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**Why did the Tribune-Eagle wait so long to disclose they had lost at District Court?**

In language only Judge Ed Grant can understand, and in words only he would accept, it sure looks like the daily newspaper lost in its bid to fine and possibly imprison members of the Building Code Board of Appeals.

In a classic, "they won the battles but lost the war," the soon retiring judge wrote:

"Cheyenne Newspapers, Inc. has standing to pursue this action, and exceptions to the mootness doctrine apply, therefore a justiciable controversy exists."

Two wins for the local paper.

"The Court finds that the Public Meetings Act, W.S. 16-4-401 *et seq.*, does not apply to quasi-judicial deliberations in the contested case hearing held pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act. The challenged decision of the Building Code Board of Appeals of the City of Cheyenne is not void under the PMA, and its motion

for summary judgment is GRANTED."

One loss for the local paper. The big one.

The Order was dated April 6, 2009 so the parties would have known of Grant's decision several days prior. Typically, the judge has the victorious counsel draft the Order so this baby came from the office of the Governor's wife, the city's counsel.

Judge, the Cheyenne Herald has a question? Knowing your fondness for us, you'll be sure to respond, won't you?

Where was the ruling that the Board of Appeals is a "quasi-judicial" body? If one designates oneself to be something, does that make it so?

Will that open the door to other similar bodies to declare themselves "quasi-judicial" and close more meetings to the public? An appeal will reverse. Or should. One other question, judge. Who cares?

**Okay, Cheyenne didn't get the Global Strike Command. Life goes on. Let's regroup and try for whatever is next. We've still got F.E. Warren.**

Sure, it would have been nice to land the GSC. But we didn't.

How many tiny cities like Cheyenne would love to have a military base the size of F.E. Warren? Many larger cities have lost their bases. We should count our blessings that Cheyenne hasn't. Yet.

In this instance, I don't think I'll blame our representatives. Might mock them a little, though. And it wasn't politics, either. We have a Democratic governor, Louisiana has a Republican governor - one who is being touted as a possible presidential candidate in 2012. Our people likely did the best they're capable of. The deck was just stacked against Cheyenne.

I tried to warn Herald readers that the fact the chamber of commerce guy made the announcement probably wouldn't bode well for Cheyenne. If there is any glory to be had, neither the local LEADS nodding head nor the Wyoming Business Council overpaid seat-holder are going to allow a new chamber of commerce person to grab that glory.

For the future, unless one of those yokels make the announcement about some kind of "economic development," it isn't likely to occur. Either that or an out-of-towner will make his/her own announcement about plans to come to Cheyenne.

But these glory hounds are not going to allow the chamber guy to steal their thunder. Lesson learned. Again.

**Who won the CBI?**

Remember the forgettable post-season NCAA basketball tournament Wyoming paid to play in? They lost that first game when "the Ball Hog" wanted to be a hero instead of sharing the ball.

So, did you ever read or hear who won the "tournament?" I'm waiting. I've got a minute. You don't know who won the tournament your Cowboys paid to play in?

Oregon State. And by winning two of three games from UTEP, OSU was able to finish their season with a .500 record. They were 13-17 going in, hosted five of the six games they played and won five- to finish an eye-popping 18-18. Champions!

There is no question that getting the GSC would have been a master stroke.

But now the people who made an all expenses-paid trip to Washington to pitch Cheyenne for this venture now need to redirect their sights on holding F.E. Warren. Scoff if you will, but the unpredictable suits and stripes in D.C. could at any "base closing" period decide that our Air Force Base is expendable. And for the next nearly four years of Democratic rule, and an expected reduction in force, Warren and almost every other military installation in the country will be up for grabs.

Cheyenne and the Air Force have had a long and productive relationship. Unfortunately, that won't count for much when decisions are made to close more bases. A country adding \$9 trillion to the national debt in the next decade in order to own and operate automobile factories, banks and the stock market won't have much concern about further depleting the military and closing dozens more bases.

Wyoming Democratic governor may be gone after 2010. If a Republican takes the Governor's mansion and the other four statewide seats are held by Republicans and the three congressional seats are Republicans, Wyoming isn't going to sit front and center when it comes to holding onto a military base.

So those same vagabonds better address that possibility. Cheyenne can't afford to lose F.E. Warren. Not now. Not later.

**Herald**

pick-up locations

- City News - Downtown
  - BLM Building Entryway
  - Safeway - South Cheyenne
  - Wonder Bread Outlet - Ridge Rd.
  - Oroweat Bakery Outlet - SW Dr.
  - Borderline - Colorado Lottery
  - Laramie County Library
  - Laramie County Gov't Center - North
  - Herschler Building - North
  - VA Hospital - South Entrance
  - Town & County Liquors
  - Burger Inn
  - Luxury Diner
  - American Storage
  - Avenues Pet Clinic
  - Los Amigos
  - Diamond Horseshoe
  - Daylight Donuts (both)
  - Quick Draw Optical
  - Village Inn-Downtown
  - T-Joe's Steakhouse & Saloon
- Many, many other locations in the City and Laramie County

**In the county ...**

- Fred's Place, the A & W, and Wild Horse Restaurant - all in Pine Bluffs
- Panhandle Co-Op, Burns
- Antelope Truck Stop
- Albin Diner & General Store

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