



**Sunny And Mild**

9 a.m.: **40** | 3 p.m.: **69**

FORECAST DETAILS: PAGE 2

**WEDNESDAY** ■ March 11, 2015

**Watertown  
Puts An End  
To Bucks'  
Season  
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**75¢**



**Jacked Up!**



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton native **Chloe Cornemann** (left) celebrates with her South Dakota State University teammates after the Jackrabbits beat South Dakota for the championship of the Summit League Women's Basketball Tournament Tuesday at the Denny Sanford Premier Center in Sioux Falls. For more details, see page 8.

# Yankton County Imposes Burn Ban

## Dry And Windy Weather Conditions Cause Burn Ban

BY JORDYNNE HART

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Because of dry and windy weather conditions looming, Yankton County Emergency Management has issued a burn ban for the county that took in effect Tuesday and will last through Monday, March 16.

"Right now, the information that we are getting from the National Weather Service in Sioux Falls is indicating that the high risk will go on until Monday," Yankton County Emergency Management Director Paul Scherschligt said. "We are going to be looking at it from day to day. If something would change from today or tomorrow, we will let everyone know."



Scherschligt

Lack of snow cover, dry conditions, warmer temperatures and stronger winds today (Wednesday) through Friday will create a very high grassland fire danger, Scherschligt said in a press release.

"The wind is the main thing," he said. "It is dry out there. Any kind of wind can push fire fast and hard. The conditions out there are very favorable for a land fire to get out of control. I just ask for people to hold off on burning their trash — even if they have the required receptacles. It is not going to take much with the way the conditions are."

Yankton Fire Department Deputy Chief and Fire Marshal Larry Nickles said, in order for the ban to be lifted, Yankton County would need to see some spring rains to help start greening things up.

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## City Saves Money, Time Because Of Cancelled Election

BY ROB NIELSEN

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The next month could've been a month the city of Yankton would spend preparing for a municipal election. However, when the petition deadline passed on Friday, Feb. 27, there were two school board candidates running for two school board positions and three city commission candidates vying for three open seats. The election, set for April 14, was canceled for the first time since 2004.

City manager Amy Nelson said there are now a number of steps the city doesn't have to take.

"We actually have people in the community that work our election, so usually during this time, the finance office helps to train them on what their responsibilities are," Nelson said. "There's some very stringent rules on how you (run an election) and so we train our election workers. We also would have, at a certain point, absentee voting available so people could come in and vote absentee."

City finance officer Al Viereck said this also means a number of other measures.

"Mostly it involves a lot of

**ELECTION** | PAGE 14

**CORRECTIONS**

The concert photo in Tuesday's *Press & Dakotan* listed the wrong school presenting the event at the YHS/Summit Activities Center theatre. Stewart Elementary School presented the concert. We apologize for the error.

In Tuesday's story by Bob Mercer concerning the transportation bill, it was incorrectly stated that Montana has an 80 mile per hour speed limit on its interstate highways. In fact, Utah, rather than Montana, has an 80 mph speed limit, as do Wyoming, Idaho and Texas.

**9 DAYS UNTIL SPRING**  
#ThinkSpring

## Three Injured In Accident



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Three people were injured and taken for medical treatment after this rollover accident on 898th Rd. about three miles southeast of South Yankton, Nebraska, at approximately 5:20 p.m. Tuesday. The Cedar County Sheriff's Office responded to the call, with Yankton firefighter and emergency responders also on the scene. No other information was available at press time.

## Missing Yankton Man Being Sought

From P&D Staff Reports

Yankton police are looking for a 52-year-old man who has been missing since Monday.

According to a press release, John E. Tinker was reportedly last seen traveling to Sioux City, Iowa, on Monday. He is described as 5 feet, 8 inches tall, 258 pounds with brown hair. He was last seen wearing brown carpenter's pants, a brown and tan poncho and a tan ball cap.

The police said Tinker is in need of medications. If you have any information on his whereabouts, contact the Yankton Police Department or your local law enforcement agency.

You can contact the Yankton Police Department at 605-668-5210 or Crime Stoppers at 605-665-4440.



Tinker

## State House Passes Proposal To Hike Road And Bridge Funding

BY JAMES NORD

Associated Press

PIERRE — A proposal to hike funding for roads and bridges by more than \$50 million in its first year has passed the full South Dakota House, but the bill will likely require further legislative negotiation before it is finished.

The South Dakota House voted 54-14 on Tuesday for the transportation funding bill, which also includes an increase in the maximum speed limit on interstate highways to 80 mph. The measure now heads back to the Senate for its consideration, and House Majority Leader Brian Gosch said he anticipates the bill will require negotiations in a conference committee.

The proposal the House took up is a modified version of the transportation plan that Gov. Dennis Daugaard originally proposed and that the

Senate had passed. It raises road and bridge funding through increases in fuel taxes, fees and other assessments.

Rep. Mary Duvall, who is the main House sponsor of the proposal, told her colleagues that it's time for lawmakers to address funding for the state's transportation infrastructure.

"The need is there, and it is well documented and it is overwhelming," said Duvall, R-Pierre. "As much as we dislike talking about raising taxes and fees, I honestly think this is a responsible thing to do."

A House committee on Monday amended the bill to further raise vehicle license plate fees and give the counties the authority to increase the wheel tax more than initially proposed. The additional vehicle license plate fee hike means

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## A Boost To Lodging Capacity

### EconoLodge Motel Opens At The Right Time

BY ROB NIELSEN

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Yankton is on the verge of what could arguably be its largest tourist season in recent memory. With open hotel space at a premium, EconoLodge Motel's opening on Monday came at the right time.

Carmen Schramm, executive director of the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce, said there's a great need for as many hotel rooms as possible.

"We need more hotel rooms," Schramm said. "Events seem to keep piling up on each other on the same weekend. It just gives us more opportunity to be able to bid on more projects, more conferences and more events."

Brandy Brown, general manager for the EconoLodge Yankton, said customers are starting to trickle in.

"(Business) has been all right, we've had a few people," Brown said. "It'll be slow for the first week or two, I imagine."

Brown said the winter slowed the construction process down a bit.

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KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Yankton's EconoLodge Motel opened its doors and 59 rooms to customers Monday. It's hoped by civic leaders and ownership alike that the new motel can help ease the strain on Yankton's lodging capacity.