



**INSIDE: Our Spring Home Improvement Guide**

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75¢



## S. Dakota Revenue Coming Up Short

Economists:  
Income May  
Come In  
\$10M Below  
Estimates

**BY JAMES NORD**  
Associated Press

PIERRE — South Dakota's revenue collections next year will likely fall short of projections made when Gov. Dennis Daugaard proposed his state budget in December, state economists told a budget-setting legislative panel on Monday.

Economists for the governor's budget office and the Legislature gave two relatively similar pictures of lower-than-expected gains in state revenue from taxes and other general

revenue to the Joint Appropriations Committee. Lawmakers in a sub-panel on Monday afternoon agreed to recommend to the full committee a middle ground between revenue estimates.

That means lawmakers are looking at about \$10.4 million less revenue than projected in December for the upcoming 2016 budget cycle that begins on July 1, and it means about \$7 million less for the current cycle.

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**We Have Tip-Off!**



DICK CARLSON/INERTIA

The ball was up and tip-off commenced the semifinal round Summit League Championship Tournament game between South Dakota State University and the University of South Dakota Monday evening at the Denny Sanford Premier Center in Sioux Falls. SDSU won the game 78-65 and advances to tonight's (Tuesday) finals. For more details on the game, see page 8.

### Sports



**USD Women Make Finals • 7**

**10 DAYS UNTIL SPRING**  
#ThinkSpring

## 80 mph Measure Tacked On To Highway Funding

**BY BOB MERCER**  
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — State senators said Monday afternoon they don't know what to expect when the House of Representatives considers a highway and bridge funding package today, including a new twist to increase the interstate speed limit to 80 miles per hour.

Wyoming, Montana, Idaho and Texas have 80 mph limits. South Dakota is at 75. The amendment to raise South Dakota to 80 came from Rep. Mark Mickelson, R-Sioux Falls, as the House State Affairs Committee considered the package of tax and fee changes.

Various members of the House committee succeeded in amending different parts of the legislation, which now bears little resemblance to the version of SB 1 that was approved by the Senate 26-8 nearly four weeks ago on Feb. 11.

The House version now calls for larger increases in various vehicle registration fees, allows counties to charge up to \$60 per vehicle in wheel taxes and calls for a series of 2-cent increases per gallon in gasoline and diesel taxes annually for three years.

Among the representatives

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## A Little Out Of Control



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Yankton firefighters were summoned to a small grass fire along Aspen Drive west of Yankton at 3:30 p.m. Monday. According to the fire department, a controlled burn was done inside an unauthorized burn receptacle and the fire, pushed by swirling variable winds, spread. While it covered only a small area, it did threaten a house just a few feet away. Also, a van and a cart trailer sustained minor damage. The fire danger index was in the "very high" category Monday, and the person doing the burn was unaware of that listing. Anyone planning to do a controlled burn should call the Yankton Fire Department at 668-5210 to check on the latest burn conditions.

## City Supports 'Champions Week'

**BY ROB NIELSEN**  
[rob.nielsen@yankton.net](mailto:rob.nielsen@yankton.net)

The city of Yankton proclaimed its full support for March for Meals during Monday night's meeting of the Yankton City Commission.

Mayor Dave Carda read aloud a proclamation naming the week of March 16-21, 2015 as Commu-

nity Champions Week to commemorate the 41st anniversary of Meals on Wheels and raise awareness of senior hunger.

Christy Hauer, director of the Yankton Senior Center, was on hand to talk about the work The Center does in the community on the issue of senior hunger.

"Senior hunger in Yankton is a serious problem, and I'm really

thrilled to be able to shine a light on it and create some community awareness that it is a problem," Hauer said. "We give away \$1,800-\$2,000 worth of meals to people that cannot afford to purchase a meal. If you know about our program, it's only \$3.50 to purchase a meal,

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## Options For Crane Stadium Reviewed

**BY JORDYNNE HART**  
[jordynne.hart@yankton.net](mailto:jordynne.hart@yankton.net)

A comprehensive report pertaining to Crane-Youngworth Field was presented to the Yankton School Board (YSB) Monday night at the March monthly meeting.

Chuck Turner, director of buildings and grounds, said deterioration of the field could possibly render the structure unsafe in as little as three to five years.

"The concrete is not a safety problem today, but it could be down the road," he said.

"(Superintendent Dr. Wayne Kindle) had asked me to have an engineer look at the grandstand in particular. They recommended a more in-depth testing."

From that, Geo Tek was contracted to take core samples of the actual concrete. The company did rebound hammer tests in 21 different locations. The results came back at 3,130 per square inch (psi).

"Concrete in the 3,000 and up range is structurally sound," Turner said. "Newer concrete, with the way it's placed, can actually get up into the 6,000 psi. But we are talking about a facility that is 97 years old."

Though the concrete was deemed in good condition, Turner said the school district was given a five-year window to either rehabilitate or totally replace the structure.

The question is: Which one?

"Obviously, rehabilitation is only temporary," Turner said. "If the determination came to the decision to drop the grandstand and build a new one, that little concession stand underneath it is not going to survive that — which isn't all bad because we do have some serious needs there. Concessions are way different than it was 60 years ago, and everyone who has gone to a football game and

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## Musical Journey



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Explorers Lewis (Bradley Clark, right) and Clark (Ashton Christ) use song to discuss their exploration of the territory known as the Louisiana Purchase during "The Adventures of Lewis and Clark, presented by the Beadle School fourth- and fifth graders Monday night at the YHS/Summit Activities Center theatre. The program used music and humor to explore aspects of their journey. To see more images from this event, visit [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

## South Dakota

## Senate To Argue Transgender Policy For High School Athletes

**BY BOB MERCER**  
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — State senators will square off today about whether the Legislature should declare void the participation policy for transgender athletes that was adopted last year by the South Dakota High School Activities Association board of directors.

Sen. Brock Greenfield, R-Clark, forced the debate through his use of a procedural maneuver, known as a smoke-out, on Monday.

Greenfield found sufficient support to require the Senate Education Committee to reconsider the legislation and deliver it to the Senate floor.



Van Gerpen

The committee then voted 5-2 to recommend that the bill, HB 1195, do not pass.

Greenfield needs at least 18 ayes to get the bill onto the Senate debate calendar as the next step. If that succeeds, the bill would be alive again and could be passed by a majority of 18 senators.

Besides declaring the SDHSAA policy void, the legislation would set a law regarding transgender athletes. The bill states: "For purposes of participation in athletics sanctioned by the association, the sole

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