

# THE KANSAS CITY STAR



**SPORTS DAILY**

Kansas State coach Bill Snyder has the Wildcat players believing in themselves again. | B1



**BUSINESS**

Vegas casinos operators hope to match their Missouri brethren's recession recovery. | A16

**FYI WEEKEND PREVIEW**

A small but vocal crowd shows up each Thanksgiving eve for a sneak peek at the Plaza lights.



TODAY'S WEATHER: LOW 40, HIGH 53, SUNSHINE SHOULD RETURN AT LAST! FORECAST | B14

75¢

## Tough coaches, delicate balance



JILL TOYOSHIBA | THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Bishop Miege High School football coach Tim Grunhard, seen talking to his team after Wednesday's practice, is no fan of the "boot camp" model of coaching and says he is surprised at the allegations against the University of Kansas' Mark Mangino.

HEALTH CARE | Vote on debate could come as early as Saturday

## SENATE UNVEILS HEALTH PLAN

It would require most people to get insurance and would create a public option starting in 2014.

By DAVID LIGHTMAN  
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON | Senate Democratic leaders Wednesday outlined an \$849 billion plan to overhaul the nation's health care system.

The Senate could vote as early as Saturday to begin debate on the measure, which would require most people to obtain insurance and create a government-run insurance plan, or public option, starting in 2014. Unlike the House bill, it would allow states to opt out of the public option.



The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates the legislation could shave \$127 billion from the federal deficit over the next 10 years. That would be the biggest projected savings of any major health care bill thus far.

It would bar insurers from denying coverage because of pre-existing conditions and set up exchanges, or marketplaces, where consumers could easily compare coverage and rates, and provide federal help for lower-income people to

**INSIDE**

Federal advice on mammograms hasn't changed, says Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. | A2

SEE HEALTH | A18

## Santa's wish list: Stop those germs

The guys in red suits also hope to get in line for H1N1 vaccine and help kids stay healthy.

By LEE HILL KAVANAUGH  
The Kansas City Star

In this year of the H1N1 flu, Santa's gloves are coming off.

The big guys in the red suits are telling each other to go barehanded at public events — and to keep washing those hands as often as they can.

Teacher says: "Every time you hear a bell, Santa should pump a shot of Purell."

Being Santa always means risking exposure to a sack full of germ warfare: Kids with sniffing noses, hacking

coughs, leaky diapers. And about those gloves? The fabric harbors germs that can pass from person to person.

But H1N1 threatens to steal Christmas if extra precautions aren't taken, says John Scheuch of Prairie Village, a Santa for 34 years and executive director of the Santa-America service group.

Some of those precautions may include getting Santas the swine flu vaccine.

This week, an Alabama Santa named Ernest Berger started a campaign to make Santa a priority group for the H1N1 vaccine.

"Look, we're not a bunch of

SEE SANTA | A18



FRED BLOCHER | THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Even Santa Claus, portrayed by Jerry Peterson of Lee's Summit, is concerned about the H1N1 virus. On Wednesday, he used a sanitizer after each child's visit at Bass Pro Shop in Independence.

## How much aggression is too much? Complaints about Mangino reflect pervasive problem.

By DAVE HELLING and DIANE STAFFORD  
The Kansas City Star

Anyone who's ever coached a young athlete recognizes the feeling — when pride and admiration turn to frustration or impatience when a shot is missed or a ball is dropped.

Countless times each year, coaches from kindergarten to college are able to turn those feelings into teachable moments and encouragement, approaches that almost always lead to better player or team performance.

But sometimes a darker side emerges: A player is yelled at, severely punished, even physically abused.

It's not clear what happened last week with University of Kansas head football coach Mark Mangino. An investigation is under way following complaints by players and parents.

Yet the problem of overly aggressive youth coaching is growing in America. Indeed, three out of four young players quit organized sports before the age of 13, according to one survey, blaming overly aggressive coaching more than any other reason.

"The win-at-all-costs mentality that's filtered down from professional sports has colored youth sports," said Jim Thompson, founder of a California-based organization called the Positive Coaching Alliance, which counsels coaches at the high school level and below. "Youth coaches are imagining in their heads that they're an NBA coach

SEE COACHES | A18



**INSIDE**  
Mark Mangino responds to the allegations.

Jason Whitlock says the coach is an abusive bully. | B1

@ Go to KansasCity.com for Mark Mangino updates in the Campus Corner blog and to see a photo gallery of Tim Grunhard at practice.

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- A video on the Chiefs' receivers, audio from Todd Haley's news conference and updates on the Red Zone blog.
- A photo gallery of Marillac's Enchanted Forest.
- A photo gallery of the Plaza lights through the years.

## Holder takes heat for terror trials decision

After his appearance at a hearing, the attorney general is confronted by family members of Sept. 11 victims.

By CARRIE JOHNSON  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON | After four hours of questions Wednesday in a crowded Capitol Hill hearing room about his decision to send the self-described mastermind of the Sept. 11 terrorist strikes to New York for trial, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder submitted to one more round of interrogation.

He pivoted from the senators who had challenged him all morning and stood to face unexpected queries from a gathering of family members who had lost loved ones in the 2001 al-Qaida attacks.

Alice Hoagland of Los Gatos, Calif., told Holder that she took "great exception to your decision to give short shrift to military commissions."

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