### Police Say Motorcyclist Injured In Crash Dies

SIOUX FALLS (AP) - Sioux Falls police say a motorcyclist involved in multi-vehicle accident has died.

Philip Lowel Sorensen died shortly before 1 p.m. Thursday. Brent O'Neal faces charges of felony hit and run, reckless and careless driving, and driving without a seatbelt or insurance cover-

age. His bond was set at \$10,000 cash Thursday morning. Police say O'Neal was driving and texting Wednesday when he hit a car. He swerved and hit another car. Then he struck a minivan

and then Sorenson in an intersection before striking a light pole. Police say the 20-year-old O'Neal ran from the accident. He was quickly caught.

# Neb. Panhandle Fire Nearly Fully Contained

CHADRON, Neb. (AP) — Firefighters have contained at least 80 percent of a wildfire in the northwest corner of Nebraska, and they expect to fully contain it by the end of Thursday.

Cydney Janssen with the Nebraska National Forest and Grasslands says the fire burned more than 3 square miles near Chadron. The cooler weather and higher humidity that arrived on

Wednesday helped firefighters make progress.

The fire that started with lightning Saturday is mostly on federal recreation area land south of U.S. Highway 20 between Chadron and Crawford.

A separate fire about 18 miles south of Crawford started Thursday and burned a little more than half a square mile. But Janssen says fire crews already in the area to battle the first fire were able to quickly contain the new blaze.

### **Spearfish Residents Unfazed By Hells Angels**

SPEARFISH (AP) — More than 400 Hells Angels are in Spearfish this week, and residents say they're not bothered by the presence of the infamous motorcycle club.

To Leland Ruzica, who owns the Back Porch bar in Spearfish and is friends with several Angels, they are customers like any others who want to relax and see the sights.

"It's definitely going to be a boost," Ruzica said. "Any time you get a lot of visitors in town, it's a boost to business.

The Angels are holding their USA Run, which is akin to a club business meeting, in Spearfish. The bikers are staying in motels and campgrounds throughout the western South Dakota city of about 10,000 residents.

Mistie Caldwell, director of the tourism organization Visit Spearfish, said its visitors' center has been staffed to handle any influx of new requests. Spearfish Mayor Jerry Krambeck said he hoped residents would treat the Angels with respect, as they would any other group.

The community is used to an influx of motorcyclists for the annual, and much larger, motorcycle rally in nearby Sturgis, Krambeck said

Spearfish and the surrounding Black Hills is basically a destination point for motorcyclists, whether it's a club event or the (Sturgis) rally," he said.

Spearfish Police Lt. Curt Jacobs said the department hopes it won't have to confront incidents similar to a brawl between members of the Angels and a rival gang, the Mongols, in a Laughlin, Nev., casino a decade ago during a rally in that city.

Dozens of Hells Angels members were arrested and several were killed across the country last year in turf wars between the Angels and other gangs. The U.S. Department of Justice says the Hells Angels have as many as 2,500 members in 230 chapters in 26 countries, and are a major source of drug trafficking.

Extra law enforcement personnel, including six U.S. marshals, are helping local authorities during the Spearfish gathering.

# Neb., Iowa Enduring Severe Drought Or Worse

#### **BY NELSON LAMPE**

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — The nation's worsening drought conditions are taking a toll in Nebraska and Iowa, and experts said Thursday there's little the states' farmers can do other than plan for the next extended dry period.

Press&Dakotan

The weekly U.S. Drought Monitor map released Thursday shows a few central Nebraska counties enduring an exceptional drought - the monitor's worst possible listing — with the remainder of the state and all of lowa suffering severe or extreme drought.

The drought map statistics table said more than 45 percent of the contiguous 48 states are experiencing conditions ranging from severe to exceptional drought. That's an increase of more than 3 percentage points from last week's posting.

Little relief is in sight. Federal weather forecasters said earlier this month that the "flash drought" will linger at least until

around Halloween in much of the nation's middle and spread north and east.

The pessimistic forecast was more bad news to anxious Nebraska and Iowa farmers who have been contemplating their stunted corn plants and sickly soybean fields.

"When you're in the middle of the drought, your options of dealing with it are limited," said Mike Hayes with the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. "Farmers already have their crops in the field, water supplies are already dropping."

Hayes said the center advocates preparing even now for the next dry spell, which surely will come. That includes documenting what's working and not working now and incorporating those lessons into future plans.

"I think we're making some progress," Hayes said. "There have been some lessons learned. After the '30s drought, we learned that land management can mitigate the effects of a drought."

Mark Thompson, who farms about 1,200 acres north of Fort Dodge, Iowa, and is a professional farm manager, said good land management practices such as no-till farming do help.

3A

This year we think that's going to pay some dividends, because we've banked every bit of rain that we've had this year," Thompson said.

He said his part of Iowa typically gets about 40 inches of rain a year, but this year around a quarter of that total or less has fallen.

"Eastern Iowa is in worst shape than we are," he said. "Right around here we're still at the tipping point, but conditions have improved somewhat, even though last night's rain wasn't widespread.'

Lower temperatures and higher humidity were expected Thursday, Thompson said, "and that helps the crops drastically, because it cuts down their water usage."

# **SDSU Releasing Wheat For Drier Areas**

#### **BY BLAKE NICHOLSON** Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. - A new hard red winter wheat variety that was more than a decade in the making has the potential to be a top performer in drier areas of the state, South Dakota State University officials say. That could translate into millions of dollars for farmers.

The variety "Ideal" — named for a small farming community in central South Dakota — should be widely available for planting next year. It's not drought-resistant but does seem to produce more grain in drier areas, breeder Bill Berzonsky said.

Hard red winter wheat is typically used to make bread, while other wheat varieties are used for cookies, pastries and pasta. Much of it is grown in more southern states such as Kansas and Oklahoma, but it also is a staple crop in South Dakota. Ideal — which is bred for a more northern growing season — also might be an option for farmers in North Dakota, Nebraska and Minnesota, Berzonsky said.

Berzonsky said if Ideal proves popular enough to be grown on one-fifth of the winter wheat acres in South Dakota and produced 2

bushels more per acre than other varieties, farmers could see a \$3.6 million increase in annual revenue.

The main thing is it has high vield potential," Berzonsky said. 'Our tests would indicate that it does well in areas of South Dakota that receive lower rainfall in the spring and summer months."

The variety also might be an option for farmers in wetter areas if the drought that hit this year continues, though farmers might run a higher risk of a diseased crop should there be a sudden change in the weather. Berzonsky said. While Ideal has good resistance to some diseases, it is more susceptible to scab, a common disease brought on by prolonged wet weather during wheat's flowering stage.

David Salmen, who farms in southeastern South Dakota which had flooding last year but is in drought this year - said farmers look for "anything that will help us in the Dakotas with our (weather) unpredictability.'

"I would be anxious to try something in these (dry) conditions," he said.

Tests showed Ideal in drier areas could produce higher yields, or more bushels per acre, than Wesley, the top winter wheat variety in South Dakota, planted on about one-third of the acres, Berzonsky said.

"It's a pretty big deal with producers," said Randy Englund, executive director of the South Dakota Wheat Commission. "This looks like an ideal — pardon the pun - release to come out and replace probably a lot of the Wesley

Milling and baking tests indicate Ideal might produce better flour than some other varieties, including Overland, the secondmost popular winter wheat variety in South Dakota, Berzonsky said. The tests were coordinated by the Wheat Quality Council.

Ben Handcock, executive vice president of that organization, did not immediately have specific details of the testing but said "I think (Ideal) was pretty well liked by most people who evaluated it."

Breeders began working on Ideal in 2000. It is the first winter wheat variety released by the SDSU Agriculture Experiment Station since 2008.

"It's a long process," Berzonsky said, comparing it to a game of cards. "You shuffle the genetic material and select the best traits to get the best hand possible."

# **Gambling Revenue In Deadwood Takes Dip**

DEADWOOD (AP) — Despite an early gambling boost in Deadwood this year, June's numbers took a dive.

Total gross revenues in the western South Dakota town for June were \$8.5 million, a nearly 9 percent decrease from \$9.3 million in 2011. Wagering dipped by about 5 percent, representing \$5 million less in betting.

Tom Nelson, president of the Deadwood Gaming Association, said he's disappointed by the numbers — but not entirely surprised.

'May was such a great month for a variety of reasons, primarily that all of the Memorial Day holiday fell in that month because it was so early," Nelson told the Black Hills Pioneer. "Typically, some of that revenue will come into June as well."

But, year-to-date, gross revenues are still up compared with last year.

Gaming officials are particularly eager to see July's numbers. A state law took effect July 1 that increased table betting limits from \$100 to \$1,000. It's only the second time the limit has been increased since gambling was reinstated in 1989.

#### OBITUARIES

#### **George Thomas**

George A. Thomas, age 50 of Santee passed away on Tuesday, July 24, 2012 at his home surrounded by his family. Funeral services will be 1 p.m., Saturday, July 28, 2012 at the Oyate Oyanke Community Center, Santee, NE with Ron



from NICC. George was employed by Wink out of Irene and then worked for Jim James Isanti for two years.

From 1986-1988, George worked Thomas various jobs. He then began working for the Housing Dept. in 1988 and continued until 2000. His last employment was working for the Ranch from 2000-2012. After leaving the Ranch, he became unemployed due to health problems. He enjoyed softball, pool, car races, and cage fights. He is survived by his son, Tristian; brothers: Rick Thomas of Bloomfield. NE. Ron (Thelma) Thomas of Bloomfield, NE; sisters: Patti Thomas of Niobrara, NE and Martha (JC) Campbell of Niobrara, NE. George is preceded in death by his wife, Regina (Denny) Thomas, his parents, Albert and Linda Thomas, two brothers: Danny and Gary; his sister, Dawn; three grandchildren and three nephews.

## **Karen Boulter**

Karen "Carrie" Boulter passed away in her sleep January 1, 2012. Šhe was born April 6, 1913 in

Nibe, Jutland, Denmark to Soren and Emma (Olesen) Sorensen. At age one year she immigrated to the United States on the King Edward

member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post 791 and served as Secretary/Treasurer for the Navy Mothers.

She is survived by her son Merlyn J. "Chris" Christensen (Bev) of Hudson NH, daughter Doris "Tootie" Helwig of Loveland CO, Stepchildren Karen (Don) Pullen of Florida, Daryl (Shirley) Boulter and Dan (Janet) Boulter of Michigan, and Bonnie (Steve) Bryan of Mississippi, 10 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, 10 great-great grandchildren, nephews Darrell Sundleaf (Martha June), Dennis Sundleaf of Yankton SD, and Terry Sorensen (Judy) of Emmetsburg IA, and niece Judy Brunsvig (Larry) of Madison SD.

# Sara Linda "Go" Lockey Smith Dilts

South Daytona, FL - Mrs. Sara Linda "Go" Lockey Smith Dilts, 73, wife of Jackie Dilts, went to be home with her Lord Jesus Christ on Monday, July 23, 2012 at Florida Memorial Medical Center.

Her funeral service will be held on Saturday, July 28, 2012 at 11:00am in the Chapel of Rowland Funeral Home with Rev. J. Earl Welch officiating. Interment will follow at Aiken Memorial Gardens. Mrs. Dilts was a graduate of New Bern High School in 1956 in New Bern, NČ. She retired from Volusia County School System and was a volunteer kindergarten teacher. She also volunteered at the Red Cross and with Hospice. She was a member of Calvary Christian Church in Ormond Beach, Fl where she was a greeter. Mrs. Dilts had a passion for traveling. Additional survivors include one son, Joseph P. Smith, Jr. of Jacksonville, FL; one daughter, Belinda Kay Taynor and her husband Joe of South Davtona, FL: her mother. Inez R. Lockev Reifsnyder of Greenwood, SC; one brother, Fred Lockey, Jr. of Ormond Beach, FL; one sister, Judith Hamilton and her husband Jack of

Johnston, SC; one grandchild, William Moore and his wife Mariel; and one great grandchild, Cameron Rose Moore. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Joseph P. Smith. Sr.

Pallbearers will be Joe Smith, Jr., Tommy Coltraine, Art Hamilton, Alex Hamilton, Fred Lockey, Jr., and Jack Hamilton.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home one hour prior to

i nomas, kick Thomas, and Kev. Patricia White Horse-Carda as officiates. Burial will be in the Congregational Cemetery in Santee. Visitations will begin Thursday at the Ovate Ovanke Community Center and will continue until the time of the service on Saturday. Services will be held each evening at 8 PM at the Oyate Oyanke Community Center. Pallbearers will be Frank Whipple, Terry Whipple, Dale Tuttle, Jamie Weston, Mike Weston, Dave Henry, Craig Redleaf, and Byron Tuttle. Honorary pallbearers will be all of his nieces, nephews, Takoja's, friends and relatives. Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton is in charge of the arrangements.

George was born August 2, 1961 to Albert and Linda (Lawrence) Thomas in Wagner, SD. George graduated from Santee High School in 1978 and continued his education in Bismarck, ND completing one year in Automotive. He then attended Western Iowa Tech and completed another year for Automotive. In 1990, he received his A.A. degree in Carpentry

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UNERAL HOME & CREMATORY INC Online condolences at: www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

VIII ship with her parents, settling in rural Viborg, South

Dakota where she Boulter lived until her marriage to Leonard Christensen in 1931. After leaving the farm they moved to Sioux Falls where she worked in Retail. After her divorce she married Alfred Snyder in 1944, moving with him to Pittsburgh PA. She continued to work in retail and also became an apartment manager. In 1950 they returned to So. Dak. where they became owners of a café in Wakonda. Returning to Pittsburgh a year later they became property managers again in Pittsburgh and later in Yankton SD until their retirement.

A few years after Mr. Snyder's death Karen moved to California where she met and married Bliss Boulter. Her active life continued as she traveled, lived in Kansas for awhile and worked as a clerk at Knott's Berry Farm after "retirement." In 2004 she moved to Loveland Colorado.

Karen's youth was spent helping with her parent's farm and learning to fish, play accordion and banjo and becoming a seamstress, cook and baker. She was an ardent RVer and camper, fisherman, dancer and musician, bingo and card player, crafter and choir singer always ready for a new adventure. She was a long time

She is preceded in death by her parents, sons Robert E. Christensen and Leon Burton Christensen, brother Chester Sorensen and his wife Phyllis, sister Helga Sundleaf and her husband Bill, grandson Robert E. Christensen Jr. and greatgrandchildren Stephanie Eiler and Shaun Rogers.

Carrie will be remembered always for her willingness to "work hard" whenever the need arose and for her sweet smile and twinkling blue eyes.

A second Memorial Service will be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church. 305 W. 25th St. Yankton SD on Saturday July 28 at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch at the VFW Hall Post 791, 209 Cedar St. Yankton SD.

Interment will follow at Hillcrest Cemetery in Irene SD. Friends and family are welcome to attend all events.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the VFW Women's Auxiliary Post 791 and Christ the King Lutheran Church.

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the service.

The family has requested that memorials be made to the American Heart Association, 1101 Northchase Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30067 or to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK, 73123-1718. Please visit the online register at www.rowlandfuneralhome.com. Rowland Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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#### Edna Smith

Funeral services for Edna M. Smith, age 94 of Creighton, Nebraska, are pending at Brockhaus Funeral Home in Creighton.

Edna died Wednesday, July 25, 2012, at Avera Creighton Hospital in Creighton, Nebraska.





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