



YANKTON DAILY
PRESS & DAKOTAN



f t s v VOLUME 138
NUMBER 233

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | **16 PAGES** | www.yankton.net

75¢ 8 38894 0002 4

ABOVE
**MIST ON
THE MISSOURI**

A winter weather system generated a blanket of heavy fog in the Yankton area Monday, greatly reducing visibility in many locations. From the boat docks at Yankton's Riverside Park, it was difficult to see the Missouri River as it flowed south. Light snow and steady temperatures are expected today (Tuesday) before a cold front sweeps through and pushes temperatures down to the single digits by Thursday. However, things are expected to turn warmer when February arrives Friday. For details, see page 2.

MIDWEST



**Impact Of Health
Care Overhaul • 10**

* * *

**USD Awaits
Word On
Proposed
New Facilities**

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

VERMILLION — The final step in the approval process for new athletic facilities at the University of South Dakota could be granted this week in Pierre.



Herbster

In what he called one of the "last procedural hurdles," USD interim athletic director David Herbster said last week that he is confident the South Dakota Legislature will give the OK to the \$48.2 million project for a new sports performance facility arena and a new outdoor track/soccer complex in Vermillion. Senate Bill 8, introduced at the request of the S.D. Board of Regents, seeks the approval from the legislature to "finance, design, construct, furnish and equip" the facility projects. The Regents began their presentation Monday morning in front of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and will continue that hearing today (Tuesday) from 8

USD | PAGE 15

Yankton County

Tax Data Nears Resolution

State Says Information Could Be Approved Today

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

Yankton County taxpayers are one step closer to getting their tax bills, according to the South Dakota Department of Revenue. Colleen Skinner, program manager for the Department of Revenue's property tax division, said Monday that a report her office had been waiting to get from the

Yankton County Auditor's Office since Jan. 15 was received at noon Friday. She stated that the information is being reviewed, and a decision on whether or not the data is sufficient to allow Yankton County to issue tax notices will probably be made by 10 a.m. today (Tuesday). "It's looking more toward a yes, but I'm not going to say one way or another," Skinner told the *Press & Dakotan*. "It's looking good from our end, but we need

some final conversations with (County Auditor Paula Jones)." Jones was not in the office Monday, she noted. Yankton County Commissioner Garry Moore told the *Press & Dakotan* Monday that an error in the calculations of the Auditor's Office was found by the county Department of Equalization last week. "The Department of Revenue had suggested the Department of Equalization might have a problem," he said.

TAXES | PAGE 3

**City Gives
Its OK To
BID District**

**Move Allows For Collection Of
Nightly Tax At Certain Lodgings**

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

With an action taken Monday night, the Yankton City Commission has cleared the way for a \$2-per-night tax to be charged for stays at certain hotels within the city. An ordinance was approved to create a Business Improvement District (BID) that allows the fee to be collected. The definition of the BID includes hotels with 25 or more rooms. Smaller facilities can volunteer to be included. Hotels with 25 or more rooms are the Best Western Kelly Inn, the Holiday Inn Express, the Days Inn, the Super 8 and the Broadway Inn.



Sommer

The city has estimated the BID will generate \$145,000 annually. "The ordinance is the last step in the creation of the district," Community Development Director Dave Mingo told the commission Monday. "It establishes the rules and remedies that are associated with operation of the district." A BID board consisting of city commissioners, hotel owners and community leaders will decide how the money will be spent, although the City Commission also has to approve the expenditures. According to the ordinance, "Eligible expenses may include payment for the costs of acquisition, construction, maintenance, operation and funding of public improvements, facilities for the enhancement, expansion, marketing and promotion of visitor facilities, events, attractions and activities." During a media briefing Friday, Mayor Nancy Wenande, who also serves on the BID board, acknowledged the eligi-

CITY | PAGE 3

OFF-THE-ROAD MISHAP



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Monday's heavy fog is believed to have been a contributing factor in this one-vehicle accident near the intersection of Highway 50 and 435th Ave. (Utica oil) at approximately 3 p.m. According to the Yankton Fire Department, the van was eastbound on Highway 50 and looking to turn south when the driver realized where the intersection was. The vehicle went off the road, through a ditch and into the adjoining field. One person was transported to Avera Sacred Heart Hospital with unknown injuries. Also responding to the call were the Yankton County EMS and sheriff's department.

Congress OKs Superstorm Aid Bill

BY ANDREW MIGA
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Three months after Superstorm Sandy ravaged coastal areas in much of the Northeast, Congress on Monday sent a \$50.5 billion emergency relief measure for storm victims to President Barack Obama for his signature. "I commend Congress for giving families and businesses the help they deserve, and I will sign this bill into law as soon as it hits my desk," Obama said in a statement late Monday. Despite opposition from conservatives concerned about adding billions of dollars more to the nation's debt, the Senate cleared the long-delayed bill, 62-36, after House Republicans had stripped it earlier this month of spending unrelated to disasters. All 36 votes against the bill were from Republican senators.



Schumer

"This is a huge relief," said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., noting the vote came 91 days after Sandy struck. The House passed the bill two weeks ago. Lawmakers say the money is urgently needed to start rebuilding homes, businesses, public transportation facilities and other infrastructure damaged by the Oct. 29 storm, one of the worst to strike the Northeast. Sandy roared up the East Coast and is blamed for more than 130 deaths and tens of billions of dollars in property damage, particularly in New York and New Jersey. The measure is aimed primarily at helping residents and businesses as well as state and local

SANDY | PAGE 15



COURTESY PHOTO

Ken and Lynn Wintersteen, owners of Menno Livestock Auction since 1996, are this year's recipients of the "Friends of the Industry" Award from the South Dakota Pork Producers Council.

Menno Auction Owners Honored

**Wintersteens Receive 'Friends Of The Industry'
Award From South Dakota's Pork Producers**

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

MENNO — Ken and Lynn Wintersteen's support of the small hog producer has created a huge impact on the state's pork industry. As owners of Menno Livestock Auction, the Wintersteens have received state recognition for their efforts. The South Dakota Pork Producers Council honored the Wintersteens and their

business with this year's Friends of the Industry Award. "We didn't know that we were getting the award. It was kind of a surprise," Ken said. "It's always nice to be recognized for what you do." The Friends of the Industry award recognizes state individuals, leaders or businesses for their continued support of the pork industry. The recipient is given a certificate, plaque and a check for outstanding involvement and serv-

ice to the pork industry. Menno Livestock Auction opened in 1920 and underwent numerous ownership changes until 1996 when the Wintersteens became owners. The sale barn holds weekly feeder pig auctions and is one of the biggest auction markets of feeder pigs in South Dakota. During 2012, Menno Livestock sold approximately 5,000 head of feeder pigs and handled approximately 4,500 slaughter hogs. These pigs and hogs are all locally raised and represent the highest standards in the industry. Ken Wintersteen said the sale barn

MENNO | PAGE 15