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Bucks Defeat Roosevelt To Stay Unbeaten • 8



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Is The 'Writing On The Wall' For Lake Yankton?

Officials Consider Poisoning Lake To Cope With Explosion Of Rough Fish

BY JEREMY HOECK
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Flooding along the Missouri River two years ago continues to impact local ecosystems, and Lake Yankton is still among the bodies of water most affected.

The result? An increasing number of "rough fish" — invasive species — in the nearly 300-acre lake.

The proposal? A complete chemical renovation, the first on Lake Yankton in 33 years.

Still in the early discussion stages, such a decision by agencies from South Dakota and Nebraska could be inevitable, according to Jeff Schuckman, a fisheries biologist with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

"The lake got contaminated, and their (rough fish) numbers are going to expand and the game fish numbers will decrease. The warning signs are there."

JEFF SCHUCKMAN

Lake Yankton, bringing with such invasive species as grass carp, gizzard shad, smallmouth and largemouth buffalo, bighead carp and silver carp.

Vegetation on the lake has diminished and the water quality has suffered, according to Craig Bockholt, acting manager at the Gavins Point National Fish Hatchery — which oversees the lake with the Nebraska G&P Commission.

"There are a few good species left, but the writing's on the wall," Bockholt said. "There's pretty much a consensus, something has to be done."

Much like was done in the 1980 renovation of Lake Yankton, officials would spread chemicals in the water to kill all fish, including game fish such as bass, bluegill, catfish and walleye. The water 33 years ago was lowered six feet, but this time may only need to be drained four or five feet, Bockholt said.

Three weeks ago, the different organizations — Hatchery, Nebraska G&P Commission, South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks Department and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — came together to con-



Five-year-old Stella Siem of Sioux Falls proudly displays the smallmouth bass she pulled out of Lake Yankton Sunday afternoon while fishing with her father, Rick; brother Wesley; sister Grace; and her grandparents, Duane and Dorothy Siem of Salem. Local agencies are considering poisoning the lake in order to eradicate the explosion of rough fish, likely caused and/or compounded by the flooding in 2011. Incidentally, smallmouth bass are reportedly not native to Lake Yankton — the lake's water temperature is generally too warm — but the species probably found its way into the lake during the flooding two years ago.

KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Report: Neb. Abortions At 20-Year Low

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Abortions in Nebraska have fallen to at least a 20-year low following numerous state laws that restrict the practice, but some say a variety of factors may be behind the trend.

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services said the number dropped to 2,299 last year, a decline of more than 3 percent. The numbers have dropped consis-

tently since 1992, when more than 5,600 abortions were reported.

The ratio of abortions-to-births has fallen as well. Last year, there were 87.5 abortions for every 1,000 live births. Twenty years earlier, the ratio was 238.4 abortions per 1,000 live births. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services compiles the data but hasn't explored why the numbers have fallen, said spokeswoman Leah Bucco-White.

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Common Core Brings A New Challenge

BY NICK LOWREY
Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS — South Dakota administrators and teachers returned to school with a new assignment and a new approach to teaching math and English.

The Common Core State Standards for K-12 education are in place for students beginning this fall. The standards, adopted by 45 states, come with higher expectations, new approaches to teaching and corresponding changes in curriculum, the *Argus Leader* reported.

But after three years of planning and preparation and \$6.7 million in state funds spent on training, are our school districts ready?

"I can tell you right now that we are not sure," said Education Secretary Melody Schopp.

Parents will get their first clue how the Common Core Standards have worked next spring when students take the first tests aligned to the new standards. That will be a practice test of sorts because the state has received a one-year waiver from counting those results. The waiver will allow the state to help schools shore up training gaps identified through the early round of testing.

Common Core Standards were designed to challenge students while ensuring schools nationwide are teaching skills in the same grades. But they also will bring changes in how subjects are taught — lessons will require more reading for information than for pleasure, and math teachers will emphasize the why behind math concepts, not just the how.

A handful of South Dakota districts did not take part in all of the state's training, and some educators worry that constituents and state officials will expect too much too soon from students. But many educators say schools are ready.

"We believe we are as prepared as we can be," said Sharon Schueler, director of curriculum, instruction and staff development for the Sioux Falls School District. "We feel we have the curriculum and instruction ready to go."

Schopp and Gov. Dennis Daugaard asked for \$8.4 million last year to create summer training programs and to pay educators to attend. Most of that money was geared toward the transition to the new Common Core standards. The Department of Education

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Sailing The L&C Waters

This boat maneuvers around a buoy in Lewis and Clark Lake Saturday as part of the 2013 Bash to the Colonies Regatta. The event, billed as a "friendly competition" among boating enthusiasts, is part of a weekend of sailing, music and fun for the sailors. The weekend's gusty breezes probably added some speed to the event. All proceeds from the annual regatta go to the South Dakota Special Olympics. (Jeremy Hoeck/P&D)



Goodwill Offering Free Shredding

BY JEREMY HOECK
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A local business is offering customers the free opportunity to dispose of their personal documents through a partnership with a regional document destruction company.

The Goodwill store in Yankton is now providing the service to anyone in the area looking to shred items such as credit cards, personal documents, old checkbooks, bank receipts or old tax files.

"I think it's a real benefit to the community," said Nickie Beltran, manager of the Yankton Goodwill. "It's not something we've had here before. It saves people a lot of time."

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NICKIE BELTRAN

The Yankton Goodwill has had the industrial-sized container for a month, Beltran said, and the bin is picked up by a company called GoodShred every two weeks or so, or once it is filled.

GoodShred, the document destruction contractor based in Sioux Falls for Goodwill Industries, recycles one million pounds of paper each year, according to its website. It operates under the National Association for Information

Destruction (NAID).

The "chain of custody" — as the site calls it — goes through four steps: 1) a local business collects the material, 2) material goes into a locked container, 3) GoodShred drivers then pick up the container, and 4) the material is compressed into 1,500-pound bales and later sent to a pulp mill in Green Bay, Wis.

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