



Mostly Sunny And A Bit Windy

9 a.m.: **68** | 3 p.m.: **83** | DETAILS: PAGE 2

THURSDAY ■ July 11, 2013



Brandon Valley Downs
Yankton • 8

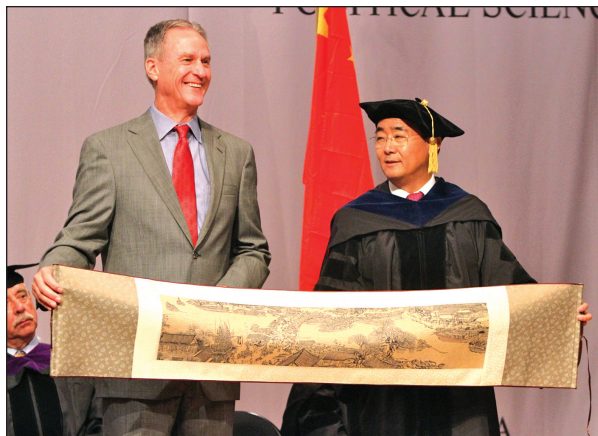
YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN



VOLUME 139
NUMBER 64

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | **12 PAGES** | www.yankton.net

75¢



DAVID LIAS/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK
Bingquan Lu, president and chief researcher of Beijing Bo Zhi Hang Research Institute of Commercial Real Estate in China, presents Gov. Dennis Daugaard with a gift of a beautifully embroidered scroll depicting a river scene as a way of showing appreciation for USD hosting an entrepreneurial institute for Chinese students this week.

East Meets West USD Program Strengthens State's Ties To China

BY DAVID LIAS
david.lias@plaintalk.net

VERMILLION — The second American Visiting Institute for Chinese Entrepreneurs ended Wednesday on the University of South Dakota campus with more than just pomp and circumstance.

At the conclusion of a ceremony at Farber Hall in which the eight Chinese participants "graduated" from the institute, a document was signed by USD and delegation officials indicating plans will be pursued to construct a new residence hall on the USD campus for students from

China and other foreign lands.

"We've been talking for several years about how we at the University of South Dakota can work more closely with our friends," said Dr. Chuck Staben, USD provost, "and we've decided that one thing we'd like to pursue is the possibility of an international residence hall near our campus."

Staben and Ming Liu, a representative of the institute, signed a memorandum of understanding, which Staben described as "the beginning of our planning process to build this international residence hall," Liu's wife, Dr. Ling Zhang, serves as USD's

International Coordinator and also participated in Wednesday's ceremonies.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard, who spoke at Wednesday's ceremony, and Professor Bingquan Lu, whose friendship with former USD professor Eldon Nygaard of Vermillion helped launch the institute last year, both witnessed the signing of the document.

Lu, president and chief researcher of Beijing Bo Zhi Hang Research Institute of Commercial Real Estate, is considered a leading expert on business development.

USD | PAGE 3

Bombing Suspect Pleads Not Guilty

BY DENISE LAVOIE AND
JAY LINDSAY
Associated Press

BOSTON — His arm in a cast and his face swollen, a blase-looking Dzhokhar Tsarnaev pleaded not guilty Wednesday in the Boston Marathon bombing in a seven-minute proceeding that marked his first appearance in public since his capture in mid-April.

As survivors of the bombing looked on, Tsarnaev, 19, gave a small, lopsided smile to his two sisters upon arriving in the courtroom. He appeared to have a jaw injury and there was swelling around his left eye and cheek.

Leaning into the microphone, he told a federal judge, "Not guilty" in his Russian accent and said it over and over as the charges were read. Then he was led away in handcuffs, making a kissing gesture toward his family with his lips. One of his sisters sobbed loudly, resting her head on a woman seated next to her.

Tsarnaev, who has been hospitalized since his capture with wounds suffered in a shootout and getaway attempt, faces 30 federal charges, including using a weapon of mass destruction to kill, in connection with the April 15 attack that left three people dead and more than 260 wounded. He could get the death penalty if prosecutors

BOMBING | PAGE 2

INSIDE



Trouble On The Jim?



KELLY HERTZ/P&D
Gerald Koster, a landowner near the mouth of the James River, describes how the area where he is standing was normally covered with 6-10 feet of water prior to the Missouri River flood of 2011. Officials from several organizations toured the area Wednesday night amid concerns that siltation could cause the James River to back up and cause flooding upstream.

Sedimentation Issues May Pose Problems At Confluence

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

While there is agreement that trouble could be brewing at the mouth of the James River east of Yankton, consensus has not formed as to who should study whether that fear is well-founded.

The James River Water Development District (JRWDD) has been among those drawing attention to the siltation that observers believe could continue and eventually back up the James River. The organization, which will hold a regular meeting at 9 a.m. today (Thursday) at Yankton's Best Western Kelly Inn, hosted a tour of the river's mouth Wednesday night.

"Right now, it's not causing any major issues other than for the landowners (in the immediate area)," said Dave Bartel, the JRWDD executive director. "But it will in the next few years if we don't do something — that's my thought."

He said the JRWDD's involvement is limited by the scope of its mission.

"We don't promote projects, we provide financial assistance for them," Bartel stated. "What we're trying to do tonight is get some interest, somebody who would spearhead getting this project going."

Local landowners transported a group of about 20 people — including JRWDD board members, Yankton County commissioners, a representative of the Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition and media — to a sandy flat at the mouth of the James River that was normally covered by 6-10 feet of water prior to the Missouri River flood of 2011.

"What happened (during the flood) is, the Missouri dug itself deeper and changed course," said Gerald Koster, a local landowner. "When we had all this water, even though there was a lot of water coming out of the James River, there was more coming out of the Missouri, and it backed the Jim River up here."

Sand dunes covered with vegetation, including countless cottonwood saplings, now stretch where water skiers used to glide over the water.

"Is this actually slowing down the evacuation of water from the James River? I don't know," Koster said. "But I know that before when the water was coming by, there was a lot of current. Now, it's kind of like a lake in here."

Dan Driscoll, a hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), said he believes the James River will continue

Highway Projects Falling Behind

No Increases In Federal Funding Holding State Back

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

With no real increase in federal funding, South Dakota highway and bridge projects are falling behind by a decade or more, a state official said Wednesday.

Department of Transportation (DOT) members laid out the financial scene at a meeting hosted by District III Planning and Development in Yankton. The gathering was held ahead of Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) regional meetings.

South Dakota stands to receive \$335 million in federal transportation funding for fiscal year 2014, which runs from Oct. 1, 2013, to Sept. 30, 2014, said STIP coordinator Dave Voeltz.

"We are looking at flat-line budgeting," he said. "If there's more funding, we can move more projects onto our STIP list. If there's less funding, then projects have to move back."

The \$335 million includes \$277 million for highways, \$30 million for bridges, \$22 million for safety projects and \$6 million for other things such as research projects, enhancement and recreation.

Flat funding amounts to a loss when inflation is taken into account, particularly for projects slated years from now, Voeltz said.

"We have a 2 percent inflation factor or more down the road," he said. "If you're planning a \$1 mil-



EMILY NIEBRUGGE/P&D
Dave Voeltz (left) with the state Department of Transportation (DOT) in Pierre and DOT area engineer Ron Peterson of Yankton answer questions about the proposed state highway and bridge plan during Wednesday's meeting in Yankton.

lion project for 2017, you need more funds just to cover four years of inflation."

The DOT has changed the way it schedules STIP projects, he added. The former five-year plan has been changed to an eight-year plan, with a four-year list of projects ready to go and a four-year list of projects still needing development.

Construction projects are not in the cards at this time, Voeltz said.

"As we have in past years, the DOT will remain with preventative maintenance," he said. "It's a chal-

HIGHWAY | PAGE 3

RIVER | PAGE 11

Introducing Bringing You **Peace of Mind**

From left: Erika Detweiler, MSW, CSW, Mary Carole Curran, Ph.D. and Dr. David Vlach

To schedule your appointment, call (605) 655-1240.

Avera Medical Group
Behavioral Health
Yankton