



YANKTON DAILY  
**PRESS & DAKOTAN**

VOLUME 138  
NUMBER 176

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | **12 PAGES** | [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net)

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DEREK BARTOS/P&D  
**Patrick Atkinson, founder and director of the Institute for Trafficked, Exploited and Missing Persons, speaks about victimized children he has encountered during his career-long fight against human trafficking. Atkinson spoke about trafficking and how to prevent it Monday afternoon at the Nebraska Indian Community College campus in Santee (Neb.)**

# A Traffic Warning

Human Trafficking Is Growing Problem, Speaker Says

BY DEREK BARTOS

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SANTEE, Neb. — A child walks into a mall alone and meets a stranger, who offers to buy the child some food. While handing the child the food, the stranger drops in a drug. Twenty minutes later, the child wakes up in a horrible situation, with no idea where he or she is.

"This is not fiction. This is today's world," said Patrick Atkinson, founder and director of the Institute for Trafficked, Exploited and Missing Persons (TEMP). The North Dakota-based organization seeks to investigate and prevent human trafficking and rescue and rehabilitate its victims.

Atkinson spoke about human trafficking and the steps to help prevent it during a presentation Monday afternoon at the Nebraska Indian Community College campus in Santee (Neb.).

"There is so much that we can do to stop it, and the first thing is becoming aware of the problem," Atkinson said.

The United Nations defines human trafficking as "the act of recruiting, transporting, transferring, harboring or receiving a person through a use of force, coercion or other means, for the purpose of exploiting them."

However, Atkinson said he prefers to define it as two

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# Iowa Scientists: Climate Change Causing Drought

Report Cites Weather Instability, Extremes

BY DAVID PITT

Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — This year's drought is consistent with predictions that global climate change would bring about weather extremes including more frequent droughts, said a report released Monday.

The Iowa Climate Statement updates the 2010 report, reflecting the year's lingering drought and the belief that it signifies what many scientists have predicted — increasing instability in weather patterns will lead to extremes during both wet and dry years.

Iowa has experienced such extremes in recent years; in 2008, flooding caused an estimated \$10 billion in damage, making it the worst disaster in the state's history.

More broadly, this year's drought brought about parched croplands, reducing corn yields across the nation's Grain Belt, from South Dakota to Indiana. And last month's Superstorm Sandy — a combination of a hurricane, a wintry storm and a blast of arctic air — devastated parts of the Eastern seaboard and killed more than 100 people.

The report was signed by 138 scientists and researchers from 27 Iowa colleges and universities. They said they wanted to release the updated report now while the drought is still fresh in the public's mind.

"The drought is sort of a teachable moment," said Jerry Schnoor, co-director of the Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research at the University of Iowa.

The scientists are careful to avoid saying any single extreme weather incident is directly caused by global warming, saying too many factors are at play when it comes to

weather. But, they did say increasingly volatile weather patterns have been predicted by scientists who study global warming.

Patrick Michaels, director of the Center for the Study of Science at the Washington-based conservative think tank Cato Institute, said there's no evidence global warming contributed to this summer's drought. He doesn't deny that global warming is real and that man-made pollutants may contribute to it, but says it has a very small impact overall.

Michaels said the scientists who signed on to the report are "nibbling around the edges" with their recommendations that Americans use more renewable energy sources, such as wind power and ethanol, and build homes to be more efficient. He says any action the United States takes wouldn't be that effective because China and India are emitting increasing amounts of pollutants that contribute to global warming.

The Iowa scientists said they're statement is not one of gloom and doom, but meant to indicate investments can be made now to slow the economic impact of weather extremes and to help communities adapt to the changes.

One scientist who helped draft the report, Dave Courard-Hauri, chairman of environmental science and policy program at Drake University, said continuing to deny the connection between increased storm volatility and a warming climate helps no one.

"We gain nothing if we act as if there's uncertainty where there's not or that there is significant division among scientists regarding the causes of climate change," he said.

# Economic Incentives Still A Key

State Chamber Official: Better Methods Of Funding Sought

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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Why didn't the proposed Large Project Development Fund pass muster with South Dakota voters during the general election earlier this month?

While speaking with Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce members Monday, David Owen, president of the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce & Industry and a proponent of Referred Law 14, shared his thoughts on the subject.

"The thing that was wrong with 14, I'm convinced, is the ongoing appropriations (from the general fund)," he said. "We did not convince people that fund was going to get a result. It looked like too distant of a return."

The money for the Large Project Development Fund would have come from taking 22 percent of the contractors, excise tax revenues from the state's general fund. It was estimated that would be \$13 million to \$18 million per year. The South Dakota Board of Economic Development would have used money from the fund to provide grants for the construction of projects that would have had to exceed \$5 million. Examples of projects that could have benefitted are facilities for testing, manufacturing, power generation, power transmission, agricultural processing and wind energy.

The Large Project Development Fund was to re-

OWEN | PAGE 11



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

**David Owen, president of the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce & Industry, spoke Monday at the Marketplace Cafe in downtown Yankton about the recent election and the issues he expects to arise during the upcoming state legislative session.**

# Candidate Accepts Highway Position

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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A candidate has accepted the position of Yankton County highway superintendent.

However, the Yankton County Commission said Monday it will not name the man chosen for the job until he undergoes a background check.

Commission Chairman Bruce Jensen said that process will take at least until the end of the week.

It was announced Friday that the man who was originally offered the job declined the position and an offer had been made to a second candidate who requested that he be allowed to mull it over until noon Monday.

Eleven male applicants were vying for the position.

Due to a restructuring of the highway department, the new superintendent will have a more administrative role geared toward activities such as writing grants and drawing up long-term road and bridge plans than in the past.

The new hire will replace Alan Sorensen, who is retiring in December after 19 years of service.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at [twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage](https://twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage)

SCHOOL | PAGE 7

# PROPER CONDUCT



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

**Terry Becker, assistant director of bands at Northern State University, leads the Middle School Honor Band during Monday night's Yankton Region I Honor Band Festival concert, held at the YHS/Summit Activities Center theatre. Nearly 140 area high school and middle school musicians took part in the daylong festival, capped by the evening performance. To see or purchase images from this event, visit [spotted.yankton.net](http://spotted.yankton.net).**

# School Board OKs Transcript Change

BY ANDREW ATWAL

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The Yankton School District (YSD) school board approved changes to the district's transcript policy for the high school during their meeting on Monday night.

Yankton High School (YHS) principal Dr. Wayne Kindle told the board how dated the transcript policy was, and how much time it took guidance counselors at the school to get requests from students and send out each transcript through the mail.

The new policy will allow students to go online, using a program called Docufide Sender, to send their transcripts wherever they needed to go. Each student will get confirmation emails when his or her request is sent, when it is approved by a counselor and when the school received the transcript.



Kindle

Officials in the district spoke to employees in the admissions department at the University of South Dakota, and they said they were with the electronic transcript programs.

"USD is a big believer in the system and it saves a lot of time for a lot of different people who have had to go searching for transcripts," said YHS counselor Terry Crandall.

So far, more than 8,000 schools

"Schools all across the country use electronic transcript programs," Kindle said. "The program saves time, is quick and it's not just a wait-and-see thing like how we currently send our transcripts."

and colleges across the country use the service.

There were two different pay models the school board considered. One would have charged students at least \$3 for each transcript they sent, while the other would have the school pay a fee of \$1,000 which would cover all student transcript request. The board decided the \$1,000 fee would be best and could end up saving the district a substantial amount of money in the long run.

Also Monday Night, school board members changed their meeting policy to include a teleconference option if some members can't be present at a particular meeting.

Also, officials made some changes to the cell phone and digital media policy in order to be in com-

PHOTOS WITH SANTA

Saturday, December 1st  
1:00pm-4:00pm  
LilyCrest 211 W. 3rd, Downtown Yankton