

Senator to head up natural resources committee as sessions begin Jan. 14

By Kevin Bottrell
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Sen. Ralph Ostmeier, fresh from his landslide victory in November, will be heading up a committee when the Kansas Senate gavel back into session on Monday, Jan. 14, but not the one he had planned on.

Ostmeier, the Grinnell Republican who represents the 40th District, had been in line to continue his chairmanship of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, but doing so would have left a vacant

chairmanship on the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee.

"We couldn't find anyone to chair except freshmen," he said. "There were not a lot of options."

There are 12 new senators this year and four have no prior legislative experience. Ostmeier had served on Federal and State Affairs for years and agreed to take over as chairman.

The committee handles social policy, which can mean anything from liquor laws to immigration to inner-city housing.

"It's interesting and controversial at times," Ostmeier said. "You name it, it can be talked about."

The committee meets every day it can, he said, and often schedules extra time. Ostmeier will also serve on the Agriculture, Natural Resources and Education Committees. He had served on the Education Committee his first four years of being a senator, but dropped it off several years ago.

"It's been a battle in the past

to make sure rural schools are taken care of," he said. "It got frustrating and we weren't getting anywhere."

He asked to be put back on this session as there is a new committee chair, Sen. Steve Abrams and other new members. Ostmeier said having all the new faces isn't necessarily a bad thing since most of them are former House members with plenty of experience.

"They'll fit right in and do a good job," he said.

Abrams had been a candidate for Senate President. Ostmeier supported eventual winner Susan Wagle in her bid for the presidency, and said that when he agreed to take the chairmanship he asked her for two things. The first was to have Sen. Jay Emler, a political opponent of Wagle's as his vice chair, and the second was to keep the staff that the former committee chair had.

"I didn't want to break new people in," he said.

Ostmeier got both requests granted, and even got a bigger office to house the larger staff. He said he also asked the Organization, Calendar and Rules Committee to keep the session to the 90 days that the state statutes provide for and not to have time scheduled to work bills during the veto session.

Ostmeier said he hopes to continue streamlining the process. The average bill, he said, once it is printed up, goes through the Legislative Research Department, goes to committee and gets all the way to the governor for signature or veto, it can cost as much as \$2,500. About 700 to 800 bills are created every session, and only 300 or so are passed.

"Some don't see the light of day," he said. "So let's not introduce them."

Ostmeier said the public doesn't want the Legislature to waste time and money, so it shouldn't introduce bills it knows have no chance of passing.

"We have to be humble and govern right," he said. "We've been given a chance to govern, so we can't be grandstanding or we will not get a thing done."

Official program found of basketball championship

By Norma Martinez
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The basketball season is upon us and a few months ago Ted Partch came up with a copy of an official program of the Amateur Athletic Union Basketball Championship of America event that was held at the Denver Municipal Auditorium on March 17-23, 1940. The most interesting feature of this program was, Bird City's basketball team called the "Bird City Town Team" of which Richard Brubaker is the only surviving player from the team. Other players were B.Z. Woods, who was the high school principal, Ralph Seymour, Irl Elliott, Cornelius Meek, Lynn Burr, Lyle Seymour, Willard Byers, and James Hickert. Kenneth Peck was the manager.

During this time the event was the "Blue Ribbon" event of the winter sports season. The best teams in the country, representing every section of the United States were contesting for top honors. A full week of superb basketball was in store for the loyal fans ever as the stars started shooting for championship honors in the World's Series of Basketball.

After a draw Bird City's Town Team was the 51st team to play in the championship. They lost to Hefflinger Shoes from Omaha, Neb., with a score of 57-40.

"We played one of the teams that was awfully hard to beat," Mr. Brubaker said. Hefflinger lost to the Olympic Club from San Francisco, Calif., who lost to Acme Steel from Chicago.

This year's event was in memory of Dr. James A. Naismith, "The Father of Basketball." He coached his first championship team in the Rockies at the Denver Y.M.C.A. in 1897. In 1936 he saw the game he invented played for the first time in the Olympic Games. Today the game is played all over the world and the sun never sets on the sport he invented in 1891. In 1940 the sun had set on his life.

game that mature individuals could enjoy as recreation rather than physical development. Because of this, he was assigned the task of developing the sport.

At first Dr. Naismith tried to modify a few sports that existed at that time, but was unable to modify them to be played indoors. He then began thinking of the principles of all the present games, and determined in all the team games some sort of a ball was used. The next step was to appreciate the fact that football was rough because you had to allow the defense to tackle because the offense ran with the ball.

He determined the roughness of the sport could be eliminated by not giving the offense an opportunity to run with the ball. Peach baskets were hung at both ends of the gym for goals.

Four fundamental rules were developed consisting of: the player with possession of the ball cannot make progress while it is in his possession, the goal must be above the heads of the players, it is a no-contact sport to eliminate roughness, and the ball belongs to any player that can get the ball without making personal contact.

At that time basketball was the only major sport played in the United States that was purely of American origin. All other games were either direct importations from foreign lands or hybrids.

Teams were made up of players who left college before the formation of the American Basketball League and American Basketball Association in the 1960s. These players were among the top players of the era at this time.

Some of the players wished to maintain their amateur status and remain eligible for the Olympics; others were earning a pay check by playing for corporations. Mr. Brubaker said the Bird City Team was playing for the opportunity to continue playing after graduation from college.

There were 64 teams playing against big teams such as Denver Nuggets, Phillips 66, 20th Century Fox, Denver University, Colorado Mines, Oklahoma City 49ers, Montana University from Missoula, Mont., Penn Athletic Club from Pennsylvania University of Idaho, San Francisco, Acme Wildcats from Chicago, Allen Bradley from Milwaukee, and Amsterdam, N.Y..

History of creation of basketball
Dr. Naismith created basketball while he was a physical director at the Y.M.C.A. in Springfield, Mass., in late 1891, but the first game was not played until Jan. 20, 1892. He wrote this story while he was a professor at the University of Kansas in Lawrence in 1937:

Directors around the country decided the Y.M.C.A.'s needed a sport that could be played indoors during the evening and during wintertime. Dr. Naismith, made the statement that this would be possible, and that it could be a

Public Notice
Annual stockholders meeting set for Jan. 16

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursdays, January 3, 2013 and January 10, 2013. (01-02)

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange will be held at the High School Cafeteria in St. Francis, Kansas, January 16, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. CST. Reports will be presented by the Board of Directors and Management, along with a review of the financial statements of our auditors. Members will elect one director to serve on the Board.

Dinner will be served beginning at 6:00 p.m. CST. The business meeting will follow immediately after dinner. Drawings for door prizes will follow the meeting.

St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange
Board of Directors.

Public Notices

Land to be offered at Sheriff's sale Jan. 24

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursdays, January 3, January 10, January 17, 2013.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT

Flagstar Bank, F.S.B.

Plaintiff,

vs.

Jack L. Prouty and Clara Hunger, et al.

Defendants.

Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60

Notice Of Sale

Under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued to me by the Clerk of the District Court of Cheyenne County, Kansas, the undersigned Sheriff of Cheyenne County, Kansas, will offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand, at the Front Door of the Courthouse at St. Francis, Cheyenne County, Kansas, on January 24, 2013, at 10:00 AM, the following real estate:

All of lot One (1) and the East Fourteen Feet (E. 14') of Lot Two (2) in Block Sixty-One (61) in the City of Bird City, Cheyenne County, Kansas, and a tract of land lying in the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (SW1/4 SE1/4) of Section Thirty-Six (36), Township Three (3) South, Range Thirty-Eight (38) West of the 6th Principal Meridian in Cheyenne County, Kansas, described as follows: Commencing at a point which is 46 rods West of the Northeast corner of Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (SW1/4 SE1/4) of said Section 36; thence running due West a distance of 283 feet; thence running South a distance of 150 feet; thence running due East a distance of 283 feet; thence running North 150 feet to the place of beginning, commonly known as 704 Demick, Bird City, KS 67731 (the "Property.")

to satisfy the judgment in the above-entitled case. The sale is to be made without appraisal and subject to the redemption period as provided by law, and further subject to the approval of the Court. For more information, visit www.Southlaw.com.

Craig Van Allen, Sheriff
Cheyenne County, Kansas

Prepared By:
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Petition filed in court for the Fiedler estate

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursday, December 20, December 28 and January 3, 2012. (51,52,01)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS

In Matter of the Estate of

Case No. 2012-PR-29

Robert E. Fiedler, Deceased

A Proceeding Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on December 12, 2012, a petition was filed in this Court by Cynthia R. Fiedler, an heir, devisee and legatee, and executor named in the "Last Will and Testament of Robert E. Fiedler," deceased, dated October 22, 2010, requesting the will filed with the petition be admitted to probate and record; petitioner be appointed as executor, without bond; petitioner be granted Letters Testamentary, and the "Consent of Spouse" filed in this case be determined a valid consent.

You are required to file your written defenses to the petition on or before January 15, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. in the District Court, St. Francis, Cheyenne County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

/s/ Cynthia R. Fiedler
Cynthia R. Fiedler
Petitioner

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MISTAKES • We Know We Make Mistakes
Please remember that we attempt to include something for everyone within the pages of our newspaper. We realize that some folks enjoy finding fault and for those readers we thoughtfully include a socially acceptable number of errors within our publication!



Book Review

Bannon Brothers: Trust
By Janet Dailey
Cold cases aren't RJ Bannon's usual line of work. But Ann Montgomery's abduction is too intriguing to pass up. Ann was just three when she was taken from her family's Virginia mansion over 25 years ago. The Montgomerys launched a heartbreaking search, but no trace of the missing girl

was ever found.
Bannon knows the chances of finding her now are slim, but he can't stop searching for answers especially once he meets Erin Randall. A beautiful, talented local artist, she seems to share tantalizing connections with the vanished Ann. But his quest for the truth will put her in mortal danger.

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