

THE PRESS & DAKOTAN

THE DAKOTAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER | FOUNDED 1861

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OPINION | WE SAY

The New Commish



THUMBS UP to the appointment of John Harper to the Yankton County Commission. Commissioners and the county auditor selected Harper Tuesday to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation of Mark Johnson. Harper will serve a year. An election will be held in November for a two-year term that would finish out Johnson's four-year term. Harper has already put in countless hours of work on behalf of the county through his membership on the Planning Commission for 10 years and the Road Committee. He has certainly done his homework, and we are confident he is qualified to represent the citizens of our county. Congratulations must also go to the eight other candidates who put their hat in the ring for the position. Their interest in local politics should be lauded.

Recognition



THUMBS UP to *Press & Dakotan* Sports Editor James Cimburek, who has been recognized by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association (NSSA) as the South Dakota Sportswriter of the Year. The award will be presented in June at the NSSA national convention in North Carolina. *P&D* Assistant Sports Editor Jeremy Hoeck was also a finalist for the state honor. Cimburek, a Veblen native and Mount Marty College graduate, joins the late Hod Nielsen as *P&D* writers to receive the state Sportswriter of the Year honor. Cimburek has been with the *Press & Dakotan* since 1992 and who has served as sports editor since 1996. His resume includes an Associated Press Sports Editors Top 5 award (Under 15,000 circulation) for special section, which he and his staff won in 2013, as well as numerous South Dakota Newspaper Association and Associated Press state awards. He was previously named Sportswriter of the Year by the South Dakota High School Coaches Association in 2008. He has also been recognized with the Distinguished Service Award by the South Dakota High School Activities Association.

You Only Give Them Your Money



THUMBS DOWN to the latest effort to mine more cash out of Beatles fans. This week, iTunes began taking pre-orders for the upcoming re-release of the Beatles' 1960s American albums, which were sequenced and often packaged differently than the British albums. Over here, record companies changed the early albums, holding a few songs back from each release to then produce an "extra" album. This changed in 1967 when "Dr. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" became a global phenomenon. When the group's catalogue was remastered several years ago, the UK discography was followed instead of the American list. Now, those discarded American albums — including "Meet the Beatles" and "Yesterday and Today" — are being readied for 21st century sale. But there are no new songs on these albums; it's just repackaging tunes fans can get (and may have) now anyway. While there may be some nostalgic value to these latest releases, they break no new ground. With the 50th anniversary of Beatlemania nearly upon us, this looks clearly like what it is: a new way to harvest new money with old songs.

ONLINE OPINION

The results of the most recent Internet poll on the *Press & Dakotan*'s Web site are as follows:

LATEST RESULTS:

How old is the car you're driving?
Older than 10 years 42%
6-10 years 31%
1-5 years 23%
New 4%
TOTAL VOTES CAST 12,113

The Press & Dakotan Internet poll is not a scientific survey and reflects the opinions only of those who choose to participate. The results should not be construed as an accurate representation or scientific measurement of public opinion.

CURRENT QUESTION:

Do you support the Common Core standards for public schools?

To vote in the *Press & Dakotan*'s Internet poll, log on to our website at www.yankton.net.

ON THIS DATE

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Jan. 10, the 10th day of 2014. There are 355 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 10, 1914, Utah grocer John G. Morrison, 47, and his son Arling, 17, were shot to death in their Salt Lake City store; police arrested labor activist Joe Hill, a member of the Industrial Workers of the World. Despite evidence suggesting another man was responsible, Hill was convicted and executed, becoming a martyr to America's organized labor movement.

On this date: In 1514, the New Testament portion of the Complutensian Polyglot Bible, featuring parallel texts in Greek and Latin, was completed in Madrid.

In 1776, Thomas Paine anonymously published his influential pamphlet, "Common Sense," which argued for American independence from British rule.

In 1861, Florida became the third state to secede from the Union.

In 1863, the London Underground had its beginnings as the Metropolitan, the world's first underground passenger railway, opened to the public with service between Paddington and Farringdon Street.

In 1870, John D. Rockefeller incorporated Standard Oil.

In 1901, the Spindletop oil field in Beaumont, Texas, produced the Lucas Gusher, heralding the start of the Texas oil boom.

In 1920, the League of Nations was established as the Treaty of Versailles went into effect.

In 1946, the first General Assembly of the United Nations convened in London.

In 1957, Harold Macmillan became prime minister of Britain, following the resignation of Anthony Eden.

In 1964, Vee-Jay Records released "Introducing... The Beatles," an album which ran into immediate legal opposition from Capitol Records, which was about to come out with its own album, "Meet the Beatles!" (After a court battle, the two companies reached a settlement.)

In 1971, "Masterpiece Theatre" premiered on PBS with host Alistair Cooke introducing the drama series "The First Churchills." French fashion designer Coco Chanel died in Paris at age 87.

In 1984, the United States and the Vatican established full diplomatic relations for the first time in more than a century.

Ten years ago: North Korea said it had shown its "nuclear deterrent" to an unofficial U.S. delegation that visited the disputed Yongbyon nuclear complex. Michelle Kwan won her seventh straight

title and eighth overall at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships in Atlanta; Johnny Weir skated to his first men's title. Actor-writer Spalding Gray, 62, vanished from his New York apartment (his body was found two months later in the East River). Novelist Alexandra Ripley died in Richmond, Va., at age 70.

Five years ago: Vice President-elect Joe Biden arrived in Afghanistan, where he pledged long-term American support. Tens of thousands of people demonstrated in cities across Europe and in Lebanon against the Israeli offensive in Gaza. The aircraft carrier *USS George H.W. Bush* was commissioned with its namesake, the 41st president, and other members of the Bush family on hand for the ceremonies at Naval Station Norfolk.

One year ago: President Barack Obama nominated White House chief of staff Jack Lew to be treasury secretary. Vice President Joe Biden met with representatives from the National Rifle Association and other pro-gun groups as he worked on recommendations to curb gun violence. A series of bombings in different parts of Pakistan killed nearly 200 people. Three Kurdish women, including a founder of a militant separatist group battling Turkish troops, were found shot to death in Paris. Major League Baseball announced it would test for human growth hormone throughout the regular season and increase efforts to detect abnormal levels of testosterone.

Today's Birthdays: Opera singer Sherrill Milnes is 79. Blues artist Eddy Clearwater is 79. Rock singer-musician Ronnie Hawkins is 79. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Willie McCovey is 76. Movie director Walter Hill is 74. Singer Frank Sinatra Jr. is 70. Singer Rod Stewart is 69. Rock singer-musician Donald Fagen (Steely Dan) is 66. Actor William Sanderson is 66. Boxing Hall of Famer and entrepreneur George Foreman is 65. Roots rock singer Alejandro Escovedo is 63. Rock musician Scott Thurston (Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers) is 62. Singer Pat Benatar is 61. Hall of Fame race car driver and team owner Bobby Rahal is 61. Rock musician Michael Schenker is 59. Singer Shawn Colvin is 58. Rock singer-musician Curt Kirkwood (Meat Puppets) is 55. Actor Evan Handler is 53. Rock singer Brad Roberts (Crash Test Dummies) is 50. Actress Trini Alvarado is 47. Rock musician Matt Roberts is 36. Rock singer Brent Smith (Shinedown) is 36. Rapper Chris Smith (Kris Kross) is 35. Actress Sarah Shahi is 34.

Thought for Today: "History must speak for itself. A historian is content if he has been able to shed more light." — William L. Shirer, American author and journalist (1904-1993).

FROM THE BIBLE

The sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. Romans 8:18. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis



THE COLUMNIST'S DISPATCH
COLUMBIAN-TRIBUNE



Snowflakes Of Doubt

BY KELLY HERTZ

kelly.hertz@yankton.net

Close your eyes and imagine you're a Minnesota Vikings fan, and the team is having a bad year. (I know it's a reach, but play along with this.) The team have a porous defense, a dubious quarterbacking situation and, beyond one running back, an uninspiring offense. The Vikings quickly fall out of playoff contention and become the punch line of numerous jokes — a few told by you, with anguished regret — in the company you keep. You're resigned to endure another autumn of hope crushed to dust.

But then something inexplicable happens. The Vikings win three of their last five games — and they tie the Packers, for crying out loud. Your battered faith is restored. "Losers? No way!" Now, the team's nice run down the stretch nullifies all the evidence that had previously been on putrid display. These guys, you decide, are playoff caliber NOW!

This scenario is not unlike the latest discussions about climate change. Despite all the scientific data that has shown the world warming the last three decades, there are those who dismiss it all as bunk whenever there's a snowstorm or a cold snap — or, in this week's case, a polar vortex, which Rush Limbaugh derided as a liberal plot to validate the climate change "hoax."

In other words, where's you're global warming NOW?

I guess you could admire such bulldog optimism. These people probably have their Vikings playoff tickets in hand, too.

Honestly, that Vikings analogy is simplistic and naive — but so, too, is the belief that any cold wave or blizzard completely undercuts all the arguments and data in regards to climate change. (Conversely, a heat wave or some mild winter days do not confirm it all, either. The long-term burden of proof works both ways.)

I remember when I first saw back in the 1970s about the worries surrounding mankind's impact on the climate. It was in a *Rolling Stone* article that described something called "global cooling." It postulated a buildup of gases in the atmosphere, thus filtering the sun's power just enough to produce brutal, prolonged winters and all the hardships that could go with it.

Later, this theory evolved into global warming (a misleadingly simple label for a complex term) and then the more generic climate change — but that was too late for some skeptics.

It occurred to me this week that the "global cooling" and "global warming" scenarios, both of which suffered from being initially underdeveloped, have both been somewhat realized, although perhaps for the wrong reasons. For instance, the bleak scenarios depicted in the *Rolling Stone* article of epic, Donner Party-esque



Kelly
HERTZ

winters have been realized to some extent. This week's polar vortex might fit that bill, if not as evidence but as a possible symptom.

To understand climate change, one must also understand the "ying and yang" of our weather patterns. Whatever the weather is doing here can create (or be caused by) an effect elsewhere, and vice versa. So, while the Upper Plains endured a chilly Christmas season, Alaska saw its warmest December in 70 years. While we've been polar vortex-ed lately, Australia has been enduring a torturous heat wave.

Thus, a symptom of climate change is wildly changing weather patterns. We here know about this firsthand after the record flooding of 2011, the record drought of 2012 and the ample rains and record harvest of 2013. (I'm not really looking forward to 2014, by the way.)

No matter. It got cold, so down goes the "global warming" theory.

And there go the Vikings to the Super Bowl. It doesn't help that we're occasionally fed contradictory information at times. We've been told that 2012 was the hottest year recorded in the U.S. (*New York Times*, Jan. 8, 2013) and that 2013 was the fourth-warmest globally on record (Discovery News, Dec. 20, 2013). But then we've also been told the world is actually cooling (Forbes.com, May 31, 2012). Most scientists side with the former views: The website Skeptical Science reported a study showing that 97 percent of peer-reviewed scientific abstracts published between 1991 and 2011 pointed to mankind as the chief cause of climate change. However, there are always outliers for skeptics to cling to and offer up as faux kryptonite to the preponderance of scientific evidence. (Deniers also tend to accuse scientists who warn of climate change of being paid to put out alarmist fantasies. Of course, one can also wonder who is paying the deniers to issue *their* fantasies.)

As I've said before, I really hope the skeptics are right and the climate can work itself out because mankind has so little impact on it. But my head tells me something else. I've seen the trends over the last few decades, the myriad readings from around the world and the science that is becoming even more adamant in its calls for action. One day or one cold snap changes nothing.

What's so discouraging is the fact that, instead of taking concrete steps to address this issue which is building to something that cannot bode well for our planet, we have to wage this war over legitimacy every time the mercury dips below freezing or every time there's snow in the forecast.

Maybe this, then, is the climate we deserve.

You can follow Kelly Hertz on Twitter at twitter.com/kelly_hertz/. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

Wanted: A New War On Poverty

BY BRIAN GILMORE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

It is time to declare war on poverty again.

Fifty years ago, President Lyndon Johnson said in his State of the Union address: "This administration today, here and now, declares unconditional war on poverty in America. I urge this Congress and all Americans to join with me in that effort."

It was a moment of great leadership and hope at a precarious time in history. The war on poverty helped create Medicare and Medicaid. It also created the Office of Economic Opportunity that started the highly successful and still hugely popular Head Start preschool programs across the country. In Chicago alone, it provided funding for 57 preschool centers to serve poor children. It initiated food assistance and job training, and it launched literacy programs for adults. It spent more than \$20 million to provide 50,000 young people with summer jobs. It was a comprehensive and aggressive struggle that sought to touch every aspect of life for those suffering under poverty.

Contrary to the rhetoric over the years, the war on poverty was showing signs of success. When it began, the nation's poverty rate was 17 percent. In 10 years, the rate had dropped to 11 percent. But Congress gradually cut off funding for it. Poverty became entrenched again, and no such bold effort has been tried since that time.

A new war on poverty is needed today. The

YOUR LETTERS

Timely Donation

Nathan Johnson, Yankton President, Yankton Homeless Shelter

The Yankton Homeless Shelter would like to thank the Yankton Catholic community for its recent generous donation of \$10,000 to our organization. This could not have come at a more pressing time for the shelter, as funding from one of our primary sources has been cut by one third — \$5,600 — for 2014. Furthermore, the criteria for obtaining state and federal money have been changing and challenging us to think about different options for our future.

This gift will relieve some stress for us as we

poverty rate is now at 15 percent. There are 46 million people in the United States still living in poverty. This includes 16 million children and more than 4 million senior citizens.

A new war on poverty should consist of the following: First, job training for the jobless and educational opportunities for those lacking financial resources to go to college could help millions permanently escape poverty. Second, temporary benefits such as the extension of unemployment benefits and food assistance could help families ride out these tough times. And third, higher wages for workers would also allow them to escape poverty.

We can win the war on poverty. But we have to demand it. As Minnesota Sen. Eugene McCarthy stated in 1968 when the war on poverty starting fizzling out, the problem of poverty is "inseparable from the larger problem of democracy."

Let us use the democratic power that we have, as citizens, to resume this noble fight against poverty in the United States.

Brian Gilmore is a writer for *Progressive Media Project*, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with *The Progressive* magazine. Readers may write to the author at: *Progressive Media Project*, 409 East Main Street, Madison, Wis. 53703; email: pmpproj@progressive.org; Web site: www.progressive.org. For information on PMP's funding, please visit <http://www.progressive.org/pmpabout.html#anchorsupport>.

look ahead to the new year.

In 2013, we provided a safe haven for 64 men, 15 women and 33 children for a total of 1,256 shelter nights.

Since opening in 1995, the non-profit Yankton Homeless Shelter discreetly located at 304 West Fourth Street has aspired to carry out its mission of offering temporary shelter to homeless individuals and families in a hospitable atmosphere regardless of sex, race or creed. Your assistance will help us continue that mission.

On behalf of the entire Homeless Shelter board and staff — thank you!