

MIDWEST DIGEST

S.D. Officials: Flood Concerns Will Linger

PIERRE (AP) — Flooding is likely to remain a problem in South Dakota through the first week or two of April. National Weather Service meteorologist Todd Heitkamp said Sunday that the James River is expected to crest Sunday evening after setting new records for height. Earlier Sunday, the James was measured near Ashton at 25.16 feet, which is above the old record of 25.03 feet and well above the flood stage of 13 feet. Heitkamp says some rivers won't crest until early April. State Emergency Management Director Kristi Turman says officials are monitoring the flooding, which is mostly in eastern South Dakota. Turman says ice jams remain a concern on the northern James River. Many other rivers and lakes also remain near record levels.

Turkey Plant Looks Into Rendering Business

HURON (AP) — A Huron turkey plant wants the city to allow it to build a rendering plant to process fresh poultry offal into pet food. A hearing examiner is recommending the city commission approve the variance when it considers the request at its meeting on Monday. The 10,000-square-foot plant is proposed for an 8.4-acre site surrounded by the city's wastewater lagoons. It would cost about \$6.5 million and initially employ 17 workers, with the possibility to grow to 40 as the turkey plant adds shifts. Dakota Provisions Chairman Jeff Sveen says the plant will render its own poultry and won't process dead animals or accept beef offal from other facilities. Nearby neighbors have voiced concerns about odors and how discharges into the lagoons could affect air quality.

Earthquake Shakes North-Central Nebraska

SPRINGVIEW, Neb. (AP) — Residents of north-central Nebraska recently received a surprising shake from an earthquake this week-end. The U.S. Geological Survey says a 2.7 magnitude quake struck at 8:11 p.m. Friday, and it was centered about 20 miles north of Ainsworth, not far from the South Dakota border. The quake was felt in the town of Springview, but no damage or injuries were reported. Nebraska is not known for its earthquakes, but it has experienced several notable shakes since it became a state in 1867. The USGS says the most serious of them was a magnitude 5.1 quake on Nov. 15, 1877, in the east-central part of the state. No fatalities were reported, however.

More Hunting Accidents In S.D. During 2009

PIERRE (AP) — Most of the 37 hunting-related accidents in South Dakota last year occurred during the pheasant hunting season. In addition, the state Game, Fish and Parks Department reported one death from a heart attack during a pheasant hunt, and one injury that occurred during recreational trap shooting. The number of accidents last year topped the 20-year average of 32. It included two cases in which hunters fell when a tree stand collapsed.

Neb. Senator To Hold Transportation Summit

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — U.S. Sen. Ben Nelson will hold a summit in Lincoln later this month to discuss Nebraska transportation projects — particularly how to finish them more efficiently. Nelson says his transportation summit on March 30 will bring representatives from local, state and federal organizations to the table. The Nebraska Democrat says road-building funds are in short supply at all levels of government. He says Nebraska needs to make sure the money it receives or allocates for projects is spent as soon as possible to put people to work fixing bridges and roads.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

UNL Pianist Gets Show On The Road

BY NATE JENKINS
Associated Press Writer

LINCOLN, Neb. — No, Nicole Narboni won't be hauling duck decoys or other hunting gear in the camouflage trailer she calls "Lovely" that she's taking on the road this week through western Nebraska.

Instead, the trailer will hold a piano, and a big one at that — about 1,000 pounds, 7 1/2 feet long. And unlike most classical musicians who may drive by towns like Lewellen (pop. 280) on their way to big markets where lots of people know the difference between Chopin and Cher, Narboni plans to stop there for more than gas.

"Maybe I can ignite in some people, and re-ignite in others, an interest in classical music," says the senior lecturer in piano at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Narboni doesn't go just anywhere on what has become an annual road trip to bring classical music to different corners of Nebraska. A look at some of the towns she plans to visit this week gives a clue: Bridgeport, Harrison, Morrill, Oshkosh.

She tries to focus on towns of less than 1,000 or so that are clearly not on the radar screens of classical musicians when they pen their performance itineraries.

It's far from a moneymaker for Narboni, who grew up an Air Force brat in different

parts of the world and has become fond of her adopted state after living here 15 years. In fact, she doesn't charge people a dime for her performances.

With the classical-music audience dwindling, pro bono piano work seemed like a good idea to Narboni or, as she says, "in 20 years, there won't be anyone to come to concerts."

This is the third year Narboni will have toiled her piano to small-town Nebraska, and it's mostly been paid for with a \$10,000 grant. That's \$10,000, total, for all three years.

The money could all be gone after this year's road trip. "I'm not going to stop looking for money," Narboni said.

The idea of hauling her piano around the state started a few years ago when she was pondering the possible death of the music she loves. At the same time, she read in People magazine of a pianist who was toting a piano around. In addition, money became available for such ventures at the University of Nebraska and "a friend said to me 'Why don't you take your piano on the road?'"

So she did. The venues are a far cry from those she has played in far-flung locales including Morocco, Prague and Paris.

She mostly plays in school gyms, often for students. Afterward, she lets students touch the Yamaha C7 piano, and even play it a bit.

Civilian Wounded In Iraq Honored With Medal

BY STEVE YOUNG
The Argus Leader

VERMILLION — Long after the chaos, after the tearing flesh, the searing pain, the agonizing days of rehab and the tortured, sleepless nights, Tate Mallory finally understands. He is a hero.

That confirmation came recently, in a ceremony in suburban Washington, D.C., in which this former South Dakota sheriff was awarded the Defense of Freedom medal — a Pentagon citation that is the civilian equivalent to the military's Purple Heart.

Mallory received it because, having gone overseas as a civilian contractor in July 2006 to recruit and train Iraqi policemen, he almost died after being hit by a rocket-propelled grenade. In fact, the Iraq War tried to kill Mallory twice — when that grenade punched a hole through his gut and damaged nerves in his right leg, and in the months afterward when post-traumatic stress disorder convinced him that his future in law enforcement was over and his life wasn't worth living anymore.

"He came back so depressed," his fiancée, Kari Swartos, said as the pair sat in the kitchen of their rural Vermillion home. "He kept dwelling on the injury. It was like, 'Oh my gosh, what am I going to do now?' It was like a 'I-failed-my-family-I-failed-my-kids-I-failed-you' attitude."

Unfortunately, civilian contractors come home to little fanfare or attention. The Labor Department, which tracks injuries to contract workers abroad, estimates that since 2001, more than 1,700 civilian contractors have died in Iraq and Afghanistan, and almost 40,000 have been reported

injured.

Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., said the work Mallory and other contractors did to recruit and train 135,000 Iraqi policemen and security forces is a significant reason why America is closer to winding down its presence there now.

"This is absolutely a critical role," Thune said of civilian contractors such as Mallory. "And the area he was involved in was essential to our ultimate success there."

In July 2006, the White River native and former Mellette County sheriff took 14 years of South Dakota law enforcement experience with him to work for a Virginia-based company called DynCorp.

While civilian contractors often are characterized as mercenaries more interested in the money to be made than the job to be done, that wasn't true with him and Mallory, said Gary Hoegner, a retired police officer from Moline, Ill., who was the South Dakota's "battle buddy" as they worked together in Anbar province.

"We kind of felt as if we wanted to do something after 9-11 out of a sense of patriotism," Hoegner said. "Money was really not a part of it. Our mission was to actually have cops teaching people how to be cops, instead of asking soldiers to do that. And Tate was very good at it."

Mallory was only three months into his work when his three-Humvee group was attacked in the western Iraqi town of Anah on Oct. 17, 2006. The grenade hit him in the right side of his lower back, fragmenting but not exploding as it exited his lower abdomen and then went into and out of his right leg.

The femoral artery and nerve in his right leg had been severed,

and blood poured from his body until Marines saved his life.

Afterward, Mallory wasn't sure they did him any favors.

"I came home, and I didn't enjoy anything. I didn't want to do anything. I was numb," he said.

While rehab brought him back physically, it would be much longer before he could silence the demons that drove him to the point where, three years ago, he begged his brother, Brad, to help him end his life.

Relationships with family and friends disintegrated. Even with his fiancée and his four children — Shania, 12; Cheyenne, 11; Tristin, 9; and Tate Jr., 8 — Mallory preferred the solace of his bedroom to spending time with them.

"He didn't feel like working. He didn't feel like doing anything," Swartos said. "We had major fights about it, fights a lot. I knew something was wrong. He needed to know that what he did was worth it, that it was important."

Two years ago, she and Hoegner and Mallory's bosses at DynCorp began the process of getting him the Defense of Freedom medal, which was created by the Defense Department after 9-11.

It's a long process, said Mike Warren, director of DynCorp's employee assistance program. More than a hundred contract workers have received it, but corporations such as DynCorp or Houston-based KBR have to nominate their workers, and the Pentagon must give final approval.

Mallory wasn't even sure he deserved it.

"I didn't feel like I deserved anything for getting shot," he said. "It's not like I saved a bunch of children from a burning

building. I was just sitting in a vehicle that got blown up."

But he did deserve it, said Bob Rosenkranz, executive vice president and chief of staff for DynCorp., just as he deserved the company's Valor Award medal — the highest honor DynCorp can bestow on its employees.

Rosenkranz remembered visiting Mallory in a combat hospital in Baghdad and asking him whether he needed anything. "He responded that he needed a quick recovery," Rosenkranz recalled, "so he could return to his police mentoring tasks."

That didn't happen. But this past Feb. 17, at a Marriott hotel in Falls Church, Va., DynCorp gave Mallory and another injured employee, Ken Leonard, the recognition it thought they deserved for their service and sacrifice.

Representatives from Thune's office and the State Department were there along with Mallory, his fiancée, his friend Hoegner and others from the military and DynCorp.

Mallory, who hopes to finish his criminal justice degree at the University of South Dakota in May 2011 and work in parole or court services, started to think maybe he was deserving.

"I didn't feel like I was worthy at first," he said. "But that ceremony, I thought it was pretty cool."

"I think it did bring me some closure. Now I feel like I can put this all behind me. I look forward to the future and not thinking about Iraq all the time. I'm ready to get done with school and move on."

He's ready, finally, to start believing that his sacrifice was important. And now he's got the medals to prove it.

Slow Recovery For Custer Park Bighorns

BY WAYNE ORTMAN
Associated Press Writer

SIoux FALLS — A contagious pneumonia shows no sign of retreat five years after it killed 75 percent of the bighorn sheep in Custer State Park. The spring lambing season has produced no offspring since then and an aging herd once numbering more than 200 is down to 28 animals.

Bighorns elsewhere in the Black Hills appear healthy, although there's always a chance

the herds could mingle and the disease could spread.

For now, it's wait and see, said Gary Brundige, the resource program manager and former wildlife biologist in the 71,000-acre park in the Black Hills.

"In other herds that have had these pneumonia outbreaks in the West it takes a number of years for the herd to start producing again," he said. "The flip side is that in Hell Canyon on the Idaho-Oregon border the sheep herd that had a big die off is going into its 11th year with vir-

tually no production. So we're five years in and in another five or six years we may not have any sheep left."

The Custer Park bighorns began dying in early 2005, possibly after a ram picked up the disease from a domestic sheep herd outside the park. The bighorn herd dropped from 200 animals to about 48 in spring 2005 and is down to 28 now.

The surviving bighorns appear resistant to the disease, but apparently can pass it on to others. Lambs born in late May

and early June live for a few weeks and then die, said Brundige.

"So the thought is that once these lambs get through their first colostrum immunity that they're actually developing the disease from contact with the adults."

Other Western states report the disease. More than 400 bighorn sheep in Nevada, Montana, Utah and Washington have died or been killed by wildlife officials this winter.

Where You Find Business & Professional EXPERTS!



Business AD-vantage

A NEW BREED OF YELLOW PAGES

<p>APPLIANCE SALES/SERVICE</p> <p>Kaiser Appliance Center 2000 Broadway, Yankton 665-2082 • 1-888-593-5723</p>	<p>CLEANING</p> <p>Steamway CLEANING 665-5700 1-800-529-2450</p> <p>• Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning • Duct Cleaning • Fire & Water Restoration Specialists</p>	<p>FUNERAL & CREMATION</p> <p>Wintz & Ray FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc. Yankton • 605-665-3644</p> <p>Garden of Memories Cemetery</p>	<p>INTERNET</p> <p>Your Gateway To Yankton's Virtual Community</p> <p>Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan 319 Walnut, Yankton, SD 605-665-7811 1-800-743-2968</p>
<p>Larry's APPLIANCE</p> <p>920 Broadway, Yankton 665-9461</p> <p>LG Amana MAYTAG</p>	<p>COMFORT FOOTWEAR</p> <p>Boston Shoes To Boots 312 West 3rd, Yankton, SD 605-665-9092</p>	<p>Wintz FUNERAL HOME Hartington, Coleridge & Crofton 402-254-6547</p> <p>wintzfuneralhome.com Trusted For Generations</p>	<p>MASONRY</p> <p>Brent Schremp Masonry Inc.</p> <p>• Stone Work • Brick Veneers For All Your Masonry Needs Brent Schremp, Owner 405 Burgess Road, Yankton Home 665-3423 • Cell 661-7545</p>
<p>AUTO BODY REPAIR</p> <p>The Collision Center 911 Chevy Lane, E. Hwy. 50, Yankton, 665-7670</p>	<p>DECORATING</p> <p>Yankton Paint & Decorating 406 Broadway • 665-5032 (Since 1964)</p> <p>• Carpet • Vinyl • Wood • Ceramic & Laminate Flooring • Window & Wall Treatments Benjamin Moore and Pratt & Lambert Paint</p>	<p>HEATING & COOLING</p> <p>KPH Heating & Cooling 1901 Broadway, Yankton 665-3970</p>	<p>PEST CONTROL</p> <p>Olson's Pest Technician www.800kilbugs.com 1-800-kil-bugs</p>
<p>BANKING</p> <p>Services Center Federal Credit Union 609 W. 21st, Yankton, SD</p>	<p>ELECTRICAL</p> <p>Johnson Electric, LLP Fast Courteous Service For All Your Electrical & Trenching 214 Capital, Yankton, 665-5686</p>	<p>Kaiser Heating & Cooling</p> <p>Let our professionals help you with your heating & cooling needs.</p> <p>• Residential & Commercial • Sales • Service • Installation 808 W. 23rd, Yankton 665-2895 • 866-769-2343</p>	<p>PETS</p> <p>Canine Grooming Center, L.L.C. 718 Douglas, Yankton, 665-8885</p>
<p>First Dakota National Bank 225 Cedar St., 665-7432 2105 Broadway, 665-4999</p>	<p>FAMILY MEDICINE</p> <p>Lewis and Clark Family Medicine, PC 1101 Broadway, Morgan Square Yankton, SD • (605)260-2100</p>	<p>HEATING & COOLING</p> <p>Larry's Heating & Cooling 920 Broadway, Yankton 665-9461</p> <p>Carrier Tune to the Experts</p>	<p>RADON SERVICES</p> <p>Radon Measure & Mitigation Certified (NEHA & NRP)PP Delmer Vennard, Yankton, SD 668-0756 • 661-4690</p>
<p>BATH & KITCHEN CABINETRY</p> <p>The Kitchen Place 309 W. 11th Yankton, SD 605-668-2168 • 1-800-249-3837</p>	<p>FINANCIAL</p> <p>Rick Althoff, CLU, ChFC, MSFS Financial Planning Associates 114 W. 3rd, Yankton, 605-665-1590</p>	<p>REALTORS</p> <p>Shore to Shore Realty www.LewisAndClarkShores.com Licensed in South Dakota & Nebraska</p>	<p>FRAMING/HOME DECOR</p> <p>Lily Crest Cottage 211 W. 3rd, Yankton, 664-8800 www.lilycrest.com</p>

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF DIRECTORS OF B-Y WATER DISTRICT

TO BE HELD ON
MARCH 31, 2010

at the Scotland VFW Building, 531 First Street, Scotland, South Dakota, at 1:30 p.m. for the purpose of electing directors to succeed those whose terms are about to expire. Those directors whose terms are about to expire and the division which they represent are: Allen Namminga, Div. No. 4; Gary Frank, Div. No. 5; Hugh Healy, Div. No. 8; and Lee Herrboldt, Div. No. 9.

It's not just a body shop, it's...

Justa's Body Shop

2806 Fox Run Pkwy
Yankton, SD 57078 • 665-3929

We guarantee that everything we do is done in a professional and hassle-free manner. We don't see our customers as customers. We see them as our friends. Stop by and see John at Justa's Body Shop for all your auto body and paint needs.

• Paintless Dent Repair	• Insurance Work	• Frame Straightening
• Restoration Work	• Glass Installation	• Lifetime Paint Warranty
• Loaner Car Available	• Down Draft Bake Booth	

GOT NEWS?

Call The Press & Dakotan At 665-7811

Also online at
www.yankton.net