



AMERICA CELEBRATES WORLD CUP TRIUMPH

PAGE 7

YANKTON DAILY PRESSADAKOTAN





Volume 141 Number 61

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







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Obama: ISIS Is Losing Ground

BY JOSH LEDERMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama portrayed the U.S.-led coalition Monday as gaining ground against the Islamic State amid an expanded U.S. effort and ample signs of progress, but conceded more difficulties ahead in fighting what he described as a nimble and opportunistic enemy.

We're starting to see some progress," the president said during a rare visit to the Pentagon, ticking off



a list of towns in Iraq and Syria he said had been wrested from IS control in recent weeks. Flanked by

top military commanders, Obama also warned of the

Islamic State's efforts to recruit and inspire vulnerable people in the United States, and called on the American-Muslim community to "step up in terms of pushing back as hard as they can." He said that while the U.S. is now better prepared to thwart large-scale terrorist attacks like 9/11, the threat from individual "lone wolves" or small terrorist cells has increased.

"We're going to have to pick up our game to prevent these attacks," Obama said.

The Pentagon visit followed a wave of weekend airstrikes by the U.S.-led coalition in eastern Syria, including the de facto IS capital of Raqqa, in one of the most sustained aerial operations carried out in Syria to date. Obama pointed to those and other airstrikes as proof of an intensified U.S. effort to undermine the militant group's base of operations and cut off their

sources of funding. Obama's afternoon visit to the Pentagon offered a public display of presidential support for the military one day before Defense Secretary Ash Carter and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Martin Dempsey were expected to be grilled on Capitol Hill. Senate Armed Services Chairman John McCain, R-Ariz., has sharply criticized Obama for not doing more militarily to defeat IS, and said Monday that the U.S. is losing the battle as the extremist group continues to gain territory in Iraq and Syria.

"President Obama's

OBAMA | PAGE 12

PUC Mulls Keystone

Big Turnout Of Pros, Cons To XL Pipeline At Capitol Hearing

BY STEPHEN LEE STEPHEN

Associated Press

About 100 people filled a large forum room in the state Capitol Monday evening to voice support or opposition to the proposed Keystone XL crude oil pipeline before the state Public Utilities Commission.

In the first two hours, 28 people had aired their opinions, asked by PUC officials to limit their remarks to five minutes. About six of the first 28 speakers opposed the pipeline in the "first-come," order of the public hearing. The hearing was scheduled for 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The first one, John Paul Clifford, introduced himself as a member of the Rosebud Lakota tribe. He told the PUC members seated before him, "You have no jurisdiction," to authorize the pipeline across Indian land.

Any such certificate to Transcanada for such a pipeline "is in direct violation of Article

6 of the U.S. constitution, where-in treaties are deemed the law of the land, especially of the treaties of the Lakota nation," Clifford said.

Several Harding County officials lauded Transcanada and the pipeline, saying it would be an economic boon to the county in jobs and increased tax revenue and that the company has answered any concern they have had. Kathy Glines, auditor and emergency

KEYSTONE | PAGE 11

A New Verse



COURTESY PHOTO

Lee Ann Roripaugh, a poet and a professor of English at the University of South Dakota, has been named South Dakota poet laureate by Gov. Dennis Daugaard. She will serve in that capacity until 2019.

Poet Laureate Finds Inspiration In Ancestry

BY REILLY BIEL

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VERMILLION — Contrary to popular belief, poetry does not just involve rhyming words. Lee Ann Roripaugh, South Dakota's new Poet Laureate, would be the first to say so.

"I typically write in free verse," Roripaugh explained. "I sometimes do contemporary versions of traditional Japanese. I like the form to fit or grasp the theme I'm working with. Each book I've written are about things

similar to my style, and each book feels a bit different." Since July 1, Roripaugh has formally taken the place of the state's former poet laureate, David Allan Evans, who had been the state's poet laureate since 2002. Roripaugh's term will run until 2019.

Born and raised in Wyoming, Roripaugh started writing poetry at a young age using self-help example books, and continued to write for several years. She later developed an interest in music and earned a BM in piano performance at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, eventually obtaining an MM in music history and an MFA in creative writing as well.

Roripaugh continued to write poetry and published her first book, "Beyond Heart Mountain," in 1999. She has been a professor of English at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion since 2000 and serves as the director of creative writing there while also serving as editor in chief for the South Dakota Review journal.

She has since published three more volumes of

Government **Installs Kiosk To Meet Open Meeting Law**

BY BOB MERCER

State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Gov. Dennis Daugaard is complying with a new state law by installing a small kiosk outside the Capitol where public meeting notices can be displayed.

The law took effect July 1 and requires that a meeting notice with agenda be posted for a continuous 24-hour period immediately preceding the meeting.

Some government bodies and offices in South Dakota had posted meeting notices on walls inside buildings that weren't open to the public at night or during weekends and holidays.

The Capitol is one of those buildings. The practice at other state buildings has generally been to tape notices to windows at the entrances so people using the doors can easily see them.

кер. Burt Tulson, R-Lake Norden, and Sen. Ried Holien, R-Watertown, sponsored the new law that adds the "continuous" requirement. The South Dakota Newspaper Association supported its

The law change came in response to an open-meeting complaint against a school board, whose superintendent posted notices inside the

school building.
The Capitol's new kiosk is near the main rear entrance used by many of the state government employees who work there and by many visiting members of the public.

KIOSK | PAGE 11 **POET** | PAGE 12

Old Iron Ready To Roll This Weekend



Don't miss this Friday's WNAX/Tri-State Old Iron Association Tractor Ride through downtown Yankton. Drivers will sport their vintage tractors as WNAX provides spectators will background on the tractors and their drivers. The weekend will feature tractor rides across southeast South Dakota and northeast Nebraska

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN

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After a booming Fourth of July, the summer activities continue as Yankton gears up for its ninth annual WNAX/Tri-State Old Iron Association Tractor Ride which will roll through the area this weekend.

The participants will drive their restored antiques for two separate trips traveling through northeast Nebraska on Friday and southeast South Dakota on Saturday. Friday's trip will end with a parade on at 6 p.m. through downtown Yankton.

This year's event has reached its 200-registration limit. In addition to having drivers representing South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa, it will also feature drivers from New York, Minnesota, Oklahoma and Missouri.

"This is an agriculture area," said Rodger Harts, chair of the event. "There are a lot of people that love to see these old tractors restored, rather than in the

Tractors as old as the late 1930s will be wheeling through Nebraska and South Dakota, he

"They are driving a tractor that their dad and grandpa had," Hart said. "We have three generations of farmers that are driving

in this. It is truly a family affair."
These models being different than the "big business" equipment farmers have today, this event helps younger generations appreciate history and get them excited about farming Hart said.

TRACTOR | PAGE 11







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REGION 2 | OBITUARIES 3 | VIEWS 4 | LIFE 5 | SPORTS 7 | CLASSIFIEDS 9 | MIDWEST 11 | WORLD 12

YANKTON RECYCLING FOR THIS WEEK