Chance Of A Few Thunderstorms

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PRESSE DAKOTAN

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VOLUME 138 NUMBER 110

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | 14 PAGES | www.yankton.net



ROCKIN' (AND COOKIN') AT RIBFEST



KELLY HERTZ/P&D ZZ-3, a ZZ Top tribute band from Sioux Falls, was one of several acts to perform at the 2012 Rockin' Ribfest in Yankton Saturday. The headlining act was The Nadas.

A Hot Time Was Had At '12 Ribfest

Change Of Dates Whips Up Big Numbers At Annual Event

BY JEREMY HOECK jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

With weather not having been a concern and with an improved music lineup, organizers for Yankton annual Rockin' Ribfest are calling this year's event a significant success.

Judging by the predicted record attendance, the cele-



Duane McDonald of Yankton puts the final touches on a rack of ribs to be presented for judging during Saturday's amateur rib competition at the 2012 Rockin' Ribfest in downtown Yankton. McDonald labeled himself the "Summit St. Smoker." Jem Hof of Yankton won the amateur competition, cooking with the team "Doctor'd Ribs." To see or purchase images from the 2012 Rockin' Ribfest, visit spotted.yankton.net.

Progress Is Made Against Midwestern Wildfires

Some Neb. Evacuation Orders Lifted

BY NELSON LAMPE Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Some firefighters who have battled the western Nebraska and South Dakota wildfires for nearly a week are being sent home, a fire official said Monday.

day. The three fires have burned nearly 260 square miles, but firefighters have made considerable progress on the Douthit and West Ash fires near Chadron, Neb., said information spokesman Neal Kephart.

"We're getting a good handle on those fires and releasing personnel and equipment," Kephart said. The Douthit fire was 99 percent contained and the West Ash fire is 55 percent contained.

He estimated as many as 700 people, including firefighters, managers and support personnel, were working those fires. He expects the number could drop to 400 by Monday night.

Kephart said at least five homes and a number of other structures have been destroyed veyed the area.

Crews were also making good progress against the Wellnitz fire, which is burning north of Rushville and into South Dakota. Officials said if containment efforts continue, some local firefighters could be released soon.

Following an aerial survey Sunday, officials lowered the damage estimate from the Wellnitz fire from about 150 to about 120 square miles burned. The blaze crossed into South Dakota on Friday and broke through containment lines on Saturday.

"Everything looks really good today. We're making a lot of progress," Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team spokesman Bill Kight said Monday afternoon. He said the fire is more than 25 percent contained.

Firefighters were extending the containment lines and putting out hot spots within 100 feet of the line, Kight said, in hopes that embers wouldn't jump the line to start new fires.

The northwestern corner of Nebraska is a sparsely populated

bration continues to grow, according to committee member Ben Hanten.

"It shows that Yankton can be a destination," Hanten said Monday. "We had the big 150th (anniversary) celebration last year, and with Riverboat Days weekend and Ribfest, our town knows how to throw a fun party."

With Saturday temperatures holding steady in the mid-90's, the weather was a far cry from the previous two years when Ribfest was marked by coats and hats in addition to ribs and music. The decision to move up the event two weeks earlier in September paid off, Hanten said.

"We had two years in a row of cool, damp weather," he said. "To grow this, we needed to show vendors that we could give them a good turnout; to make it worth their while."

Without knowing the exact numbers as of Monday afternoon, Hanten was confident that this year's attendance will surpass all expectations. He pointed to increased foot traffic along Third Street during the hours of 11 a.m.-5 p.m. — a period he called "pretty barren" last year.

Playing a role in the increased crowds was that Lewis & Clark Recreation Area asked committee members for signs to post at the campground to promote the event. Moving Ribfest to the holiday weekend enabled the event to pull in campers during the last big camping weekend

by the two fires, but that officials will have a better idea of the damage once assessment teams sur-

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Labor Day 2012 Holiday Marked By Parades, Political Speeches

BY JULIE CARR SMYTH AND BRIAN FRIEDMAN Associated Press

TOLEDO, Ohio — Parades, picnics and politicians celebrated the American worker on Labor Day, with President Barack Obama seeking votes from Ohio union members and rivals for Senate seats marching in Massachusetts and Virginia.

But for many, Monday's holiday was a last chance to enjoy a final summer cookout, roller coaster ride or day at the beach. Or perhaps even a stroll from Michigan's Upper Peninsula to its Lower Peninsula — along the longest suspension bridge in the Western Hemisphere.

Politics was a big part of Labor Day, the time when much of the public usually starts to pay attention to the campaigns. Terence Glaze, a 47-year-old firefighter, waited to catch a glimpse of Obama's motorcade at the president's speech in Toledo, but his two young sons were eager to get to the movies instead.

"It's a time for the family to be together and just spend time with one another. That's the most important aspect," Glaze said.

"But I do also think about the sacrifices unions have made, as it relates to wages, as it relates to safety issues," he added.

At his speech to members of the United Auto Workers and United Steelworkers, Obama noted his decision to rescue automakers General Motors and Chrysler in 2009 — a move opposed by his rival, Republican nominee Mitt Romney.

"If America had thrown in the towel like that, GM and Chrysler wouldn't exist today," Obama said. "The suppliers and the distributors that get their business from these companies would have died off, too. Then even Ford could have gone down as well."

Romney supporter Kenneth Harbin, a member of the University of Toledo College Republicans, waved signs for his candidate outside the rally and scoffed at Obama's decision to visit the labor stronghold.

"He's gotta come home and say, 'Here's what I did for you. Now here's what you can do for me," Harbin said.

Getting union voters in Ohio to turn out in November will be crucial for Democrats. About

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Yankton Church To Showcase Facility

BY JEREMY HOECK

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Four years later, Calvary Baptist Church in Yankton still fields questions about its home in a remodeled building vacated by Walmart.

Chief among them, according to Associate Pastor Rick Slattery, is "What are they doing back there?"

"I think there's a sense that people wonder what goes on here," Slattery said while on a tour of the 93,000-square-foot building. "It's all about informing the public — to satisfy some of that curiosity."

In a dual effort to showcase its new expansive children's area and to highlight available opportunities, Calvary Baptist will host the Adventures With Christ Continue ministry fair next Sunday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. A normal Sunday service will be held from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Church staff will also offer guided tours of the building and will be on hand to answer any questions — of which senior pastor Jon Cooke expects there to be many.

"When we bought the building, the number one question was, "What are you going to do with all that space?" Cooke said. "It's more than just our church, we have so many things we do.

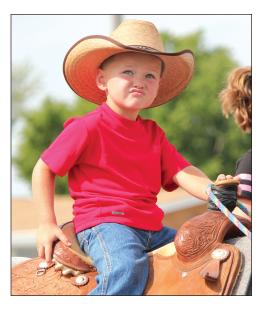
have so many things we do. "We want this to be a community facility, to get as much use out of it as we can."

The ministry fair, which will be open to the public, will feature 40 tables set up inside the large fellowship hall, each showcasing a ministry opportunity available with the church. Among those exhibits will be Celebrate Recovery (addiction), Operation Christmas (toys for youth), Kids Against Hunger (food for impoverished countries), as well as a presentation by a youth group on their recent trip to Belize.

Those who attend the fair will be given a passport book when they come in, Slattery said. Every table will have a stamp, and those people who receive every stamp will win door prizes.

Each table will also have breakfast treats, and there will also be a small cafe area located in the fellowship hall. The booths and tables will highlight areas in which the general public can join with current members to help others, Slattery said

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SADDLED UP IN WAGNER

This young rider sat tall in the saddle Monday during the annual Wagner Labor Day parade. Organizers estimate that up to 10,00 people line the streets of the town to see the many floats, bands, politicians, cars and horses. The parade is one of the top draws of the Wagner festival. This was the 112th annual celebration, making it one of the longest-running community festivals in South Dakota. (Jilanne Doom/P&D)



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YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: NORTH OF 15TH STREET

OMORROW: Yankton Man Stresses Importance Of Prostate Cancer Screening