



Sunny And Warmer

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THURSDAY ■ May 21, 2015



State Tennis

Bucks, Tanagers  
Open Tourney  
Today In Sioux  
Falls, Brandon  
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## A New Horizon



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

After several years of deadlock, the City of Yankton and B-Y Rural Water have come to an agreement that allows for the city to service new developments in annexed properties. "It's basically a new dawn for how we're going to address service in these areas," said Yankton Community Development Director Dave Mingo.

## Officials Reflect On Water Agreement Progress

BY ROB NIELSEN

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The long stalemate over providing water service to annexed Yankton lands ended last week as both the City of Yankton and B-Y Rural Water District entered into an agreement in advance of the Westbrook Estates project.

Yankton Community Development Director Dave Mingo told the *Press & Dakotan* a dispute raged for years between the two entities over who could serve which areas.

"Across the country, rural water systems have jurisdiction in a predetermined area that was mapped at the time of establishment," Mingo said. "What happened in Yankton's case was ... there were areas where the rural water district had not developed capacity yet, yet those areas were in adjacent urban settings — in other words, around the borders of the city of Yankton where the city needed to grow into."

Mingo said this came to a head in

2008 with a legal dispute between B-Y and the city.

"The city's position in the earlier stages of this issue was, 'Well, the city's just going to serve them if B-Y isn't there to serve them,'" he said. "That's when, as a result of those actions, B-Y took legal action, we went through that whole process and came to a consent decree which recognized B-Y's right to serve that area."

Mingo added that one of the main problems following the court case came down to providing fire protection for any new development — something rural water districts aren't required to do.

"We still had issues with B-Y not having the capacity to provide service at an urban level," he said. "It's all rural water systems across the country's missions to provide domestic services — use for taps, houses, cattle and things like



Mingo

that — not fire protection. In the city, we have to have fire protection also. One of the biggest sticking points in trying to figure out how to get this all to work out was, 'How do we end up with a system in these areas that are decidedly — and rightfully so — B-Y's territory, and yet will be in the city? As we annex them and build the curbs there, do we end up with fire protection and water service there?'"

As a result, the city explored the limited options it had — including not providing fire service capacity to these new developments.

"We went through a number of different scenarios in trying to get that figured out, all the way to possibly not having fire protection service there," he said. "(That) would've had a very negative impact on our fire service rating and could've potentially raised insurance rates for everybody in town — not just those areas — if that would've happened."

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## Mount Marty Unveils New Athletic Website

BY REILLY BIEL

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In addition to a new president, Mount Marty College has added a new website to its network.

With assistance from SIDHelp, the Mount Marty Lancers Athletic Department has created an athletic website to better allow fans to access up-to-date information, additional player details, improved stats and photo galleries.

The new website's address is [www.mmclancers.com](http://www.mmclancers.com).

Mount Marty College Athletic Director Chuck Iverson is happy with the finished product.

"The website was created to allow for more fan interaction and I believe it has accomplished that," he said.



Mount Marty launched a new athletic website on May 11. The goal of their website is to better connect with the program's fanbase.

Kristi Tacke, director of media relations for Mount Marty College, echoes those sentiments.

"The website is a lot more

user friendly than the previous one," she said.

The website was launched on May 11 and the feedback has been positive.

"It's a benefit for everybody. It's easy to find information on a timely basis and athletes are getting the recognition they deserve," Tacke said.

The website is accessible to everyone, from community members to sport opponents.

"Visibility is really important. It helps with recruiting players, our marketing workload and the media people accessing records," Iverson noted.

Lancer fans can sign up to have MMC athletic news delivered to their inbox or mobile device.

For more information, contact Iverson at 605-668-1529 or Tacke at 605-668-1526.

Follow @ReillyBiel on Twitter.

SHOOTING | PAGE 2

## Nebraska Repeals Death Penalty

Governor Vows Veto, But Lawmakers Have Enough Votes To Override

BY ALYSSA SOBOTKA

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Nebraska lawmakers voted Wednesday on the final hearing of a bill that aims to kill future death penalty procedures in the state.

Legislators voted 32-15

in favor of Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers' repeal bill, LB268.

Chambers, Nebraska's longest serving state-senator, has been attempting for this approval vote for four decades.

While the repeal bill made it through the final stages in Nebraska's unicameral, the final outcome is under the same threat that killed a former repeal bill that gained Legislature approval in 1979, the only other time Nebraska lawmakers passed a similar bill.

Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts announced May 14 that the state purchased two of the necessary drugs used for lethal injection executions, which will replace the existing, expired drugs. This purchase will give Nebraska the ability to conduct lethal injections, something Nebraska has never performed. Nebraska's last execution was in 1997, when the elec-

tric chair was the method used.

Ricketts, who took office January of this year, is a strong advocate and proponent of the death penalty. He has repeatedly promised to veto the bill.

Rickett's veto is expected

sometime

next week.

If voting

remains the

same as

Wednesday's,

the Legis-

lature has

more than

enough votes

to override

Rickett's

veto, as 30

are needed.

Diane Duf-

fin, Univer-

sity of Nebraska at Kearney Political Science chair and associate professor, discussed with the *Press and Dakotan* the national trend, differing viewpoints and party stances of this historic decision.

"Not all 32 senators who voted in favor of this bill voted for the same reasons," Duffin said. "I think one of the most interesting things is the differing viewpoints that came to the same conclusion."

Those differing viewpoints include opposition of the death penalty on moral or religious grounds, financial or economic reasons or

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**TOMORROW: A Busy Summer Ahead For Yankton**

YANKTON RECYCLING FOR THIS WEEK

**SOUTH**  
OF 15TH STREET