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INSIDE TODAY



MMC Sweeps Dordt • 7

Firm Still Working On Local Sports Complex Study

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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A consulting firm hired to conduct a study of Yankton's sports facility needs is expected to share its preliminary report in late April or early May, according to City Manager Amy Nelson.

In September, the City Commission hired Stockwell Engineers of Sioux Falls to do the analysis. The contract was for \$57,600.

Nelson had expected a presentation to be made to the City Commission in March. "It's been delayed because we're still analyzing," she said. "We've had a preliminary report from them, and they are still finishing their analysis."

A steering committee created by the commission is giving feedback on the findings so far, and Nelson said the proposal will be shared with sports associations before it is presented to the public at a City Commission meeting.

"What we're trying to do is make sure what we put out to the sporting associations is something we think would be feasible," Mayor Nancy Wenande said. "One of the alternatives that Stockwell had come back to us with was something the city could not do. It was moving some infrastructure that financially could not happen, so they needed to go back and revamp some of that. It wasn't their fault for not knowing that infrastructure was there."

She added that the proposal

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TAKING AIM AT SUCCESS



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

These local archers recently competed in the South Dakota Archers Association (SDAA) State Indoor Championships in Sioux Falls. Pictured are, front: Jamie Van Lent; middle row, from left: Kevin Colgan, Hannah Bartos, Owen Warren and Fisher Bartos; back row: Tom Juffer, Alexis Sejnoha, Michael Strom, Gabby Keiser, Kendra Hunhoff and Eric Tollefson.

Local Archers Fare Well In State Indoor Championships

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first of two stories looking at the recent success of local archers on the state and national stages.

BY JEREMY HOECK
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From the first moment she picked up a bow and found immediate success with it during a school physical education course, Alexis Sejnoha knew she had a brand-new hobby.

As it turns out, it didn't take long for the 15-year-old from Yankton to rise to the top of the South Dakota ranks.

"I was beating all the boys in my class, and of course, they hated that," Sejnoha said last week from the National Field Archery Association (NFAA) headquarters in Yankton, where youth classes were about to start.

"I thought, 'Wow, that was fun. Maybe I should try this.'"

The move paid off for Sejnoha, who was one of 28 Yankton youth and adult archers to compete in the South Dakota Archers Association (SDAA) State Indoor Championships, held March 23-24 in Sioux Falls.

Not only did she compete, but Sejnoha repeated her state title from last year, although in a different age division.

Like her fellow archers at the NFAA Easton Yankton Archery Center, Sejnoha found success thanks to her many hours of shooting.

"It's a lot of practice," she said. "We're out there three days a week, and sometimes even more if there's a tournament coming up."

"Archery is such a fun sport to be in because it's individual. You can be on a team like basketball, and maybe you win state, but what if you didn't play? Here, it's totally on you."

ALEXIS SEJNOHA

Among the other first-place finishers for the Yankton group were Hannah Bartos, Kevin Colgan, Owen Warren, Fisher Bartos, Courtney Anderson, Gabby Keiser, Kendra Hunhoff and Michael Strom. Adults winning their divisions included Jamie Van Lent, Tom Juffer and Eric Tollefson — the Level 4 Elite Coach at the NFAA complex.

There were eight other archers who recorded top-3 finishes at the state tournament, including 17-year-old Yankton shooter Cedar Bartos.

In her fourth year shooting a bow, Bartos earned second place in her division after winning a state title three years ago in a younger classification. When it comes to tournaments, though, she said she concentrates more on individual growth.

"It's very personal," Bartos said. "It's all about the little things you can succeed at. That's why it's such a huge achievement, with the pressure you face."

Sejnoha agreed, pointing to the aesthetics and atmosphere that change from tournament to tournament.

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Easter 2013

Pope Pleas For World Peace

Pope Francis Celebrates His First Easter Sunday As Pontiff In Front Of 250,000 People

BY FRANCES D'EMILIO
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis marked Christianity's most joyous day with a passionate plea for world peace, celebrating his first Easter Sunday as pontiff in the enthusiastic company of more than 250,000 people who overflowed from St. Peter's Square.

With eloquent words in his Easter message, Francis lamented enduring conflicts in the Middle East, on the Korean peninsula and elsewhere and remembered the world's neediest people. With physical gestures, he illustrated the personal, down-to-earth caring he brings as a pastor to this new papacy — cradling a disabled child held out to him in the crowd and delightfully accepting a surprise gift thrust at him.

Francis shared in his flock's exuberance as they celebrated Christianity's core belief that Jesus Christ rose from the dead following crucifixion. After Mass in flower-bedecked St. Peter's Square, he stepped aboard an open-topped white popemobile for a cheerful spin through pathways in the joyous crowd, kissing babies, smiling constantly and patting children on the head.

One admirer of both the pope and his favorite soccer team from his Argentine homeland, Saints of San Lorenzo, insisted that Francis take a team jersey he was waving at the pontiff — "take it, go ahead, take it," the man seemed to be telling the pope. Finally, a delighted Francis obliged, briefly holding up the shirt, and the crowd roared in approval. He handed the shirt to an aide in the front seat, and the popemobile continued its whirl through the square.

In a poignant moment, Francis cradled and kissed a physically disabled boy passed to him from the crowd. The child worked hard to make one of his arms hug the pope back, then succeeded, smiling in satisfaction as the pope patiently waited for the boy to give his greeting.

Francis has repeatedly put concern for the poor and suffering at the center of his messages, and he pursued his promotion of the causes of peace and social justice in the Easter speech he delivered from the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica, the same vantage point above the square where he was introduced to the world as the first Latin American pope on March 13.

The Roman Catholic leader aimed his Easter greetings at "every house and every family, especially where the suffering is greatest, in hospitals, in prisons." Francis prayed that Jesus would inspire people to "change hatred into love, vengeance into forgiveness, war into peace."

As popes before him have, he urged Israelis and Palestinians to resume peace talks and end a conflict that "has lasted all too long." And, in reflecting on the two-year-old Syrian crisis, Francis asked, "How much suffering must there still be before a political solution" can be found?

The pope also expressed desire for a "spirit of reconciliation" on the Korean peninsula, where North Korea says it has entered "a state of war" with South Korea. He also decried warfare and terrorism in Africa, as well as what he called the 21st century's most extensive form of slavery: human trafficking.

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Decision 2013

Blaalid Seeks To Give Back To Yankton

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is part of a series of profiles on the seven candidates running for the Yankton City Commission. The election is April 9.

Name: Brooke Blaalid
Family: Brian Blaalid (husband) and Kellen Blaalid (son)
Occupation: Evaluator for prevention grant in South Dakota and graduate assistant at the University of South Dakota
Education: BS in Psychology, Master of Social Work, and currently working on PhD in Political Science with an emphasis in Public Administration and Policy
Website: Facebook-Blaalid for Yankton

1. Why do you want to be a city commissioner?

"I want to be a city commissioner because, as a member of the Yankton community, I feel it is my obligation with duty to give back. My experience and education place me in an optimal position to serve the community and lead Yankton into a prosperous tomorrow. I am also motivated to be a city commissioner because I want



Blaalid

to set a good example for my family. I firmly believe that when parents engage in community involvement that their children will also follow suit.

2. The City is investigating the potential for approximately \$28 million in upgrades to its water treatment and water intake facilities. What are your thoughts on this process so far, and what would be the best way to go about funding such a large investment?

I agree with the reports thus far that state we need a new source of water and an updated water treatment plant. The commission needs to look at all of the options for funding and to keep the water rates as low as possible for our community. I personally feel the best course of action for funding is to secure federal grants, if available, and to obtain a loan while the interest rates are still low. However, much discussion is still

needed with regard to the logistics of this venture, and I am excited to be part of the process.

3. The city purchased 35 acres of human Services Center ground last May from the state at a cost of approximately \$1.95 million. Do you think enough is being done to market the property and find a good use for it?

The land is definitely a prime piece of real estate, and has the potential to be a great asset for our community. However, the land was purchased less than a year ago. Therefore, I believe the community needs to take its time to decide how they would like to see the land used, prior to marketing the property as one thing or another. Whether the land is reserved for soccer fields, retail, or what have you; that has yet to be determined, and I feel the entire community should have input on the decision.

4. The Joint Vermillion/Yankton Solid Waste System is examining its recycling program. A

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HUNTER'S DELIGHT



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

This young Easter egg hunter stows away her bounty during the annual Easter Egg Hunt held Saturday at Yankton's Sertoma Park. Dozens of kids were greeted by gorgeous weather as they gathered for the holiday offerings left by the Easter bunny, who was also on hand to greet the kids. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net.

Unlikely Career For New Neb. Lt. Gov.

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska's new lieutenant governor is marking a new chapter in an unlikely political career.

Lavon Heidemann says he never expected to become the state's second-in-command, particularly after he won a hard-fought campaign for the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

The Republican dairy farmer from Elk Creek says he accepted the offer from Gov. Dave Heineman because he felt that he was needed in the role.

Heidemann is serving as a liaison between the governor and lawmakers, who have clashed in recent years. He's also a policy adviser for Heineman.

Heineman first served as an Elk Creek school board member before he was elected to the Legislature in 2004. He spent six of his eight years as chairman of the Appropriations Committee, which works with the governor on the budget.