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RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D
Freeman Public superintendent and athletic director Don Hotchkiss explains the proposals from the Canistota, Menno and Marion school districts for accepting Freeman players during Tuesday night's meeting in Freeman.

Freeman To State Its Football Case In Pierre

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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FREEMAN — After the Freeman school board suspended the varsity football program for 2015 and 2016 because of low team numbers, the 10 players may find a new home today (Thursday).

On Tuesday, the Freeman board voted 3-2 to send a request to the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) for an exception to the current football regulations. Freeman has asked that its athletes be allowed to play for another team, with Canistota as the first preference and Menno-Marion as the second choice.

"We want to give the seniors a chance to play football this year. That's our goal, the Number 1 thing," said Freeman school board chairman Kerry Hofer.

However, Freeman's request has generated interest far beyond the four schools involved in the proposal. The matter has drawn considerable media coverage and has received pointed comments — both for and against — on social media.

The SDHSAA will consider Freeman's request at its meeting today (Thursday) in Pierre. The matter has been placed on the agenda for 10 a.m. The meeting, which begins at 8:30 a.m., will offer livestreamed audio at www.sdhsaa.com.

Freeman superintendent and athletic director Don Hotchkiss plans to make his school's presentation in Pierre. He told this week's Freeman school board meeting that the SDHSAA makes the final decision on whether to allow any agreements.

"No deals have been made by anybody at this point," he said. "The only deals that can be made are after this meeting (in Pierre)."

The SDHSAA board can take any range of factors into account, said SDHSAA assistant executive director John Krogstrand.

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SDHSAA

Holding The Line?

Tourney Expenses In SF And RC Draw Concern

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Expenses ran more than 30 percent over budget for the four state basketball and wrestling tournaments held in Sioux Falls and Rapid City this year.

Now directors for the South Dakota High School Activities Association want the staff to get better control over the contracts for the 2016 events.

Executive director Wayne Carney and assistant executive director John Krogstrand told the board Wednesday they are trying.

Several directors said they didn't understand why the costs for the 2015 events weren't better known in advance.

No other state athletic events during the 2014-2015 school year ran more than 10 percent over budget and most came in under budget.

Board chairman Jason Uttermark of Aber-

deen Central said he could see the difficulty of predicting revenues. "But expenses should be relatively obvious up front — and we're missing it by a bunch," Uttermark said.

The state tournaments for Class AA boys basketball and Class AA and Class A girls basketball produced less revenue than anticipated.

For the Class A boys basketball tourna-

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Tree-mendous Work



REILLY BIEL/P&D
Maryland wood carver Joe Stebbing carved a tree in the backyard of Barry & Louise Hollman of Yankton on Tuesday, August 25. The carving depicts various animal heads including an eagle, a bear and a wolf. Stebbing was in town for Riverboat Days working with Bear Hollow Wood Carvers.

US Stocks Surge After 6-Day Losing Streak

BY ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

The Dow Jones industrial average rocketed more than 600 points Wednesday, its biggest gain in seven years, snapping a six-day losing streak that had Americans nervously checking their investment balances.

While the surge came as a relief to many, Wall Street professionals warned that more rough days lie ahead, in part because of weakness in China, where signs of an economic slowdown triggered the sell-off that has shaken global markets over the past week.

Heading into Wednesday, the three major U.S. stock indexes had dropped six days in a row, the longest slide in more than three years. The Dow lost about 1,900 points over that period, and more than \$2 trillion in corporate value was wiped out.

On Tuesday, a daylong rally collapsed in the final minutes of trading. On Wednesday, the market opened strong again, and the question all day was whether the rally would hold. It did, and picked up speed just before the closing bell.

The Dow vaulted 619.07 points, or 4 percent, to 16,285.51. It was the Dow's third-biggest point gain of all time and its largest since Oct. 28, 2008, when it soared 889 points.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index, a much broader measure of the stock market, gained 72.90 points, or 3.9 percent, to 1,940.51. In percentage terms, it was the best day for the S&P 500 in nearly four years.

The Nasdaq composite rose 191.05 points, or 4.2 percent, to 4,697.54.

Analysts said investors apparently saw the big sell-off as an opportunity to go bargain-hunting and buy

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SHARE Offers Groceries For Service

BY REILLY BIEL
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For those interested in purchasing reasonably-priced groceries in exchange for some community service, a local group gives them that option.

SHARE stands for "Self-Help And Resource Exchange" and was started in Oskaloosa, Iowa, before gradually spreading out to include Nebraska, Minnesota, Illinois and South Dakota.

The affordable food packages can be purchased for up to a 50 percent discount.

"SHARE's mission is to offer low-cost groceries," said Deb Johnson, SHARE coordinator. "The menu changes every month, though we always have a grocery and meat packages, and a combination of those two with the best value package."

"Anyone can participate in

SHARE. All we ask is that they do up to two hours of community service per month."

"SHARE is like a food co-op, only the dues that have to be given are volunteer hours," added Veronica Trezona, SHARE volunteer.

Such service can range from two hours of praying, giving rides in their car or mowing lawns.

"I have had people who own businesses say, 'I don't have time to volunteer,'" Trezona said. "I ask if they take care of their grandkids so the parents can go out, and when they say 'yes,' I tell them that's volunteering."

SHARE ensures that little of their food goes to waste by having customers trade out produce like grapefruit and mangos to people who want them. The group also has



REILLY BIEL/P&D
Greg Schneider picks up his food order from SHARE at the Yankton Peace Church on Saturday, August 22. SHARE, a company that has monthly food sales, is looking to raise funds for a trailer to transport food deliveries to Yankton.

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Farm Profits To Fall 2nd Consecutive Year

BY DAVID PITT
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — It will be a less profitable year for farmers as low grain, milk and hog prices cut into income, U.S. Department of Agriculture officials say.

The abundance of grain leftover from last year's crop and 2015's anticipated harvest of the third-largest corn crop and second-largest soybean crop on record have kept prices below the cost of production, while the cost of seed, fertilizer and land has dropped only slightly.

Net farm income is expected to decline 36 percent to \$58.3 billion, the USDA said in a report released Tuesday. That's down from last year's \$91.1 billion and the lowest in nine years.

Just two years ago, net farm income was the highest ever, \$123.7 billion. Last year, sliding grain prices were offset in part by record livestock prices. This year, both are down; crop receipts are expected to fall 6.2 percent

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