



TROUBLED BRIDGE OVER WATER



Low Dam Releases **Too Low For City?**

Yankton Unsure Of Effect Of Flows On Water System

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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With the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers drawing down its releases at Gavins Point Dam, Yankton officials are unsure of the effect it will have on the municipal water system.

Because of the drought, the Corps began reducing flows Friday and plans to bring them down to 12,000 cubic feet per second by Dec. 11. Interim City Manager Al Viereck said he doesn't

know if it will be a problem for the city's surface water intake near the Discovery Bridge.

(The Corps) can't tell us what the current level of the bottom of the river is (so we can calculate what the flows will do to the water level in relation to the intake)," he stated. "Our concern is, we may get so shallow above the intake that it will create a vortex, where you suck in air. That's a problem. We won't know until they start cutting it down."

Even with a vortex, the intake can usually continue operating unless it begins to ice over, according to Viereck.

'That's when you have your problems," he said. "Either way, it could be an interesting winter."

If needed, Viereck said the city could again install temporary intake as it did this past summer when

Cyber Monday Likely To Be Busiest Online Sales Day

Officials Take Emergency Measures To Protect James River Bridge

BY NATHAN JOHNSON nathan.johnson@yankton.net

much of the riprap protecting the river bank in the area, and plans are being made to replace the rock soon.

first discovered in 1994, and riprap was placed in the lo-cation that year, as well as in 1996, 1998 and 2002. "The elevation we placed it to in 2002 was still pretty

KELLY HERTZ/P&D Yankton County officials are worried about the effects scouring could have on this James River bridge along Old Highway 50. Last year's flood washed away

BY MAE ANDERSON AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK - Bye-bye

Black Friday. So long Small Business Saturday. Now, it's Cyber Monday's turn.

Cyber Monday, coined in 2005 by a shopping trade group that noticed online sales spiked on the Monday following Thanksgiving, is the next in a series of days that stores are counting on to jumpstart the holiday shopping season.

It's estimated that this year's Cyber Monday will be the biggest online shopping day of the year for the third year in a row: According to research firm comScore, Americans are expected to spend \$1.5 billion, up 20 percent from last year on Cyber Monday, as retailers have ramped up their deals to get shoppers to click on their websites.

MONDAY | PAGE 2

HOLIDAYS

YOU KNOW, THAT ARTICLE ON DIGGING FOR BARGAINS" WASN'T MEANT TO BE TAKEN LITERALLY ...



Nov. 26 29 shopping days to Christmas

Although the flood waters of 2011 receded more than a year ago, Yankton County is still paying for the repercussions of that historic event.

At a recent meeting, county commissioners were told that they have an emergency situation at the James River bridge along Old Highway 50, or 309th Street.

We found some serious scour during our inspection of the bridge on Oct. 19," said Pete Johnson of Johnson Engineering. "We recommend that you put in approximately 1,500 tons of Class C riprap. I think you need to do this on an emergency basis. I sure don't think you want to go into next flood season with a profile that looks like that."

The scour problem endangering the bridge is a longterm one that dates back approximately 20 years and includes erosion of the east river bank, as well as a deepening hole in the river bed just downstream. It was

much there in 2010," Johnson said. "It was the flood of 2011 that did this to us. We didn't inspect it last year. We couldn't have if we wanted to, because the water was so high."

In 2002, approximately 1,700 tons of riprap was laid out along the shore during a week-long effort

"This is a very similar project," Johnson said. "They'll get a track-mounted excavator down in the channel perched up on the rock. They'll side-dump the rock over the north side and then push it into place with the excavator. That worked very well the last few times.

The issue arises at a time when the county has a consultant investigating long-term solutions to the situ-

BRIDGE | PAGE 2

the permanent intake's capacity was severely hindered by a sand bar.

As part of a long-term solution to the problems it has had with its surface water intake, the City Commission will consider during its meeting tonight (Monday) having HDR Engineering, Inc., explore the possibility of a five-million gallon well water source at Paddle Wheel Point. The city already gets part of its water supply from wells on the Nebraska shore of the Missouri River near the Discovery Bridge.

Speaking during a media briefing last week in advance of tonight's meeting, Viereck also took time to thank the city's environmental services department for dealing with some other recent water system-re-

WATER | PAGE 2

Farmland Sales Brisk Because Of Tax Law Changes

DENVER, Iowa (AP) — Farmers worried about tax increases that would take effect Jan. 1 if Congress can't compromise on the so-called fiscal cliff have helped lead to a frenzy of farmland sales this fall.

The worries about possible increases in capital gains and estate taxes are adding to the normally busy time for farmland sales after harvest in Iowa and Nebraska.

"If there is a chance that you may want to sell your farm, then you should think hard about getting it done before the end of 2012," Des Moines lawyer Bill Hannigan of the Davis Brown firm said to the Des Moines Register.

If Congress fails to resolve the "fiscal cliff" before the end of the year, a number of automatic tax increases and spending cuts will be triggered on Jan. 1. That includes capital gains taxes increasing from 15 percent to 23.8 percent, and the allowable de-

duction on estate taxes would drop from roughly \$5 million to \$1 million.

'The tax changes are on everybody's minds," regional sales manager Sam Kain of Farmers National Co. said. "I've been in this business for 30 years and I've never seen it this busy.'

Jim Hain, vice president of agricultural sales for the Omaha-based Lund Co., agreed that the possible tax law changes have prompted some people to sell. He said the tax worries, combined with the current high prices, have helped double farmland sales at Lund in the past two years.

"We're the busiest we've ever been historically," Hain said.

At a recent lowa farmland auction, the bidders didn't need much encouragement to go after the 169 acres of Bremer County farmland that carried a solid corn suitability rating of 87.

FARMLAND | PAGE 2



FLOOR PLAN

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

The University of South Dakota's Trevor Gruis (in white) wins a scramble for a loose ball with Waldorf's Kwamaine Johnson (24) during college basketball action Saturday night at the DakotaDome in Vermillion. USD evened its season mark at 3-3 with an 84-59 victory. For more details, see page 7.

Pipeline Leaks Gas In Neb. Field

FAIRMONT, Neb. (AP) — A pipeline spill in southeast Nebraska last week leaked as much as 150 gallons of gasoline in a farm field.

Lincoln television station KOLN-TV reports that San Antonio-based Nu Star Energy confirmed the leak near Fairmont

The leak in an 8-inch diameter pipeline was discovered Wednesday by the landowner whose field was affected. The landowner reported smelling gasoline fumes.

Nu Star Energy says it immediately shut down the pipeline, which carries gasoline from Geneva to Yankton, and that no water was contaminated. The company says the spill was cleaned up and the line has since been repaired.

The cause of the leak is under investigation.





REGION 2 | OBITUARIES 3 | MIDWEST 3 | VIEWS 4 | LIFE 5 | SPORTS 7-8 | CLASSIFIEDS 10-11 | WORLD 12

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: **OF 15TH STREET**

TOMORROW: City To Explore New Water Source