



Colder With Snow Expected

9 a.m.: 31 | 3 p.m.: 25 | DETAILS: PAGE 2

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Crofton Scores Win At Hanson Corn Palace Classic SPORTS/9

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INSIDE



YHS Woksape

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S. Dakota Lawmaker Will Try For Texting Ban

BY CHET BROKAW Associated Press

PIERRE — A South Dakota lawmaker plans to press "send" again and try to persuade his colleagues in the Legislature to join 41 other states and ban texting while driving.



Vehle

Similar measure have failed in recent legislative sessions, but Sen. Mike Vehle, of Mitchell, said texting behind the wheel is obviously dangerous because it diverts a driver's attention from the road.

A measure Vehle sponsored last year was passed by the Senate 24-9, but the bill was rejected by a House committee.

Last year's measure would have prohibited typing, sending or reading a text while driving, but it would have allowed drivers to make cellphone calls and use hands-free electronic devices to handle text-based messages.

Vehle's measure was killed last year by the House Judiciary Committee after opponents said studies have indicated it's not clear that texting bans have lowered crash rates in other states.

Rep. Mike Stevens, R-Yankton, who voted against the proposed texting ban last year, said he hasn't seen any new information to show a ban improves highway safety. Technological advances are making it possible for drivers to text hands-free by just speaking to their phones, he said.

TEXTING | PAGE 12

TO OUR READERS

Due to space limitations in today's Press & Dakotan, the Healthlines page that would normally run today will be published in Tuesday's edition.

Like Fish In Water



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

Everybody into the pool! But it wasn't swimming that attracted Saturday's class, as 14 students learned more about kayaking in the Summit Activities Center swimming pool.

Beginner Kayaking Class Offers Chance To 'Take The First Step'

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

As Yankton mayor, Nancy Wenande paddles through the political waters of city government. But Saturday, she found herself paddling a kayak for the first time — in the Summit Activities Center (SAC) swimming pool.

"I haven't kayaked before, but I was very interested in learning more about it," Wenande said. "It's also a great family activity. I wanted to try something new with all the boating activities we have on the lake and river, so maybe this is one more activity we can add to our repertoire (as an outdoor family)."

So what has been the biggest thing holding back Wenande from kayaking earlier? "My fear of drowning," she said with a laugh. But that was the beauty of Saturday's event, said organizer and SDCKA member Jarett Bies.

"It's a safe environment. It's indoors and temperature controlled," he said. "We had the lifeguard and two ACA (American Canoe Association) certified instructors who have experience, along with a ton of volunteers who helped out. We are down to that one-on-one level of instruction."



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

It's different strokes for this group of new kayakers, as they learn proper technique with the paddle and using not only their upper arms but also their core and legs in maneuvering the craft.

And the class was free. "We provided everything. We borrowed boats from Ace Bike and Fitness, myself and the rest of the volunteers," Bies said. "All that people (in the class) had to do was show up and have clothes where they can get wet, or they could put on their

CLASS | PAGE 2

Core Clash Looms

Senate Will Quickly Open Debate On Education Standards

BY BOB MERCER State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — What happens in two South Dakota Senate committees during the next few days could set the tone for how the state Department of Education proceeds with new Common Core national standards for South Dakota's K-12 schools.

Sen. Ernie Otten, R-Tea, is prime sponsor of legislation that allows Common Core standards for math and English to go forward as previously planned since 2010 but would require a formal evaluation by a new statewide council during the next two years.

Another part of that evaluation by the 25-member council would cover the new national Smarter Balanced achievement tests, which replace the Dakota STEP assessments used under No Child Left Behind.

The Smarter Balanced assessments, which go hand in hand with the conversion to the Common Core standards, are already scheduled for this year.

Otten has two other Common Core bills. One would create a six-month period for public review of any additional Common Core standards. Another would restrict types of information collected from students and limit how individual student data can be shared.

Otten is serving his second year in the Legislature and, by his own description and his Senate voting record, is among the most conservative members. He said he attended perhaps more meetings of Common Core opponents than any other lawmaker and concluded about six months ago to see what could be done.

He found that while opposition was growing rapidly in size and intensity, the Department of Education was far down the track to implementation in 2014, neither side showed willingness to back off, and there weren't replacement standards available for math and English.

"My base point is, there is no data," he said.

CORE | PAGE 12

Youth Leader Bids Farewell To Local 4-H



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

Yankton County 4-H/youth development director Lauren Fosheim has left her position after 2 1/2 years, beginning her new duties next week at the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. During her time in Yankton, she worked to expand youth activities.

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

When Lauren Fosheim arrived in June 2011, she charted a new direction as the Yankton County 4-H/youth development director.

She expanded Achievement Days beyond traditional 4-H families. In addition, she partnered with after-school programs and community resources to reach more youth.

Now, she is taking her talents to a new arena. Starting next week, she will manage the Young Professionals Network (YPN) through the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce.

"I wasn't looking for this. The opportunity just presented itself," she said. "But it's some of the same administration, staffing and behind-the-scenes planning."

While the two jobs seem quite different, Fosheim credits her Yankton County position with preparing her well for her Sioux Falls role.

"In Yankton County, I interacted with volunteers, and I'll take those same skills to Sioux Falls. I'll build up the same activities but on a different scale," she said. "In the same way, I'll lead workshops. But instead of working with kids, I'll work with young professionals."

Fosheim remains grateful to Yankton County for her first job after graduating from South Dakota State University in Brookings. Yankton County stands unique in South Dakota for funding its own full-time 4-H/youth coordinator, she said.

"We have two full-time people work-

FOSHEIM | PAGE 3

Lawmakers: Obama NSA Idea Won't Work

BY LIBBY QUAID Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A chief element of President Barack Obama's attempt to overhaul U.S. surveillance will not work, leaders of Congress' intelligence committees said Sunday, pushing back against the idea that the government should cede control of how Americans' phone records are stored.

Obama, under pressure to calm the controversy over

government spying, said Friday he wants bulk phone data stored outside the government to reduce the risk that the records will be abused. The president said he will require a special judge's advance approval before intelligence agencies can examine someone's data and will force analysts to keep their searches closer to suspected terrorists or organizations.

"And I think that's a very difficult thing," Sen. Dianne



Feinstein

provide instantaneous information to be able to disrupt any plot that may be taking place."

Under the surveillance program, the NSA gathers

phone numbers called and the length of conversations, but not the content of the calls. Obama said the NSA sometimes needs to tap those records to find people linked to suspected terrorists. But he said eventually the bulk data should be stored somewhere out of the government's hands. That could mean finding a way for phone companies to store the records, though some

NSA | PAGE 2

Longtime Yankton Clergyman Dies At 96

From P&D Staff Reports

Longtime Yankton clergyman Oliver Omanson passed away Friday at the Veteran's Hospital in Sioux Falls. He was 96.

According to his obituary, which can be found on page 3 today (Monday), Omanson spent more than 60 years in the ministry, including many in Yankton. He was still serving at Cornerstone Evangelical Church in Yankton until age 95.

Omanson was also a World War II veteran, and served as a German prisoner of war for 19 months. His exploits were chronicled in his book "Prisoner of War Number 21860."

A private interment will be held, with a memorial service set for this spring. The Kinzley Funeral Home, Sioux Falls, is overseeing arrangements.



REGION 2 | OBITUARIES 3 | WORLD 3 | VIEWS 4 | LIFE 5 | MIDWEST 5 | SPORTS 9-10 | CLASSIFIEDS 11-12

TOMORROW: Sen. John Thune Visits Yankton Area

