



Partly Cloudy Tuesday Skies

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KELLY HERTZ/P&D

The Yankton Area Ice Association is preparing to host the South Dakota Girls JV State Hockey Tournament this weekend at the Alcoa 4-H Ice Arena. Board members and volunteers working on the tourney preparations include, from left: Bruce Pokorny, Joe Gill, Jill Sternhagen, Jamie Van Winkle and Laura Gill. Not pictured: Theresa Curran and Janice Stone.

Ready To Take The Ice

Ice Association Works To Get Facility Ready For State Tournament

BY DEREK BARTOS
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While the Yankton Area Ice Association (YAlA) is involved with hockey and skating, it's also proving it can "step up to the plate."

The YAlA this Friday through Sunday will host the South Dakota Amateur Hockey Association (SDAHA) Girls JV State Tournament, an event it has had only a month to organize.

"In an ideal year, we would have had the whole year to plan for it," said Laura Baumeister, YAlA president. "This came about in a much shorter period of time, but I think the fact that we have hosted tournaments in the past really lent itself well to the fact that we knew what we were doing and what we had to look for. It definitely made it a lot easier."

The time crunch the YAlA has faced is the result of a change in venue for the tournament, as the event was originally planned to be held in Huron.

"The Huron association has been having problems with their compressors, and they weren't sure the ice would hold up for a weekend tournament like this," Baumeister said. "So they asked the state association to find a different location."

After weighing its options for alternate locations that had both an open schedule and a girls JV hockey team, the SDAHA chose Yankton, giving the city the opportunity to host a state tournament, but little time to prepare.

"It's been a scramble, to say the least, but it's getting there," said Jill Sternhagen, tournament coordinator. "We have a pretty good organization and a good group of volunteers that

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JRWDD Hit By Resignations

Raschke Resigns As Manager; Lane Exits Post

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF AND NATHAN JOHNSON
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HURON — In the wake of legislation that would dissolve the James River Water Development District (JRWDD), its board accepted the resignation Monday of manager Darrell Raschke.

The action was taken during a special board meeting held at the JRWDD office in Huron. Raschke had managed the district for 18 years. His resignation took effect immediately.

When contacted Monday by the *Press & Dakotan*,

Raschke said he had no comment. "But I may have something to say later," he said.

JRWDD project coordinator Dave Bartel and administrative assistant Judy Smoyer will temporarily handle management responsibilities until a new manager is hired.

In addition to accepting Raschke's resignation, the district board also acknowledged Monday the resignation of Chairman Jim Lane of Yankton. District officials received an email Friday containing



Raschke

Lane's resignation from the board, according to Smoyer. Lane had served on the board for a year and was elected chairman last month, she said.

Randy Stanley of Groton, the former vice chairman, has taken over chairmanship of the board following Lane's resignation. Carol Millan of Mitchell was elected new vice chairman of the District.

"It was a culmination of things," Lane said of his decision to leave the board. "I was the third chairman they've had in less than two years. There is a lot of controversy right now. It's very, very time-consuming, especially given the travel involved. I really felt I couldn't

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A DISTINCTIVE CELEBRATION



Kim Jensen (above) and Sarah Carda (below) were named Yankton's 2012 Women of Distinction Monday during a ceremony held at Mount Marty College. Yankton native Ann Dendinger (left) was the keynote speaker of the event. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)



Jensen, Carda Honored With The 2012 Women Of Distinction Awards

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE
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In its goal of honoring and empowering women to succeed and be recognized as leaders in the community, the Women Community Leaders Committee of the Yankton Chamber of Commerce have recognized Kim Jensen and Sarah Carda as the 2012 Women of Distinction.

During a ceremony held Monday at the Roncalli Center of Mount Marty College, Nancy Sternhagen, committee chair, said the two honorees are shining examples of what service to the community can do.

She said that determining this year's winners was harder than ever.

"We go totally on the paper nominations and judge them as if we don't know the nominees," she said, explaining how the committee made its decision this year. "It was great. We had wonderful, wonderful nominees this year. It honestly came down to just a few points separating our winners."

Nominated for the Outstanding Professional were Jensen, Carolyn Becker, Lois Halbur, Dr. Paula Hicks, Lori Lincoln, Dr. Mary Milroy, Micki Schievelbein, Sister Margo Tschetter, Pam VanMeeteren and Betty Viau.

Nominated for Outstanding Community Service were Carda, Joanne Christensen, Denise Cody, Lelia Elder, Jane Gilmore, Halbur, Julie Perakslis and Allison Spak.

Jensen who is the vice-president of Human Resources for Avera Sacred Heart Hospital (ASHH), said she is very humbled by the award.

"To have the nomination is very wonderful. To win it is quite humbling," she said. "It reflects on what I have done in my career. I am looking at it not as a culmination, but rather that there is a lot left for me to do."

Jensen was honored for her commitment to building a positive work environment and effective communication

WOMEN | PAGE 2

BID Board Debates Use Of Potential Hotel Revenue

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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During its initial meeting Monday morning, the board of Yankton's proposed business improvement district wrestled over how best to spend the funds that could be raised through a hotel occupancy tax.

While taking no official action, members debated the value of spending the revenue on an indoor sports facility versus using it to purchase approximately 36 acres of ground on the southeast corner of the Human Services Center (HSC) campus at the intersection of Highway 81 and Highway 50. The state has offered to sell the property to the city at its appraised value of \$1.95 million.

Last week, the City Commission appointed Bruce Cull, Steve Slowey, Dan Specht, Rob Stephenson and Jason Winterringer to serve on the business improvement district (BID) board. City commissioners Craig Sommer and Nancy Wenande also serve on the governing body but cannot vote.

It is up to the board to recommend to the City Commission that the BID be established. Furthermore, it must also recommend what the funds generated by a \$2 fee on hotel room stays would finance.

In South Dakota, the revenue from a BID may be designated for a wide range of uses, such as improvement of any public place or facility in the district area, or even building a new

structure like an event center.

The nine hotels included in the proposed BID are each considered one vote, and if a majority of them choose to oppose the new tax, it could be derailed.

The City Commission signaled last week while approving the BID's board and proposed boundaries that it believes the \$2 tax would be a creative way to fund the purchase of a pivotal piece of real estate in the community. It would also ensure the Yankton Youth Soccer Association fields on the property remain until a new home is found for them.

However, not all members of the

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NATHAN JOHNSON/P&D
Steve Slowey, owner of Yankton's Holiday Inn Express, and Dave Mingo, Yankton's community development director, take part in Monday's business improvement district meeting held at City Hall.

Gingrich Woes With Prospect Of \$2 Gasoline

BY BRIAN BAKST
Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich is dangling the prospect of gas as low as \$2 a gallon if he's elected.

The former House speaker has spoken in the past of gas dropping to \$2.50 a gallon under a Gingrich administration. Monday's prediction, coming as Gingrich campaigned in Oklahoma, contrasts sharply with rival Rick Santorum, who told an Ohio audience that big-city Americans should brace themselves for \$5-a-gallon gas.

Both candidates are citing new sensitivity over rising pump prices to push for relaxed regulation on domestic oil production.

According to AAA's daily fuel gauge, the national average Monday for a gallon of regular gas was \$3.56.

Gingrich and Santorum have been highlighting oil exploration in North Dakota and slamming the Obama administration for delaying a Canada-to-Texas oil pipeline.

Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich dangled the prospect of gas as low as \$2 a gallon if he's elected, playing off voter angst about rising prices at the pump.

Monday's prediction came as Gingrich campaigned in Oklahoma, where the oil and natural gas sector is vital to a bustling state economy.

"With Gingrich policies, what we know is we will dramatically expand our independence in the world market, dramatically expand our capacity to produce energy without regard to our foreign potential enemies and in the process prices will clearly be a lot lower," Gingrich said. "Now, I picked \$2.50 as a stabilizing price for capital investment reasons. It could easily go down to \$2."

According to AAA's daily fuel gauge, a gallon of regular gas was approaching \$4 in some places and even topped it in California. The national average was \$3.56 per gallon.

Gingrich boasted that gas cost as little as \$1.13 per gallon when he led the House and that the national average was below \$2 when Obama was inaugurated.

"Why do we have this assumption all of a sudden, 'oh gee, that's the distant past,'" Gingrich said. "He hasn't been president that long."



also

■ Oil Prices Jump After Iran Cuts Supply To France And Britain.
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TOMORROW: Ash Wednesday Serves As Kickoff To Lenten Season

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK:
NORTH
OF 15TH STREET