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## Crops

From Page 1

produce 154.4 bushels per acre and soybean growers would pull 42.6 bushels per acre from their fields.

Both crops are running late compared to last year and the five-year average, as many farmers were forced to delay planting because of the cool, dry spring.

By this time last year, half of South Dakota's soybean crop had dropped its leaves. This year just 8 percent had dropped leaves as of last Monday, well behind the five-year average of 24 percent.

For corn, kernels have dented in just 41 percent of the crop, behind the 78 percent pace of last year and the 49 percent five-year average. Elliott said farmers' late start has also left some questions about the number of planted acres.

The USDA's Farm Service Agency will release its new crop acreage report on Sept. 17, but those numbers won't be incorporated into USDA's yield estimates until October.

"But of course with that coming out, the market will be trading that information as well," she said.

## Entries Being Accepted For YSD Pioneer Days Homecoming Parade

Entries are being accepted for the 2013 Yankton High School Pioneer Days Homecoming Parade. The parade is on Friday, Sept. 27, and starts at 2:30 p.m.

Advance registration is required and the entry deadline is Sept. 9. Entries may be picked up at the YHS main office or requested through email at cpietz@ysd.k12.sd.us/.

## USD

From Page 1

Nebraska, Johnson said.

"We've got a bunch from South Dakota, of course, too," she said, smiling.

Among those from that state was the Grotenhuis family of Yankton.

All wearing Kansas gear, James, his wife, Tracey, and sons, Cooper and Mac made the drive down to Lawrence to support their beloved Jayhawks.

Every year the family comes down for a home football game, James said. Last year they chose the South Dakota State game — a 14-point win for the Jayhawks.

"It was only natural to come down to this one," James said Saturday.

For Tracey, a former volleyball coach at Mount Marty College, trips to Lawrence are especially emotional. She was a track standout — in the half-mile — for the Jayhawks from 1994-98.

"Living so close, I've always

continued to come back," Tracey said. "We like coming down to basketball games, too."

At their hotel prior to the game, the Grotenhuis family got a chance to meet Ben McLemore, a former Kansas basketball star and current member of the NBA's Sacramento Kings.

All part of the Lawrence experience, said James, an admitted "progressing Jayhawks fan."

"I've always liked the Kansas basketball team, but I'm learning to cheer for football too," he said.

When it comes to football, specifically against FBS opposition like Central Florida, Minnesota, Air Force, Wisconsin, Northwestern or Kansas (all of whom USD has played), Abbott recalled an athletic banquet years ago when the subject of those games came up.

"Nobody got up to talk about beating small schools," the president said. "It was always about those games at Nebraska or wherever, even if they got blown out."

USD received a \$400,000 guarantee to play in Lawrence, and will receive \$525,000 for a trip to Oregon next year.

Paychecks like those are a big reason why USD — and other FCS schools — schedule such games, Abbott said.

"I've always thought, 'Play up,'" he said. "It's a good thing. More than anything, these are money games. You want to avoid injuries, come in and play well, and get your check."

On the game Saturday at Kansas? "We're twenty-three and a half point underdogs, what do we have to lose?" Abbott said about an hour before kickoff.

Not that the result absolutely mattered during those pre-game festivities, Johnson said.

"It's a good chance for fans to reconnect with people they haven't seen in a while," she said. "Plus, it's a lot of fun to enjoy these other gameday atmospheres."

Being in Lawrence makes a difference, too, she added.

"A game with Kansas is a big draw," Johnson said.

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

## Syria

From Page 1

The actual tally of those killed by chemical weapons is scant compared to the sum of all killed in the upheaval: more than 100,000, according to the United Nations.

In an interview Sunday, Assad told U.S. journalist Charlie Rose there is not conclusive evidence about who is to blame for the chemical weapons attacks and again suggested the rebels were responsible. From Beirut, Rose described his interview, which is to be released Monday on the CBS morning program that Rose hosts, with the full interview airing later in the day on Rose's PBS program.

Asked about Assad's claims there is no evidence he used the weapons, Secretary of State John Kerry told reporters in London: "The evidence speaks for itself."

At the same time, Obama has planned his own public relations effort. He has scheduled six network interviews on Monday and then a primetime speech to the nation from the White House on Tuesday, the eve of the first votes in Congress.

Obama faces a tough audience on Capitol Hill. A survey by The Associated Press shows that House members who are staking out positions are either opposed to or leaning against Obama's plan for a military strike by more than a 6-1 margin.

"Lobbying a few Tomahawk

missiles will not restore our credibility overseas," said Rep. Mike McCaul, the Texas Republican who chairs the House Homeland Security Committee.

Added Rep. Loretta Sanchez, D-Calif.: "For the president to say that this is just a very quick thing and we're out of there, that's how long wars start."

Almost half of the 433-member House and a third of the 100-member Senate remain undecided, the AP survey found.

"Just because Assad is a murderous tyrant doesn't mean his opponents are any better," said Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas.

But some of Assad's opponents are pleading for aid. "The world is watching, and Syrians are wondering: When is the international community going to act and intervene to protect them?" said Saleh.

On Saturday, a U.S. official released a DVD compilation of videos showing attack victims that the official said were shown to senators during Thursday's classified briefing. The graphic images have become a rallying point for the administration. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., chairwoman of the Intelligence Committee, also posted videos on the committee's website.

But McDonough conceded the United States doesn't have concrete evidence Assad was behind the chemical attacks.

Recent opinion surveys show intense American skepticism about military intervention in Syria, even among those who believe Syria's government used chemical weapons on its people.

Congress, perhaps, is even more dubious.

"It's an uphill slog," said Rep. Mike Rogers, the Republican chairman of the House Intelligence Committee who supports strikes on Assad.

"I think it's very clear he's lost support in the last week," Rogers added, speaking of the president.

Complicating the effort in the Senate is the possibility that 60 votes may be required to authorize a strike.

Republican Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky said he would consider a filibuster, but noted the delay tactic was unlikely to permanently nix a vote. Paul would, however, insist his colleagues consider an amendment to the resolution that would bar Obama from launching strikes if Congress votes against the measure.

Still, Sen. Harry Reid, the Democratic leader, has predicted authorization and McDonough, too, on Sunday telegraphed optimism.

"They do not dispute the intelligence when we speak

with them," McDonough said, of members of Congress.

But while the public discussion lacks a direct link between Assad and weapons, the private briefs are no better, two lawmakers said.

"The evidence is not as strong as the public statements that the president and the administration have been making," said Rep. Justin Amash, R-Mich. "There are some things that are being embellished in the public statements. ... The briefings have actually made me more skeptical about the situation."

Rep. Buck McKeon, R-Calif., said "they have evidence showing the regime has probably the responsibility for the attacks."

But that's not enough to start military strikes. "They haven't linked it directly to Assad, in my estimation," said McKeon, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee.

McDonough, an Obama foreign policy adviser, said the dots connect themselves.

The material was delivered by "rockets which we know the Assad regime has and we have no indication that the opposition has."

Congress resumes work Monday after its summer break, but a heated debate about Syria is already underway.

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Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C. is pleased to announce the association of Carrissa Pietz, MD, Board Certified Family Medicine Physician.

Dr. Pietz is originally from Lesterville, SD and completed her undergraduate degree at Mount Marty College. She is a graduate of Sanford School of Medicine of The University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD. Dr. Pietz completed her family medicine residency at Sioux Falls Family Medicine Residency, Sioux Falls, SD.

Dr. Pietz joins Drs. David Barnes, McKenzie Hanson, Scott Weber, and Certified Nurse Practitioner, Jennifer McGinnis, in providing family care.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Pietz, her husband, Aaron, and their children, Noah and Carson, to Yankton.

Dr. Pietz will begin seeing patients at the Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C. September 9, 2013.

Appointments can be made by calling 605-665-8910.

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