



Mostly Sunny, Very Cold

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MONDAY ■ December 9, 2013



USD Splits Basketball Twin Bill

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YHS Woksape

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Dec. 9 16 shopping days to Christmas

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Farm Income Drives S.D. Recession Rebound

BY BOB MERCER State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — The agriculture sector was a major boost to economic activity in South Dakota during recent years...

Jim Terwilliger, economist for the state Bureau of Finance and Management, briefed members of the South Dakota Banking Commission in a conference call last week.

He said net farm income was more than 11 percent of total personal income in South Dakota for 2011 and was 8.8 percent for 2012.

Several of the banking commissioners expressed concerns that corn prices at \$4 per bushel aren't strong enough to support the increases in land values.

Dick Westra of Aberdeen said crop yields weren't as good in 2013 and the impact on farmland rent and sales is unknown.

Paul Christen of Huron said the loss of cattle in parts of western South Dakota from the October blizzard is a concern.

Steve Hayes of Presho said crop yields were good and cattle are doing well in his area but hunting was "tremendously down this year."

Banking Division director Bret Afdahl observed that deposits aren't matching loans among some smaller state-chartered banks.

Terwilliger said South Dakota emerged more strongly from the recession five years ago than the national economy has.

South Dakota non-farm

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Expanding Medicaid?

Health Care Groups Ask Legislature To Cover Additional 48,000 In South Dakota

BY CHET BROKAW Associated Press

PIERRE — Some lawmakers and health care groups plan to ask the South Dakota Legislature next month to expand the state's Medicaid program to cover the medical costs of 48,000 more poor people...

Daugaard last week told state lawmakers that he is not recommending the Medicaid expansion, available to states as an option under the federal health care overhaul...



Hunhoff

government can meet its pledge to pay most of the cost of the expansion.

"I have continuing doubts about the federal government's ability to deliver on its promises," the Republican governor said.

But supporters said an expansion is needed to improve health care for poor people who now wait until they are seriously ill before seeking medical care.

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'The Rose Of Christmastide'



Mount Marty College, in conjunction with the Benedictine Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery, presented the annual Vespers event Sunday with two-sold out performances at the Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel.

USD Begins Final Push Towards New Facility

BY JEREMY HOECK jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

VERMILLION — All that remains between the first shovels hitting the dirt and construction beginning on a new athletic facility at the University of South Dakota is \$9.5 million.

That final surge in fundraising, though, is the final piece in the lengthy process to build a 6,000-seat arena for basketball and volleyball, an outdoor facility for

soccer and track, and a Science, Health and Research Laboratory (SHRL).

Approval last week from the South Dakota Board of Regents was met with excitement by USD athletic department and Summit League officials.

"A new basketball arena has been a long time coming," said Yankton's Jeremy Kudera, who serves on the Howling Pack board of directors and is a member of USD's athletic hall of fame.

"It's no big surprise it was approved, but it's still nice to see that final step coming and passing."

In total, the sports and academic complex has a price tag of \$66 million, including the arena (\$46.3 million), track and soccer complex (\$7.3 million) and academic laboratory (\$12.6 million).

"This is exciting in that it puts us one step closer to making these projects a reality," USD athletic director David Herbster said in a release last week.

The plan is to begin construction next spring once USD raises the final \$9.5 million, Herbster's statement continued.

The regents had originally approved USD's Facility Program Plan in October 2012 at a cost of \$48.18 million, and the building committee approved the plan last month.

USD had to adjust its arena and SHRL plans — the arena concourse was reconfigured to be built at

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Members of Australia's Knox Grammar basketball team are served some food during a reception held for the team in Crofton, Neb., Sunday. Knox and Crofton will play a boys' basketball game tonight (Monday) as the Australia school continues its two-week exchange trip of the U.S.

Crofton Boys Host Australian Basketball Team Tonight

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK james.cimburek@yankton.net

CROFTON, Neb. — High schools in the upper Midwest regularly host exchange students from other countries looking to expand their view of the world.

Today (Monday), Crofton High School is hosting an exchange on the basketball court.

Crofton will host a team from Knox Grammar in Wahroonga, Sydney, Australia, as part of the boys' school's two-week trip to the U.S. The team is playing its fifth game since arriving in Nebraska on Dec. 3, and it will play two more games in Nebraska before playing a game in California on Friday, then heading home.

The school chose Nebraska based on the recommendations of another school in its league that sent a group to the state two years ago.

"We always travel to different states, whether it's in America or up to Canada," said Dom Finlay, the tour director for Knox Grammar. "We had a school in our conference, Trinity Grammar, they traveled here two years ago, and traveled in similar areas. They came back and said how nice all the people from Nebraska were and the hospitality was outstanding, said it would be a great area to go on tour."

Crofton High School principal and boys' basketball coach Todd Strom found out about the Knox Grammar tour as he

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TOMORROW: City Hears Findings Of Housking Study

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: NORTH OF 15TH STREET