



Mixed Showers Turning To Snow

9 a.m.: 31 | 3 p.m.: 45 | DETAILS: PAGE 2A

FRIDAY ■ January 24, 2014



Gazelles Top Vermillion In Gymnastics Action SPORTS/6A

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## RIVER CITY



Window Work Preserving Past At Mead • 1B

## INSIDE



USA Weekend

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## Educators: SD Schools Need More State Aid

BY CHET BROKAW Associated Press

PIERRE — South Dakota's school districts need more state financial aid to keep effective teachers, restore programs that have been cut and prevent a decline in student achievement, representatives of local schools said Thursday.

The lobbyists for school boards and school administrators said they appreciate Gov. Dennis Daugaard's recommendation to boost state aid to schools by 3 percent next year, nearly double the inflationary increase required by law. But they said they would prefer to have the Legislature set the increase at 3.8 percent, which would put spending per student back where it was before budget cuts were made three years ago.

"Our message today is we need your help," Wade Pogany, director of the Associated School Boards of South Dakota, told the Joint Appropriations Committee.

Senate Appropriations Chair Deb Peters, R-Hartford, said lawmakers will hold hearings soon on bills seeking to increase school aid. A final decision will be made when the Joint Appropriations Committee finishes the state budget in March.

Pogany said school boards have cut technical classes for high school students because of the 2011 budget cuts. Schools also are having trouble

AID | PAGE 2A

# Targeting Red Marks

## Yankton Officials Working With SDHSAA To Deal With Red Flags For Hosting Events

BY NATHAN JOHNSON nathan.johnson@yankton.net

With new South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) guidelines threatening to eliminate Yankton from hosting certain state events, local officials are working together to keep the community in the rotation.

Yankton School District activities director Ryan Mors and Yankton Convention and Visitors Bureau director Lisa Scheve said they will collaborate to address the SDHSAA state event hosting guidelines

that went into effect Jan. 1. "Any time you bring people to the community, it's great for local hotels, restaurants and other businesses," Mors said. "It's also great for our kids, who get to have an event in their home venue."

Scheve added, "We definitely want to be able to host these state events again."

Recently, the SDHSAA released a chart with red marks to specify where it feels communities come



Mors

up short for hosting various state events based on its new guidelines.

Yankton received red marks for state oral interpretation, debate, one-act play and all-state band events. The school district has expressed interest in hosting a total of 12 different state events.

Mors said he received clarification from the SDHSAA Wednesday as to why the community was rated as deficient for those four events.

He was told that Yankton was not recommended for hosting oral interp or debate because there are not enough restaurants open after 10 p.m.

"The two types of events that we have hosted and could host again are oral interp and debate, and (the issues with) those could be worked out

RED | PAGE 3A

## 'A Learning Process'



RANDY DOCKENDORF/PP&D

The world's first multi-hybrid planter, shown here during the Dakota Farm Show earlier this month in Vermillion, will be a featured topic during next Tuesday's annual meeting of the Southeast Research Farm. The public is invited to attend the meeting from 1-4 p.m. at the Prairie Arboretum on the Freeman Academy campus.

# Area Research Farm Planting The Seeds For Future Projects

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

FREEMAN — From wind energy to the world's first multi-hybrid planter, the Southeast Research Farm near Beresford will offer updates next week on its work.

The annual meeting will be held from 1-4 p.m. Tuesday at the Prairie Arboretum on the Freeman Academy campus. The public is encouraged to attend the afternoon program.

The South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service operates the farm, which provides valuable research

for both crops and livestock. The board consists of area farmers.

"We are the only experiment farm in the state with both grain and row crops and livestock," said board member Craig Jepsen of Gayville.

The annual meeting will feature presentations on the farm's projects and other ag-related issues. Jepsen said.

"We're working to keep people informed about the research station," he said. "We will talk about our research projects, about what is going on at the

FARM | PAGE 10A

# South Dakota Senate Sets Restrictions On Common Core Use

BY BOB MERCER State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — When the amending and debating finished Thursday in the state Senate, the new Common Core standards for math and English remained in place for South Dakota schools.

Senators agreed on a 34-0 vote that South Dakota schools and state education officials should have significant barriers to sharing individual student information.

They also decided 28-6 there should be a specific and lengthy public process for approving any additional Common Core standards.

Those two measures, SB 64 and SB 63, now head to the House of Representatives for consideration.

However, the third piece of the package brought by Sen. Ernie Otten, R-Tea, won't be making the trip.

SB 62 received a majority but still failed because it fell under a special rule.

It called for a committee to study Common Core in actual use and compare the standards to those from the past.

The measure needed a two-thirds majority of 24 for passage, because the bill contained an appropriation to pay for the committee's expenses.

The tally was 18 yes and 16 no, as a coalition of seven Democrats and nine Republicans opposed it.

CORE | PAGE 10A



COURTESY PHOTO

Jacquelyn Pajl (left) and Kirsten May (right) compete in a Jump & Spin competition during the 2013 Yankton Winter Miracle. This year's competition will allow YAIA to host other clubs in future tournaments.

# Bringing The Game Up

## Figure Skating Tournament Hopes To Boost YAIA

BY ROB NIELSEN rob.nielsen@yankton.net

When the Yankton Area Ice Association (YAIA) hosts its second annual Yankton Winter Miracle figure skating event at the Yankton Kiwanis 4-H Ice Arena Sunday, it'll be more than an opportunity for 15 young ice skaters to show what they've learned over the winter. It will also be a key step toward being able to host larger tournaments in Yankton in the future.

Coordinator Susan Zavadil said the YAIA is certified with the Ice Skating Institute (ISI) and close to being able to host

other certified clubs.

"We are an ISI-certified rink which means we follow some pretty strict rules about structure of our classes, what our kids are learning in our classes, we only have certified coaches here," Zavadil said. "It's been kind of a challenge to us in a tiny little town but we've been able to make it work so far. What we want to be able to do is have other ISI-certified clubs come in and compete here."

In order for Yankton to be allowed to host tournaments featuring other ISI clubs, the YAIA must first host two "in-house" tournaments featuring only members of

the Yankton club. The 2014 Winter Miracle event is the second such tournament.

Zavadil said a lot of work has gone into the competition.

"It's sort of a practice competition," she said. "You have to apply for an endorsement and there's a lot of paperwork we have to fill out about what we're going to do. We have to have certified judges, referees and so on. This is our second year of an 'in-house' and after this, next year we'll be able to invite other towns for a bigger figure skating competition."

YAIA | PAGE 2A

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REGION 2A | OBITUARIES 3A | WORLD 3A | VIEWS 4A | MIDWEST 5A | SPORTS 6A-7A | CLASSIFIEDS 8A-10A

TOMORROW: Area Schools Weigh In On Common Core

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: NORTH OF 15TH STREET