



A Mostly Sunny Day

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Yankton Softball Tourney  
Wraps Up Play • **8**

# YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN

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Yankton Soccer Tourney  
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## After Storm Pounds Area, Cleanup Begins



**ABOVE:** A fallen tree blocks off a road in central Yankton Saturday morning after a strong thunderstorm packing winds of up to 60 miles per hour moved through the area. There were numerous reports of tree damage in town, and city officials announced that crews will begin picking up branches from residences today (Monday). **BELOW:** This auto-body shop building in South Yankton, Neb., was destroyed Saturday morning by the storm, which a meteorologist believes may have featured straight-line winds. Downed power lines and power outages were also reported.

## Heavy Rain, Wind Whip Yankton; City Crews To Begin Picking Up Branches Today

**BY RANDY DOCKENDORF**  
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Yankton Lakers baseball coach Alex Mueller was working early Saturday morning at Riverside Field, preparing the diamond for a full day of games.

He wasn't prepared for what hit him in the next few moments.

Around 8 a.m., a huge storm swept through Yankton and the surrounding area, dumping torrential rain, hail and high winds.

"At first things were fine. Then it got black and nasty, and it really started pouring (rain)," Mueller said. There were trees and branches everywhere. You could hardly see two feet in front of you, and there was some hail."

Yankton sustained gusts up to 60 miles per hour (mph), and the storm dumped 1.77 inches of rain at Chan Gurney airport, according to the Na-

tional Weather Service (NWS). The Vermillion area reported 50 mph winds and an inch of rain in just a half-hour. Pea-sized hail was reported around the region.

Besides the 1.77 inches at the Yankton airport, the NWS received reports of 1.40 inches three miles east-southeast of Yankton and 0.69 inches at Tyndall. In addition, the NWS issued a severe thunderstorm warning for Knox County, Neb.

NWS meteorologist Brad Temeyer said Saturday's weather event was more likely a straight line wind, which covers a large area, than a microburst that focuses on a small area.

"It's looking to be a straight line wind event, based on radar," he said. "A lot of wind came out of the thunderstorm, and it hit about the same time as the rain and became embedded. There was no indications with radar to suggest it was a tornado."

The storm carried hail as it worked its way out



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

of Nebraska and into southeast South Dakota, Temeyer said.

"We had a large amount of rain in a relatively small amount of time," he said. "The storm moved out of the area pretty quickly. It weakened temporarily before re-igniting in northwest Iowa."

While Saturday's storm lasted just a few minutes, area residents will continue their clean-up effort for days.

Because of the storm, the City of Yankton will allow free drop-off of tree branches at the transfer station today (Monday). The transfer station is located at 1200 West 23rd Street with hours of 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

City Crews will also pick up tree branches city wide beginning today. Residents are asked to place their tree branches by the front curb no

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## No-Fly Zone Idea Draws Symbolic Comparisons

White House Points To  
Concerns About What Could  
Go Wrong With An Operation

**BY LARA JAKES**  
AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration, trying to avoid getting drawn deeper into Syria's civil war, has pointed to the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 as a symbol of what can go wrong when America's military wades into Middle East conflicts.

But experts say the White House is looking at the wrong Iraq war, especially as the U.S. reluctantly considers a no-fly zone over Syria to stop President Bashar Assad from continuing to use his air power to crush rebel forces or kill civilians.

A no-fly zone is a territory over which warring aircraft are not allowed to fly. The U.S. and international allies have enforced them in several military conflicts over the past two decades.



Obama

When he took office in 2009, President Barack Obama promised to end the U.S. war in Iraq as an example of refocusing on issues that had direct impact on Americans. By the time the U.S. military withdrew from Iraq in 2011, almost 4,500 American soldiers and more than 100,000 Iraqis had died. The war toppled Saddam Hussein but also sparked widespread sectarian fighting and tensions that still simmer.

But when considering a no-fly zone, experts point to 1992, a year after the Gulf War. That's when the U.S. imposed a weakly-enforced no-fly zone over southern Iraq and could not prevent Saddam, a Sunni Muslim, from persecuting and killing hundreds of thousands of Shi-ites whom he viewed as a political threat.

That failure is now being used as a case in point of why the U.S. should or shouldn't police the Syrian sky to prevent Assad from accelerating a two-year death toll that last week reached 93,000.

The White House is undecided on whether it will impose a no-fly zone over Syria, as some have demanded. Egypt's president, Mohammed Morsi, on Saturday called for a U.N. endorsed no-fly zone.

"We've rushed to war in this region in the past. We're not going to do it here," Obama's chief of staff, Denis McDonough, said Sunday on CBS' "Face the Nation."

Vali Nasr, a Middle East expert and dean of the John Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies, argued for a no-fly zone "to prevent Assad from completely dominating this war for all practical purposes. And we need to create a no-fly zone to create a safe zone for refugees that Assad can't reach."

Nasr, who held a senior State Department job during the first two years of the Obama administration, said in an interview Friday that there are risks, "but perhaps the risks are exaggerated. And what it showed in Iraq is that it does not have to be a slippery slope into a larger war."

On the flip side, said retired Navy Adm. William Fal-

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## Albers Competes In Miss USA Pageant Sunday

From P&D and AP Reports

Jessica Albers of Yankton competed in the Miss USA pageant Sunday night in Las Vegas.

Albers, who was crowned Miss South Dakota USA last autumn, was among 51 contestants in the pageant, which was nationally televised.

She did not make the final 15 cutoff in the competition.

The crown was ultimately won by Miss Connecticut, Erin Brady, 25.

The winner will represent the United States at the Miss Universe pageant in the winter.



Albers

## Guard Unit Takes Aim At Archery Site Project

**BY RANDY DOCKENDORF**  
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When it comes to completing its mission in Yankton, a South Dakota National Guard unit is really making the earth move.

The 842nd Engineer Company of Belle Fourche, part of the 153rd Engineer Battalion, is wrapping up two weeks of work at the NFAA Easton Yankton Archery Complex.

The 26 soldiers and 38 pieces of equipment are moving 300,000 cubic feet of dirt — which comes to 6 million pounds.

The mission comes as a bit out of the ordinary for the unit, said 2LT Seth Uschuk.

"We are a horizontal construction engineering company. We conduct earth moving and horizontal construction," he said. "We don't usually work with archery ranges. We work more with roads, landing strips and helicopter pads."

SFC Travis Pokorney agreed. "This is a very unique opportunity for us," he said.

This platoon of soldiers, led by Uschuk and Pokorney, are completing the majority of the earth-moving construction during their two-week annual training. After this time period,

work will be completed throughout the course of the year by various other members of the National Guard until its culmination in June 2014.

The National Field Archery Association (NFAA) will debut the new ranges when it hosts the NFAA Outdoor National Championships and the IFAA World Field Championships July 30-August 8, 2014.

But first, much work remains to be done.

The archery complex sustained massive damage during the 2011 Missouri River flood, said NFAA president Bruce Cull.

Two years after the flooding, much damage still remains even with the use of inmate labor and other resources, Cull said. He turned to Lt. Gov. Matt Michels, a Yankton native, and SDNG officials about the possibility of using their soldiers and equipment to move forward with the repairs.

"We realized the damage after the flood, and we talked to anybody we could," Cull said. "As a non-profit, charitable sports education (entity), I asked if the National Guard would help us."

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RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

The 842nd Engineer Company of Belle Fourche keeps the dirt flying as it hits the home stretch of a two-week earth-moving project at the NFAA Easton Yankton Archery Complex in Yankton. The current work — necessitated by 2011 flood damage — will be continued in phases by other South Dakota National Guard units during the next year. When completed, the \$1.12 million project will host national and world championships in 2014.