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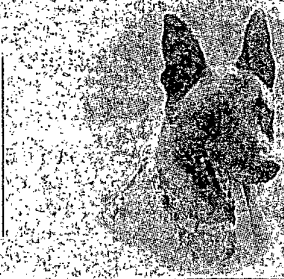
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COLUMBIAN STAFF COLLEGE FOOTBALL PREDICTIONS

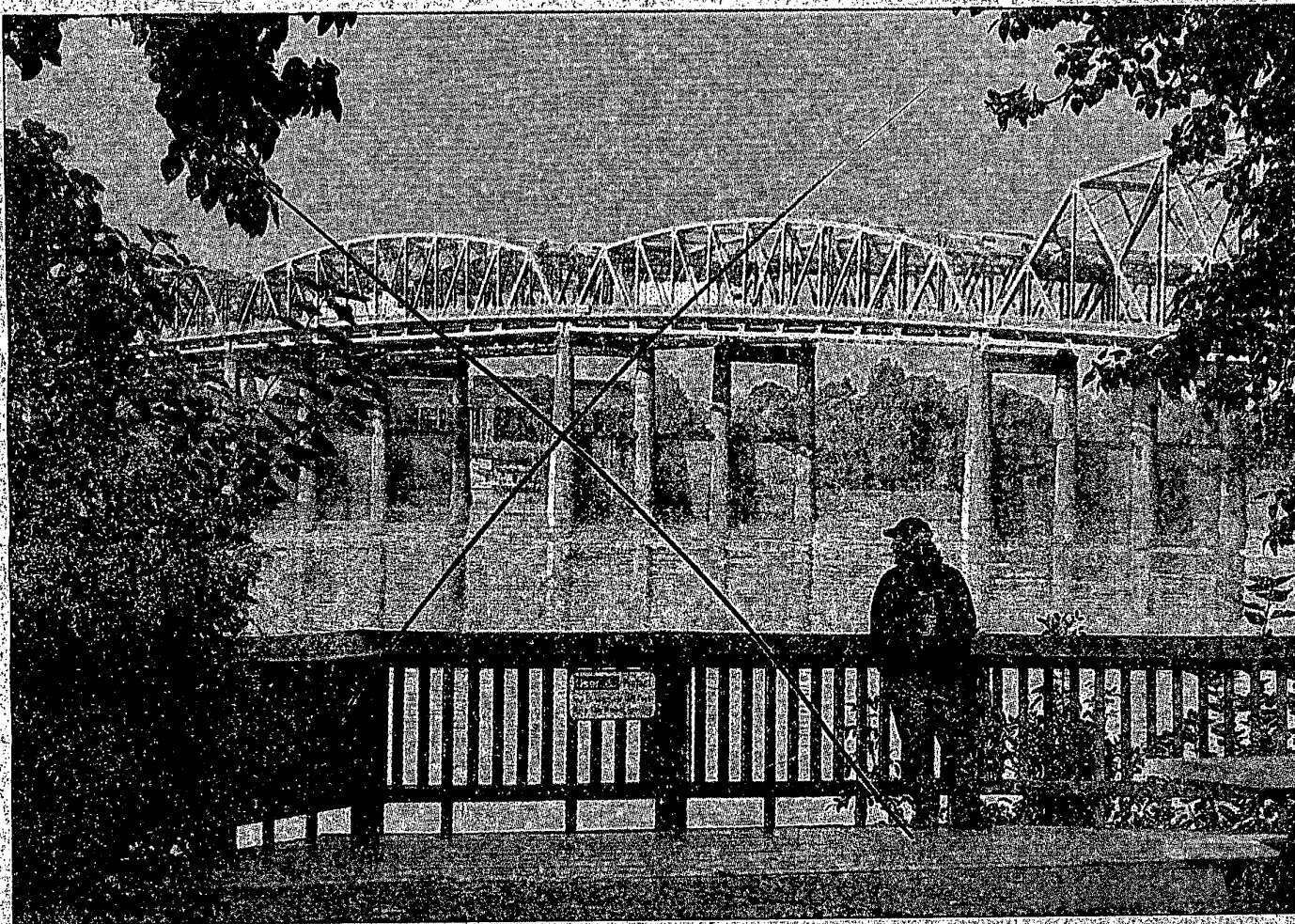
Lee Dransfield Sports Editor	Miché Rice Sports Editor	The Martins Sports Editor	Paul Valente Sports Editor	Paul Benson Sports Editor
Washington 10-2 Oregon 10-2 Pac-12 champion Oregon 10-2	Washington 10-2 Oregon 10-2 Pac-12 champion Oregon 10-2	Washington 10-2 Oregon 10-2 Pac-12 champion Oregon 10-2	Washington 10-2 Oregon 10-2 Pac-12 champion Oregon 10-2	Washington 10-2 Oregon 10-2 Pac-12 champion Oregon 10-2

SPORTS, B1
UW set for its college football opener, plus Columbian predictions



CLARK COUNTY, C1
Memorial fundraiser honor memory of slain Vancouver K-9

RIVERFRONT VIEW



AMANDA COWAN/The Columbian

Jeff McBride of Vancouver spends a peaceful moment before work checking out scenic views of the Interstate 5 Bridge and the Columbia River on Thursday morning. McBride, who has lived in the area for 10 years, said he is looking forward to the development of the waterfront area west of the bridge.

11 voice opinions on county land use

Joint meeting sees split on alternatives that focus on changes to rural areas

By KAITLIN GILLESPIE
Columbian staff writer

At a joint meeting of the Clark County council and Planning Commission on Thursday, 11 speakers offered their comments on the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan update.

Five spoke in support of Alternatives 2 or 4, both of which are focused on making changes to rural Clark County. The two alternatives, according to the draft environmental impact statement for the plan, will help clean up inconsistencies on the map and shrink rural forest and agriculture.

Four spoke against those alternatives, including three local elected officials, while the others offered other suggestions for how to best approach planning.

Howard Jones was among those in favor of Alternative 4. Jones lives on Kelly Road east of Yacolt. His property falls just short of 10 acres, but was zoned for 5-acre parcels in 1997. That zoning has left him with no way to legally split and sell his property if he wishes to, he said.

Jones urged the county to rezone his property to allow him to split his land into 2.5-acre parcels, as would be allowed under Alternative 4.

GROWTH PLAN, Page A7

SAT scores lag; most students miss college-ready standard

By JENNIFER C. KERR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Continuing a downward trend, the latest scores from the SAT college entrance exam show a majority of students taking the test aren't ready for college-level work or career-training programs.

A report released Thursday from the College Board also finds overall student performance on the SAT lagging for the Class of 2015, with average scores for reading, math and writing at their lowest level in nearly a decade.

The nonprofit organization, which administers the exam, said only about 42 percent of test-takers, around 712,000 students, met a benchmark that indicates they're likely ready for college-level work or career-training programs. The benchmark is a combined

Kentucky clerks plan to license gay marriages after boss jailed

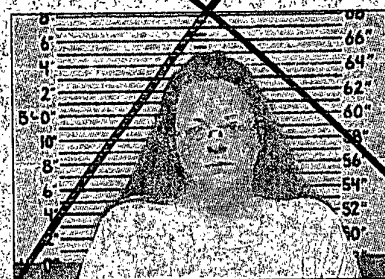
"Her good faith belief is simply not a viable defense. Mrs. Davis took an oath. Oaths mean things!"

U.S. District Judge David Bunning, on the jailing of county clerk Kim Davis

Judge finds her in contempt of court for defying law

By ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

ASHLAND, Ky. — A defiant county clerk went to jail Thursday for refusing to issue marriage licenses to gay couples, but five of her deputies agreed to issue the licenses themselves, potentially ending the church-state standoff in Rowan County, Ky. U.S. District Judge David Bunning said he had no choice but to jail Kim Davis for contempt after she insisted that her "conscience will not allow her to follow federal court rulings on gay marriage."



Rowan County, Ky., county clerk Kim Davis went to jail Thursday for refusing to issue marriage licenses to gay couples despite a court ruling.

employees issuing marriage licenses this morning. But Davis, through her attorneys, rejected that offer and chose to stay in jail.

Gay and lesbian couples vowed to appear at the Rowan County clerk's office for the fifth time today to see if the deputy clerks would keep their promises.

"We're going to the courthouse tomorrow to get our marriage license and we're very excited about that," said April Miller, who has been engaged to Karen Roberts for 11 years. As word of Davis' jailing spread outside the federal courthouse, hundreds of people chanted and screamed, "Love wins! Love wins!" while Davis supporters booted.

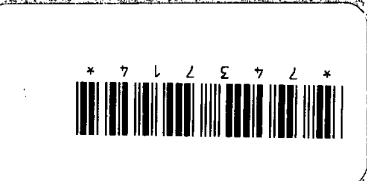
OPINION, A6



Eugene Robinson: Going from get tough to plain crazy on immigration

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How to weigh in

Clark County will accept comments on the draft supplemental environmental impact statement for the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan update until 4 p.m. on Sept. 17. There are a number of ways to submit your comments.

■ Visit clark.wa.gov/planning/2016update/alternatives.html and follow the link there to post a comment on Engage Clark County or through a form available on the website.

■ Email comments to comp.plan@clark.wa.gov.

■ Mail comments to Clark County Community Planning, Attn: 2016 Comp Plan Record, P.O. Box 9810, Vancouver, WA 98666-9810.

■ Attend the second joint hearing of the Clark County council and the Clark County Planning Commission at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Public Service Center on 1300 Franklin St., Vancouver.

The Planning Commission will recommend a preferred alternative at a public hearing at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 17. The Clark County council will likely vote on its preferred alternative at 10 a.m. on Oct. 20.

After that hearing, Seattle-based firm Environmental Science Associates will prepare a final environmental report.

Growth plan

From Page A1

native 4.

"You've got me right between a rock and a hard spot," Jones said. "I can't literally do anything to it."

Carol Levanen, president of land-use group Clark County Citizens United, spoke in favor of Alternative 4, saying the county has failed to adequately provide for the needs of rural landowners since the early 1990s.

"Rural and resource land has been locked in status quo," she said.

She and CCCLU president Susan Rasmussen have been frequent commenters at Clark County council meetings for months. The group, which claims to represent the needs of 6,000 rural citizens, has pushed for a land-use alternative that would cater to rural residents.

Ridgefield Mayor Ron Onslow spoke in favor of Alternative 3, which would expand the urban growth boundaries of several small cities, including Ridgefield. The city in northwest Clark County requested pulling about 100 acres north of the city into its urban growth boundary to be used for future industrial growth.

Onslow also spoke against Alternative 4: Adding additional residents

in unincorporated Clark County surrounding the city will put a strain on city services, as those people will rely on services within Ridgefield city limits, he said.

"There will be more impacts and more expenses to the city," Onslow said.

Vancouver City Councilor Anne McEnery-Ogle also spoke against Alternatives 2 and 4, saying they would strain the region's aquifers, most of which are in the southwest part of the county just north of Vancouver city limits.

"Two of your proposed changes create sweeping impacts to urban area," McEnery-Ogle said, adding that Alternatives 2 and 4 will create "prohibitive structure costs."

Chuck Green, who is running for the newly created District 2 seat on the Clark County council, urged the county to hold off on adopting a new plan until the two new councilors are seated. Though there "are merits" to all four alternatives, the county will be better served by adopting a "value-based plan" with input from the full council.

There will be a second joint hearing of the Clark County council and the Clark County Planning Commission at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Public Service Center on 1300 Franklin St., Vancouver.

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The four alternatives

The Clark County council is considering four alternatives to the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan update, which will make changes to zoning and lot sizes throughout unincorporated Clark County.

In general, the more lots an alternative allows for, the greater its environmental impacts, according to the draft environmental impact statement released by the county last month. Seattle firm Environmental Science Associates compiled the 164-page environmental report.

The logic throughout is simple: The more people who live outside cities, where resources such as schools and shopping typically are, the greater the number of people there will be who need to travel to those cities to use those resources. That strains roads and public transportation. More homes also mean more potential strain on water, energy, wildlife and other natural resources.

The council can pick a preferred alternative in late October that combines components of each of the four alternatives.

■ **ALTERNATIVE 1**, the "no-action" alternative, would leave Clark County's map and zoning as is. It could lead to the creation of 7,073 new lots.

■ **ALTERNATIVE 2** makes changes across unincorporated Clark County. It will add a "rural lands" designation, which will include 5-, 10- and 20-acre rural lots. Forest lots currently zoned 40 acres will be reduced to 20 acres. Agriculture lots zoned 20 acres will be reduced to 10 acres. It could lead to the creation of 8,220 new lots.

■ **ALTERNATIVE 3** increases the urban growth boundaries of Battle Ground, La Center, Ridgefield and Washougal. It could lead to the creation of 7,043 new lots.

■ **ALTERNATIVE 4**, proposed by Councilor David Madore, makes sweeping changes to unincorporated Clark County. It creates rural lots of 1, 2.5 and 5 acres. It adds 10- and 20-acre forest lots to the existing 40- and 80-acre zones. It replaces all 20-acre agriculture lots with 5- and 10-acre agriculture lots. It could lead to the creation of 12,401 new lots.



TIMOTHY D. EASLEY/Associated Press

Edgar Orea, right, preaches to a group of same-sex marriage supporters Thursday outside the Carl D. Perkins Federal Building in Ashland, Ky. Hundreds gathered for the arrival of Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis, who was ordered to appear in federal court.

Gay marriage

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ment to what Martin Luther King Jr. did to advance civil rights.

"Kim Davis represents the best of us, and everyone should lament and mourn the fact that her freedom has been taken away for what she believes," Gannam said.

Laura Landenwich, an attorney for the plaintiffs, rejected the comparison.

"Ms. Davis is in an unfortunate situation of her own creation. She is not a martyr. No one created a martyr today," Landenwich said, adding she holds the keys to her jail cell.

Speaking earlier from the bench, Bunning said it would set up a "slippery slope" to allow an individual's ideas to supersede the courts' authority.

"Her good faith belief is simply not a viable defense," Bunning said. "I myself have genuinely held religious beliefs, but I took an oath."

"Mrs. Davis took an oath," he added. "Oaths mean things."

Davis is represented by the Liberty Counsel, which advocates in court for religious freedom.

Before she was led away, Davis said the U.S. Supreme Court ruling legalizing gay marriage nationwide conflicts with the vows she made when she became a born-again Christian.

"I promised to love him with all my heart, mind and soul because I wanted to make heaven my home," Davis said.

Miller and Roberts were denied a marriage license four times by Davis or her deputies since the June ruling. Miller testified that one of the deputy clerks told her to apply for a license in another county.

"That's kind of like saying, 'We don't want gays or lesbians here, we don't think you are valuable,'" she said.

Rather than be fined, jailed or lose their jobs, five of the clerks told the judge they would issue the licenses. Her son, Nathan Davis, refused, but the judge said that wouldn't matter, and he wouldn't be punished, as

long as the others complied. "I don't really want to, but I will comply with the law," said one, Melissa Thompson. "I'm a preacher's daughter and this is the hardest thing I've ever had to do in my life," she added. "I don't hate anybody. None of us do."

Davis, an Apostolic Christian whose critics mock her for being on her fourth marriage, stopped serving all couples after the Supreme Court ruling in June. Many supporters and even some Republican presidential candidates have rallied behind her.

"People are calling the office all the time asking to send money," she testified. "I myself have not solicited any money."

SAT

From Page A1

met that benchmark, 61 percent of Asian test-takers hit it, followed by about 53 percent of white test-takers, 33 percent of Native Americans and 23 percent of Hispanics.

A record 1.7 million students from the Class of 2015 took the exam, up from 1.67

million in the 2014 class.

Overall, the College Board said the mean score in reading was 495, down from 497 the previous year. For math, it was 511, down from 513. Writing scores dropped three points, to 484 from 487. The top score in each category is 800.

Those scores continue a steady decline since 2006, when the means were 503 in reading, 518 in math, and 497 in writing.

"We know we can, and

need, to do better," says Cyndie Schmeiser, chief of assessment for the Board. "Simply doing the same things we have been doing is not going to improve these numbers."

The SAT exam is undergoing a major revamp that will roll out next year. The idea behind the update is to make the exam more representative of what students study in high school and the skills they need to succeed in college, and after-

ward. The redesign will focus more on areas of math that matter most for college and career readiness, shift away from obscure vocabulary words, and eliminate the guessing penalty.

The College Board is also teaming up with online educator Khan Academy to offer free SAT practice to all students through diagnostic quizzes and interactive practice tests.

They will be accessible to anyone with Internet ac-

cess.

In the report, the College Board said there's also been an increase in the number of students taking the Advanced Placement, or AP, exams and PSAT/NMSQT exam. Passing an AP exam can earn test-takers college credit.

The PSAT/NMSQT test is sometimes viewed as a precursor to the SAT. It is used to assess student performance and as a qualifier for National Merit Scholar-

ships.

About 3.8 million students took the PSAT/NMSQT test in the fall of 2014. AP exams were taken by about 2.5 million students in 2015.

More than 1.5 million students received a score of 3 or higher on an AP exam in 2015, up slightly from the previous year.

Depending on the school and the state, college credit may be awarded for scores of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP exams.