

NORTH DAKOTA Page 48 Saturday, July 21, 1984 The Bismarck Tribune

Cases nixed in BHS shop building

Hegedus tells administration no classes unless it is improved

By LUCILLE HENDRICKSON
Tribune Staff Writer

Unless it undergoes some extensive improvements, the old wooden industrial arts building on the back of the Bismarck High School campus cannot be used for classes.

That's the upshot of a letter addressed to the Bismarck school administration this week by Jack Hegedus, who heads the Bismarck Building and Sanitation Department.

The letter was in response to an inquiry addressed to Hegedus last week by school officials as to

whether the building could be used another year with certain improvements. The threat of condemnation has hung over the building for a number of years and condemnation had been held in abeyance only because of the plans to modernize BHS, including a new wing that would house industrial arts.

That plan went down the drain with the defeat of the \$18.4 million bond issue in June to upgrade the school.

The inquiry to Hegedus was prompted in part by a statement made to the board at the July 10 meeting by Jeff Geiger, new BHS principal, in which he said in his opinion the building was unsafe for use by students and instructors, and that he opposed its use any longer.

In his letter, Hegedus said that while the building itself is structurally sound, it is "deplorable" condition for the use to which it is intended. He suggested discontinuing its use. Otherwise, he said, an order will be forthcoming from his office to upgrade it to meet health

and safety standards. He called that statement a "veiled threat of condemnation" when carried by The Tribune.

Some of the dangers in the building cited by Hegedus included inadequate exits, no sprinkler system, no dust collection, a space heater with no automatic controls, and inadequate wiring.

The School Board will be meeting Monday and Hegedus' letter is among the agenda items expected to be considered, along with proposed options for the industrial arts classes which range from finding space elsewhere, to shutting down

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No cause found yet in Hebron blast

It may be a couple days before investigators can determine the cause of the Thursday explosion at a natural gas pipeline measuring station near Hebron that killed one worker and injured five others.

"They are still at the site investigating," Jana Martin, public relations director of Northern Plains Natural Gas Co., Omaha, said Friday evening.

A group of company investigators had reported Friday afternoon that they were still trying to learn the cause of the blast, assess the amount of damage and determine what it will cost to get the measuring station operating again, she said.

The blast killed company measurement technician Tim Wood, 28, New Salem.

Another worker, LaMar Myers, 29, Mandan, was flown to the burn unit of St. Paul-Ramsey Medical Center in Minnesota for treatment of second and third degree burns over 40 percent of his body. A hospital spokesman said Myers remained in serious condition in the burn center's intensive care unit Friday evening.

Four other workers at the site also received burn injuries.



Even Santa has a birthday

The last thing most of us thought of in Friday's hot summer temperatures was Santa Claus. And the last thing most of us would have done was dress up in a hot costume. But it was a special occasion, when Santa (actually Arnold Engstad, 512 N. 18th St.) turned 68 on Friday. The homemade cake was a gift

from friend Dorothea Lemcke and her daughter, Mary Kathleen Lemcke. Engstad played Santa Claus Christmas Eve to cheer up the Lemckes. The greeting on the cake, "Gratulerer, Meg Dagen, Santa," is Norwegian and translates into "congratulations on your day, Santa."

By DOUGLAS VAN TASSEL, of The Tribune

Olson, Sinner figures different but right

By KEVIN WHALEN
Tribune Staff Writer

Employment figures cited by Gov. Allen I. Olson and different figures cited by Democratic gubernatorial candidate George Sinner are both accurate, a Job Service North Dakota official said Friday.

"It's really a matter of perspective," Tom Haan said.

Sinner, a state representative from Cassioton, took issue Friday with an Olson billboard campaign boasting that the Republican governor has "helped 5,160 North Dakotans get new jobs."

Sinner produced his own set of Job Service North Dakota figures from two months earlier, January 1981 and said the state had 300 fewer

jobs in 1983 than it did in 1982. His figures indicated there were 20 fewer jobs in 1983 than in 1982.

He accused Olson of trying to deceive the public. "For him to pretend that everything is sweetness in life, that he's done this great job at economic development, is just misleading," Sinner said.

Haan said both Olson and Sinner are correct because they are calculating at different time periods.

Sinner used yearly averages for nonagricultural employment.

Olson chose to compare Job Service North Dakota figures from two months earlier, January 1981 and January 1984, according to Myron

Atkinson, Olson's campaign manager.

In January 1981, nonagricultural employment in North Dakota stood at 220,010, Haan said. Three years later, in January 1984, there were 244,860, an increase of 2,250, based on Job Service North Dakota reports.

The 2,250 figure was revised downward to 5,160 as a margin for error, Atkinson said.

He said Sinner was playing with numbers, and called for a "public apology" from the Democratic candidate for governor.

"George can spread all the gloom and he wants to but the reality is that job opportunities

have increased in North Dakota," Atkinson said.

Sinner said he did not accuse Olson of altering figures. "I have not said the figures (used by the Olson camp) are incorrect," Sinner said. "I'm only saying they are part of the story, and probably an insignificant part."

Haan said he has no quarrel with either set of figures, adding that they compare different things and cannot be compared with each other.

"I think they are both right in what they are saying," Haan said. "They're just taking a different approach to it."

Bikers: You can get nailed for 'BU' - biking under influence

If you were thinking of ways to avoid being nabbed for driving while under the influence of alcohol, and you thought maybe you'd buy a bicycle rather than drink, guess again.

A Thursday night episode may prove pedaling just as risky as driving.

A 42-year-old Bismarck man was hospitalized after being hurt in a bicycle accident. He also was cited for driving a bicycle while under the influence of alcohol.

While local bicycle DUI arrests are a rather rare occurrence, Bismarck Police Capt. Charles Anderson said Friday that a DUI arrest was made on a bicyclist about a year ago. But, in that case, the charge eventually was dropped.

Police said Kelly Mahoney, 37, 17th St., was driving his bicycle down a steep embankment off Boehm Drive toward Starland Terrace trailer court while holding a beer in one hand. According to a police report, he hit a bump and was thrown about 80 feet, injuring his head, shoulder, arm and leg.

He was reported in good condition Friday at St. Alexius Medical Center.

Mahoney is scheduled to appear in Municipal Court Thursday, according to City Attorney Pat Souwerth. The maximum penalty would be a \$500 fine and a 30-day jail term.

Damage to the bicycle was estimated at \$150.

Checks bounce; audit started on New Salem cattle dealer

By KEVIN WHALEN
Tribune Staff Writer

Federal authorities this week began auditing a New Salem livestock dealer who allegedly has bounced more than \$200,000 in checks to pay for animals.

The packers and livestock division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture is auditing Lawrence Thiele, a state Agriculture Department spokesman said.

Thiele's state license to do business has expired, and farmers should not do business with him or his two buyers, Donald and Marvin Lemcke, also of New Salem, said the state official, who did not want his name used.

He said the audit was ordered after the state Agriculture Department received complaints about Thiele allegedly writing bad checks.

"When he buys those cattle, he's got to give checks for them. The checks have not been going

through," the spokesman said.

He said it is not yet known how much Thiele is in debt. "Obviously, it's enough to where Mr. Thiele is unable to cover them (checks). It certainly is going to exceed \$200,000," he said. Another Agriculture Department source put the figure at \$400,000.

But authorities do not suspect fraud in this case, he added.

"I really don't believe so. Mr. Thiele is an older person and has been a reputable livestock dealer in North Dakota for 30 years or more. I think he just got into problems," the spokesman said.

The audit will determine who is owed how much, which will dictate whether the state will take action against Thiele's bond, the spokesman said.

Any criminal action must be initiated by individuals who were not properly paid by Thiele, the spokesman said.

Sports council, first phase of arena drive OK'd

By REBECCA HUNT
Tribune Staff Writer

The go-ahead's been given to raise funds for an all-seasons activities complex at Tom O'Leary Park.

The Bismarck Recreation Council, which is spearheading the drive, hopes to raise between \$800,000 and \$1.2 million in private donations over the next 18 weeks.

That initial step will allow construction of a floored arena with artificial ice.

The schedule calls for a spring 1985 construction start, with the facilities open for use by the fall of 1985.

Building the arena is considered phase one of a five-year plan that would eventually complete the arena's interior and the addition of nine holes of golf at a total cost of about \$4 million.

The formation of the Bismarck Recreation Council, a non-profit



The Bismarck Recreation Council has developed this logo for the new arena.

organization composed of sports enthusiasts from throughout the city, was officially announced Friday.

The council has filed incorporation papers and elected officers. They include, Ed Hasche, president; Dan Kuntz, vice president; and Brian Bjella, secretary/treasurer.

The council has elected nine board directors, including two Bismarck Park Board members, John Dwyer and Mary Ann Schmalz.

State Sen. Evan Lips will chair the campaign drive.

Calling the council an "assisting arm" of the Park Board, Hasche stressed during a Friday press conference that the council is "in no way trying to supplant the Park Board."

Instead, the council will exist as

a vehicle to raise funds for recreation projects throughout the city that the Park Board might be unable to finance because of its limited budget, he said.

Dwyer said, "There are many needs facing the city of Bismarck like the justice facility and school and library expansions which might take precedence over the need for improved recreational facilities. However, rather than concentrating on public tax dollars to finance upgraded recreation facilities, the recreational council is instead looking at private donations -- from industry, corporations and individuals."

Throughout the campaign, the Bismarck Recreation Council will have offices on the fourth floor of the Norway building downtown. After that, the council will be affiliated with the Parks and Recreation Department, according to Hasche.



ON THE HILL

Sands: State should help with jails

Counties should persuade the 1985 Legislature to help them with the financial burden of implementing revised standards for the state's jails, Lt. Gov. Ernest Sands said Thursday.

"Counties should fight and fight hard for some shared burden for these colossal funding requirements," Sands told a gathering of the North Dakota Association of Counties.

Sands, a longtime legislator before being elected to his current post four years ago, said he has opposed jail rules legislation since it was first discussed. "I predicted that it would be disaster unless the legislature provided funding -- which it did not."



SANDS

Republicans hit back at Spaeth

Nick Spaeth, the Democratic-NFL Party candidate for attorney general, has repeatedly attacked Republican incumbent Robert Wetzel's track record at weekly news conferences.

At Friday's Emergency Commission meeting, a few Republicans turned the tables and took a jab at Spaeth. During a discussion over an attorney general's office request for \$10,000 from the state contingency fund, Assistant Attorney General Calvin Rolfsen noted that the request was whittled down from about \$50,000 even before it reached the Emergency Commission.

"We're going to get Nick Spaeth to pay the rest of that," Gov. Allen I. Olson responded. Republican Sen. Evan Lips of Bismarck then chimed in and said Spaeth has been getting so much free publicity lately that he ought to pay for something.

Thoreson to head Health Council

Mayville physician Glenn M. Thoreson has been elected chairman of the State Health Council.

Thoreson, who represents the North Dakota Medical Association, succeeds D.D. Wightman, president of Dakota Hospital at Fargo. Thoreson has been a member of the Health Council since 1980.

Bruce Furness, a Fargo businessman who serves as a lay member of the Health Council, succeeds Thoreson as vice chairman. Peggy Jukkala of Jamestown, who represents the North Dakota Nurses Association, was elected secretary.

Satrom spearheads Hoffer drive

Public Service Commission candidate S.F. Hoffer has named Bismarck Sen. Joseph Satrom as chairman of his campaign committee.

State Democrats endorsed Hoffer, a state representative from Emmons, for the PSC contest at the party convention in April after he was unsuccessful in his bid to run for the party's endorsement for governor. He will oppose incumbent Dale Sandstrom in the November general election.

Satrom, who serves District 5, is seeking re-election to the Senate this fall.

Watch the water, Mandan!

Mandan residents living north and west of the Seven Seas Motor Inn will have their water supply restricted on Tuesday, according to Thomas Little, city engineer.

Little said a construction project is going on in the area and there will be a disruption in the water supply in order to make sewer and water hookups to the existing system.

"The water supply will be restricted to personal domestic use only," Little said. The Tuesday restricted-use hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. "There may be brief periods that water will be shut completely off in the neighborhood during the day," Little added.

N.D. gun measure petitions filed, number could be record

The petitions filed Friday were a joint venture between the North Dakota Shooting Sports Association and its national affiliate, the National Rifle Association, said Keith Tregg of Bismarck, president of the state group.

The initiated constitutional measure, if passed, would amend the state Constitution to include a general statement of rights, Tregg said.

His association found most people who signed the petitions were surprised the wording was not already in the Constitution, Tregg said.

The required number of signatures to get a constitutional measure on the ballot is 26,118, or 4 percent of the state population, Meier said. Initiated measures require 13,059, or 2 percent.