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Irene-Wakonda Claims Class B Crown At State Track • 8

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An Unsettled And Stormy Weekend



A Department of Transportation crew pushes this section of a steel metal building from Highway 46 near the Highway 81 intersection Sunday after the section was torn from the main structure and blown onto the roadway by a possible tornado. Traffic was blocked for more than an hour by the damage. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)

Senate To Take Up New VA Bill

BY DINA CAPIELLO Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Details of a re-fashioned bill to address the problems plaguing the federally run veterans' health care system were released Sunday by its sponsor, the chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

Sen. Bernie Sanders, a Vermont independent, posted a summary of his bill Sunday and said it would be introduced this week.

The bill includes several new provisions aimed at fixing the long delays for veterans' care. The long-simmering issue erupted into a scandal in April and led to last week's resignation of VA Secretary Eric Shinseki after a federal investigation into the troubled Phoenix VA Health Care System found that about 1,700 veterans in need of care were "at risk of being lost or forgotten" after being kept off an official waiting list.

The investigation also found broad and deep-seated problems throughout the sprawling health care system, which provides medical care to about 6.5 million veterans annually.

Sanders said in a statement issued Sunday that while the people who have lied or manipulated data must be punished, "we also need to get to the root causes of the problems that have been exposed."

The bill would allow veterans facing long delays to seek care outside the VA, at private doctors' offices, military bases or community health centers. It also authorizes emergency funding to hire new doctors and nurses and would provide scholarships or forgive college loans for doctors and nurses who go to work at the VA. In addition, it would give the department authority to fire poor-performing executives, but not

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Wild Weather Brings Damage, Moisture To Area



This power pole near the intersection of Highway 50 and West City Limits Road was pushed over by strong winds during a storm that moved through Yankton at mid-afternoon Saturday. Power outages at several businesses and residences were reported.

From P&D Staff Reports

A possible tornado destroyed a portion of a steel metal building west of Irene Sunday to cap a weekend of wild weather that featured strong winds and hail, some badly needed rain and localized flooding.

The damage to the manufacturing facility located at the intersection of highways 81 and 46 in northern Yankton County was reported by law enforcement at 2:06 p.m. Sunday. Powerful winds tore away a portion of the building and pushed it more than 50 yards onto Highway 46, stopping traffic on the roadway until a Department of Transportation crew was able to remove the section from the road using loaders.

Yankton County Emergency Management also responded to the scene. No injuries were reported.

Waves of storms began moving through the Yankton area shortly after 1 p.m. Sunday. According to the National Weather Service (NWS), a wind gust of 68 miles per hour was reported at Chan Gurney Municipal Airport at 1:35 p.m. Brief small hail was also reported.

The storms also spawned reports of tornado activity. A funnel cloud was reported near Crofton, Neb., with cyclonic cloud motion reported on the west edge of Yankton several minutes later. A funnel cloud was also reported above the Sioux Falls airport at approximately 3 p.m.

Hail was also reported in the Bloomfield, Nebraska, area at 2:11 p.m. Sunday, according to the NWS.

Rainfall was a welcome arrival with the

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USD Student Chosen For National Seminar

BY DEREK BARTOS derek.bartos@yankton.net

VERMILLION — A local student has been selected as one of only a few scholars nationwide for a seminar this summer.

Tasha Anderson, a doctoral student at the University of South Dakota in political science with a public administration interest, was recently notified she has been chosen to participate in a Social Entrepreneurship Doctoral Seminar sponsored by Syracuse University and Villanova University. Selection for the event was limited to 10 doctoral students and one to two post doctoral degree candidates.

"I was really excited I got in, with how limited it was," said Anderson, a 1991 Yankton High School graduate. "I'm thankful I have this opportunity."

Anderson also received a \$1,750 scholarship toward the \$3,500 cost of the event.



Anderson

To be considered for the seminar, applicants entered essays indicating their reasons for studying social entrepreneurship, which seeks to identify and solve social problems.

With a specific interest in nonprofit administration and leadership, Anderson said she believes the seminar will fit

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Amy Miner, who teaches language arts and drama at Yankton High School, was recently selected as the Yankton Education Association Teacher of the Year.

YHS' Miner Named YEA Teacher Of The Year

BY DEREK BARTOS derek.bartos@yankton.net

When Amy Miner looks back at her return to the Yankton School District, she's reminded of a quote by the philosopher Heraclitus.

"There's that saying that no man ever steps in the same river twice, because either the river changes or the man does," the teacher said.

Earlier in her career, Miner taught language arts and drama at YSD before pursuing continued education in Hawaii. When she returned to the district sev-

eral years later, she found that her entrance into the same classrooms was much like the man taking another step in the river.

"The assignments are similar — freshman grammar, sophomore composition — but I'm so much different, and so is the way I approach the curriculum," Miner said. "It's a real gift for me to be back after having this cultural and educational experience I had. I feel reincarnated — and way more effective."

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TOMORROW: GF&P To Finalize Deer Seasons At Yankton Meeting

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: SOUTH OF 15TH STREET