



Mostly Sunny

9 a.m. **68** 3 p.m. **84** | DETAILS: Page 2

SATURDAY ■ June 27, 2015



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YANKTON DAILY

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75¢



The U.S. Supreme Court Alters The Cultural Landscape With A Decision That Renders Same-Sex Marriage Bans Unconstitutional

## Court KOs Ban



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Kaitlin Drobny, 20, of Yankton (left) and Tara Harvey, 24, of Brookings (right), was the first same-sex couple issued a marriage license in Yankton County on Friday afternoon at approximately 3:30 p.m. The couple was able to obtain a marriage license after Supreme Court's decision earlier that day.

### Yankton Co. Issues Its First License

BY ALYSSA SOBOTKA

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Yankton County's register of deeds office issued its first same-sex marriage license Friday afternoon after the U.S. Supreme Court decision allowing same-sex marriage nationwide was handed down earlier in the day.

Tara Harvey, 24, of Brookings, and Kaitlin Drobny, 20, of Yankton signed their marriage license at approximately 3:30 p.m. Friday afternoon at the County Government Center.

"Maybe it'll be easier for people to start accepting (LGBT individuals) because now it's more normal, just like

any other marriage," Drobny told the *Press & Dakotan*.

The couple explained the coincidental timing of the decision, as they were in Yankton Friday making final preparations for their already-scheduled wedding celebration.

"(Saturday) we were getting married anyways, but we didn't think (the ruling) was going to pass," Drobny said.

"We are having our wedding and reception (Saturday), but since this passed, it was perfect timing," Harvey added.

Harvey and Drobny met three years ago at a concert in Sioux Falls and

have been engaged for one year.

Drobny explained how their wedding will be different than planned due to the Supreme Court's decision.

"(Friday's ruling) makes it more official," she said. "We are having our celebration (today), but now it's going to be legal in the eyes of everybody."

Yankton County Register of Deeds Brian Hunhoff issued Drobny and Harvey the license.

In a phone interview prior to issuing the marriage license, Hunhoff explained to the *Press & Dakotan* what preparations had to be completed

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### Court Clears Way For Same-Sex Marriages With 5-4 Decision

BY MARK SHERMAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Same-sex couples won the right to marry nationwide Friday as a divided Supreme Court handed a crowning victory to the gay rights movement, setting off a jubilant cascade of long-delayed weddings in states where they had been forbidden.

"No longer may this liberty be denied," said Justice Anthony Kennedy.

The vote was narrow — 5-4 — but Kennedy's majority opinion was clear and firm: "The court now holds that same-sex couples may exercise the fundamental right to marry."

The ruling will put an end to same-sex marriage bans in the 14 states that still maintain them, and provide an exclamation point for breathtaking changes in the nation's social norms in recent years. As recently as last October, just over one-third of the states permitted gay marriages.

Kennedy's reading of the ruling elicited tears in the courtroom, euphoria outside and the immediate issuance of marriage licenses to same-sex couples in at least eight states. In Dallas, Kenneth Denson said he and Gabriel Mendez had been legally married in 2013 in California but "we're Texans; we want to get married in Texas."

In praise of the decision, President Barack Obama called it "justice that arrives like a thunderbolt."

Four of the court's justices weren't cheering. The dissenters accused their colleagues of usurping power that belongs to the states and to voters, and short-circuiting a national debate about same-sex marriage.

"This court is not a legislature. Whether same-sex marriage is a good idea should be of no concern to us," Chief Justice John Roberts wrote in dissent. Roberts read a summary of his dissent from the bench, the first time he has done

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### How South Dakota Banned Same-Sex Marriage

BY BOB MERCER

Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — South Dakota voters approved an amendment to the state constitution in 2006 requiring marriages could be between only a man and a woman.

The tally was 172,305 yes and 160,152 no.

The Legislature proposed the amendment in the 2005 session. Its prime sponsor was Rep. Elizabeth Kraus, R-Rapid City.

House members approved sending it to the ballot on a vote of 55-14 and senators agreed 20-14.

The amendment added two sentences to the state constitution:

"Only marriage between a man and a woman shall be valid or recognized in South Dakota. The uniting of two or more persons in a civil union, domestic partnership, or other quasi-marital relationship shall not be valid or recognized in South Dakota."

The Legislature's attempt to block gay mar-

MARRIAGE | PAGE 9

### Freeman Journalist To Receive National Honor

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF

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FREEMAN — When it comes to a journalism career, Jeremy Waltner finds there's no place like home.

Waltner, a Freeman native, said he could have worked for daily newspapers. Instead, he returned to his hometown in 1999 to serve as news editor for the Freeman Courier weekly newspaper.

It marked a family reunion. His father, Tim, serves as publisher of the paper in the community of 1,300 residents.

However, Jeremy Waltner didn't just get by on the family name. During the past 16 years, he has taken the paper to new heights in winning state, national and even international awards.

And he's done it all before his 40th birthday.

"One of the reasons we have done well at Freeman is that I know Freeman, live in Freeman and breathe Freeman," he said.

For his outstanding achievements, Waltner has been awarded the Daniel M. Phillips Leadership Award from the National Newspaper Association. He will receive the award Oct. 3 during



Waltner

NNA's annual convention and trade show in St. Charles, Mo. He will be recognized in the Publisher's Auxiliary tabloid, as well.

This award is presented to an individual 23-40 years old who is well respected in his or her community, of

good reputation and integrity, provides active leadership in the newspaper industry and is active in his or her state press association and community and whose newspaper is a member of NNA.

Waltner will make history as the first person from the state to win the award, said South Dakota Newspaper Association (SDNA) general manager Dave Bordewyk.

"I have known Jeremy for more than 20 years," Bordewyk said. "His skills in journalism are surpassed only by his love for his family, his devotion to his community and his passion for newspapering. He represents all the best in community journalism."

Tim Waltner said he sees his son's everyday work as important as the

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### A Class Photo



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Cancer survivors gathered at the Riverside Park amphitheatre for this photo just before the start Friday night of the annual Yankton Relay for Life. The annual event raised funds for the fight against cancer and also includes music, games luminary tributes. The event was expected to wrap up at daybreak today (Saturday).

### New Hudson Report Coming Monday, Trial Looms

BY ROB NIELSEN

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A written report on the latest psychiatric evaluation of Joshua Hudson, who stands accused of murdering his uncle, will be released on Monday.

But during a special motions hearing Friday, Deputy State's

Attorney Erich Johnke said he'd been told by doctors administering the latest forensic exam that it was their opinion that Hudson was sane when he allegedly killed his uncle on March 7, 2014.

An earlier evaluation, called by the defense, concluded that Hudson is suffering from schizophrenia and would've been

defined as legally insane at the time of the killing.

A subsequent analysis, performed by the Human Services Center for the state, was inconclusive on Hudson's mental state at the time.

Hudson was present for

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MONDAY: Fireworks Season Brings Injury Concerns

YANKTON RECYCLING FOR NEXT WEEK

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