

Paris

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email) on my computer since then."

However, Bitsos has remained concerned about grand-nephews whose work could put them in harm's way.

One grand-nephew works at a popular four-star restaurant at the Champs Elysee. Another works as a pastry chef in Paris, and a third is employed as an inspector for the RATP (Autonomous Parisian Transport Administration).

Bitsos – now an American citizen – grew up in North Africa, learned to speak Arabic and became familiar with the Muslim religion. She noted the long history between France and its protectorates, such as Morocco.

She also noted the strife which has sometimes occurred, particularly when Muslims resented French rule and may have felt mistreated.

"You have discontent, which breeds future terrorists," she said.

That resentment seems to have recently reached a new surge, particularly with more immigration and the pouring of refugees into Europe.

"Many refugees feel, 'You die in Syria or you may die (trying to escape their war-torn nation) in the ocean. What choice do we have?'" she said.

In turn, the influx of refugees has created stress for the host nations, including France, Bitsos said. She also worries about terrorist groups like the Islamic State using the situation for cover and easier access to European nations.

"We have the news that one terrorist came through Greece with other refugees," she said. "I'm afraid they have opened the borders too much."

She also worries that more terrorist attacks may loom on the horizon for France, especially in the



Yankton resident Fernande Bitsos, a former French citizen who grew up in Morocco, looks at family pictures including her sister who lives in Paris amidst the current terrorism.

RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

Marseilles area with a large Muslim population. In addition, she watches the possibility of more French military strikes in the Middle East.

While the past four days have provided some news, there are other questions that can never be answered in her mind when it comes to Friday's terrorism.

"Why would you kill people with grenades? Why would you attack innocent people?" she asked, fighting back tears.

University of South Dakota student advisor Patrick Morrison has also been watching developments in Paris. The Wakonda native has visited the city about a half-dozen times and has friends residing in the metropolis, including Wakonda native Joel Babb.

Morrison arrived in Paris last January a day before the terrorist attacks on the Charlie Hebdo satirical newspaper. The terrorism was followed by another attack on a kosher supermarket.

Besides the number of people killed, Morrison pointed to a major difference between the January attacks and the recent wave of terrorism.

"Charlie Hebdo was pretty clear. (The terrorists) had a motivation," he said. "This (last weekend) is so different because it was so indiscriminate. That kind of thing is so unpredictable, how do you protect from it?"

However, Morrison believes the French will weather the storm.

"After Charlie Hebdo, they wouldn't let it interfere with their

daily routine," he said. "This time again, I am confident the French will soldier on."

USD professor Tim Schorn, a terrorism expert, recently returned from Spain where people were concerned about refugees more than terrorism.

He expects more terrorism attacks.

"Europe is at much greater risk of suffering these types of attacks because of the number of young men who have left countries like Belgium, France, the United Kingdom and others to join ISIS and are now returning home," he said.

"ISIS has morphed from a fairly locally focused organization to one that is willing and quite capable of taking the fight to the larger world." He also looks for an impact on

the U.S.

"This will be a major issue in the 2016 presidential campaign, but so far all we have seen is a stringing together of catch phrases and appeals to the more base instincts of the American people," he said.

Mount Marty College professors Jamie Sullivan and Rich Lofthus led a tour of Paris shortly after the Charlie Hebdo shootings last winter.

"When we were in Paris, we saw fully armed police patrolling train stations but no other visible signs of as a result of the Charlie Hebdo murder," Sullivan said.

"Of course, only a few days ago, no one would have thought of Paris as a dangerous place. If people fear terrorist attacks, then perhaps they should stay home."

Sullivan said he felt a shock and sorrow over recent terrorism.

"Paris is a uniquely beautiful city that has long attracted artists and writers," he said. "I am stunned and saddened by the vicious nature of the recent assaults."

Lofthus agreed, noting the long-range impact of the recent acts.

"The brutal terrorist attacks by ISIS on the city of Paris have undoubtedly added a sense of urgency to the global struggle against 'Islamic radicalism' or the 'jihadists,' depending on how one chooses to refer to ISIS," he said.

The United States looks to play a major role in the war on terror, Lofthus said.

"During the Democratic debate on Saturday night, Hillary Clinton remarked that 'ISIS cannot be contained, it must be defeated,'" he said.

"The (Paris) attack has made it increasingly clear there is no peaceful co-existence possible with a group that is motivated by a twisted ideological rage.

"Solidarity with the French has to go further than flying their flag."

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Lights

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were budgeted for, and the City Commission opted for full replacement."

Larson said the nature of the new lights helps city crews out by not creating an urgency to take them down so quickly.

"Usually we want decora-

tions up prior to Thanksgiving weekend, and with the weather, we usually don't get to take them down until sometime in January," he said.

"Going with the (white and) blue color and the snowflakes, we just felt it was a little bit easier to leave them up, put them up early and take them down later since they didn't say 'Seasons Greetings' or 'Merry Christmas.' They were just a bit more festive for the season and not just focused

on the holiday."

He added that this is also a significant increase to the number of decorations in town.

"We bought 60 snowflakes, so we're increasing the amount of snowflakes," he said. "That's one of the things (we noticed) as we looked at the decorations while they were up last year: The lighted decorations were pretty sparse. You had banners, but not a lot of lighted

decorations. So we wanted to make more of an impact on Broadway — and we were able to do that."

Larson said the city plans to look at more decorations in the future as the Highway 50 reconstruction project is completed along Fourth St.

As for the old decorations, Larson said the city give away the remaining working pieces.

"Once we know we're done with them, we've talked about maybe trying to find other

poles to use them on, but I don't think we're going to do that," he said. "Probably the easiest thing for us to do is let other communities know that we have some (lights) available and, if they'd like, to come and get them and take them for free."

Nelson said she enjoys the overall winter theme.

"It takes us beyond Christmas and carries us through the holidays," she said. "The snowflakes are festive, and

now that we are starting to feel a chill in the air, it should make us feel like we are all 'walking in a winter wonderland.'"

Installation of the new lights is anticipated to wrap up during the coming week, depending on weather.

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Archery

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way through the facility and just being outside of what their comfort zone is. That is all part of what competitive archery is about."

Yankton's Archery Club hosted a qualifier in September where roughly 16 archers tried out for the binational team. The qualifier consisted of what is called a 70/20 round, similar to what team members would have to shoot in the Binational games. This includes shooting two rounds of 36 arrows shot at 50 meters. The six ladies made the top three in their divisions.

Choosing to participate in this international tournament, the girls committed to training four times a week, including Saturday training sessions

with Coaches Jamie-Santacruz and Bill Hewes. The team spent more than seven weeks preparing specifically for this tournament.

"We tried to get them shooting in the conditions," Jamie-Sanacruz said. "So Saturday's sessions were in the morning, as if they were going to shoot at a tournament, and their practices tended to be in the afternoon, which is good because some events run into the afternoon or the evening."

The Binational Games gathered 120 archers from Columbia, Puerto Rico, South Korea, Mexico and the U.S. This being the first international competition for some of the archers, the team was forced to adjust to the atmosphere of a new location.

"There wasn't a lot of English," Keiser said. "It was really hard to understand them because they didn't have many translators at first."

The team admits that it was a different set up for a tournament than what they are used to.

"We kept on finding out about new rules during competition," Bartos said.

"It was very scary because we were going into competition like a couple minutes after that," Geigle said.

The fact that Yankton's team members were the only U.S. representatives for compound archery in the tournament they felt added pressure to do well.

"It was interesting because you feel like you had to represent (the country) more," Lindner said.

In addition to a new language, Yankton's archers were also struggling with a new shooting environment.

"It was so windy," Lindner said. "It was really frustrating. The wind would switch directions in a second. It was really

hard to adjust to. Plus (other competitors) were all use to shooting in that condition."

Despite the adaptation requirements for the team, members felt confident about their skill level and were excited to compete.

"It was pretty difficult down there," Keiser said. "We were one of the smallest teams but I felt like we were more prepared and experienced than they were."

The three days of competition provided four opportunities for archers to win medals. Awards were given to athletes who placed in the first round, second round and the sum total. A bracketed elimination round was also included to find the overall winner of the event.

"How do you get yourself into a position you have never been before and still perform?" That is their challenge," Jamie-Santacruz said.

"Those girls had an experience that definitely challenged them. Even with the challenges, they still managed to come back with five medals. That is quite extraordinary."

The confidence earned from their winnings earlier this month opened the door to expand their skills. These girls now have international experience to use toward future competitions.

"You can take stuff that you learned from the tournament and use it when you are practicing more so you know what to be prepared for next time," Geigle said. "So if the same things happen later, you're ready."

The NFAA Easton Archery Center in Yankton offers opportunities for shooters to grow at all skill levels. Organizers work to provide chances for youth archers to have that experience that comes with traveling to competition.

"Any of the archers in that competitive class, the goal is to get them prepared to compete, whether they decide to or not," Jamie-Santacruz said. "That way, they have the tools that they need to have in order to do that. A day in competition is worth 10 times what a day in practice is."

Archers are currently preparing for some local events, with the majority of the girls who competed in the Binational participating in the indoor nationals in Kentucky next year. A large contingent of Yankton's archers will also be competing in the ISAA Iowa ProAm and the Vegas Shoot, known as the largest indoor archery tournament in the world, in January.

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Budget

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Several lawmakers said Monday they would be trying to change the public's perceptions.

Sen. Jim White said for example that citizens don't understand when special appropriations are amended down to \$1, so the measures stay alive until the very end, while they move through one chamber and then the other, awaiting decisions on whether they are affordable.

White, R-Huron, said the intent is for the joint committee of 18 Senate and House members to reach joint decisions. He is a member of the committee.

The changes could allow budgeting to be more deliberative, House Speaker Dean Wink, R-Howes, said.

"I think we can all agree we want more legislative input into the appropriations process. But the devil is always in the details," Wink said.

The Executive Board received a package of possible rule changes Monday. Wink, the board's chairman, didn't ask for votes however.

He said the board members could return on Dec. 8 – the date of Gov. Dennis Daugaard's budget speech to the Legislature – and make recommendations.

One of the complaints long heard from many of the other 80-plus legislators has been they don't know what the appropriators are doing.

The House and Senate policy-committee chairmen will be provided opportunities to meet with the Joint

Committee on Appropriations to talk about priorities.

"It would be an invite from the appropriations committee," said Annie Mehlhaff, the fiscal chief for the Legislative Research Council.

The 2016 session opens Tuesday, Jan. 12. It's scheduled for 38 working days and its main run ends Friday, March 11. Lawmakers return for day 38 on Monday, March 29, to consider any vetoes and handle any unfinished business.

The 2016 legislative calendar is available on the Internet at <http://legis.sd.gov/docs/legsession/2016/calendar.pdf>.

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