



A Gorgeous Start To The Week!

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MONDAY ■ March 9, 2015



**USD Men To Meet
South Dakota
State In Summit
Semifinals • 7**

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Sports



**Yankton 5th At
State Hockey
Tourney • 7**

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South Dakota

Lawmakers To Finish Budget In Final Week

BY JAMES NORD
Associated Press

PIERRE — South Dakota lawmakers will pass a state budget this week to wrap up their work for the main part of the 2015 legislative session. They also plan to consider a proposal to hike funding for roads and bridges and a plan to overhaul the state's juvenile justice system.

Here's a look at some of the proposals they'll take up in Pierre:

BUDGET

The big issue on the agenda is the proposed state budget, with \$1.44 billion in general fund spending in Gov. Dennis Daugaard's proposal. The Joint Appropriations Committee will hear updated state revenue estimates Monday, which will shape the discussion. Daugaard said Friday that revenue for the current fiscal year is down, but lower spending than anticipated will balance that out. For the next budget cycle that starts July 1, some proposed spending increases might have to be curtailed, he said.

Senate Majority Leader Tim Rave agreed the state's surplus revenue appears smaller than anticipated.

Daugaard proposed about \$50 million in new general fund spending in his budget for fiscal year 2016. Lawmakers have estimated they will have between \$10 million and \$16 million less to work with for new spending, but those numbers are uncertain.

TRANSPORTATION

A proposal to hike funding for roads and bridges is one of the proposals Daugaard is watching closely. The House State Affairs Committee is expected to take up the Senate version of the highway funding bill, which is a more limited version of the plan Daugaard initially proposed.

The House has already dispatched a separate version of the plan to focus on the Senate proposal. House Majority Leader Brian Gosch has said he expects amendments to restrict the revenue raised in the measure, which will set up negotiations on

PIERRE | PAGE 3

Wanted: Volunteers

Workers Sought For 2015 World Archery Youth Tourney

BY JORDYNNE HART
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Organizers for the 2015 World Archery Youth Champions are looking for volunteers for the nine-day tournament in June.

With more than 40 different positions available and nearly 1,000 shifts that range from helping on the field to being a greeter, the tournament is going to need a lot of bodies to run the event.

"I think internationally, different cultures have trouble finding volunteers," said tournament coordinator Nancy Wenande. "When I had spoken to the secretary general of World Archery, he had asked me the question last month, 'Do you have all the volunteers lined up.'"

Wenande said she told him she didn't, and that the volunteers positions weren't even posted yet. "He just had this look of fear that came over his face," Wenande said. "He said that in his country, it was very difficult to find volunteers and that they had to pay people to do a lot of

ARCHERY | PAGE 3

Happy Warriors!



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Crofton players (from left) Quinn Wragge, Monica Arens and Allison Arens enjoy a moment to chat following Saturday night's Class C2 championship win over Hastings St. Cecilia in the Nebraska State Girls' Basketball Tournament in Lincoln. For game details, see page 7.

District 18

Cracker Barrel Focuses On Minimum Wage, Education And Transportation

BY JORDYNNE HART
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The final District 18 legislative cracker barrel of the 2015 session touched on various issues Saturday at the Avera Sacred Heart Pavilion.



J. Hunhoff



Stevens

Rep. Mike Stevens (R), Rep. Jean Hunhoff (R), and Sen. Bernie Hunhoff (D) discusses the details of the issues looming in the final week of the session's main run.

MINIMUM WAGE

It was less than four months after South Dakota approved a minimum wage increase that the Legislature passed a bill establishing a special, lower minimum wage for youth, 17 years-old and younger. They would be paid at least \$7.50 instead of the new level of \$8.50 that went into effect Jan. 1. The governor has said he is undecided about signing the measure.

Sen. Hunhoff and Rep. Stevens both voted against the bill while



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Sen. Bernie Hunhoff shakes hands with Yankton High School football player Sam Bisgard during Saturday's District 18 legislative cracker barrel at the Avera Professional Pavilion. Several members of the Bucks' football team were on hand to hear a legislative proclamation congratulating the team for winning the Class 11AA state football championship last fall.

Rep. Hunhoff voted for it.

Bernie Hunhoff said that, from a philosophical standpoint, there is something wrong with saying 17-year-olds are worth less than 18-year-olds.

"I mean, a lot of them are alongside washing dishes with people that are older than them who are doing the same job," Hunhoff said. "I think most 17-year-olds can out-wash me, or throw bails better than I can. To say that they are worth less is the wrong message."

But Jean Hunhoff said she saw things a little differently. "From the input that I was getting

ISSUES | PAGE 2

DWU Axing All Language Courses Except Spanish

MITCHELL (AP) — Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell plans to drop most of its foreign language courses and only teach Spanish by 2016, University officials said.

The decision to eliminate all but one of its foreign language courses came after seeing low enrollment numbers and needing to place faculty into some of the other English literature and composition courses, reported the *Mitchell Daily Republic*.

"As any good business, we need to ensure that we are using our faculty talents and resources to the maximum benefit of our students, their goals and their aspirations," said University President Amy Novak.

Currently, students can study German, Italian and Spanish with courses in Greek, Latin and Japanese offered based on student interest and instructor availability. But only two to 10 students enrolled in German, Italian and Latin each semester at the university, whose arguably best known alumnus is late U.S. Sen. George McGovern, a vice presidential candidate who later worked often with the United Nations.



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TOMORROW: School Board Hears Report On The Status Of Crane Youngworth Field

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK:

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OF 15TH STREET