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SPORTS/8

YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN



Mindset Hinders Debt Talks

WORLD/11

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Hines Waives Right To Trial Within 180 Days

BY NATHAN JOHNSON nathan.johnson@yankton.net

Recognizing that the legal process will take time, a Yankton man accused of first-degree murder in the April shooting death of his girlfriend agreed Monday to waive his right to a trial within 180 days.

Nicholas Stewart Hines was found at 1008 Willow Lane with an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head early April 9 after allegedly killing 25-year-old Brianna Marie Knoll.

Defense attorney Dan Fox told the court during Monday's review hearing that his client was prepared to give up the right to a speedy trial. After Circuit Judge Glen Eng explained the intention of the state law to provide a trial within 180 days, Hines told the court himself that he would agree to waive it.

In other matters, Eng said he had appointed Tim Mulloy of Starr Enterprises in Sioux Falls to be the private investigator for the defense. The appointment was made July 18.

Fox requested the investigator at Yankton County's expense during a June arraignment hearing, and at the time Eng said he would review proposals submitted by the defense. The judge said he

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Fire That Killed 6 Was Started By Candles

NEW ULM, Minn. (AP) — Burning candles left unattended caused a fire that killed six people at a southern Minnesota inn, investigators said Monday.

The fire at the Bohemian bed and breakfast in New Ulm on July 2 was ruled accidental, the New Ulm Fire Department said.

The inn's owner, Roberta McCrea, 48, her two daughters, Abby Gayle Wood, 15, and Savannah Grace McCrea, 3, were killed in the fire. Three guests also died in the fire, including Andrew Uhing, 67, of Hartington, Neb., Dian Lee Bergman, 59, and her husband, Joseph Bergman, 62, both of Centuria, Wis. Four others, including Uhing's wife, Sandy, escaped the fire.

A state fire marshal's report said the fire in the 2 1/2-story Victorian-era house broke out shortly before 2 a.m. and began in the northeastern corner of a three-season porch where investigators found the remains of a large candelabra.

Firefighters found McCrea's body on the first floor near the kitchen and dining room, according to the report. The other victims were found on the second floor of the bed and breakfast.

Roberta McCrea's fiancé and the father of Savannah McCrea, Charles Zangl, told investigators there were candles lit during dinner on the porch that night and he couldn't recall if anyone extinguished them. Zangl said he fell asleep on a couch in the TV room and awoke to man yelling that the house was on fire. He attempted to go up the stairs near the kitchen, but was driven back by heavy smoke. Zangl said he called for his fiancée, but didn't get an answer.

Three survivors told investigators they heard smoke detectors had activated the night of the fire. Investigators estimated the cost of fire damage at \$900,000.

The fire was investigated by the New Ulm Fire Department, the State Fire Marshal Division and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

OBAMA:

Halt '3-Ring-Circus' Of Debate

President Criticizes New Republican Plan To Avert Government Default

BY DAVID ESPO AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Decrying a "partisan three-ring circus" in the nation's capital, President Barack Obama criticized a newly minted Republican plan to avert an unprecedented government default Monday night and said congressional leaders must produce a compromise that can reach his desk before the Aug. 2 deadline.

"The American people may have

voted for divided government, but they didn't vote for a dysfunctional government," the president said in a hastily arranged prime-time speech. He appealed to the public to contact lawmakers and demand "a balanced approach" to reducing federal deficits.

Obama stepped to the microphones a few hours after first Republicans, then Democrats drafted rival fallback legislation Monday to avert a potentially devastating government default in little more than a week.

Obama said the approach unveiled earlier in the day by House Speaker John Boehner would raise the nation's debt limit only long enough to push off the threat of default for six months. "In other words, it doesn't solve the problem," he said.

The president had scarcely completed his remarks when Boehner made an extraordinary rebuttal carried live on the nation's networks.

"The president has often said we need a 'balanced' approach, which in

Washington means we spend more, you pay more," the Ohio Republican said, speaking from a room just off the House floor.

"The sad truth is that the president wanted a blank check six months ago, and he wants a blank check today. That is just not going to happen."

Directly challenging the president, Boehner said there "is no stalemate in

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TAKING AIM



CLAY STODDARD/P&D

Laura Smith takes careful aim during the first day of the National Field Archery Association (NFAA) Outdoor Field Championships on Monday at a range near Paddletwheel Point in Yankton. The three-day event is the second tournament of the World Outdoor Archery Festival, being held in Yankton all week.

City Debates Funding Fireworks Show

BY NATHAN JOHNSON nathan.johnson@yankton.net

Should the City of Yankton take ownership of the annual Fourth of July fireworks display in Riverside Park — including the approximately \$21,000 price tag?

That was one of many questions explored by the Yankton City Commission Monday night during its budget workshop.

In the past, the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce undertook fundraising activities and signed the contracts for the show. However, this year the organization announced that it would only raise funds for the event. The responsibility of putting the display on — hiring a fireworks technician and contracting for portable bathrooms, for example — was placed in the hands of the city.

City Manager Doug Russell said he expects to receive a \$15,000 check from the Chamber to cover some of the costs of the event.

The City Commission is under the impression that the Chamber will not even provide fundraising support in the future.

"They don't want to do it again," said Commissioner Jake Hoffner, who also serves on the Chamber board.

If that is the case, commissioners were

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Corps Ready To Reveal Long-Term Water Plans

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will reveal this week its strategy for moving flood water during the next two months.

The move was announced during Monday's media briefing by Jody Farhat, chief of the Missouri River Basin water management office in Omaha, Neb.

"On Friday, we plan an announcement for the reservoirs. That will include further releases for each dam," she said. "We will extend that forecast and also talk about releases through the month of August and September."

The Corps has felt the need to maintain gradual drawdowns throughout the main-

stem dam system, Farhat said.

"The reservoirs are falling nicely, but there's still a very large volume of water to get rid of this year," she said. "When that (water evacuation) plan comes out later this week, folks will have a good indication of how we will do that."

In the meantime, the Corps is proceeding with its previously announced drawdown at Gavins Point Dam near Yankton, which currently runs at 160,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), Farhat said.

"We are cutting Gavins Point to 155,000 cfs on Saturday and Sunday and to 150,000 cfs on Monday," she said.

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P&D FILE PHOTO

Gavins Point Dam near Yankton continues to pump out Missouri River floodwater at a historic 160,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) — the old record was 70,000 cfs in 1997. However, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer will announce its long-term plans Friday and start its drawdown of releases this weekend.

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TOMORROW: Niobrara Park Scene Changes

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: NORTH OF 15TH STREET