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Teachers generally favor BHS renovation

By LUCILLE HENDRICKSON
Tribune Staff Writer

Bismarck teachers recognize the need to upgrade and expand Bismarck High School, but some are concerned lest its financing might adversely affect their salaries.

Ann Hauer, president of the Bismarck Education Association, said there has been no survey of members to determine their views on the project. But it is her own feeling they support it, and personally, she feels it is long overdue.

"It isn't just today's high school students who will benefit but those coming up," said Hauer, who teaches at Roosevelt Elementary School.

SHE DOESN'T believe the teachers by and large object to the additional taxes they and other taxpayers will have to pay if voters approve the proposed $16 million bond issue to finance it.

But some teachers, she said, are fearful money that normally would go for teacher salaries and other educational needs might be diverted to the project if its planned financing package should come up short.

Hauer said the BEA Executive Committee will have a better idea of how the teachers view the scope of the project, its design plan and proposed financing after Thursday, when Dr. Al Andrews, superintendent of schools, is scheduled to address the BEA Representative Assembly.

WILLIS HEINRICH of the North Dakota Education Association said the NDEA does not take positions on local building projects. But he said that in terms of the district budget, it would be concerned that sufficient numbers of resources go into instruction and curriculum. The priorities, he said, are determined by the community.

He added, however, that the state and communities need to review educational priorities, pointing out that North Dakota teacher salaries have dropped on the national scale and now rank 45th among the 50 states.

The average teacher salary in the Bismarck public schools is $20,500, tied with Valley City for 10th place among the larger school districts of the state. And Bismarck's base salary of $13,735 ranks 88th out of 261 school districts, he observed.

BEA PRESIDENT-ELECT Dan Klein, who teaches chemistry at Bismarck High, agrees with Hauer's assessment of the teachers' position on the BHS project.

"I definitely support it, and I think most teachers do. I know the drawbacks of the building — drafty windows, uneven heat from the antiquated heating system, poor ventilation. I just hope the bond issue will be sufficient to cover all construction and renovation costs so that there is money for other educational needs," he said.

It isn't just teacher salaries and other instructional needs. There already are building needs at other schools, and more are coming up fast, he said.

Klein said he expects that teachers of the school district will work actively for passage of the bond issue, since it is in their best interest.

THE BOND issue is intended to cover all costs, with the exception of the additional land being purchased by the school district. Some $1.5 million in building and cash reserve funds will be used to pay for the first phase of construction and the School Board plans to replace the money after the bond issue money becomes available.

That plan for initial financing makes passage of the bond issue by electors vital to assure the project's completion, adequate cash flow for district operations and money for other needed expenditures, including building projects, the School Board has said.

The school district spent $328,000 from its building fund for initial property purchases and is acquiring the rest of the two-block area immediately east of the high school through eminent domain proceedings and issuance of judgment funding bonds.

DAVID BLACKSTEAD, assistant superintendent for business, said he hopes removal of houses on the two blocks will be a break-even proposition, with their sale offsetting whatever removal costs the school district will have to stand.

Buying up the property, bounded by Avenues C and E, and Eighth and Ninth streets, means it will be taken off the tax rolls because it will convert to public use.

The assessed valuation of the individual properties that have already gone through court proceedings averages $27,328. Estimated assessed value of all properties is $930,852, making the taxable valuation $83,974. With public school taxes for 1983 totaling 151.22 mills, resulting loss of tax revenue would be $12,699 a year.

BUT THAT'S only a fraction of 1 percent of the total anticipated $9.04 million in revenue from property taxes at this year's mill rate of $59,895 per mill.

So it's an insignificant loss, says Blackstead. And, he points out, that will be more than offset by the savings of some $20,000 per year on Civic Center rentals, because the gymnasium in the athletic center to be built on the property will have enough seating for basketball games and most other heavily attended school events.

BISMARCK HIGH RENOVATION

Construction plans:

Phase 1 — Addition to house industrial arts, library, commons/cafeteria, renovation of some classrooms, some parking lot construction. $4.5 million estimated cost. Spring construction start, November 1985 completion.

Phase 2 — Physical life center, including practice field and parking. $6 million. October 1985 start, April 1986 completion.

Phase 3 — Classroom renovations, change old gymnasium into auditorium, remodel northwest wing into fine arts center. May 1985 start, September 1986 completion.

Financing:

Construction — $16.4 million bond issue, to be voted on tentatively in June school election. Would add 14 mills to school tax bill for 15 years.

Land acquisition — $1.9 million, handled through judgment funding. Adds 5 mills to tax bill for five years.

Total tax cost — For owner of average local home, which would carry a $60,900 full market value, 19 mills would add $52.07 per year for first five years; 14 mills would add $38.37 per year for next 10 years.

North Dakota Digest

By The Associated Press

Order issued

FARGO — A federal judge has ruled that North Dakota illegally assessed personal property taxes of more than $540,000 against eight out-of-state rail car companies in 1979 and 1980. U.S. Judge Paul Benson ordered that $294,875 in taxes paid by the companies in 1980 be released. The court had been holding the money pending the outcome of the suit. Benson also said the eight firms are entitled to seek recovery of another $246,861 they paid in 1979. Federal law prohibits the state from imposing a tax on the companies' personal property — the rail cars — while exempting from tax the commercial, industrial and personal property of locally assessed businesses, Benson ruled.

Regret expressed

Higher education officials say they will never again impose a tuition surcharge similar to the $45 per semester charge at North Dakota's two universities permitted by the 1983 Legislature. Lawmakers refused to pay for some 20 teaching positions at NDSU and the University of North Dakota that had been added during the middle of the last budget period to keep up with increasing enrollment. Instead, they said the schools could raise tuition to pay for the positions. Higher Education Commissioner John Richardson said the board should make it clear to the Legislature that if the lawmakers come up with a similar plan in the future, the board will not authorize the tuition surcharges.

Airlines busier

Airline passenger enplanements in North Dakota increased 7.5 percent in 1983 compared with the previous year, according to Harold G. Vavra, state Aeronautics Commission director. Most of the increase started in mid-year when both Northwest and Republic airlines cut passenger fares 40 percent between major North Dakota cities and Minneapolis, Vavra said in a prepared announcement. Five North Dakota cities increased total passenger enplanements by 32,782 in 1983, compared to 1982, he said. Grand Forks and Jamestown had a passenger increases of 19.4 percent, Minot 11.3 percent, Fargo 8.1 percent and Bismarck 2 percent, Vavra said.

Program planned

A program to enlist people to serve as companions to North Dakota's mentally ill will be launched this month by the Mental Health Services of the state Department of Human Services. "It is similar to the Big Brother-Big Sister program," said Samih Ismir, state director of Mental Health Services. "Ordinary, healthy people will be matched with a person who is chronically mentally ill to serve as a companion, friend, temporary parent, someone who can help in time of crisis."

Effort launched

FARGO — The North Dakota Shooting Sports Association has launched its petition effort this weekend to get a constitutional amendment on the Nov. 6 general election ballot, an official said. The proposal would amend the state's Constitution to guarantee citizens the right to keep and bear arms, Kurt Erikssmoen, National Rifle Association fieldman for the Fargo region, said last week.

Celebration just around corner

By RANDY CHRISTIANSON
Tribune Staff Writer

Within a month, Mandan's 10-day Winter Daze celebration will be off and running — or at least lumbering through all this snow.

The Winter Daze committee, which started planning the event last summer as a one-week event, has instead put together enough activities to keep Mandan hopping in the cold for one week and two weekends, from Friday, Feb. 10 to Sunday, Feb. 19.

The going was slow when the committee began planning the event last summer, according to Jerry Hoff, co-chairman of Mandan's Winter Daze Committee, because "it's tough to sell winter in July and August." But once the snowball got rolling, it grew bigger and bigger, Hoff said.

The general sentiment among participants, he said, is that "it's about time we all got together and did something a little different."

And different it will be. Among the dozens of activities will be volleyball, softball, a 5-K road race and a golf tournament — all out in the ice and cold.

Planners have also lined up events that seem more appropriate to Mandan's Rodeo Days in July, including a parade and bed races, and a fireworks display to close out the celebration. More conventional sports for this time of year will include a hockey tournament, a cross-country ski race, a snowmobile trail ride and ice fishing.

Hoff said he expected the music in the parade to be mostly percussion. "We're looking for bands that do not have to blow into instruments that will stick to their lips," he said.

The fact that Bismarck just recently announced it would hold its own winter doings, "Cabin Fever Days," Feb. 5-12, partly overlapping the Mandan celebration, does not present a problem, Hoff said. "At first we were just a little resentful," he said, "but I don't think it's going to hurt either one of us."

"If anything," Hoff said, Cabin Fever Days "will help warm 'em up for ours."

Winter Daze schedule

For events that have "registration" in parentheses, participating players or teams must pre-register and pay an entry fee by Feb. 3 at the Mandan Community Center. Persons whose names and phone numbers are listed in parentheses are the main contact person for that event. Some events may charge an entrance fee. For information on any other event, call the Mandan Community Center, 663-9597, or Mandan Chamber of Commerce, 663-5977.

All Week

Diamond Giveaway, featuring a $2,000 diamond as the prize. The winner must guess the mystery Mandan Citizen, and the mystery phrase based on clues available from Mandan merchants or K.J.K.R radio.

Ice sculpture exhibition by State industrial school students. Place and dates to be announced.

Big Bundle snowman contest. Call the Chamber of Commerce, 663-5977, to enter competition.

Free guest week for all fitness classes at Mandan Community Center.

Feb. 10

4 p.m. — Double indoor tennis tournament, Community Center (registration).

Feb. 11

10 a.m. — Mandan Merchants auction, with proceeds to benefit Community Center, double indoor tennis tournament, Community Center.

3:30 p.m. — Wrestling, Mandan High vs. Williston High, Mandan High School.

Feb. 12

11 a.m. — Men's open volleyball tournament, Community Center (registration). Knights of Columbus fishing derby at Sweetbriar Lake (Tom Ashman, 663-8090, J. P. Schinns or 663-9103, or John Bullinger, 663-8863).

12 noon — Men's open softball tournament, at Community Center (registration).

7 p.m. — Supervised snow sledding and tubing, on hills behind Community Center.

4:30 p.m. — Bed Race down Mandan's Main Street (Mark Malone, 663-9397).

7 p.m. — Winter Daze parade, down Main Street (Del Wetsch, 663-3262). Pee Wee hockey, south rink.

Feb. 14

4 p.m. — Valentine's Day dance, with crowning of king and queen, Liberty Heights. Supervised snow sledding, on hills behind Community Center.

7 p.m. — Squirt League hockey, north rink.

Feb. 15

1 p.m. — Bismarck-Mandan Intercity Junior Hockey League tournament, Community Center (Dermer Schlenker, 663-6461).

4 p.m. — Hay and sleigh rides, Mandan Rodeo Grounds.

5:30 p.m. — Cold innertube water polo tournament, Community Center (registration).

Feb. 16

5:30 p.m. — Chili and hot dog feed, pre-Valentine's Square dance, Lewis and Clark Elementary School.

7 p.m. — Wheelchair basketball tournament, Community Center (registration). SCUBA workshop, Community Center (registration).

8 p.m. — Coffeehouse, Community Center.

Feb. 17

4 p.m. — Snowball throwing contest, Community Center.

4:30 p.m. — Second annual ice jam for Mandan Hockey Club, Mandan Elks Club.

7:30 p.m. — High School Basketball, Mandan High vs. Bismarck High, at Mandan High School.

8 p.m. — Play, "See How They Run," at Seven Seas Motor Inn.

Feb. 18

8 a.m. 12 noon — Pancake breakfast, Mandan Knights of Columbus Club.

10 a.m. — Cross-country ski race, starting at Community Center. Card snow volleyball tournament, Community Center (registration). Ice fishing contest, Sweetbriar Lake. Men's open tournament, hockey south rinks. Open dart tournament, Mandan American Legion Club (Jay Uhlman, 223-8451).

12:30 p.m. — Wheelchair basketball, Capital City Jaycees vs. Jamestown, Mandan Junior High School.

1 p.m. — Snowmobile trail ride, with pizza party afterward. (Rick Johnson, 223-4215, or Rod Seibel, 258-1429). Around the world hoop shot, Community Center.

2 p.m. — Card basketball tournament, Community Center (registration). Water carnival, Community Center.

4 p.m. — Mother/daughter, father/son bowl-a-thon, Mandan Lanes (Jerry Kaiser, Mandan Schools, 663-9277, for information and registration).

5:30 p.m. — Mandan Hospital benefit, Mandan Elks Club.

6 p.m. — Bingo, Community Center.

8 p.m. — Sweetbriar Lake night swim to music, Community Center.

8 p.m. — Play, "See How They Run," Seven Seas Motor Inn.

Feb. 19

8 a.m.-1 p.m. — Pancake breakfast, Mandan Knights of Columbus Club.

10 a.m. — Men's recreational volleyball tournament, Community Center (registration).

10 a.m. — Cold softball on the blue, softball diamond, 3-4 (registration).

12 noon-4 p.m. — Hay and sleigh rides, Mandan Rodeo Grounds. Hot cider booth, Jaycees Park.

2 p.m. — Squirt League invitational hockey tournament, north and south rinks.

3 p.m. — Five kilometer outdoor run, outside Community Center; Card tournament, Community Center.

7:30 p.m. — Mandan Golf Association 3-hole winter golf tournament, followed by dinner, Mandan Country Club (Karen Weber, 663-8650, or Laura Schultz, 663-2947).

8 p.m. — Fireworks display, behind Community Center.

Special Mass scheduled

More than 1,800 students and their teachers from Catholic schools of the Bismarck-Mandan area will mark the start of National Catholic Schools Week by participating in a special Mass at 10 a.m. Friday in the Bismarck Civic Center.

Bishop John F. Kinney of the Diocese of Bismarck will preside at the liturgy. Theme for the liturgy and for Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 29 through Feb. 4, is "Catholic Schools: Beacon of Hope."

Schools participating in Friday's special Mass include St. Mary's Central High School, Cathedral, St. Mary's and St. Anne's grade schools, all of Bismarck; Christ the King and St. Joseph's grade schools, Mandan; and St. Gertrude High School, Raleigh.

"Our purpose is to bring the Catholic schools of the area together in prayer to celebrate our unity," said Sister Frieda Kalenze, assistant superintendent of schools for the Diocese. "We also want to thank the larger community for their support and good will toward our schools," she added.

Each participating school is preparing a banner for the liturgy to express the week's theme. Students will be involved in music, scripture readings and other special roles during the mass.

Said Kinney, "I am thankful for the 18 Catholic elementary schools and the six Catholic secondary schools that are functioning so well in our diocese. My parents sacrificed to send me to Catholic schools and I am continually aware of this great gift they gave me."

Workers backed

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Workers at the Litton Industries microwave oven plant here wore solidarity stickers and circulated petitions Saturday in support of three workers given indefinite suspensions after a worker meeting inside the plant.

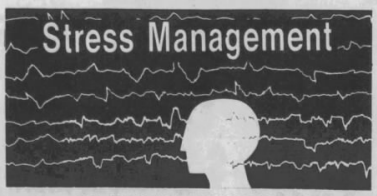
Mandan Community Center
WINTER DAZE 84
Mandan, ND

January at the Kitchen Window

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12 Pasta Class 6:30-9:00	13	14 Dessert 1-3
16	17 Italian Class 6:30-9:00	18 Italian Class 11:30-1:30	19 Salt-free Class 6:30-9:30	20	21 Dessert 1-3 Kids Class 11:30-12:30
23	24 Italian Class 6:30-9:00	25 Italian Class 11:30-1:30	26	27	28 Quiche Class 11:30-1:30
30	31 Italian Class 6:30-9:00	Feb 1st Italian Class 11:30-1:30			

Pre-registration is required. Call for reservations — 222-1300

STRESS MANAGEMENT SEMINAR



SATURDAY, JANUARY 28th
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
(8:30-9:00 a.m. Registration)
St. Alexius Auditorium
(Located on 1st Floor Boniface Hall (10th and Rosser)
Pre-Registration required by Jan. 20 — 224-7072
ST. ALEXIUS MEDICAL CENTER
Ninth and Thayer Box 1658 Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-1658
701-224-7000

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