

became Cowboy Orange with the exchanging of checks for the highly-anticipated University Multispectral Lab planned for a former ConocoPhillips facility.

Cold Start

The month started with Ponca City and North Central Oklahoma digging out following an 8 to 12-inch snowfall on the last day of November. Winds gusting over 30 miles an hour blew drifts across roads, closing schools and forcing the cancellation or postponement of a weekend's worth of events.

Ponca Citians woke up on Dec. 1 to a record low temperature for the date of 2 degrees and followed that on Dec. 2 with a record low of 4 degrees — brrrrr!

He may have "left his heart in San Francisco," but Tony Bennett fuels his plane in Ponca City. The legendary singer was in town on Dec. 3 at Greenwood Aviation where he visited with Chuck Greenwood about "our fine town." He wished everybody a great Holiday season.

When Dec. 4 rolled around, the big news of the day was the Ponca City Development Authority Board of Trustees unanimously approving the agreement with Oklahoma State University to provide \$2 million in economic incentives to develop the nation's first sensor testing center in Ponca City.

The OSU sensor testing center, now known as the University Multispectral Lab or UML, will employ 80 full-time, permanent people. The center will test sensors and research from universities and private companies from throughout the world. According to an economic impact model prepared by PCDA, the UML will create \$140 million in economic benefits to Ponca City over the next 10 years.

Filing opened on Dec. 4 in Newkirk and other county seat communities in Oklahoma for the February school board elections. Don Nuzum filed for re-election to the Ponca City School Board while Debra Herron filed for the vacancy created by the decision of Marvin Clark not to run for another term. Since they were uncontested, there will be no board election for Ponca City in February. Incumbent Larry Buck