

DECEMBER/NEWS

FROM PAGE 58

Cole said any snow put into the Boardman Friday was probably incidental but nonetheless should not have blown into the river. Workers are instructed to turn the blower away from the water, he said.

DEC. 28

Rights board explored

TRAVERSE CITY — The new city commission may be trying to influence the scope of its human rights board and potentially scrap controversial stances such as opposition to the invasion of Iraq and the Patriot Act.

The groups met Dec. 8, the first joint session since voters ousted Human Rights Commission-friendly Mayor Margaret Dodd and commissioner Ann Rogers. Several city commissioners made it clear they don't want their agenda filled with out-of-town resolutions such as one focusing on the Patriot Act.

The city established the HRC in 1969 and the board has largely delved into local issues like landlord-tenant disputes and police misconduct cases. But it's also taken on hot political topics like the Patriot Act and sexual orientation issues — and put the city commission on the spot during some of the discussions.

Some HRC members noted what they considered tension and frustration from the city commission, but called it a frank and open discussion and said they look forward to better communication.

DEC. 29

Mayoral changes for TC?

TRAVERSE CITY — A possible city charter amendment could be in the works that would require sitting commissioners to step down before they can run for mayor.

The commission is slated to discuss that issue, and extending the city's mayoral terms from two to four years, at a study session next month.

Both changes would require voter approval, which could be added to the ballot during the 2004 election schedule.

City voters amended the charter in 2000 to elect the mayor to a two-year term by popular vote, but didn't place added restrictions on who could run for the position.

Sitting commissioners did enter the mayoral race in 2001 and again this year. Two years ago, mid-term commissioner Phill Orth ran unsuccessfully against Margaret Dodd, who became the city's first popularly-elected mayor in 60 years.

This year mid-term commissioner Linda Smyka challenged and defeated Dodd in the Nov. 4 election. Smyka's win left a vacancy for the remaining two years of her commission term, which was filled by appointment this month.

DEC. 30

Strike would cut trips

TRAVERSE CITY — Northern Michigan's two commercial airports face canceled flights and unhappy passengers if Mesaba Airlines pilots go on strike as planned Jan. 10.

Mesaba spokesman Dave Jackson said a pilots strike would ground four of seven flights daily between Cherry Capital Airport and Detroit that Mesaba operates for Northwest Airlink, as well as one daily flight between Traverse City and Minneapolis, Minn.

At Pellston Regional Airport, three of Northwest's four daily flights to and from Detroit are operated by Mesaba, and would be grounded, Jackson said.

Mesaba pilots, represented by the Air Line Pilots Association, are seeking a new contract. Union officials cite key unresolved issues including job security, compensation, retirement and work rules.

Jackson said negotiations will continue through next week.

DEC. 31

M-TEC director is out

TRAVERSE CITY — Northwestern Michigan College officials say the director of its technical education program resigned, but taxpayers will continue to pay his full salary and benefits for nine months.

Kirk D. Hornburg verbally quit on Dec. 8 as director of the Michigan Technical Education Center, which provides technical education and training in automotive service, aviation and drafting at its Airport Industrial Park location in Traverse City.

He and the college signed an agreement on Dec. 22 that calls for NMC to pay his annual \$83,874 salary for nine months unless he finds other employment. If not, the college will pay him more than \$62,000, plus benefits.

The college announced Hornburg's departure Tuesday after allowing seven days for him to revoke the agreement, Nelson said.

The college had previously said Hornburg was placed on paid leave on Dec. 8 for unspecified reasons.

NMC President Tim Nelson would not say whether Hornburg was forced to leave, but he repeatedly referred to the "mutually agreed upon document" spelling out terms of his departure.



Hornburg

Want to
work for
Bill Marsh
Automotive
Group?

Visit

NorthernMichiganJobMatch.com
A service of the Traverse City Record-Eagle

DECEMBER/SPORTS

DEC. 10

Glads beat Snowbirds

TRAVERSE CITY — The Traverse City St. Francis Gladiators dropped their gloves and came out swinging on Tuesday night.

Less than a year after getting blown out by 36 points at Gaylord St. Mary, St. Francis got some revenge with an 86-49 victory in the basketball opener for both teams.

A lot of good things happened for St. Francis on Tuesday night. After falling behind 2-0 on a jumper by the Snowbirds' Ben Tarbutton, the Gladiators reeled off nine straight points — seven from Josh Jorkasky — and finished the first quarter with a 20-5 lead.

St. Francis led 36-14 at half-time and 61-37 after three periods. Jorkasky was in the thick of it most of the night, pouring in 37 points and pulling down 10 rebounds, both team highs.

St. Francis connected on 36 of 71 shots in the game for 51 percent, compared to the St. Mary's 18-for-60 (30 percent).

DEC. 14

TC Central falls in finale

TRAVERSE CITY — It was a day for the Trojans — the Fruitport Trojans.

Fruitport won the Traverse City Central Volleyball Invitational on Saturday,

defeating the host Trojans 8-15, 15-11, 15-8 to take the title.

Both of TC Central's losses in the tournament were to Fruitport.

"We had a great day," TC Central coach Lisa Placek said. "I'm very pleased."

Central opened pool play with wins over Oscoda (15-8, 15-9) and Rogers City (16-14, 15-6).

The team advanced to the gold power pool and lost to Fruitport (15-12, 15-6) before qualifying for the semifinals with a 17-15, 15-13 victory over Holland West Ottawa.

In the semifinals, Central topped Leland 16-14, 15-7.

Emily Noss sparked Central with 133 assists, four aces and 24 digs while Chris Spencer added 52 kills, 12 aces and 82 digs.

DEC. 20

Trojans topple Titans

TRAVERSE CITY — Erik Burke said he finally feels like a contributor on the Traverse City Central basketball team.

The senior scored 15 points Friday night as the Trojans downed Traverse City West 55-50 in a Big North Conference battle.

Burke scored eight of his points in the fourth quarter to help Central maintain a lead it built midway through the third quarter after West had closed to within two, 33-31.

4,000 offices
and growing!

Visit our newest location in Traverse City

- Fast, accurate computerized returns
- FREE electronic filing with paid tax preparation
- Personalized customer service
- Professionals who know the latest tax law changes

No appointment necessary! Visit us at:
1318 S. Airport Rd. West (near Cherryland Mall)
or ... The Grand Traverse Mall (near Theater)
231-932-9125

JACKSON HEWITT
TAX SERVICE
Get more in return.®

Most offices are independently owned and operated.