

PRESSOR DAKOTAN

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Legendary Area Band Wakefield To Reunite In Yankton For Riverboat Days • 1B

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KELLY HERTZ/P&D

South Dakota state meteorologist Dennis Todey explains the historic patterns in wet and dry cycles during a PowerPoint demonstration held at a drought meeting Thursday night at the Yankton County 4-H grounds. Extension officials from South Dakota and Nebraska were on hand to explain how the current drought was impacting agricultural production.

Making The Tough Decisions

Extension Specialists Offer Options For Farmers During Drought

BY NATHAN JOHNSON nathan.johnson@yankton.net

Extension specialists from Nebraska and South Dakota offered area farmers various feed and livestock options in the midst of the worst drought in decades during a meeting Thursday night.

All four experts from South Dakota State University (SDSU) and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) acknowledged how exceptional this year is and the potentially difficult decisions the conditions will bring with them. Several dozen people attended the meeting at the 4-H Building on the Pine Acres Fairgrounds in Yankton.

Dennis Todey, SDSU state climatologist, said

the region has reached a stabilizing point as measured by the U.S. Drought Monitor. "Conditions have not been getting worse'

"Conditions have not been getting worse," he said. "Whatever is going to happen to corn is done. With soybeans, we could have a little bit of help."

Looking at data from past years, Todey tried to be optimistic about the future.

"What we see is ... even in the wet periods, you have some dry years," he said. "For the last several years, we've really not had a dry year. We've had about four years of it being pretty wet. My thinking is, this is our dry year in an overall wet period. That's why I'm being optimistic that we can recover, maybe not completely, but at least have a decent year next year." The origins of the current drought date back to last fall. Rainfall in the region has been four to six inches below normal since that time, Todey said.

"It made for a great harvest season (last year). You didn't have to slow down much," he stated. "We were aware of (the dry conditions last fall), but we weren't throwing up red flags yet. We looked at dry falls and what that meant for yields the following year. There was not a strong signal that showed up. There were some bad years, but there were also some fairly decent years."

Todey said that, with an El Niño weather

DROUGHT | PAGE 11A

INSIDE TODAY



How To Help Your Children Achieve

USA WEEKEND

CORRECTION

Officials Lift Voluntary Water Restriction For Yankton

BY NATHAN JOHNSON nathan.johnson@yankton.net

Less than two days after asking citizens to comply with a voluntary water restriction, Yankton officials lifted the request Thursday morning.

In a release issued just after 8:30 a.m., it was stated that repairs at the water treatment plant were com-

plete. "The temporary water restrictions (on watering r non-essential outdoor been lifted," the release stated. Water Treatment Plant No. 2 has two basins that are used to mix chemicals and process them into the water. However, one of those mixers broke down Tuesday morning. A part was delivered overnight from Phoenix, and efforts continued through Wednesday to repair the broken cushion start coupling. With the city's water treatment capacity down to about 5 1/2 million gallons per day, officials were worried about keeping up with the average of 6 million gallons per day that its customers have been using amidst the worst drought in decades. The difference in capacity and usage threatened to deplete the storage in the municipality's two water towers. That, in turn, could hinder efforts if a fire were to break out in the city, officials warned. Environmental Services Director Kyle Goodmanson told the Press & Dakotan Wednesday afternoon that citizens had complied with the water restrictions and

<image>

RURAL MOBILE HOME BURNS

was shown displaying her sheep in the Yankton County 4-H Achievement Days photo on the front page of Thursday's edition. The caption contained incorrect information.

* * *

S.D. Board Requests More State Money For Universities

BY CHET BROKAW Associated Press

PIERRE — The South Dakota Board of Regents agreed Thursday to seek additional state funding aimed at holding down tuition and fee increases for students at the six state-run universities.

The regents unanimously approved a budget request that seeks a \$14.5 million total increase in state funding for operating the state universities in the year beginning July 1, 2013. The governor and the Legislature will have the final say on the budget. The regents will set tuition for the 2014 school year next spring after the Legislature approves a new state budget.

The board is requesting about \$2.8 million in additional state money to cover inflation in operating costs and a 1 percent faculty salary increase aimed at making South Dakota salaries competitive

MONEY | PAGE 3A

WATER | PAGE 3A



A mobile home located on Vote Street east of Yankton along the James River was completed destroyed in a structure fire Thursday night. The fire was reported at approximately 8:35 p.m., and by the time firefighters arrived on the scene, the building was consumed. Firefighters worked to keep surrounding structures from igniting. No other information was available at press time.

Bloomfield Man Killed In Accident Near Belle Fourche

SPEARFISH — A Bloomfield, Neb., man was among two people killed Wednesday in a traffic accident near Belle Fourche.

According to a press release from the Department of Public Safety, Timothy Mueller, 53, was killed while driving his motorcycle on South Dakota Highway 34.

The report stated that a Honda UTV, driven by John Teigen, 59, from Belle Fourche, was traveling east on Highway 34 west of Belle Fourche when he collided with a motorcycle operated by Mueller. He was transported to Spearfish Regional Hospital where he died from his injuries.

A passenger in the UTV, Delane Dixon, 63, from Belle Fourche, also died from his injuries.

A passenger on the motorcycle, Lori Miller, 42, from Bloomfield, was transported to Rapid City Regional Hospital with serious non-life threatening injuries. Teigen received serious injuries and was transported by Life Flight to the Rapid City Regional Hospital.

This crash is still under investigation and charges are pending against Teigen.

According to the Department of Public Safety, there have been seven fatalities connected to the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally this week.



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Mimi Garcia writes her dream on the "Before I Die..." wall on Thursday night's kick-off event. Yankton Area Arts hosted the event, which presented the 32-foot long plywood wall to community members. Anyone can write on the wall, which is located on the lower level of the Meridian Bridge.

Yankton Area Arts Celebrates Contributions To 'Before I Die' Wall

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE

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To celebrate those who made the "Before I Die" wall possible through donations of money and time, Yankton Area Arts (YAA) hosted a kick-off event Thursday night on the lower level of the Meridian Bridge.

Sponsors and community members attended the event to write their own hopes and dreams on the recently constructed wall.

YÅA Executive Director Amy Miner and board of directors member Sarah Mannes Homstad have spearheaded the construction for the 32-foot long plywood wall, which is now available to the public.

Miner said the kick-off event was possible because of the volunteers and the work they contributed to the project.

project. "The City of Yankton put in the posts for the project and Yankton volunteers put up the plywood and painted," she said. "There were about 10 volunteers that helped out for the last few days. From what I heard, everyone was happy. There was some heavy lifting and also some laughter. Everything went smooth, without a hitch." After a welcome speech from Homstad and Miner,

those in attendance were asked to write not only their own dreams on the wall, but also those from sponsors who were unable to attend the event.

That was one reason Homstad said she was excited about the event.

"I was the only one who had seen what the sponsors who couldn't be there had submitted," she said. "From the couple dozen people who couldn't be there, who donated to the project, I thought they would blow off submitting their own dreams, but they took it really

WALL | PAGE 3A





REGION 2A-3A | OBITUARIES 3A | VIEWS 4A | WORLD 5A | SPORTS 7A-8A | CLASSIFIEDS 9A-11A | MIDWEST 12A

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: NORTH OF 15TH STREET

