETO | A12

Plush homes at the Lake of the Ozarks will be auctioned off as their owners face up to a down market.

OSAGE BEACH, Mo. | Beneath the free-standing porticos, on the stone path leading to the cut-glass double front door, Lisa Elliott greets me on a muggy afternoon wearing a black, sleeveless dress, as if she were on her way to a cocktail party.

No doubt the big empty house at 86 Woodhaven Lane will hold many soirees someday — if and when it ever sells.

MIKE HENDRICKS



COMMENTARY

INSIDE
A storied Ward Parkway house is bought at auction — by the bank. | A14

@ Go to KansasCity.com for a photo gallery and video of the luxury lake houses.

one of four luxury lake homes up for an unprecedented auction in a couple of weeks.

The walls on all four levels are stuffed full of wires to power the 138 speakers and 10 flat-panel TVs, all of which can be controlled from a central electronics closet hidden in the 4½ car garage, where there is, of course, a hookup for yet another big screen.

I guess just in case you want to watch the game while polishing the Lamborghini. Or so you can stay tuned in to what's going on in the rest of the house via the security system, wired with six movable cameras.

SEE AUCTION | A16

BUSINESS

FIGURES ON JOBS SQUELCH OPTIMISM

Average workweek and paycheck both take a hit as nation's unemployment rate hits 9.5%.

By DIANE STAFFORD
The Kansas City Star

U.S. employers continued to cut payrolls in June, quashing job market optimism generated by smaller losses in May and even hurting the wages of those who are employed.

The official jobless rate inched up to 9.5 percent from 9.4 percent previously estimated for May. The loss of 467,000 nonfarm payroll jobs compared with 345,000 in May.

Although 9 in 10 members of the American work force are employed, the average workweek fell in June to 33 hours, the lowest level on record since the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics began tracking it in 1964. For the last seven years, the weekly average fluctuated from 33.6 to 33.9 hours.

Shorter workweeks and the growth of part-time, rather than full-time, jobs are slicing into overall earnings. With 14.7 million unemployed workers, an oversupply of labor is allowing employers to hire people for less money.

Three other notable effects emerged from employment data released Thursday:

■ The percentage of unemployed who can't find a full-time job and are classified as "discouraged" or "marginally attached" workers rose to a high of 16.5 percent.

■ After 18 straight months of job losses, there now are fewer nonfarm payroll jobs in the nation

MORE BUSINESS NEWS, A14

What to do with defunct dealerships? Many former car lots will be selling...cars.

SEE JOBS | A12

Mother may be acquitted in bullying case

Judge tentatively dismisses convictions of St. Louis area woman involved in MySpace suicide case.

Star news services

LOS ANGELES | A federal judge on Thursday tentatively threw out the convictions of a Missouri mother for her role in a MySpace hoax directed at a 13-year-old girl who ended up committing suicide.

U.S. District Judge George Wu said he was acquitting Lori Drew of suburban St. Louis of misdemeanor counts of accessing computers without authorization.

However, he stressed the ruling was tentative until he issues it in writing, which probably will come next week.

Drew, of Dardenne Prairie, Mo., showed no reaction to the decision.

She was convicted in November of three misdemeanor counts of illegally accessing a protected computer. But the judge said that if she is to be found guilty of illegally accessing computers, anyone who has ever violated the social networking site's terms of service would be guilty



Drew

SEE MYSPACE | A16

SPORTS DAILY

@KANSASCITY.COM

One and undone

Mike Jacobs and the Royals scored just once in Thursday's loss to the White Sox. | B1



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