

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan

The Oldest Newspaper of the Dakotas
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AS WE SEE IT

No Free Ride



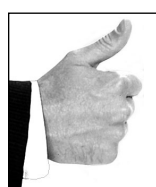
THUMBS DOWN to the news at last week's South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) meeting in Mitchell that federal funding will likely fall far short of what is needed for the state's highway and bridge needs. In the past, the SDDOT has said it could only afford maintenance efforts and not construction. Now, it appears the state will be lucky if it is even able to maintain infrastructure at the current level. Without such work, an increasing percentage of the state's roads and highways will decline into poor condition. Hopefully, funding can be found for a Highway 50 turning lane at Avon, which has seen a number of near-misses for accidents.

A Veterans Affair



THUMBS UP to the female veterans' open house held this week in Yankton. The open house, a collaborative effort of Veterans Affairs and Minerva's, sought to inform female vets about programs available to meet their special needs. Instead, the affair became an opportunity for the women to connect and share stories that spanned several generations. VA officials said the occurrence was unexpected but created bonding among the women, many of whom do not know another female veteran.

Down The River



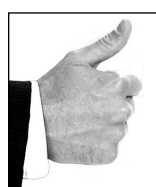
THUMBS UP to area residents who take advantage of two Corps of Engineers meetings held today (Friday) for the Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study (MRAPS). A tribal-focused meeting will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Native American Cultural Center in Vermillion, while an open house and public meeting will be held from 5-8 p.m. at the Riverfront Event Center in Yankton. The public is urged to attend and give input not only on the current uses of the river but for years to come in meeting contemporary and future needs.

Hail No!



THUMBS DOWN to the continued tornados and flash flooding in the area. We have already surpassed the normal precipitation for the entire year. The flooding apparently will create long-term problems with infrastructure damage. We are grateful for the precipitation, and the crops that haven't flooded look fantastic. Hopefully, they will survive the rest of the growing season without being hit by hail — particularly the 2-pound, 18-inch variety that fell near Vivian, south of Pierre in central South Dakota. The Vivian hail could set a national record.

A Fair Play



THUMBS UP to the cast, crew, orchestra and everyone else associated with the Lewis and Clark Theatre Company's production of "My Fair Lady." The countless hours that they have put into preparing the show for the stage require dedication, talent and a time commitment that is hard to fathom. We hope you take the time to see the production. And to the cast: Break a leg!

INTERNET POLL

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

LATEST RESULTS:

Do you support the effort of the website WikiLeaks.org to release tens of thousands of classified Afghan war documents?	
Yes	23%
No	72%
Not Sure	5%

TOTAL VOTES CAST: 306

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:

In 2009, 61 percent of Americans said they "always or usually" live paycheck to paycheck. How often do you live paycheck to paycheck?

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

IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press
Today is Friday, July 30, the 211th day of 2010. There are 154 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On July 30, 1945, during World War II, the Portland-class heavy cruiser USS Indianapolis, which had just delivered components for the atomic bomb that would be dropped on Hiroshima, was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine; only 316 out of some 1,200 men survived the sinking and shark-infested waters.

On this date: In 1792, the French national anthem "La Marseillaise" by Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle, was first sung in Paris by troops arriving from Marseille.

In 1864, during the Civil War, Union forces tried to take Petersburg, Va., by exploding a gunpowder-filled mine under Confederate defense lines; the attack failed.

In 1918, poet Joyce Kilmer, a sergeant in the 165th U.S. Infantry Regiment, was killed during the Second Battle of the Marne in World War I. (Kilmer is perhaps best remembered for his poem "Trees.")

In 1932, the Summer Olympic Games opened in Los Angeles.

In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a bill creating a women's auxiliary agency in the Navy known as "Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service" — WAVES for short.

In 1960, the recently founded American Football League saw its first pre-season game, in which the Boston Patriots defeated the host Buffalo Bills 28-7.

In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the Medicare bill, which went into effect the following year.

In 1975, former Teamsters union president Jimmy Hoffa disappeared in suburban Detroit; although presumed dead, his remains have never been found.

In 1980, Israel's Knesset passed a law reaffirming all of Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish state. The Pacific Island nation of Vanuatu became independent of joint British-French rule.

In 1990, British Conservative Party lawmaker Ian Gow was killed in a bombing claimed by the Irish Republican Army.

Ten years ago: President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela won a fresh six-year term in a landslide re-election.

Five years ago: President George W. Bush was pronounced "fit for duty" after a checkup that showed that the 59-year-old commander-in-chief, an avid mountain biker, had lost eight pounds since his last physical exam in December 2004.

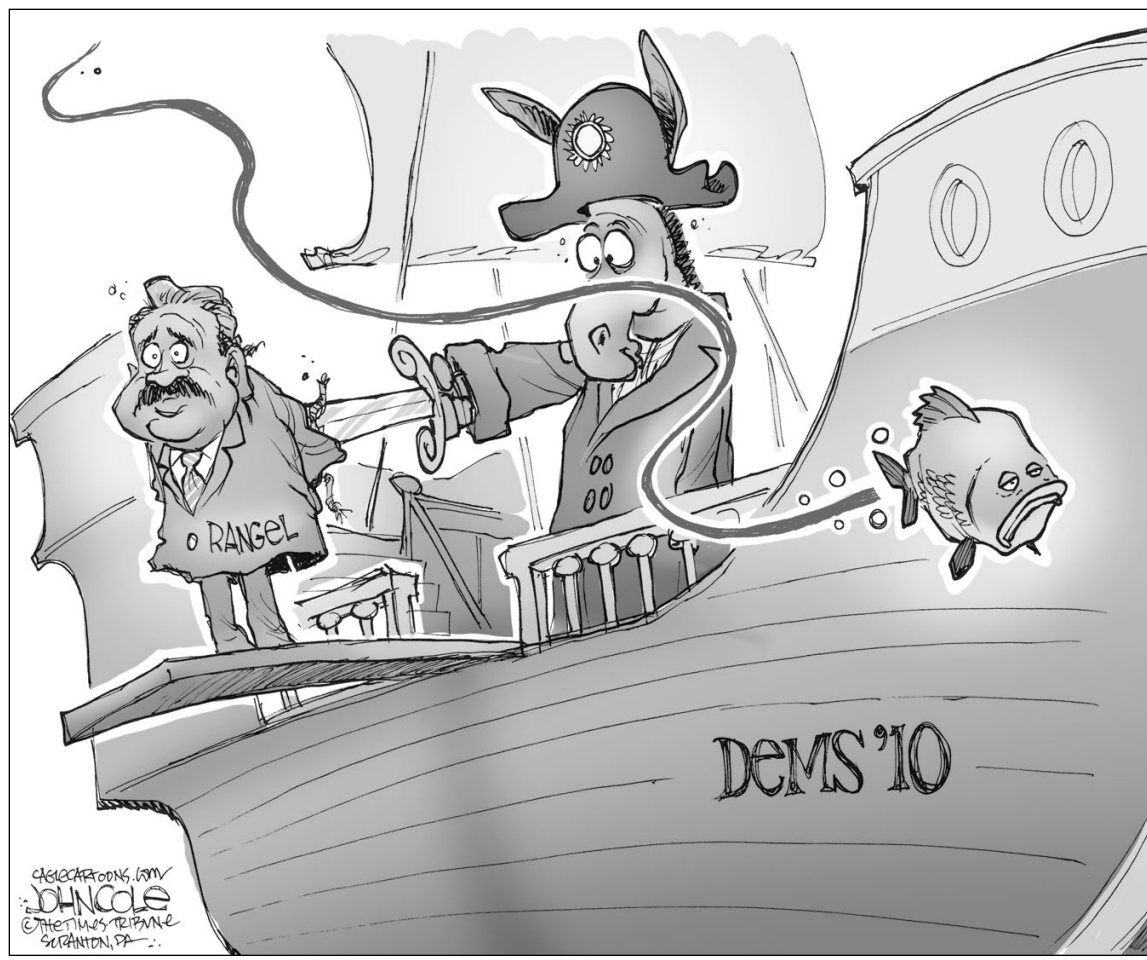
One year ago: Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr. and the Cambridge, Mass. officer who arrested him for disorderly conduct at his home, Sgt. James Crowley, had beers with President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden at White House to discuss the dispute that unleashed a furor over racial profiling in America.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Richard Johnson is 83. Actor Edd (correct "Kookie" Byrnes is 77. Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig is 76. Blues musician Buddy Guy is 74. Movie director Peter Bogdanovich is 71. Feminist activist Eleanor Smeal is 71. Former U.S. Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.) is 70. Singer Paul Anka is 69. Jazz musician David Sanborn is 65. California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is 63. Actor William Albertson is 63. Actor Jean Reno is 62. Blues singer-musician Otis Taylor is 62. Actor Frank Stallone is 60. Actor Ken Olin is 56. Actress Delta Burke is 54. Singer-songwriter Kate Bush is 52. Country singer Neal McCoy is 52. Actor Richard Burgi is 52. Movie director Richard Linklater is 50. Actor Laurence Fishburne is 49. Actress Lisa Kudrow is 47. Bluegrass musician Danny Roberts (The Grasscals) is 47. Country musician Dwayne O'Brien is 46. Actress Vivica A. Fox is 46. Actor Terry Crews ("Everybody Hates Chris") is 42. Actor Simon Baker is 41. Movie director Christopher Nolan ("Inception") is 40. Actor Green is 38. Rock musician Brad Hargreaves (Third Eye Blind) is 39. Actress Christine Taylor is 39. Actor-comedian Dean Edwards is 37. Actress Hilary Swank is 36. Olympic gold medal beach volleyball player Misty May-Treanor is 33. Actress Jaime Pressly is 33. All-country singer-musician Seth Avett is 30. Actress Yvonne Strahovski (TV's "Chuck") is 28.

Thought for Today: "An efficient bureaucracy is the greatest threat to liberty." — Sen. Eugene McCarthy (1916-2005).

FROM THE BIBLE

[Jesus said:] "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you." John 14:18. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis



Know What? My Religion Rocks!

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net



NATHAN JOHNSON

Music is my religion. I worship at its altar every day. Sometimes, music helps to sort out my feelings. Sometimes, it helps me consider issues I wouldn't consider otherwise. And, well, sometimes it makes me turn my living room into a dancehall and shake the junk in my trunk.

It's all right. You have my permission to go ahead and picture that. In return for my generosity, humor me by letting me share with you my conversion story. It took place under the cover of darkness. I had attempted to stay up to watch "Friday Night Videos" on NBC (Was Michael J. Fox hosting?), but I had fallen asleep. While late hours are routine for me today, in those days I had to rise before the sun to hear the cows sing on our dairy farm. Sleep was precious when I could get it.

The warm glow of the television awoke me that night as a video was beginning. A man dressed as a king walked across an array of beautiful vistas armed only with a folding chair. "All I ever wanted/All I ever needed/Is here in my arms," he sang. "Words are very/Unnecessary/They can only do harm."

I was transfixed. I caught the name of the band at the end of the video, and for the next few days I sat at the radio with a blank tape ready to record when "Enjoy the Silence" by Depeche Mode aired. Soon, I would go to Yankton with my dad and find their album, "Violator." I still remember listening to it in the pickup on the ride home. My dad told me that, for once, he really liked something I was playing. I guess he hadn't been a big fan of late-1980s hair metal.

It was listening to Depeche Mode that I realized the full potential of music. It had always played a big role in my life, but with "Violator," a new world was opened up to me. Its keyboard atmospheres with a smattering of bluesy guitar riffs were warm and invited me into an alternate reality. The lyrics spoke to my tumultuous teen emotions. And, quite honestly, the whole thing was tremendously erotic and romantic.

Soon after, I discovered "New Alternative Express" on TBS and my musical consciousness was ripped open even further as I watched videos from underground bands. Although isolated geographically by the

Nebraska countryside, I felt a connection to something bigger as I was exposed to the infectious guitar solos of Matthew Sweet (also a Nebraska native), the shoegaze of Ride and the gothic pop of Siouxsie and the Banshees.

Unfortunately or not, I found my taste for "college" or "alternative" music was not widespread in this part of the world. A few kindred spirits shared what I considered my musical adventurousness (and detractors have considered my legendarily bad taste in music), but they were few and far between. Quite honestly, they still are.

That's why I don't let opportunities such as the MAHA Festival in Omaha last weekend pass me by. I long to congregate with people who love the music I love, who worship at the same altar. Under a surprisingly pleasant July sun, more than 4,000 people basked in the music of bands like The Faint, Spoon and the Old 97's.

This weekend I'll take in bands like Bright Eyes, Cursive and Desaparecidos as they hold a fundraiser in Omaha for the legal fight against Fremont's ill-advised illegal immigration law. Good music with good politics. How could I resist?

Let me think this is a totally benign and inclusive religion I've built for myself, let me dispel that idea. You try to bring the Black-Eyed Peas into this house of worship, and you will feel a "Boom Boom Pow." "If Today Was Your Last Day," I'm praying that you weren't listening to Nickelback. And if I have to hear Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'" one more time, I won't stop believing that Armageddon can't come soon enough.

Yeah, I'm a music snob, and I've suffered greatly for my mostly indefensible beliefs regarding what constitutes great music. Try "Walking In My Shoes" and consider the list of my five all-time favorite bands: Depeche Mode, The Cure, Suede, Ween and Placebo.

Right now, chances are you're either laughing or staring blankly — and don't want to "Kiss Me, Kiss Me, Kiss Me."

But if you do, it's good to have you in the congregation. Let me begin with our first sermon: "Let's shine like the morning/And sin in the sun/Oh, if you stay/We'll be the wild ones/Running with the dogs today ..."

Committee Mulls Massage Therapy Rules

BY SEN. JEAN HUNHOFF
R-District 18 (Yankton)



J. Hunhoff

The Interim Rules Committee met on July 20th via the digital network and, though the agenda was light, much discussion was held on proposed rules.

The Massage Therapy Board proposed changes to provide standards for training schools and a third choice for their national examination for licensing. This licensing board is relatively new for this state, and came into law after much debate among those that provide massage therapy in South Dakota. It is interesting that most licensing boards have one nationally recognized licensing exam that is the standard for entry into practice. In this profession, there is not one recognized exam but three that test for different standards. That was the question raised in committee. Licenses are established to protect and assure the public that minimum standards of practice are consistent among those licensed in that field. Having three licensing exams with different focuses begs the question, what are the standards of practice for massage therapists? The rules were approved, but the board was advised to review the differing exams and determine if specialties were warranted with the differing exams.

The Division of Insurance proposed to amend a life insurance rule to prohibit the inclusion of exclusionary riders on life insurance policies without the insured's consent. They also proposed external review rules to ensure that life insurance policyholders are aware of any policy changes that would affect them and have the opportunity to reject changes proposed by their insurance company. Both rules were approved.

The South Dakota Department of Roads brought forth amendments for speed zone changes in Lawrence and Union counties. They also proposed rules to authorize geographically significant site reference centers to be eligible for interstate traffic generating facility signage. Geographically significant site reference centers must be for sites of national or state significance, must have public parking and restroom facilities, must be open to the public Monday thru Friday for no less than 40 hours per week and must be located within 50 miles of the interchange serving the center. These rules were approved.

The Department of Education amended rules to add sections to the Code of Ethics for Teachers that prohibits sexual activity with students and require that teachers exemplify high moral standards. This has been a local control issue, yet it was not specifically stated in rules in regards to sexual activity.

GF&P presented rules for the upcoming hunting seasons involving licenses available. Turkey licenses in Bon Homme, Charles Mix and Clay counties will be two tag licenses with each tag valid for one "any turkey." Deuel and Moody counties were new counties to have available turkey licenses. Numbers of available deer licenses generated much discussion. In all areas, the number of available licenses has decreased.

The department stated that the decision to reduce the number of licenses came from decline in deer taken, input from hunters and land owners at the regional meeting and an increase in mountain lion numbers. Overall, West River resident licenses decreased by 1,760, or 6 percent, from 2009 to 2010. Resident tags declined by 7,400 from 2009 to 2010. East River resident licenses decreased by 1,845, or 4 percent, from the previous year, and resident tags decreased by 620, or 1 percent. This past session, HB 1264 passed, which allows any farmer or rancher who is a resident of South Dakota and owns and operates or leases and operates for ag purposes at least 160 acres of land may apply for and receive two antlerless deer licenses free of charge for use. These licenses will be for use in West River deer hunting units where at least one antlerless West River deer tag is available after the second lottery drawing.

Rules were amended that states no person may place any trap, stake, cable, chain, wire or other device used for the purpose of attaching a trap, or otherwise attempt to claim or make a trap site on any public road right-of-way or public land or water open to trapping within thirty feet of water from Oct. 1 to the day before the opening of mink season, inclusive.

Shooting preserves requested from the department that plumage may be detached from the bird and discarded if the bird is processed at a wildlife processing facility; if the bird is immediately packaged by a transparent vacuum-sealed or shrink-wrap packaging process and if the kill tag is encased in the same package and clearly legible. This was requested because it appeared that plumage was a deterrent for hunters to take birds home shot at preserves. This was leaving the preserves with unwanted pheasant kills. It also now puts preserves on par with wildlife preserving facilities.

The next rules committee meeting will be 10 a.m. Aug. 31. Agendas are posted on the South Dakota Legislative Council website.

If you have questions/concerns, please contact me at djwhunhoff@iw.net or call (605) 665-1463.