

Gymnasts to use arena at Gateway with no cost

The Oberlin City council Thursday agreed to give the Creative Movements Gymnastics permission to use The Gateway arena free of charge for Tuesday classes.

The agreement between the city and the gymnasts allows the kids to use the arena for classes from 4 to 7:15 p.m. on Tuesdays unless another event is scheduled for that day. If that happens, the council agreed, the gymnasts could try to have the classes on Wednesday.

Coach Robyn Rouse said she talked to the board and the group could pay as much as \$600 a year for The Gateway. She had told the council that they could pay \$400 a year at a previous meeting.

Would that mean raising the fees for the kids? asked Councilwoman Rhonda May. No, said Mrs. Rouse, if the club didn't have the money, they would need to have a fund raiser.

She said they would prefer the arena on Tuesdays starting at 4 p.m. and lasting three hours and 15 minutes.

Councilman Jay Anderson said he was still a little worried about the idea because the gymnasts could get bumped. What if the city doesn't charge with the idea that if a paying customer wants the arena for that day, the gymnasts don't get to use it.

What would the club spend the money on if they didn't pay for the arena? he asked.

Mrs. Rouse said they would use the money for equipment and sending kids to camp.

"It is easier on my conscience if you don't pay rent," said Dr. Anderson, "and we could bump you if we need to."

The city will work with the gymnasts all it can, said Mayor Joe Stanley, but another event could come up.

Maybe if that happens, said Coach Rouse, then the gymnasts could use the arena on Wednesday for an hour for whoever can show up.

Councilman Ray Ward said he

Council Roundup

At its meeting Thursday, the Oberlin City Council:

- Asked the city administrator to find out exactly what a consultant who will come look at the former youth ranch will do, but also approved spending up to \$600 to pay for the work. Story to come.

- Received a new proposal from Sunflower Wind LLC which would allow the firm to have the first chance to match any power proposal given to the city. Story on front page.

- Gave Creative Movements Gymnastics permission to use The Gateway arena free of charge for Tuesday classes. Story at left.

- Approved a maintenance agreement with the Sunflower Chapter of Pheasants Forever for land at Sappa Park, including the old lake bottom. Story to come.

doesn't have a problem with not charging the gymnasts as long as they know other events might come up. The council knows The Gateway is never going to make money, he said, but the city does want to charge for what they can.

What about the gymnasts staying until 7:15 p.m. instead of 7 p.m. like was originally discussed? Mrs. Rouse asked. Mayor Stanley said they could probably work with that.

Does the balance beam have wheels on it? asked Mayor Stanley. No, said Coach Rouse, usually three of them move it.

She said they could probably get something to work so it would have wheels to move it. The plan is to store the mats upstairs on the walking track and balance beam downstairs in the corner of the arena.

The council approved the use of The Gateway at no cost.

Board approves coaching staff

The Oberlin School Board approved supplemental contracts for coaches for the new school year last Monday night, with one notable vacancy for a head coach for the boys basketball team.

Activities Director Joe Dreher presented the list, and the board gave its OK. At the Back-to-School picnic last Wednesday, Superintendent Pat Cullen announced that Rhonda Barth would serve as assistant activities director at the high school.

High school coaches include:

- Football, Trevor Williams, teacher, head coach, Ken Badsky, sheriff, Keith Grafel, teacher, and Shane Bird.

- Volleyball, Sherri Ruf, teacher, head coach, Melissa Dreher, secretary, and Melissa Lippelmann, para-professional, assistant.

- Girls Basketball, Terry Ream, outdoor maintenance supervisor, head coach and Lindsay Fortin, who doesn't work for the district, assistant.

- Boys Basketball, Greg Olson, who doesn't work for the district,

assistant.

- Wrestling, Mr. Dreher, teacher, head coach, Caleb Howland, teacher, and Mr. Bird, assistants.

- Track, Mr. Dreher, head coach, Mr. Williams, Tim Thornton, teacher, and Mrs. Ruf, assistants.

- Cheerleading, Tiffany Farr and her mother, Brenda Ploussard.

For the junior high:

- Football, Mr. Howland, head coach, with Tim Breth and Mark Bricker, assistants.

- Volleyball, Gina Witt, head coach, with Miss Fortin, assistant.

- Girls Basketball, Mrs. Dreher, head coach, with Mrs. Witt, assistant.

- Boys Basketball, Mr. Breth, head coach, with Jason Ketterl, assistant.

- Wrestling, Mr. Bird, head coach with Mark Bricker, assistant.

- Track, Keith Grafel, head coach, with Mr. Breth and Cindy Sattler as assistants.

- Cheerleading, Mrs. Witt and Gina Montgomery.



NEW NORCATUR POSTMASTER Deborah Combs served cake to guests during an open house in honor of her appointment. She was sworn in by Daniel M. Taylor, manager of post office operations in Salina.

Norcatatur has new postmaster

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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Deborah Combs has been installed as postmaster of Norcatatur.

Performing the swearing in duties was Daniel M. Taylor, manager of post office operations for the Salina area. Brenda Darnell, Norton postmaster, and Ken Roberts, Lenora

postmaster, also were present.

Refreshments were served in the lobby of the post office. Several of Ms. Combs' family members were in town for the ceremony, including her parents Elmo and Anita Scott, Hill City; her daughter, Riki Foos, a nursing student in Beloit; and sisters Linda Clark, Emporia, and Tina

and Paul Glendy, WaKeeney.

Ms. Combs has worked for the postal systems for 20 years in Colby, Goodland, Russell, Norton, Smith Center and various offices in Nebraska. She lives in Norton.

"I have found the people here to be very nice," she said. "I know I'm going to enjoy my time here."

County keeps cost-sharing

The Decatur County commissioners decided to continue with the cost-share program for spraying noxious weeds as long as the county has money to buy the chemicals.

Noxious Weed Director Gaylen Huntley, at the meeting Tuesday, Aug. 14, said he did some research with other area counties and decided to charge landowners \$55 a gallon, with the county picking up the rest of the cost. Mr. Huntley said the price of chemicals changes, but is it is around \$65 a gallon now.

He said as much as 5,000 acres need to be sprayed. The county will provide chemicals as long as the department has the money to purchase them, he said.

Mr. Huntley said he wants to wait on buying a pickup until the middle

of September when he has a better picture of the budget.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman said a bridge about one and a half miles southwest of Cedar Bluffs is done, but the concrete needs to cure over the next 10 days. The next one to be replaced is about 15 miles south of town. He said Dennis Thomas with Prairie Land Electric is working on moving power lines.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Talked briefly about insurance on the amusement rides at the carnival. They called Tom Job with the Kansas Counties Multi Lined Pool, their insurance carrier.

Mr. Job said he didn't think the pool could cover the carnival for

event insurance just for a week. He said they would be hard pressed to find someone to cover the event just for the week.

Commissioner Stan McEvoy said the event is covered through Fredrickson Insurance through another carrier. That company did say they no longer write new policies like the one that covers the carnival.

Mr. Job said he would check into the details.

Road project delays traffic

Work started last week on repaving a 12-mile section of U.S. 83 and 14 miles of K-383 between Rexford and Jennings, delaying traffic for anyone passing through.

The Kansas Department of Transportation said the overlay project requires one-lane traffic around the work area until the job is done.

The section on U.S. 83 starts at the Thomas/Sheridan County line and runs 12 miles east to the K-23 junction east of Selden, where U.S. 83 turns north.

That section will receive a two-

inch overlay, said Kristen Brands, northwest Kansas public affairs manager with the department. K-383 east of the junction will get a 3.5-inch overlay all the way to the west city limits of Jennings.

Venture Corp. of Great Bend had the \$3.7 million low bid. The construction should last four or five more weeks, said construction engineer Michael Terry.

A pilot car is being used to guide traffic through the construction zone as the work moves east toward Jennings.

Football contest starts

Football enthusiasts get the chance again this year to try their hand at picking the winners of college and high school games with the return of the Pigskin Pick-'Em game in *The Oberlin Herald*.

The contest starts this week with the ad on Page 8A. Thanks to area merchants, this is the third year for the game.

Sponsors include Home Planning Center, the *Country Advocate*, Ward Drug Store, Raye's Grocery, Fredrickson Insurance Agency, Farm Credit of Western Kansas, the LandMark Inn, Prairie Petals, Wagner Chevrolet in McCook, and *The Herald*.

Anyone who wants to enter the game can fill out the form in today's paper, or pick one up at participating businesses, and return it to the newspaper office, or come into *The Herald* and fill one out. All entries have to be at the newspaper office by 5 p.m. on Friday each week. All mailed entries must be postmarked by 5 p.m. on Friday and arrive at the office in the Saturday mail.

The Herald's address is 170 S. Penn Ave., Oberlin, Kan. 67749.

Official entry blanks must be used; no reproductions are allowed.

The contest will run during the season for high school and college football. Each week, contestants will have a chance to pick winners and the score of a tie-breaker game. Winners will be announced in the paper each week.

Each week, \$30 in scrip will be given away. First place will win \$15, second \$10 and third \$5. The scrip may be spent only at participating merchants.

The person who selects the most correct games during the 12-week contest will win \$50 in scrip and a trophy.

Here is how it works:

- Find the games listed in the sponsors' ads, which will run in the paper each week.

- Pick the team you think will win each game and write the winners on the entry blank beside the corresponding sponsors' names.

- Then pick the score of the tie-breaker game.

You are only allowed to enter once per week but entry blanks for every member of the family are available at sponsors' businesses.

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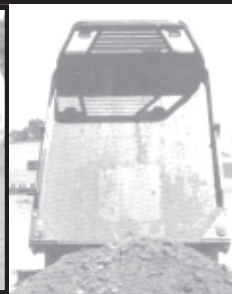
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