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WEDNESDAY

March 3, 2010

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For weather details turn to A2



A-C wins district semi

Abby Meyer held Central District Player of the Year Megan White to 14 points and scored 12 as Amanda-Clearcreek beat Heath 61-46 to advance to a district championship game.

Sports, A10

Viking shoots for victory

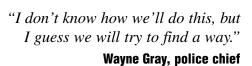
Teays Valley senior Tyler Luft - one of 5 area wrestlers to make the state meet looking to win a match

Sports, A10

Deaths Philip G. Isom, 64

On the Web

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"We'll have a tough time keeping up, but I suppose we'll have to find a way." Tim Tener, fire chief



CRAIG ALLISON/Circleville Herald Firefighter/medic Dave Robinson calibrates one of the department's heart monitors in the North Court Street station.

Stretched out Police, fire chiefs unhappy about cuts

By CRAIG ALLISON STAFF WRITER

Circleville city's slashed operating budget for the year, approved Tuesday, leaves the chiefs of the city's police and fire forces trying to stretch the budgets they have even tighter. They also are worrying they may have those remaining budgets stretched too tight to provide adequate services to the city's citizens, or to provide a margin of safety to their personnel who deliver those services.



"From Sunday through Thursday we will have three officers on the street," said Gray. "From 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. on Friday-Saturday and Saturday-Sunday we'll have an extra officer on the streets. That's the reality," he said.

"I personally feel terrible," said councilperson Patty Fouch, who chairs the finance committee, "but this was something we had to do to balance the city budget. We as members of city council are charged with maintaining solvency. The budget simply gives each department the money to operate for the year. We can't tell the department heads how to use it." Gray said probably the hardest hit part of the police department is the dispatching corps, which coordinates radio See Cuts A3

Stamper has long recovery ahead

Ashville teen in good spirits after accident

By TRISH BENNETT STAFF WRITER

An Ashville teenager struck by a car last week remains in good spirits but has a long recovery ahead, according to his mother.

Jacob Stamper, 14, an eighth-grader at Teays Valley East Middle School, was

walking home from the Marathon station at the corner of Long Street and state Route 752 about 8 p.m.



Feb. 25 when he was struck by a vehicle driving eastbound toward the high school, said Tami Stamper, Jacob's mother.

"He's still in the hospital and will be for a while," Stamper said. "It's going to take a good while to get him back to 100 percent."

Jacob suffered a skull fracture and concussion, four broken ribs, a broken hip and pelvis, a cracked tailbone, several fractures in his right leg, a chip out of his left knee and lacerations to his kidney and

See Stamper A3





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Good Day, **Dale Gifford** Thank you for subscribing to the Circleville Herald



Police Chief Wayne Gray sat at his desk Tuesday morning and plainly said, "I don't know how we'll do this, but I guess we will try to find a way."

Gray's department will see a Lieutenant's position and a Sergeant's position become

CRAIG ALLISON/Circleville Herald

Circleville police dispatcher Candy Fulton answers a cruiser over the radio in the police communications center.

"unfunded" as well as two dispatcher positions. Coupled with job "bumping" back through the ranks, the laid off Sergeant will ultimately result in a trained police officer being bumped into the radio room at the police station.

The result, according to Grav, is where his department is now able to schedule four officers per shift on the street, the reality is that only three will probably make it, due to injuries, days off, illness, and vacations.



"I personally feel terrible but this was something we had to do to balance the city budget. We as

members of city council are charged with maintaining solvency. The budget simply gives each department the money to operate for the year. We can't tell the department heads how to use it."

City Council member Patty Fouch, who chairs the finance committee

Council passes revised 2010 budget

By CRAIG ALLISON STAFF WRITER

As expected, Circleville city council Tuesday evening passed is revised budget for 2010, and in doing so cut over \$1.6 million from the budget it approved at the end of 2009. The city department to take perhaps the biggest hit in the revised budget was the police department, which will see the "unfunding" of a Lieutenant, Sergeant, and a dispatcher. When job bumping is completed the police will have

More than \$1.6M cut from city's spending plan

three less dispatchers and may possibly have to use officers from the street to cover

responsibilities on a part time basis

The police showed their solidarity Tuesday evening, as just prior to the 8 p.m. meeting 15 uniformed officers filed into

council chambers and sat silently throughout the proceedings.

Before the vote on the budget took place safety committee chair Barry Keller questioned Circleville mayor Chuck Taylor, asking him if he had reconsidered giving the police and fire chiefs the full use of their department cars, including driving them home at the end of their regular workday.

"I have not had a chance to think about it Barry," said Taylor.

"Then we'll be sure to discuss it further at the safety committee meeting next Tuesday," said Keller.

When the vote came it was unanimous.

"This revised budget represents a great deal of hard work on the part of many people in the city," said finance chairwoman Patty Fouch.

"It is unfortunate and regrettable that it involves the layoffs of city employees," she said.

W1NS award OCU senior has top business plan

By CRAIG ALLISON STAFF WRITER

Senior Brittany Martin took top honors at the first Ohio Christian University business plan banquet held in the Learning Center on the OCU campus.

Students entering the competition were required to for-

mulate business plan and present it to a panel of local judges.

Martin took the first prize for her business plan



MARTIN

of a new venture that would "provide advertising plastic wraps for vehicles, banners, and many other products," according to OCU business department chairman David Garrison.

Besides winning first place in the competition Martin also See Martin A3

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