



YHS Roll Past Knights In Pioneer Days Clash • 7

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So Far, SD, Nebraska Avoiding Measles Cases

BY ROB NIELSEN
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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is estimating the U.S. could see more than 500 cases of measles this year if current patterns hold. However, Avera Sacred Heart Hospital Infection Prevention Nurse Jan Johnson said despite the recent national spike, South Dakota hasn't seen a case as part of the recent scare.

"There are no new cases that I'm aware of," Johnson said. "We haven't had a case since 1997."

State Epidemiologist Lon Kightlinger said

while some South Dakotans have been around the disease out of state, none has contracted it.

"We've had some outbreaks in Minnesota," Kightlinger said. "We had some people that were in contact with those people in Minnesota and none of them developed measles. We've dodged the bullet and we're very lucky."

Kightlinger attributes the lack of cases in the state to a robust vaccination program.

"We have school entry laws in South Dakota," he said. "By the time kids go to day-care, they need the measles vaccine and by the

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Yankton Gets SD Water Funding

Improvements To Yankton's Water System Have Been Approved, Funds Available

BY BOB MERCER

State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — The city of Yankton received approval Friday for a \$12,850,000 loan package from the state Board of Water and Natural Resources for a major upgrade to the municipal water system.

Yankton will receive \$1 million of loan forgiveness, in essence a grant. That reduces the loan amount to \$11,850,000 to be repaid over 20 years at 3 percent interest.

Board members also gave their OK to a \$259,000 loan for Gregory to replace part of the existing sewer system. The loan is for 10 years at 2.25 percent interest.

Freeman and Vermillion received recycling grants from the board. Freeman will get \$195,000 for expanding its recycling center. Vermillion will see \$400,000 to help replace its baler building that burned down.

The Lewis and Clark watershed clean-up project was approved for an additional \$200,000 by the board to be used toward further reducing runoff of feedlot waste and other material into area tributaries of the Missouri River reservoir. This is the third phase of a continuing project that to date has invested approximately \$7 million from producers and government sources in animal waste-management systems.



Nelson

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KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Members of Yankton's Lincoln Elementary School student council grab hold of their faux stovepipe hats as they turn south down Cedar St. and confront a stiff southern breeze during Friday's Pioneer Days homecoming parade. Although the number of floats was down due to recent liability concerns, there were several other components in the parade that entertained the large crowd that gathered in the downtown area for the annual event. To see or purchase images of this event, visit spotted.yankton.net.

Musil: SD Poised To Become More Involved With Climate Efforts

By Nathan Johnson
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South Dakotans like to be good neighbors, and that's a trait that Bob Musil believes will motivate them to become more involved with climate change and environmental health in the future.

"There seems to be a real culture of neighborliness," he told the *Press & Dakotan* this week while visiting Mount Marty College (MMC). "You don't have the urban problems. People are proud of that. You have cleaner air, more open space. Sooner or later, people are going to say, 'I want to keep it that way,' and figure out that it takes an ef-



Musil

fort beyond the borders of South Dakota."

Musil is a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow, as well as a senior fellow and adjunct professor at the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies in the School of Public Affairs at American University. He has expertise in the areas of global warming, environmental health and national security, and participated in classes, seminars, workshops and lectures while at MMC.

Musil has worked with presidents Bill Clinton

and Barack Obama, vice presidents Al Gore and Joe Biden, and numerous cabinet members and congressional leaders, on environmental issues.

He picked a hot week to visit with college students about climate change and environmental health.

On Friday, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its new assessment, which projects rising sea levels, more intense and frequent heat waves, and destructive droughts and floods, as well as more

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Federal Deadlock Would Put Projects In A Bind

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — The inability of Congress to get a new transportation program approved this year was bad enough for South Dakota's highway project planning. Now the situation is about to turn much worse because of the deadlock over the federal budget.

State Transportation Secretary Darin Bergquist said his department will need to become very cautious about bid lettings and must be sure sufficient federal funds will be available when South Dakota submits its bills.

The danger is that state government otherwise could be caught in the middle with debt it can't pay.

All 50 states use a back-funding approach. They contract for projects to be constructed and then ask the federal government to pass along the money for the work. South Dakota sends bills approximately every two weeks.

In addition to the current highway program officially expiring Sept. 30, and the deadlock over the next budget, Bergquist said a backlog of debt is mounting at the federal level in the highway program.

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A Dig In The Park



ROB NIELSEN/P&D

Representatives from NorthwesternEnergy help to plant trees in Yankton's Rotary Park on Friday. Yankton and Mitchell were both awarded \$5000 by the company to plant trees in local parks. Volunteers from NorthWestern Energy and Yankton Parks and Recreation helped plant the trees.

Arena Plans Changing

BY JEREMY HOECK
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VERMILLION — As fundraising continues for a pair of athletic facility projects, the University of South Dakota has, at least, overcome certain construction obstacles, says athletic director David Herbster.

The original plan for the proposed 6,000-seat basketball and volleyball arena in Vermillion called for the courts beneath ground level south of the Dakota-Dome, with seats rising up. Because of issues — costs and water table concerns — associated with digging that far underground, plans now call for the arena to be built at ground level, with the courts on the same plane as the concourse, Herbster said.

USD has raised "a little over" \$52 million for the arena project, as well as an outdoor track and soccer complex, Herbster said this week, adding that the changes have all but assured a

ARENA | PAGE 15

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