

Hunhoff

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fine job of reporting, but I was very disgusted with the message. In fairness, our governor was just reciting his party's national talking points and what you hear on FOX News. It (the governor's remarks) was more worried about getting re-elected and doing what's popular than what's necessary."

Daugaard's message is repeated by GOP leaders in other states, Hunhoff said.

"The anti-government message makes for good rhetoric, but not for a good state and nation," the Yankton lawmaker added.

Ironically, South Dakota's GOP leaders talk anti-government at a time when one-third of the state's budget comes from Washington, Hunhoff said.

South Dakota depends on the federal government for funding Ellsworth Air Force, the Lewis and Clark pipeline, the Sanford Lab, farm income, transportation, Pell grants for college students, Medicare and Medicaid, and other programs, he said.

"We get \$1.60 back for every dollar we send to Washington, more than almost any other state," Hunhoff said. "Running against Washington when you are in Pierre is like the proverbial dog that bites the hand that feeds it."

Hunhoff pointed to Republican congressional leaders' vow to obstruct any program from President Obama and Democrats, along with House Speaker John Boehner's refusal to allow Obama to address the nation last September.

As a result, moderate U.S. senators are leaving office in droves, Hunhoff said.

In South Dakota, Hunhoff said Democrats have worked with the GOP majority in many areas: economic development, reforming jobless benefits and providing training for the unemployed, starting a new tourism tax, encouraging and expanding ethanol, investing in the Sanford/Homesake underground lab, protecting Ellsworth with the Ellsworth Authority and building the state's wind energy industry.

On the other hand, Hunhoff said South Dakota Democrats have fought funding cuts for education and providing unneeded corporate incentives — such as for the TransCanada oil pipeline — which divert money from state programs.

"There are occasions where we (Democrats) draw the line," he said. "That's why we are obstructionists when the governor has gone too far."

That included the diversion of federal stimulus funds for education, Hunhoff said.

"When the federal government sent South Dakota schools some one-time monies to survive, state government kept the \$26 million for its own coffers," he said.

"We have \$1 billion in reserves and trust funds. The state was never anywhere near going broke. We balanced the budget with one-time funds."

Democrats are currently fighting the governor's education package and also a bill that would divert \$15-20 million annually from the general fund, he said.

Hunhoff likened the state's cuts in services to the recent 100th anniversary of the Titanic sinking.

"State government survived, but it shoved things like K-12, health care and our other partners off the raft," he said. "The Democrats don't want to kick people off the raft. We are trying to keep everyone afloat."

Hunhoff said many of his party's stands reflect the feelings of the greater public.

"In the court of public opinion, we were obstructionists, but we were right," he said.

Democrats have also shown the ability to work with the GOP majority, Hunhoff said. He invited Republicans to join forces with his party on key issues facing South Dakota.

"We (Democrats) were obstructionists at times, but we were constructionists many other times," he said.

Yankton County will play a key role in seeing the Democratic Party enjoy a renaissance, Hunhoff predicted. He pointed to the roomful of Yankton County members as a key starting point.

"If the South Dakota Democratic Party is going to revive itself, it's going to happen along the southern corridor, from Dakota Dunes to Hot Springs," he said. "There's going to be the southern resurgence."

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/RDockendorf

Researchers Say They Have New Clue To Lost Colony

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — A new look at a 425-year-old map has yielded a tantalizing clue about the fate of the Lost Colony, the settlers who disappeared from North Carolina's Roanoke Island in the late 16th century.

Experts from the First Colony Foundation and the British Museum in London discussed their findings Thursday at a scholarly meeting on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Their focus: the "Virginea Pars" map of Virginia and North Carolina created by explorer John White in the 1580s and owned by the British Museum since 1866.

"We believe that this evidence provides

conclusive proof that they moved westward up the Albemarle Sound to the confluence of the Chowan and Roanoke rivers," said James Horn, vice president of research and historical interpretation at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and author of a 2010 book about the Lost Colony.

"Their intention was to create a settlement. And this is what we believe we are looking at with this symbol — their clear intention, marked on the map ..."

Attached to the map are two patches. One patch appears to merely correct a mistake on the map, but the other — in what is modern-day Bertie County in northeastern North Carolina — hides what appears to be

a fort. Another symbol, appearing to be the very faint image of a different kind of fort, is drawn on top of the patch.

The American and British scholars believe the fort symbol could indicate where the settlers went. The British researchers joined the Thursday meeting via webcast.

In a joint announcement, the museums said, "First Colony Foundation researchers believe that it could mark, literally and symbolically, 'the way to Jamestown.'" As such, it is a unique discovery of the first importance."

White made the map and other drawings when he traveled to Roanoke Island in 1585 on an expedition commanded by Sir

Ralph Lane. In 1587, a second colony of 116 English settlers landed on Roanoke Island, led by White. He left the island for England for more supplies but couldn't return again until 1590 because of the war between England and Spain.

When he came back, the colony was gone. White knew the majority had planned to move "50 miles into the maine," as he wrote, referring to the mainland. The only clue he found about the fate of the other two dozen was the word "CROATOAN" carved into a post, leading historians to believe they moved south to live with American Indians on what's now Hatteras Island.

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