



Area Teams Sidelined In Nebraska Playoffs • 7

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## Dueling Perspectives

### At Meeting, Corps Talks Drought – But Audience Still Has Flood Issues

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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SIoux CITY, Iowa — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is talking about the drought's impact on the Missouri River — but the public wants the Corps to deal with the aftermath of last year's historic flooding. The Corps is holding six meetings in five states this week to present its 2012-13 draft Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for the Missouri River basin. The meetings cover 2012 operation of the six mainstem

dams and 2013 plans for operating the reservoir system. The Corps anticipates low, relatively stable runoff into the basin through early spring. As a result, Wednesday's presentation in Sioux City focused on the exceptional drought — the worst category — expected to continue its grip on much of the region. "We need to get through these drought periods and operate the reservoirs as six parts of one system," said Kevin Grode, the Corps' team leader for

reservoir regulation. The Corps faces two completely different — yet both historic — scenarios in successive years, Grode said. "We had 61 million acre-feet of runoff in 2011 and 19 million acre-feet in 2012," he said. "The 2012 September runoff was the lowest in 114 years of record-keeping. There have been dramatic changes in the basin in just over a year."



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D  
Jody Farhat, chief of Missouri River Basin water management, answers questions Wednesday during the Corps of Engineers public meeting in Sioux City.

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## YHS Reaps Top Awards For Three Publications

BY ANDREW ATWAL  
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Three student publications from Yankton High School (YHS) were recently honored as being among the best in the state at Press Days in Brookings.

The YHS literary magazine, The Cellar Door, and the yearbook both won all-state awards. The school newspaper, the *Woksape*, was given a first place award, which is basically a runner up to an all-state award.

"I took over the yearbook 12 years ago and this has been the eighth all-state award that we've won," said Jill Mikkelsen, advisor for the yearbook. "It's a huge deal to get awarded and recognized for the work you've done."

Several criteria went into judging the yearbook including, unifying concept, coverage, photos, writing and digital graphics, among others.

Sandy Hoffner, who has been the advisor for the literary magazine for 15 years, said this was the seventh all-state award the magazine has won.

Mikkelsen said the yearbook is an extracurricular activity at YHS, which is one of the only large school districts in the state that has it as an extracurricular, not as a class.

"It puts a bit of a burden on kids because they have to be here after school and they're all in other activities as well," she said. "The fact that it is after school, and they're spending their after-school time on the yearbook truly shows their commitment and desire to be on the staff."

The Cellar Door publishes students' creative writing and art.

"This is so important for students because so much of the spotlight on extracurricular activities goes to things like sports," Hoffner said. "As I've told my staff, we could have the next JK Rowling in here. These are the students that like writing. Who knows where they might go with it one day? Students that are into art and writing deserve a place to get recognized."

Eileen Mullican, who works on the magazine, said there are a number of reasons why she wanted to be a part of it. "I enjoy both the reading as-

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## FORE! HEAD



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

This golfer apparently wandered a bit too close to the links — or so the evidence would suggest during Wednesday's annual Spotted Halloween event, sponsored by the Press & Dakotan and held at the Riverfront Event Center in downtown Yankton. More than 100 kids stopped in to get their photos taken and pick up holiday treats. Superheroes were among the more popular costumes on display, with various animals also running in the pack. To see or purchase images from this event, visit [spotted.yankton.net](http://spotted.yankton.net).

## Decision 2012

### Stotz Touts Health Care Experience

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is part of our series of profiles on Yankton County candidates in the November election. Today, we present the last of our profiles on the candidates for the District 18 House race.

**NAME:** Thomas D. Stotz, DC, DABCO, FICC  
**FAMILY:** Wife of 34 years, Julie Stotz, RN; Son: TJ Stotz, DC, a partner in our chiropractic health care business; Daughter-in-law: Nicole Stotz, dental hygienist; Grandchildren: Aubrey, age 2 1/2 and Luke, 6 months; Son: Michael Stotz, DO Avera Medical Group McGreevey; Daughter-in-law: Kirsten Stotz, DO Avera Medical Group McGreevey; Daughter: Susan Stotz, Science Teacher in Marshall, Alaska  
**EDUCATION/OCCUPATION:** Chiropractic Orthopedist and Fellow of the International College of Chiropractors  
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Stotz

My wife and I then became involved with the Yankton County Republicans. With the encouragement of members of the county Republicans and the support of my family and partners, I decided this was the right time for me to further serve the people of Yankton County. I've identified that education and

1. Why do you want to be a state representative?

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## Yankton Program To Honor 20 Years Of Making An IMPACT

### Public Open House Scheduled For Friday

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
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After 20 years of round-the-clock care, the staff at Yankton's Individualized and Mobile Program of Assertive Community Treatment (IMPACT) are taking a night off.

"For the first time in 20 years, we won't have a staff member working overnight," said Fred Bender, the Yankton IMPACT program director, of the upcoming Friday night. He is one of four staff members who have been with IMPACT since its beginning.

Instead, services will be provided during that time by staff from Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health Services, under which IMPACT operates.

Members of the IMPACT team will spend Friday celebrating their two decades of accomplishments.

An open house to mark the anniversary will be held from 1-3 p.m. Friday at the IMPACT offices located on the lower level of Sir Charles Apartments at 120 East Third Street. Refreshments will be served.

Today, there are also IMPACT programs in Huron, Rapid City and Sioux Falls, but Yankton IMPACT was the first of its kind in South Dakota.

Looking to reduce the census at the South Dakota Human Services Center, the state searched for programs that would enable people with severe and persistent mental illness to live within their communities instead of in an institutional setting.

"They settled on the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) model out of Wisconsin and Michigan, I think, in part



Bender

because it had outcome studies that showed it was effective, and also because it was a Midwestern model so it seemed like it could fit with South Dakota," Bender said.

Attempts to get mental health centers in the state to try the model were unsuccessful.

"At that time, none of the mental health centers were particularly interested in trying it," Bender said. "They didn't think it would work. They had worked with some of their clients in community settings and found it hadn't typically worked."

"The state decided it would initiate the project (in 1992)," he continued. "We were a state program until about five years ago. Then we became a part of Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health, which is a private, non-profit community health center."

Bender said the change in administrators didn't change the program.

"The development of the Yankton IMPACT program was guided by a number of individuals — all who are outstanding leaders in the behavioral health field," said Dr. Tom Stanga, executive director of Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health.

He said those leaders include Bill Podhradsky, the former state Department of Human Services secretary and a

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## Moeller's Last Statement Leaves Behind Questions

BY KRISTI EATON  
Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — The final words of a man executed Tuesday night for killing a 9-year-old girl appeared to some onlookers to mock those witnessing his death, including the child's mother. But prison officials say that may not have been the case.

Donald Moeller, 60, was executed at the state penitentiary in Sioux Falls for the 1990 kidnapping, rape and murder of Becky O'Connell in Sioux Falls.

Before the lethal dose of pentobarbital was administered, he was asked for his last words, to which he replied, "No, sir." But then he looked up and, according to prison officials,



Moeller

asked: "They're my fan club?"

Some speculated that Moeller was referring to people watching the execution, including Becky's mother and stepfather, who had traveled from their home in New York to watch his death.

But the Department of Corrections released a statement Wednesday afternoon saying witnesses and prison staff could hear inmates in nearby cells, possibly cheering. That led DOC officials to believe

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