

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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12 PAGES

Tuesday

October 7, 2008

Norton, Kansas
Home of Rodney Stapp

Briefly

Telegram Poll

McCain - 87

Obama - 70

Ron Paul - 3

Bob Barr 2

Gov. Palin - 1

Total - 163

This is the final week for the poll.

Call 877-3361 to cast a vote, or e-mail

tom.d@nwkansas.com

Teen's body found Monday morning

The Norton Police Department was dispatched to Norton Outdoor Power and Performance at 111 S. Second on Monday morning. Purpose of the call, according to authorities, was discovery of the body identified as Elliott Scott Conard, 18, Norton.

Mr. Conard was a 2008 graduate of Northern Valley High School. The body was taken to Enfield Funeral Home. The cause of death is pending an autopsy.

Booster Club to huddle Wednesday

The Norton Blue Jay Booster Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the high school cafeteria. Speakers will be football coach Lucas Melvin, volleyball coach Peggy Cox, cross country coach Tom Hehn and tennis coach Marianne Wicker. Coach Melvin will also show the video of Norton's exciting 36-16 Homecoming win over St. Francis.

Weather

Tonight — Mostly clear with a low around 40. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south. **Wednesday** — Sunny with a high near 76. **Wednesday Night** — Mostly clear with a low around 43. **Thursday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 73. **Thursday Night** — Partly cloudy and breezy. **Friday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 77.

Kingham report:

Oct. 3 Low 46, High 77
Oct. 4 Low 47, High 78
Oct. 5 Low 56, High 73
Oct. 6 Low 54, High 59, .90 Prec.
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

God, we are sorry for comparing ourselves to other Christians. Help us to pay attention to our own growth. Amen

School bus, car crash claims life

By BRANDY LEROUX
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A collision Monday morning on Highway 383 near Long Island, involving a school bus and car, resulted in the death of the car's driver, according to authorities.

Amanda Turman, 18, the accident report says, was driving east on the highway and the school bus was westbound, when she apparently lost control of the vehicle and went left of center, striking the bus head-on. Her car ended up facing west in the east bound lanes and the bus

ended up facing west in the north ditch, the accident report said. Brian Shearer was driving the Northern Valley/Long Island exchange, carrying 20 students to the Northern Valley Elementary School and High School in Almena.

According to the Kansas Highway Patrol, the accident occurred two and a half miles southwest of Long Island, and an accident reconstruction team was sent to the site.

"Mr. Shearer's driving skills are the only thing that saved the students' lives," said Northern Valley Superintendent

George Griffith.

The only high school student on the bus had minor cuts and bruises. That same high school student, whose name cannot be released because she is a minor, helped all the elementary students off the bus and used her cell phone to call 911.

"The student should be commended for helping the elementary kids get off the bus. She really stepped up to the plate when it counted the most," said Superintendent Griffith.

The driver and the bus monitor Joyce Rogers were both badly shaken, and taken

to Norton County Hospital, treated and released for minor injuries.

Twenty students on the bus were taken to a make-shift triage in the Long Island Community Center. No student had major injuries, mostly just bumps and bruises, and they were scared. Of those 20 students, 15 went home with their parents.

Mr. Griffith said because the collision was a traumatic experience, and Ms. Turman was a recent graduate of the high school, grief counselors were available at the Northern Valley and Long Island schools Monday.



County Commissioner Leroy Lang, left, checked out Norton County District #2 Rural Fire Department's new truck Monday morning, while Chuck Ankenman walked around the truck, possibly to kick its tires. — Telegram photo by Christie Anderson

Big new fire truck rolls into Norton

By BRANDY LEROUX
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It has taken about six years, but District #2 of the Norton County Rural Fire Department finally watched their brand new fire truck pull into the station late Monday morning.

The truck, a 2008 T800 Kenworth tandem axle, was custom built in South Dakota. "I think it took about four to five months to build," said Chairman of the District #2 Rural Fire Department Phil Loughry.

"The Hays Fire Department helped make recommendations for the new fire truck," said Mr. Loughry.

Between the time they originally ap-

plied for the grant to get the new truck and when it was built, the Federal Emergency Management Agency changed some of their requirements for the fire trucks. The original price of the truck was \$241,214, and the fire department was to pay \$12,060. Because of the requirement changes, the fire department ended up paying an extra \$2,000.

The rural fire department only has one pumper truck, a 1977 Dodge that can pump 350 gallons per minute. It has to be sold as part of the grant approval.

The new truck pumps up to 1,000 gallons per minute, it has foams for Type A and Type B chemical fires, and can spray both water and foam at the same time.

The pump engine is separate from the truck engine, giving the pump more horse power to fight fires.

"There is more storage for equipment in the new truck. With the old truck, there wasn't enough room for everything, and we'd have to take out more than one truck just to hold all the equipment," said Mr. Loughry.

All of the equipment in the other trucks will be transferred to the new truck so it will be the only one that has to be taken out.

The new truck has a collapsible tank unit, which can be removed from the side of the truck, filled in less than a minute, and left for another truck to pump out of

while the new truck goes to refill; or if the fire is burning too hot to have the truck close to, the collapsible tank can be safely placed where the truck would normally be parked.

There is a hard pump attachment that can be dropped into a water source such as a pond or tank, and a mount for a gun-type sprayer — which can spray both foam and water 300 feet away.

All employees of the rural fire department have completed a firemen's driving safety course to be able to drive the new truck.

"This is such a huge asset to our fire fighters and the safety of our communities," said Mr. Loughry.

Homecoming king and queen crowned

By DICK BOYD
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Zach Bainter and KaraJo Jones were crowned king and queen of the 36th an-

nual Norton Community High School Homecoming on Friday night at Travis Field during ceremonies prior to the Norton-St. Francis football game.

Zach is the son of Vicki and David Bainter and KaraJo is the daughter of Lynette and Jeff Jones.

Attendants were: Matt Stanley, son of Shelli Stanley and Perrell Stanley; Laura Lee Baird, daughter of Leslie and Jim Baird; Brock Lauer, son of Teresa and Dan Lauer; Katharine Roy, daughter of Gail and Corey Roy; Zac Dreher, son of Jamie and Ray Dreher and Taylor Rossi, daughter of Sue and George Rossi.

Crown bearers were: Tessa Hauser, daughter of Jen (Cox) Hauser, 1989 NCHS grad and husband, Keith and Mason Urban, son of JaLynn (Colip) Urban, 1995 NCHS grad and husband, Dominic, 1994 NCHS grad.

The crown bearers were chosen by the Student Advisory Council. At least one parent must be a graduate of Norton Community High School.

Crowning the king and queen were NCHS Principal Rudy Perez and Student Advisory Council Sponsor Chance McKinney.

The high school marching band, under

direction of David Will, formed a heart on the field to surround the candidates. Following the crowning, they honored the king and queen with a special musical selection, "Come Sail Away".

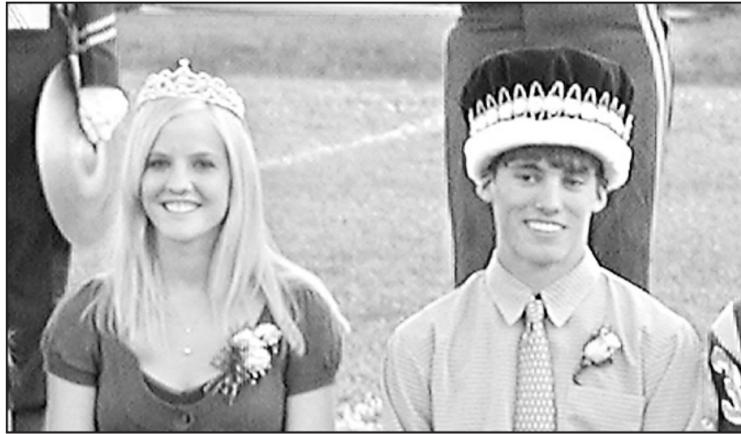
The royalty was chosen by the student body earlier in the week and reigned over the Homecoming dance, which followed the game.

Any senior who is participating in fall activities including girl's tennis, cross country, volleyball, football, dance team, Jay Singers or cheerleading was eligible to be nominated for homecoming royalty.

Prior to the coronation on Friday night, the dance team, sponsored by Lindsay Wilson and the cheerleaders, coached by Julie Scheetz, performed for the near-capacity crowd.

Dance team members are: Brae Bigge, Kylie Nuzum, Kaitlyn Ross, Mariah Farber, Ashlie Stewart, Rachel Shepard, Caren Thomson, Jade Braun, Brandi Graham, Bekah Streck and Alyssa Thomson.

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KaraJo Jones and Zach Bainter were crowned Homecoming Queen and King prior to Friday night's football game against St. Francis. Crown bearers were Tessa Hauser and Mason Urban. — Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux