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Inside Today

Report:

Drought Conditions Easing

Another Day, Another Storm In The Dakotas

From P&D and AP Reports

SIOUX FALLS — Another spring day brought yet another snowstorm to the Dakotas on Thursday.

The National Weather Service posted a winter storm warning and winter weather advisories for far eastern South Dakota, where half a foot of snow or more could fall. It also forecast several inches of snow along with strong winds for southeastern North Dakota.

Snowstorms have been crossing the Dakotas for more than a week, dumping record amounts of snow in some areas. Eastern South Dakota is still recovering from a three-day snow and ice storm last week that knocked out electricity to nearly 100,000 people and downed or damaged thousands of

Yankton received approximately 2.5 inches of snow from the storm, which unofficially broke a snowfall record for the date that was established in 1907. According to the National Weather Service, other snowfall totals included 2.5 inches near Vermillion; 3.3 inches in Tabor; 2.2 inches in Wagner; 2 inches in Sioux Falls; 4 in Sioux City, Iowa; and 3.1 inches in

Officials in Sioux Falls said Thursday's snowfall could set back a massive cleanup effort.

STORM | PAGE 11A

SPORTS



USD Removes Interim Tag On AD Herbster • 7A



'Small Room' Hits Small Stage At MMC **RIVER CITY**



It's nearly a month into spring, but in Yankton, all signs pointed to winter Thursday as a storm brought about 2.5 inches of snow and strong winds to the area. Yankton Public Schools were dismissed early, and several area activities were postponed or canceled.

Longtime Wagner Mayor Retiring

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WAGNER — When Wagner considered a city sales tax in the early 1980s, Sharon Haar became upset.

Haar and her husband, Harris, owned a John Deere implement dealership, and she worried about the impact of a city sales tax on her

"I was familiar with the ag community. If they drove a green (John Deere) tractor between Burke and Lesterville, I knew who they were," she said. "When it came to a city sales tax, I was concerned about the

She approached then-councilman Don Hosek about his stand on the

"I told Don Hosek, if he voted for a city sales tax, I would run against him," she said. "He voted for it, I ran against him and beat him 75 to 53."

Haar took her seat on the council in 1984 and left in 1995, but she wasn't finished with city government. "I came back on (the council) when I was appointed mayor in



been mayor since then," she said. "I was re-elected five times because nobody ran against me. But now I finally am finished. I'm ready to leave office, and I have

found someone who will take an appointment as mayor."

Haar admits the irony of seeing them come full circle, but they are friends and she believes she is leaving the mayor's seat in good hands.

The name of her successor? Don

"I'm sure that I'm turning it over to somebody who will do a better job than me," she said with a

Haar's husband, Harris, and son, Milton, are hosting a private reception for her tonight (Friday), joined by family and friends. The evening will not only honor her public serv-

HAAR | PAGE 11A

Precipitation Moves Yankton Into Lesser Classification

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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Recent precipitation has led to an easing of drought conditions in the Yankton area, according to the latest U.S. Drought

Monitor released Thursday.
As of April 16, the Drought Monitor placed this area in extreme drought, an improvement over the exceptional drought classification it had in the March 19 report. Drought conditions in most of Nebraska and South Dakota have eased in the last month.

Eventually, the region is expected to shrug off the cooler-than-normal temperatures for warmer-than-normal temperatures, according to South Dakota State Climatologist Dennis Todey. March was South Dakota's 34th coldest on record and Nebraska's 36th coldest.

"I would not expect to see a rapid change," Todey said during Thursday's Midwest and Great Plains Drought Update teleconference. "There will be some nice transition time, probably during the month of May. It looks like sometime in the May or June time frame when things would turn around toward warmer-thanaverage conditions.3

A resurgence of drought conditions is possible, Todey warned.

"(But) if we're looking at a repeat of last year — certainly we don't expect to see that," he added. "It's unlikely to have those types of years back to back. But some of those drought issues are carrying over (from last year).

The Drought Monitor is predicting it is likely that drought conditions will ease through the end of July for this area. However, just to the west, drought conditions are expected to be ongoing with some improvement.

Doug Kluck, regional climate services director for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), acknowledged that it's difficult to say for sure what the summer months have in store for the region.

"It is during the spring season that we have the most difficulty pegging what's going to be happening in the next three or four months," he said.

According to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC), the Yankton area of southeast South Dakota and northeast Nebraska was generally within an inch of normal precipitation between March 19 to April 17. This area has received anywhere from 1.75 to 4 inches of precipitation during that period.

Precipitation in March was slightly on the dry side historically, with South Dakota having its 41st driest March on record and Nebraska having its 51st driest.

DROUGHT | PAGE 11A



COURTESY OF FBI/MCT

The FBI's Subject No. 1, in a dark cap, and Subject No. 2, in a white cap, in a security camera screen grab in Boston, Massachusetts, on the day of the **Boston Marathon bombing.**

Boston Bombing

FBI Issues Photos Of 2 Suspects

BY DENISE LAVOIE AND ADAM GELLER **Associated Press**

BOSTON (AP) — The FBI released photos and video Thursday of two suspects in the Boston Marathon bombing and asked for the public's help in identifying them, zeroing in on the two men on surveil-

■ Obama

Honors

Bombina

Victims.

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lance-camera footage less than three days after the deadly attack.

The photos depict one man in a dark baseball cap and the other in a white cap worn backward. The men were seen walking one behind the other in the crowd, and the one in the white hat was seen setting down a backpack at the site of the second explosion,

said Richard DesLauriers, FBI agent in charge in Boston.

'Somebody out there knows these individuals as friends, neighbors, co-workers or family members of the suspects. Though it may be difficult, the nation is counting on those with information to come forward and provide it to us," DesLauriers said.

The images were released hours after President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama attended an interfaith service at a Roman Catholic cathedral in Boston to remember the three people killed and more than 180 wounded in the twin blasts Monday at the marathon finish line.

The two men — dubbed Suspect 1 (in the dark hat) and Suspect 2 (in the white hat) — are considered armed and extremely dangerous, DesLauriers said, and people who see them should not approach them.

"Do not take any action on your own," he warned.

BOMBING | PAGE 11A

GETTING 'BETTER' AT MMC

Nathan Porras of Crofton, Neb., serves up a flute solo during the Mount Marty College jazz band's performance of Howard Jones' "Things Can Only Get Better" during MMC's Choir and Jazz band Spring Tour home concert Thursday night at Marian Auditorium. This week's tour included performances in Menno, Ethan, Plankinton, Chamberlain, Platte-Geddes and Armour. MMC's chamber and mixed choirs also perform, as did the Smooth Benediction acapella group. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)







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