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At 82 ■ 11**

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COURTESY PHOTOS

A new computer application is teaching the Dakota language to children at the Marty Indian School. The Apple app, called Dakota One, was designed by the school and is available for the iPad, iPod and iPhone. Shown with iPads demonstrating the app are, front from left, elementary school students Brian Archambeau, Lydia Archambeau and Violet Frazier; and (back row from left), high school students Michael Standing Cloud, A'Shae Primeaux, Aubri Hare and Asiana Primeaux.

Technology Bridges History New Apple App Helps Teach The Dakota Language

BY DEREK BARTOS

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MARTY — Members of Marty Indian School are hoping the technology of today can revitalize a piece of their past.

The school on the Yankton Indian Reservation recently released an Apple app designed to teach children the Dakota language.

"We looked at how our students learn, and what we found was our younger generations today are learning differently, and they really gravitate toward technology," said Diane

Merrick, the school's Dakota language director.

The app is part of the school's effort to teach more people the Dakota language, which is closely related to the Lakota language and is spoken by the Dakota people of the Sioux tribes.

The language was once prominent in the area, Merrick said, but its use has diminished over the years. Of the more than 10,000 current tribal members, only 40 can speak the language fluently, she said.

"Our language is a beautiful language," Merrick said. "It is a part of who we are. It is our

identity, and it is important to preserve our language any way we can."

The app, called "Dakota One," is available for the iPad, iPod and iPhone. It contains a searchable database of more than 700 sound files and images in 25 categories, including animals, numbers, clothing and commands. Some categories also feature photos of Yankton community members.

"Once you've been able to look at the different images, you can quiz yourself and record

APP | PAGE 2

Republican Convention

Tropical Storm Isaac Takes Center Stage; Forces Postponement

BY THOMAS BEAUMONT

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — With Tropical Storm Isaac bearing down on the Gulf Coast, Republicans left open the possibility of bigger changes to Mitt Romney's already-shortened convention, mindful of political awkwardness in celebrating while severe weather threatens New Orleans on the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

"There's a weather event. We all know there's a weather event there," Russ Schrieffer, Romney's chief planner, said Sunday when asked about a potential image problem. "We're obviously monitoring what is going on with the weather. Our concern is with those people in the path of the storm."

The decision about what to do next is fraught with political peril.

Romney is trying to balance celebrating his presidential nomination with being mindful of the ghost of Hurricane Katrina and the stain George W. Bush's handling of it left on the GOP. The tropical storm, which seemed likely to be upgraded to a hurricane, could strike the Gulf Coast nearly to the day of the seventh anniversary of Katrina.

After scrapping the convention's first day, planners late Sunday announced a three-day program and leaner agenda. But they wouldn't speculate whether the storm would force a second postponement or any additional changes.

"We're moving forward, but we are going to be nimble," Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus said.

The next few days will test Romney's

also

■ Isaac Takes Aim At The Gulf Coast.
PAGE 12

devastation.

Since then, Republicans have been so sensitive to the political danger around hurricanes — and the appearance of partying at a time of trouble — that they delayed the start of their national convention by a day in 2008 when Hurricane Gustav bore down on the Gulf, a full 1,200 miles away from where delegates were gathering in St. Paul, Minn.

Four years later, a storm again has delayed the start of the convention — and again is barreling toward New Orleans, the city that Katrina so badly damaged.

"You don't want to be having hoopla and dancing when you have the nation focused on tragedy and suffering," said Al Hoffman, a Republican from West Palm Beach and former finance chairman of the RNC.

Memories of Katrina hung heavy over Tampa as Republican delegates traveled here to anoint the party's new standard-

ability to both present himself to the American people as a plausible alternative to President Barack Obama and to lead a party still smarting from the image hit it took in the aftermath of the 2005 Gulf Coast

GOP | PAGE 11

BULL-A-RIFIC



PHOTO: DOUG JORGENSEN

The action was flying — in some cases, literally — at the 19th annual Vermillion Bull-A-Rama, held Saturday at the Clay County Rodeo Grounds west of Vermillion. This rider is shown going airborne after being bucked by one of the bulls. The event was held on an ideal evening with a large crowd in attendance. Tegan Smith of Winterset, Iowa, won junior championship honors in the bullriding competition, while the senior bullriding champion was John Young of Orient, Iowa.

Evidence Mounts Of New Massacre In Syria

BY HAMZA HENDAWI

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Row upon row of bloody bodies wrapped in colorful blankets laid out on a mosque floor in a Damascus suburb. Long narrow graves tightly packed with dozens of victims. Nestled among them, two babies were wrapped in a single blood-soaked blanket, a yellow pacifier dangling beside them from a palm frond.

Evidence mounted on Sunday of a new massacre in Syria's deepening civil war, with activists reporting a killing spree by government forces after they seized the suburb of Daraya from rebel control three days ago. Reports of the death toll ranged from more than 300 to as many as 600.

Video footage posted by activists showed lineups of corpses, many of them men with gunshot wounds to their heads. During mass burials on Sunday, bodies were sprayed with water from hoses — a substitute for the ritual washing prescribed by Islam

SYRIA | PAGE 11

Iowa Teen Dies When Thrown From Pickup Truck Bed

SIOUX CITY, Iowa (AP) — A 15-year-old Iowa girl died after she was thrown out of the bed of the pickup truck she was riding in.

Authorities say that Alexi Vaul, of Sioux City, died Saturday after an accident in Dakota Dunes.

Authorities say Vaul was riding in the back of the Chevrolet truck and talking through a window to 16-year-old William Murray, who was driving when the accident happened.

Vaul suffered fatal injuries. The driver and two passengers riding inside the truck's cab were not hurt.



PHOTO: USD

Kimberly Grieve, center, was recently hired as the new dean of students at the University of South Dakota. She is show talking to students Laura Mullen, left, and Brandi Hansman.

USD Names Grieve New Dean Of Students

BY DEREK BARTOS

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VERMILLION — As someone who grew up around the campus of Michigan State University, Kim Grieve has always loved college towns.

"I like the energy of young people, and I like all the opportunities for culture and athletics and education," Grieve said. "It's always been my goal to get back to a university that is in a university town, where I can take advantage of all those things."

That wish was granted recently when Grieve was named the University of South Dakota dean of stu-

dents, a position she began earlier this month.

"I've always wanted to be at a larger school and a liberal arts university, and this is just a perfect fit," she said.

Grieve spent the last 20 years at Lourdes University in Sylvania, Ohio, most recently serving as assistant vice president, dean of students and retention. During her time at the university, she also served as the learning resource center coordinator, an adjunct faculty in the department of language and literature, director of accessibility services, director of academic services, director of TRIO programs, assistant vice president for

student services, interim and acting vice president for student services, director of diversity and multicultural services, Title IX compliance officer and faculty coordinator for service learning.

Grieve said that while she enjoyed her work at Lourdes, the university was in a small suburban area, and she still had the desire to return to a college town and a larger school. However, her family was her first priority, and she chose to put those plans on hold until her children had grown.

With her children now through college, Grieve saw an opportunity to

GRIEVE | PAGE 2



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