

Above-Normal Temps, Dry Soil Aid SD Farmers

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Above-normal temperatures and drier soils accelerated spring planting across South Dakota.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says in its weekly crop report that producers had on average 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork.

Winter wheat conditions were rated 31 percent very poor, 28 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 8 percent good and 0 percent excellent.

Calving was 94 percent complete and lambing was 96 percent complete.

Cattle and calf conditions were rated 0 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 8 percent excellent.

Larson To Be School And Public Lands Chief

PIERRE (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard says he will appoint Vern Larson of Vivian as South Dakota's commissioner of school and public lands.

Larson, a former state treasurer and state auditor, will replace Jarrod Johnson as head of the agency that administers state lands set aside to support schools and state institutions.

Johnson announced last month he is resigning effective Aug. 15 for family reasons. Larson's appointment will take effect when Johnson leaves the office.

Larson will serve out the remainder of the term, which ends in January 2015, but he will not be a candidate for the office in 2014.

Larson was elected state auditor in 1978 and was re-elected five times, serving from 1979-2003. He was elected state treasurer in 2002, serving two terms from 2003-2011.

Attempt To Axe Neb. Sales Tax Law Rejected

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Lawmakers have rejected an attempt to repeal a new Nebraska law that lets cities raise their local option sales tax rates, as long as they secure voter approval.

The law gives cities the power to ask voters for an increase to as high as 2 percent, up from the current 1.5 percent lid imposed by the state. Lawmakers voted Monday not to reconsider a measure filed by Sen. Ernie Chambers, of Omaha.

Supporters of the law argue that any increase would require majority support from local residents, and cities would have to designate a specific use for the money. Chambers has argued sales taxes disproportionately affect the poor, who pay a larger share of their income when buying goods and services.

Honor Song Group Protests Exclusion

CHAMBERLAIN (AP) — Members of the Crow Creek and Lower Brule tribes gathered outside the National Guard Armory in Chamberlain to play an American Indian honor song for high school graduates as they filed out of the building.

The school board last week rejected a request to have the honor song played as part of Sunday's commencement ceremony. Board members said a feathering ceremony the night before graduation honors tribal students and that the commencement exercise should be about recognizing academic achievements rather than cultural ties.

Drum circle singer Kevin Wright says the honor song played outside the armory on Sunday was for all of the graduates.

About one-third of the 900 students in the school district are Indian.

911 Hang-Up Leads Police To 4 Pounds Of Pot

SIoux FALLS (AP) — A hang-up call to 911 helped lead Sioux Falls police to a hotel room containing four pounds of marijuana.

Police say they were called to the Staybridge Suites at about 3 a.m. Sunday. After officers checked out one room to no avail, Police Spokesman Sam Clemens says they smelled marijuana coming from another room. He says an officer also spotted a man jumping out of the hotel window.

Police say that inside the room was marijuana, about \$4,500 and a wallet that included ID. Twenty-year-old Justin Urquhart was arrested about an hour later.

Police say that they found another \$7,000 in the suspect's pocket when he was arrested. He faces several drug-related felony charges.

AG Releases Results Of Sobriety Program

PIERRE (AP) — Nearly 120 people have taken nearly 125,000 sobriety tests using an ignition interlock device as part of South Dakota's 24/7 Sobriety Program.

Attorney General Marty Jackley released the testing results of the ignition interlock device on Monday. The devices have been a part of the 24/7 Sobriety Program since October.

Jackley says participants using the ignition interlock devices passed with a 99.5 percent rate.

The ignition interlock device is installed in a motor vehicle, and a defender is required to test twice a day, whether they drive the vehicle or not. Participants must pay for the devices.

Whiteclay Vandalism Investigated

BY GRANT SCHULTE

Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — State law enforcement officers were helping patrol a small Nebraska town Monday following the vandalism of two beer trucks earlier this month near a South Dakota Indian reservation where alcohol is banned.

Col. David Sankey, the superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol, said more officers will keep watch on the tiny Nebraska town of Whiteclay during beer deliveries because of an uptick in vandalism from protesters opposing beer sales.

Whiteclay sits on the border of South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, a poverty-stricken area that prohibits alcohol but is nonetheless plagued by alcoholism.

Activists have protested in Whiteclay for decades with marches, campsites and road blockades designed to stop alcohol from crossing into the reservation. The Oglala Sioux tribal government filed an unsuccessful federal lawsuit last year that sought \$500 million in legal damages from the town's four beer stores, its distributors and the global manufacturers.

Sankey said most of the protests over the years have remained peaceful, but authorities are concerned that the vandalism could escalate. Many of the activists are not from the area, he said, and they're avoiding arrest by crossing

back onto the reservation, where Nebraska authorities have no jurisdiction.

"The level to which these folks have increased these activities is concerning to us," Sankey said during a conference call with reporters on an unrelated issue. "Most of the folks over the years have demonstrated. They've perhaps blocked the highway, perhaps tried to block entrance to one of the retail outlets, but it's been mostly peaceful. This group in the last few weeks has escalated their level of violence, and it's certainly got our attention."

Authorities have made no arrests. Sankey said the patrol is working with the Sheridan County sheriff's office in northwest Nebraska, as well as the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs. A phone message left with the Oglala Sioux Department of Public Safety, which oversees law enforcement on the reservation, wasn't immediately returned Monday.

Vandals have hit two beer trucks in the last three weeks and reportedly threatened one truck driver with a knife. In the first incident on May 3, activists reportedly told a beer truck driver to leave town, and then flashed a knife. They then started stomping on beer containers in the shipment, smashing them against the truck and throwing them into the street. The truck's two front tires were slashed, said Vic Clarke, a Whiteclay grocery store owner who witnessed the attack.

The second vandalism act happened on May 13. It caused more than \$10,000 in damage to a beer truck owned by High Plains Budweiser, said Jeff Scheinost, president of the Scottsbluff-based distributor.

Two of the company's trucks had stopped for a delivery at Stataline Liquor when a sport utility vehicle drove up from the south, Scheinost said. Between five and seven people jumped out and smashed both of the truck's headlights, two of its windows and the windshield, and slashed its right-front tire.

No one was hurt. Scheinost said three of his employees were inside the store at the time, and a fourth who was unloading the truck ran inside to get them. By the time his workers returned, Scheinost said the vandals were gone.

Scheinost said workers made another delivery on Monday without incident, while the Nebraska State Patrol and Sheridan County sheriff's deputies stood watch.

"There was a significant presence," he said.

A cellphone message left for activist Olowan Martinez, who has recently protested in Whiteclay, wasn't immediately returned. The Native American from Porcupine, S.D., has previously said that the protests were peaceful, but intended to send a message that the beer suppliers aren't welcome in the area.

Omaha Task Force Probes 4 Slayings 5 Years Apart

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A federal, state and local task force is investigating the possibility that the killings of a Creighton University professor and his wife may be linked to the unsolved 2008 stabbing deaths of an 11-year-old boy and his family housekeeper, Omaha police announced Monday.

Omaha Police Chief Todd Schmaderer told a news conference that authorities are "exploring very hard" the possibility that the killings of Dr. Roger Brumback and his wife, Mary, are linked to the unsolved deaths of Thomas Hunter and 57-year-old Shirlee Sherman.

Schmaderer would not elaborate on any connections, but acknowledged a tie to Creighton University. Roger Brumback was a pathology professor and colleague of Thomas' parents at the university's school of medicine. Thomas' father, Dr. William Hunter, works in the same department as Brumback did, and the boy's mother, Dr. Claire Hunter, works in the cardiology department.

"The Omaha police department is very concerned about these homicides and whether or not they may be related," Schmaderer said. "The safety of our citizens and visitors to Omaha is our top priority, and we will do everything in our power to bring justice and closure to

the families and to the Omaha community."

The task force includes more than a dozen police detectives, as well as FBI and State Patrol personnel. The chief said authorities have been in touch with William Hunter, as well as the Brumback family, but declined to detail any of the discussions.

William Hunter declined to comment Monday afternoon on behalf of his family.

Minneapolis Gas Price Tops List

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP) — A new survey finds Minneapolis has the highest gas prices in the Lower 48 states.


The average U.S. price of a gallon of gasoline has jumped 11 cents over the past two weeks.

The Lundberg Survey of fuel prices released Sunday says the price of a gallon of regular is \$3.66. Midgrade costs an average of \$3.84 a gallon, and premium is \$3.98.

Diesel held steady at \$3.93 gallon.

Of the cities surveyed in the Lower 48 states, Tucson, Ariz., has the nation's lowest average price for gas at \$3.18. Minneapolis has the highest at \$4.27.


The website www.TwinCitiesGasPrices.com says average gas prices in the Twin Cities are up to \$4.31 Monday. Statewide, gas prices in Minnesota average \$4.28, according to the website www.MinnesotaGasPrices.com.



With Fondest Memories

We remember those who have passed
away and are especially dear to us.

*On Saturday, May 25th we will publish in print and online at Yankton.net
a Memorial Day section devoted to those who are gone but not forgotten.*



Aneta Burrows
Dec. 30, 1960-Nov. 8, 2002

Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.

Dan, Ann & Sarah

Select one of the verses below to accompany your tribute.

1. We hold you in our thoughts and memories forever.
2. May God cradle you in his arms, now and forever.
3. Forever missed, never forgotten. May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
4. Thank you for the wonderful days we shared together.
My prayers will be with you until we meet again.
5. The days we shared were sweet. I long to see you again in Gods heavenly glory.
6. Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.
7. Though out of sight, you'll forever be in my heart and mind.
8. May the light of peace shine on your face for eternity.
9. May God's angels guide you and protect you throughout time.
10. You were a light in our life that burns forever in our hearts.
11. May God's graces shine over you for all time.
12. You are in our thoughts and prayers from morning to night and from year to year.
13. We send this message with a loving kiss for eternal rest and happiness.
14. May the Lord bless you with His graces and warm, loving heart.
15. I have written my own message and it is included.

To remember your loved one in this special way, send \$12.00 per listing,
up to 25 word verse and \$5 for photo.

Fill out the form below and mail to:
Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan/With Fondest Memories
 319 Walnut Street, Yankton, SD 57078

Deadline: Tuesday, May 21, 2013


Name of deceased _____

Date of birth _____ Date of passing _____

Number of selected verse _____ OR Personal message (25 word limit) _____


Print your name here _____

Phone Number _____ Address/City/State/Zip _____



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