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### -VOLUME 16 NO. 167, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2000-

According to a spokesperson for St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Beaumont, Larry Ainsworth, 56, of Hardin died shortly after an accident on FM 834 in between Hardin and Hull yesterday around 3 p.m.. DPS Trooper Bobby Risch says Thelma Lloyd, who was five months pregnant, told him Ainsworth was intoxicated and agitated when he grabbed the steering wheel of the truck she was driving. Her truck then swerved into the path of an SUV driven by Amanda Hays Hatcher, 25, recently of Beaumont, causing a head-on collision. Ms. Hatcher is in stable condition at St. Elizabeth's Hospital. The pregnant woman, Thelma Lloyd, age 16, is in serious condition at Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston.

The Dayton City Council Monday night took its first vote on the adoption of a new tax rate. Mayor Larry Harris said council plans to keep the same tax rate as the current fiscal year, which is .6922 per \$100 or a fraction more than sixty-nine cents. Council voted to set a public hearing for the tax rate and the city's proposed \$5.3 million budget on Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Dayton School Board last week authorized Associate Superintendent Jack Carraway to seek competitive sealed bids on the construction of baseball and softball fields at the new high school campus. Architect Madeline Chu projected costs to be \$610,000 while cost figures obtained by Athletic Director Jerry Stewart projected a price tag of \$500,000. Trustees will consider bids, but it is uncertain if the board will proceed with the project.

Work began yesterday on a \$283,000 resurfacing job on FM 563 inside the Liberty City limits. TxDot Resident Engineer Ed Seymour said 3.5 miles of road surface is being overhauled and urges motorists to watch for flagmen. Seymour estimates the project will take about three weeks to complete.

**FUNERALS:** Margie Campbell, 75, of Tarkington, Services at 10 a.m. today at Pace-Stancil Funeral Home in Dayton. **\*\* Idella Douglas**, 81, of Liberty, Services at 1 p.m. tomorrow at St. Miles Baptist Church in Ames. **\*\* Juanita Chance Caudle**, 65, of Old River, Graveside Services at 4 p.m. Saturday at Fairlawn Cemetery in Dayton. **\*\***

**\*\*LAKE RELEASE: 1,000 CFS \* LIBERTY BRIDGE: 5.03 ASL\*\***

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