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Yankton Hosts Annual Cross Country Invite 6A

Yankton Tops Watertown In Waste-Grant Competition

BY BOB MERCER State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Yankton needs financial assistance for improvements at its waste-disposal facility and Watertown doesn't require a new cell yet at its regional landfill, members of the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources decided Thursday.

The board followed the recommendation of its staff, providing a \$450,000 low-interest loan and \$300,000 grant to Yankton, while denying the Watertown application for a \$500,000 grant. Andy Bruels, an engineer

manager for the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources, said Watertown was interested in only grant funds and has sufficient reserves to fund its entire project.

Bruels added that Watertown doesn't need to construct new cells at this time and can fill above grade. He said the landfill's current footprint has 15 years left if the above-grade approach is used. Landfill manager Mike Boerger of Watertown said the project involves an east-to-west storm water corridor. The new cell upon construction would be partially loaded with waste to protect the liner from freez-

Defending Liberal Arts



SHAUNA MARLETTE/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK

University of South Dakota president James W. Abbott presented the state of the University address Thursday in Aalfs Auditorium on the USD campus. Abbott said the university is doing a lot of things right, according to students. He also noted that overall enrollment at the school is slightly above last year's FTE number.

Two Men Are Arrested In Bust Of Yankton Meth Lab

From P&D Staff Reports

Two men were arrested Wednesday as the result

disposed of in accordance to regulations." Arrested were Todd Deville, 36, and Aaron Marek, 37, both of Yankton. The charges include: Abbott Updates **USD Staff With** Annual Address

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BY SHAUNA MARLETTE

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VERMILLION – "Thinking is the ultimate skill," stated University of South Dakota (USD) President James W. Abbott during his 19th State of the University Address Thursday in Vermillion.

Beginning his address by saying that liberal arts education is under siege he said, while every form of education is needed, liberal arts colleges like USD are preparing the people who will change the world. "As we listen to TV and read different things

- particularly politicians - all we hear these days are three words: skills, skills, skills, "Abbott said. "I support all kinds of education, but I believe we are being done a disservice when we don't stand up for liberal arts. Is there a more important skill than critical thinking? That is really what the liberal arts are all about. ... We need technical schools, we need community colleges, we need every form of education we can get. But, long term, the world is changed by people who have the ability to think, to problem solve, are organized and can express themselves through writing and orally."

Abbott said he believe that the University of South Dakota is providing those future leaders the educational facilities, professors, staff and resources to succeed.

Our campus and grounds have never looked better," he said.

He said that several projects including the new soccer, track and field complex and the new basketball/volleyball area and educational facilities are proceeding on schedule.

While there are many building that do need upgrades and remodeling, Abbott noted the ability to complete those projects are based on funding availability.

He also said that the Onward campaign is going well, having raised \$165 million of its \$250 million goal.

"I am confident we will meet our goals in the next 16-17 months," Abbott said. "If we do that, then maybe we need to attempt to raise a little bit more for other projects.'

Abbott spent several minutes discussing both student satisfaction surveys and the 2015 fall enrollment numbers.

'All the data we are presenting is as of Sept.

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of a methamphetamine lab bust in Yankton.

According to a press release Thursday from the Yankton Police Department, law enforcement was assisting in a parole search on National Street at approximately noon on Wednesday. Items were discovered indicating the use and manufacturing of methamphetamine. There were components used in the manufacturing of the drugs which necessitated the use of a hazardous materials clean-up team.

Lt. Todd Brandt of the Yankton Police Department told the Press & Dakotan that the location has been secured.

'The status of (the cleanup) is, it's been contained," Brandt said. "The items are going to be

* Keeping a place for use or sale of controlled

substance; * Knowing a child was present where using/distributing/manufacturing methamphetamines;

Manufacturing/distribution/possession of drugs (Sched I or II);

Possession of a controlled substance in schedules I or II;

Possession of drug paraphernalia (M2). The case was a joint operation between the state Division of Criminal Investigation, the South Dakota Parole Board, the Yankton Police Department, Yankton County EMS and the Yankton Fire Department.

11," he explained, because the numbers are not finalized for the semester. "We have 1,199 fulltime freshmen living on campus this fall. That is an increase of 4.5 percent over last year. We have a decrease of 0.89 percent of combined full-time and part-time students but our FTE is up. I think that is because of the decrease in the number of part-time students in Sioux Falls at University Center but I am not sure.

In all there are a total of 9,971 students taking classes from USD this semester with 7,401

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RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

Karla Zeutenhorst with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers describes the Lake Yankton Water Festival event as part of Thursday's planning meeting for Missouri River Events. The river rendezvous will partner with the water festival during June 2016.

River Rendezvous Moved To June

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF

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The wildly popular cardboard boat races at Lake Yankton enjoyed smooth sailing even if the entries usually didn't stay afloat.

However, the 2011 Missouri River flooding and other circumstances led to the suspension of the boat races.

The event looks to return next summer as part of a revamped festival.

The two-year old Missouri River Rendezvous, formerly held in May, will now join the Lake Yankton Water Festival for the June 18, 2016, event. The Lake Yankton festival is sponsored by a number of agencies.

With the change, organizers hope to bring back the cardboard boat races, said Karla Zeutenhorst with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, host of the Lake Yankton Water Festival. The Press & Dakotan has shown interest in again sponsoring the boat races, she said.

"In the past, we have done the boat races with the *P&D*. The races were hugely popular," she said. "I have talked to (*P&D* publisher) Gary Wood about bringing it back with the Rendezvous. We would do it again at Lake Yankton."

Wood said he has been in contact with Zeutenhorst about reviving the event.

'We've talked (with the Corps) and would be interested in sponsoring the races," Wood said

Ranger Dugan Smith with the National Park Service (NPS) anticipates a tremendous interest in the boat races with some creative and enthusiastic entries.

"The last time, they pulled together 6-8 sets of (audience) bleachers, and they were packed," he said.

FACING CHALLENGES

The Saturday afternoon rendezvous, held in Riverside Park, featured educational and recreational exhibits. The event was held in conjunction with the Friday school festival and Saturday morning river clean-up. The weekend also kicked off the eight-day Clean Boat Event combating invasive species.

The Missouri River Rendezvous was launched as a new event but didn't catch on like the more established school festival and river clean-up, Smith said.

"We formerly held the clean-up and rendezvous all in one day," he said. "The idea was good, but it was tough to get people to volunteer all Saturday morning for the river clean-up and then come back for the Rendezvous.

The rendezvous also ran into inclement weather the first year, Smith said. The Lake Yankton Water Festival should provide more favorable weather, he added.

"The weather can be fickle on the first of May," he said. "This way, we are having it during summer. Our focus has also changed as we are looking at doing more exhibits and demonstrations dealing with pastimes. We want to tell people about recreation and all the things to do on the river.'

The May programs also ran into manpower problems as the same volunteers were working two and even three events, said Paul Lepisto with the Izaak Walton League of America.

"Now, by having it in mid-June, it also provides us with an extra month for plan-

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TOMORROW: Yankton Manufacturers Build A Week Of Community Involvement