

## **VIEWS OF 'THE RING OF FIRE'**

Millions of people across the world gazed — safely, one hopes — at the annular solar eclipse that occurred Sunday. Millions of early risers in Asia turned their attention skyward to view a rare "ring of fire" eclipse as it crossed their skies Monday morning. Meanwhile, skywatchers in this country who missed out on the total eclipse Sunday night (our time) got to witness the rare celestial spectacle of seeing a new moon move partially in front of the sun. The eclipse was still under way as the sun set in Yankton. ABOVE: Tom Cihak of Yankton captured this image of the eclipse near its maximum coverage. He shot this image through an 8-inch telescope. RIGHT: Kelly Hertz of the Press & Dakotan shot this photo of the eclipsed sun shining over Lewis and Clark Lake at 8:06 p.m. Sunday. BELOW LEFT: The solar eclipse shows a ring of light around the moon at 7:34 a.m, Monday in Tokyo, Japan. BELOW RIGHT: Children wear solar eclipse glasses to observe the annular solar eclipse at Sekiguchidaimachi Primary School in Bunkyo Ward, Tokyo, at 7:37 a.m. Monday. (Yomiuri Shimbun/MCT)



YOMIURI SHIMBUN/MC1

Bonds

Stocks

Policy Loans .

Deferred and

Reserve for Life

Reserve for Accident & Health Policies..... Policy and Contract Claims

Legals continued from page 14

19640
FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
Year Ending December 31, 2011
COLUMBIA NATIONAL
INSURANCE COMPANY
Home Office Address:
10820 Harney Circle
Omaha, NE 68154
Mail Address:
P. O. Box 618
Columbia, MO 65205
ASSETS

ASSETS		
Bonds 51,252,146		
Stocks		
Mortgage Loans on		
Real Estate 1,103,534		
Real Estate Owned 0		
Cash and Bank Deposits		
Agents Balances or		
Uncollected Premiums 10,894,115		
Interest, Dividends and		
Real Estate Income		
Due and Accrued		
Other Assets		
TOTAL ASSETS		
LIABILITIES, SURPLUS, OTHER FUNDS		
Reserve for Losses		
Reserve for Loss		
Adjustment Expenses 6,125,926		
Other Expenses (excluding		
taxes, licenses and fees)		
Taxes, licenses and Fees		
(excluding Federal and		
Foreign Income Taxes)		
Federal and Foreign		
Unearned Premiums		
All Other Liabilities		
TOTAL LIABILITIES		
Special Surplus Funds		
or Statutory Deposit		
Gross Paid In and		
Contributed Surplus 12,806,281		
Unassigned Funds (Surplus) 17,237,276		
Surplus as Regards		
Policyholders		
TOTAL		
Direct Premiums Written		
Direct Premiums Earned 4,533,924		



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Summit

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In an escalating election-year environment, Obama was as at the center of the action in Chicago. beaming and boasting about the city's performance in hosting the event. Noisy protesters loaded the city's streets at times, which Obama called just the kind of free expression NATO defends.

Tensions with Pakistan undermined some of the choreographed unity. Pakistan has not yet agreed to end the closure of key transit routes into Afghanistan - retaliation for American airstrikes that accidentally killed 24 Pakistani soldiers months ago — and the issue hung over the summit.

Ŏbama had no official talks with Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari, although the two chatted briefly. Obama spoke of progress on the standoff but he added: "I don't want to paper over real challenges there. There's no doubt that there have been tensions.'

On Afghanistan, led by Obama, the partners are in essence staying the course. They stuck with a timeline long established and underscored that there will be no second-guessing the decision about when to leave.

Since 2010, they have been planning to finish the war at the end of 2014, even as moves by nations such as France to pull combat troops out early have tested the strength of the coalition. The shift to have Afghan forces take the lead of the combat mission next year has also been expected. Leaders presented it as a significant turning point in the war.

It will be "the moment when throughout Afghanistan people can look out and see their own troops and police stepping up to the challenge," said the NATO chief, Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen.

What the world is poised to leave behind is an Afghanistan still riddled with poverty, corruption and political instability.

YOMIURI SHIMBUN/MCT

Student

From Page 1

she has either acted or been involved with the crew in every play except one since she has been in high school.

"The first actual play I was in was during my freshman year for the high school production of 'Romeo and Juliet," Sylvester said. "I was instantly hooked with theatre

from then on." Sylvester began writ-

ing when she was in fifth grade and hopes to continue in some aspect of theatre as her career, she said.

stories, and the longest would be about 20 pages," Sylvester said. "I was so proud that I could fulfill a story. In middle school I didn't really write as much and then in high school writing took a back seat.'

Press and Dakotan magazine, Her Voice, she said.

"I took Creative Writing this semester and writing kind of came back," Sylvester said. "Last summer, I was working on a writing project that didn't really fall through, but it was when my writing started up again."

Sandy Hoffner taught Creative Writing this year. She said she could tell Sylvester loves to write.

"Kavla is a verv enthusiastic writer." Hoffner said. "She is a great encourager of her peers and was always supportive

"It's a serious writing project. In the past when I've written something and not finished it, no one has known that I even started it. With this, I've committed to it and it's open for criticism."

the pages to the stage," Sylvester said. "The only problems I have had with writing it so far is the way I see it in my head. I feel like I want to direct it if I'm writing it."

Writing for the stage requires leaving it open to adaptation, Sylvester said.

'That's what writing a script and performing a play is all about," Sylvester said. "What I've been working on so far is getting the planning figured out and adding more conflict to the situation to make it more of a production."

**KAYLA SYLVESTER** 

Ŝylvester will have a hard time deciding when the play is finally done, Hoffner said.

"To write a play, you really have to understand the elements of fiction and you have to know how to expose a charac-

ter completely through

dialogue and directions on stage,"

Hoffner said. "It's a difficult feat and

(Sylvester) is very much a perfection-

Sylvester admits she is a bit nervous

to actually start writing the production.

"It's a serious writing project,"

Sylvester said. "In the past when I've

written something and not finished it,

no one has known that I even started it.

Eggers said although the process of

With this, I've committed to it and it's

writing a play will be difficult, it will be

great to see Sylvester bring it back to

"It'll be a challenge but it will also

probably be one of the most rewarding

experiences and something she will feel

really good about doing when she com-

the high school when she is done.

open for criticism.'

pletes it," Eggers said.

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2,648,771 Direct Losses Paid Direct Losses Incurre 3,349,703 STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF INSURANCE STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Columbia National Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Nebraska, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State South Dakot

NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed

- 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-15-17-18 1. Life 2. Health

- 3. Fire & Allied Lines
- Inland & Ocean Marine
   Workmen's Compensation
- 6. Bodily Injury Liability
- (Other than Auto) 7. Property Damage (Other than Auto)
- 8. Auto Bodily Injury
- 9. Auto Property Damage 10. Auto Physical Damage
- 11. Fidelity & Surety
- 12. Glass
- 13. Burglary & Theft 14. Boiler & Machinery
- 15. Aircraft 16. Credit
- 17. Crop-Hai 18. Livestock
- 19. Title
- 20. Var. Annuities 21.

in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S. D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2012.

MERLE SCHEIBER Director of Insurance

Life	3,290,738
Life Accident and Health	19,163,138
General Expenses	
Due or Accrued	1,259,006
Taxes, Licenses & Fees	
Due or Accrued	10,282,907
Federal Income Taxes	
Due or Accrued	2,346,924
All Other Liabilities	<u>32,781,111</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$76,834,099
Special Surplus Funds	
Capital Paid Up	
Gross Paid In and	
Contributed Surplus	20,451,512
Unassigned Surplus	87,010,035
Surplus as Regards	
Policyholders	\$109,961,547
TOTAL	186,795,647
BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2011	
Direct Premiums Received	\$4,851,957
Direct Losses Paid	3,390,003
Losses Incurred	3,543,935

77828

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT Year Ending December 31, 2011

COMPANION LIFE

**INSURANCE COMPANY** 

Home Office Address:

2501 Faraway Drive Columbia, SC 29219 Mail Address:

PO Box 100102

Columbia, SC 29202-3102 ASSETS

Mortgage Loans on Real Estate . . . . . . . 0

Uncollected Premiums . . . . . . . . . 609,184 Investment Income

 Due and Accrued
 1,000,090

 Other Assets
 9,121,734

 TOTAL ASSETS
 \$186,795,647

TAL ASSETS ..... \$186,795,6 LIABILITIES, SURPLUS, OTHER FUNDS

Real Estate Owned . . . . . . . .

. . . . . . . . . . . . . \$81,602,749

190,868,832

..... 43,758,734

STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Companion Life Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of South Carolina, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State South Dakota: NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director

of Insurance of the State of South Dakota pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:

- 1-2 1. Life
- 2. Health 3. Fire & Allied Lines
- Inland & Ocean Marine
   Workmen's Compensation
- 6. Bodily Injury Liability
- (Other than Auto) Property Damage (Other than Auto)
- 8. Auto Bodily Injury
   9. Auto Property Damage
   10. Auto Physical Damage

- Fidelity & Surety 12. Glass
- 13. Burglary & Theft 14. Boiler & Machinery
- 15. Aircraft 16. Credit 17. Crop-Hail

- 18. Livestock
- Title 19.
- 20. Var. Annuities 21

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Sheana Eggers, an English teacher at Yankton High School, had Sylvester in class. She said Sylvester's character and involvement in other activities will help while she writes the play.

"She has so many interests and does such a broad variety of activities," Eggers said. "She's not just academic — she's in dance and theatre and gets good grades. Her life experience lends itself well to writing this play and adapting it to how she lives her life and her outlook on things.

Sylvester said she is taking more writing classes and getting more involved with journalism because she enjoys writing many different types of stories.

She began working with the Yankton High School newspaper, the Woksape, and now has become involved with the

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brought his electronic expertise home to help grow the addition. Another option for the new vehicles is an app which can be downloaded to an iPhone. This app allows a controller to keep track of the speed of the vehicle and then determine how to adjust the gearing to change speeds. Colby said the batteries which come with the cars will race for about 25 minutes but longer-lasting battery packs can be purchased.

Another addition to the business is Jason Skovly, a Yankton native. who also has moved back home to the Yankton area. Skovly has lived in Montana

with great ideas for them."

Writing is the most fun part of theatre, Sylvester said. She works in a movie theatre and said watching movies is her favorite thing to do.

"I get way too into it sometimes," Sylvester said. "I like to dissect them and even took Survey of Film this year, which was cool because I could take a different look at movies."

Eggers, who taught Survey of Film, said she knew Sylvester was interested in the class.

"(Sylvester) had a lot to say during discussion and you could tell she looked at the films from more of a dramatic eye," Eggers said. "She had a different perspective that was a more sophisticated point of view."

Sylvester said "Today's Special: Yes It Is" is the perfect starting point for her writing because the story is already developed

"I have to transfer the story from

where RC racing has become a very popular sport. He has moved home with his wife Crystal and 5-year-old son Shane.

"Remote-Controlled racing cars have become very popular and one of the reasons is because it is a family-type activity," said Skovly. "Any age can participate from as young as 5 to 6 years old to grandparents. It gets anyone off the couch from in front of the TV and outside.'

One can compare running the RC cars with a gaming console but it is real time and real life, Skovly said.

Skovly added there were indoor tracks up north as well as outside dirt tracks that were very popular because these vehicles are waterproof. Hobbyists are very eager to put the vehicles to the test and they are capable of running in mud and even snow.

"And kids being kids, they break

things. Surely, parts on these vehicles can be broken but the neat thing about this new age RC cars, any part can be repaired," said Skovly. "Repairing them can be used like a learning tool." Boecker added these parts are genuine OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) parts for all the car buffs out there.

Boecker and Skovly attended a recent Crofton City Council meeting to talk to the city fathers about developing a dirt track. The nearest racing track for the scaled-down motorized vehicles is Sioux Falls. The council referred the businessmen to the Park Advisory Board to see what is available.

The body shop staff invites everyone to come in and see what kind of excitement the hobby line has to offer.



## Crofton