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CLASS 11AA: Bucks 21, Pierre 20 OT

AGAIN!



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton's Sheldon Gant, 34, looks for running room against the Pierre defense during the first half of the Class 11AA championship game on Friday at the DakotaDome in Vermillion. The Bucks went on to defeat the Governors 21-20 in overtime to give YHS its second straight 11AA crown. For more details on Friday's game, see page 1B.

SDHSAA Chief Lauds Playoff Success

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a two-part series on South Dakota high school athletics.

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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VERMILLION – After 35 years, the South Dakota high school football playoffs have become a fall tradition.

The championship games have always been held in the DakotaDome. However, the playoffs themselves have changed based on factors such as enrollment, geog-

raphy and demographics.

Some changes have proven popular, while others – such as the creation of seven classes – have been controversial, acknowledged Wayne Carney, executive director of the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA).

"The system is OK as long as it doesn't affect anyone negatively. But once it does, (you hear the cry that) we've got to change it," he told the Press & Dakotan this week.

That said, Carney is pleased with the current three days of seven championship games. "It's been great for us," he said.

MAKING CHANGES

The DakotaDome has always hosted the state football finals, but the format has changed through the years. The playoffs started in 1981 with five championship games in two days. A sixth game was later added, and the current schedule of seven games is marking its third year.

Was the split of the state's largest high schools into Class 11AA and 11AAA an experiment, or will the new format continue? Despite some criticism at first, the

PLAYOFFS | PAGE 4A

**Officials Warn About Bats,
Keep Them Out Of The House**

BY ROB NIELSEN
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It's no secret that a number of creatures like to take refuge in any building they can find a way into as the winter approaches — and bats are among them.

While not quite the vampire-like demon spawn fiction has often portrayed them as, officials say there is some need to be cautious if one finds its way into your house and that there are simple steps to take in keeping them out.

Silka Kempena, wildlife biologist with South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks, told the Press & Dakotan there are a couple of health risks to humans carried by bats.

"General bats don't pose a high health risk to humans, although there are risks for two diseases — number one would be rabies and the other one is histoplasmosis," Kempena said. "Humans can get rabies from the bite of an infected animal and bats do carry rabies. Typically, less than



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Many bat species, including the brown bat like this, serve an important ecological role in the Yankton area. However, the prospect of a bat in your house is never welcoming. But the danger of contracting rabies from a bat is fairly remote.

BATS | PAGE 10A

To Our Readers

Due to the lateness of the Yankton-Pierre state championship football game Friday night, the *Press & Dakotan* ran on a late press deadline, which may have caused a delay in the delivery of today's edition. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.



IMAGE: METRO GRAPHICS

**ACA Navigator
Looks To Help
Inform Clients**

BY REILLY BIEL
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For anyone looking to beat the 2016 Affordable Care Act (ACA) open enrollment period, help is on the way.

On Tuesday, Nov. 17, Jennifer Grassrope, Outreach & Enrollment specialist for the ACA, will be in Yankton at the Avera Professional Office Pavilion Building, room #1 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., to answer any questions people have about the ACA.

Grassrope will be in Freeman at the regional hospital Nov. 19 and the Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library in Vermillion Nov. 24 and Dec. 1, all for the purpose of healthcare enrollment. She will be back in Yankton at Avera on Nov. 23 for enrollment as well.

Grassrope encourages people to schedule appointments with her on those dates. She can be reached at (605) 469-5363.

Grassrope, a certified navigator, is part of the "Get Covered SD Enrollment Kick-Off Tour," which was started by the Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD). It began the same day open enrollment began, Nov. 1. Enrollment will continue until Jan. 31. Those wishing to have a new healthcare plan for 2016 will have to be registered by Dec. 15.

Grassrope is a part of the South Dakota Community Action Partnership. She is one of seven certified navigators that help people sign up with the ACA. She covers the southeastern part of the state with Yankton, Bon Homme, Aurora, Clay, Hutchinson, Sanborn, Davison, Hanson, Union and Jerauld counties.

"Navigators go around South Dakota to get the word out and let people know we're available to assist with the process of them signing up," said Grassrope. "We help them set up an account, go through the applications and help them look at different plans to decide which would be best for them and their family."

The enrollment tour was created to bring attention to the ACA and the

HEALTH | PAGE 10A

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MONDAY: Gauging The Turkey Market Ahead Of Thanksgiving

YANKTON RECYCLING FOR THIS WEEK

SOUTH
OF 15TH STREET