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## Just the facts

Susan Comstock  
ad manager

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## Score: sports 1, semester exams 0 at RA school

School sports came out ahead of exams at Rossville Alvin High school.

In a 7-0 vote, the school board cancelled mid-semester exams were cancelled 7-0 for the 1994-95 school year.

The new policy eliminates semester exams for high School students, preventing conflict between exams and extra-curricular activities.

A conflict between the girls' basketball tournament and first semester exams caused the change.

Board member Gene Hughes, who heard complaints about students having to cram and also play ball, said the change "strikes a compromise. I don't think trying the proposal for one year is detrimental to the education at the high school."

Board president Jack Gregory, said the problem is a long-standing one. "We aren't ignoring the issue," he said. "It comes up every year and its been changed before."

Member Don Frasier said the change was not made solely for sports. "We're not changing it for

basketball, but to benefit the kids," he said.

Tony Zarate, another board member, said "if (teachers) want a big test, they can do it without calling it a semester exam."

Supt. Jim O'Donley called the change "the best of both worlds" because the number of weeks in each semester will remain the same. "The solution is better than an eight-week or nine- or seven- (week semester) and then an 11, which is what I'm trying to avoid," he said.

Teachers have mixed feelings about the change. "The teachers were in equal numbers about still having full-blown semester exams," O'Donley said.

In unrelated action, the board:

- approved first year teachers 1994-95 Lynn Snyder, Jill Byerly and Kevin Thomas, and second year teachers Dona Montgomery, Meredith McKee, Sandra Hooper and Krista DeLatre.
- approved rehiring Melinda Tucker as grade school principal for the 1994-95 year.

## Raceway gets green light from Rossville village board

The Rossville village board unanimously approved a go-cart raceway at the village park Monday night, but not before approximately 20 residents voiced pros and cons on the issue.

Resident Darrell Danner had requested part of the park, now a wetland, be used for the North Fork Raceway Park.

Phil Farris, spokesman for residents opposed to the raceway, said it would impact property values, increase traffic in what is now a peaceful residential area, and raise noise levels. "We believe the

proposal should be voted down," he said.

Residents said they were not opposed to youths the raceway would bring to the neighborhood, reminding board members of baseball games held in the park during spring and summer months.

Danner dismissed claims about the noise, saying that in Rossville at any given time in summer, more mowers run at louder levels than go-carts at the raceway.

Rossville resident Helen Bowles, disagreed.

See "RACEWAY" on other side

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## Raceway continued from other side

"Don't tell me they aren't noisy," she said. "I've lived here 28 years and I don't mind some noise, but if I could hear you starting one of your go-carts at your place the other afternoon, it's too noisy. I'm not against the kids, but I am (against) the noise."

Another resident, Steve Stream, spoke in favor of the raceway. "It's a toss-up between me and the folks at the cemetery" as to who is closest to the raceway site, he said, adding he is behind raceway 100 percent because it will create a little economic and social development and "a diversity of recreation."

Danner showed a video of a go-cart practicing in the proposed raceway area. The video included

## Court dispositions

**Sandra Foster**, Hoopeston, to pay \$75 and report for court supervision, rule to show cause to be issued, court supervision revoked.

**Ted Finnell, Jr.**, Hoopeston, junk car, nolle pros.

**Margaret Huckleby**, Hoopeston, junk car, summons to be issued.

**Linda Miller**, Hoopeston, breach of peace, nolle pros.

**Frank G. Longfellow**, Hoopeston, battery, disorderly conduct, pleaded not guilty.

**Tonya Irvin**, Hoopeston, illegal consumption, \$150.

**Heidi Snyder**, Rankin, illegal consumption, \$150.

**Kathy Mann**, Hoopeston, battery, rule to show cause hearing, failure to appear - \$75, six months' court supervision.

**Kevin Inglis**, Kentucky, rule to show cause hearing, nolle pros.

## Bench trials

**Robert Clayburn**, Hoopeston, battery, rule to show cause, failure to appear for bench trial, nolle pros.

**Joseph Cannon**, Hoopeston, criminal damage,

samples of go-cart noise at various ranges. A train passing through town while the video was shot completely drowned out the noise from the go-cart.

Also, police chief Paul Dewitt verified that noise levels from the go-carts would be moderate.

Danner assured residents he was willing to work with them toward a mutually beneficial solution.

Races, he told them, would begin at noon on Saturdays and last until 3:30 p.m. He estimated that the total time involved would be four to five hours.

Also, he pointed out, not everybody can race go-carts. Only those who belong to the go-cart group will be allowed to participate.

Spectators at the raceway will be charged \$2 for admittance. "If you're really tight, you can stand at the fence and look in," Danner said.

Farris said later that both sides of the issue were well-presented. "We'll just have to wait and see and hope they're right about the noise level," he said.

## In the hospital

**Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital**  
March 21, 1994

**Admitted:** Marion Beckner and Ashley Crawford, both of Hoopeston.

**Discharged:** none.

## Weather

Partly sunny, windy, milder today. High in the mid to upper 60s. Thirty percent chance of afternoon or evening showers. Low in the upper 40s or low 50s. Tomorrow, clearing. High in the upper 50s or low 60s.

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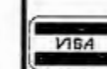
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