

March looks to be wet

Wetter than average conditions are expected across South Dakota through the spring, according to the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's Climate Outlook released Feb. 16, 2017.

"Beginning in March, the outlook shows an increased probability of wetter than average conditions, especially in western and central South Dakota," said Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension State Climatologist.

This does not come as a surprise, said Edwards, pointing to the recent wetter than average conditions across most of the state. "A steady stream of rain and snow events have crossed the region this season. As a result, all but the far northwest, has had above average precipitation," Edwards said.

The March 2017 climate outlook predicts more moisture. "If this becomes a reality, it could further alleviate drought concerns in the western counties and potentially provide good moisture for spring growing conditions," Edwards said.

Frost potential for winter wheat

The temperature outlook for March 2017 indicates cooler than average conditions could prevail in the northwestern corner of South Dakota. Elsewhere in the state, Edwards said the data shows equal chances of warmer, cooler or

near-average temperatures.

Based on current conditions, Edwards added that February 2017 will likely end up much warmer than average. "The current forecast shows continued warm weather through the end of the month," she said.

Substantial snow melt occurring the week of Feb. 13 could have adverse effects on winter wheat, Edwards explained, by potentially exposing it to frost or freeze later this spring. "For now, this pattern will spill into early March. Then the area of high pressure that is parked over the region will gradually move eastward. Temperatures will likely return to near average for this time of year or slightly cooler than average," Edwards said.

During the months of January and February, the west has experienced cooler-than-average temperatures while the eastern region of South Dakota has experienced warmer-than-average.

"In our state, the Missouri River has been the dividing line between colder than average and warmer than average temperatures so far this winter season," Edwards said of the weather phenomena.

Three Month Outlook

The outlook for the next three months leans toward an increased

March
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Lent begins with Ash Wednesday services

Next Wednesday, March 1, Ash Wednesday begins the Easter Lenten Season with most churches in the area starting the first of a season of worship services.

In Clark, an ecumenical service will be held at the United Methodist Church in Clark. A soup supper will begin at 5:32 p.m. followed by the Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 p.m.

St. Michael's Catholic Church in Clark will hold their Mass with distribution of Ashes at 7:00 p.m. In Henry, at St. Henry's Catholic Church, the Ash Wednesday service will be at 8:30 a.m.

In Carpenter, the United Methodist Church will have services at 7:00 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church in Bradley will combine with Crocker Lutheran Church for a service to be

held in Crocker at Crocker Lutheran Church at 7:00 p.m. with lunch to follow.

Willow Lake Evangelical Church will have their Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, March 1 at 6:30 p.m. with communion and a lunch to follow.

Also in Willow Lake, the Lenten season starts with an Ash Wednesday service at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Vienna, the service will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The Lake Gospel Church will have their Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1.

The Bethlehem and Peace Lutheran Churches will have their service at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 2 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church with fellowship to follow the service.



The red and white of the Raymond Redwings were honored

On four consecutive Friday nights, the Clark-Willow Lake Cyclones have been celebrating former schools in Clark County. The last school to be honored, the red and white of the Raymond Redwings happened last Friday at the Clark High School gym.

Pictured left to right in the front row are Mary Filipek, Alma Hass, Karen Kopriva, Nevaeh Reitz, Tre McRae, Oliver Reitz, Easton Huber, Britany Hink and Jack Schaack.

In the back row, left to right are Dean Bymers, Dawn Hink, Duane Bymers (partially hidden), Tami Peters, David Hink, Carla Cornelius, Jim Hurlbut, Jolene Hermoe, Roger Hurlbert, Roger Helkenn, Gale Filipek, Jerry Nuttbrock, Wayne Schlagel, Patty Rosenau, Jane Coats, Todd Jenkins, Ann Schmidt, Sandy Johnson, Brian Jenkins, Sandra Reitz, Fred Obermeier, Steve Mehlberg, Robert Wegman, Shannon Huber and Blake Schlagel.

Clark's blood drive is Monday, February 27

Clark's blood drive, sponsored by the Clark School National Honor Society will be Monday, February 27, at the Clark High School from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Tammie Paulson is the coordinator of the drive and one can make an appointment to donate blood by calling her at the school, 532-3605, extension 0.

Blood drive (continued on page 3)

WEATHER			
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
Feb. 14	37	19	0
Feb. 15	41	18	0
Feb. 16	46	29	0
Feb. 17	50	33	0
Feb. 18	49	31	0
Feb. 19	55	36	tr
Feb. 20	50	30	.04
2017 precipitation to date			.39
2016 precipitation to date			1.32



The 2017 District 2 Legislative Cracker Barrel was held Monday, President's Day, at the Ulylot Building, in Clark.

Introducing the lawmakers is Farm Bureau president Matt Vandersnick. The three District 2 legislators are, left to right, Rep. Lana Greenfield, Sen. Brock Greenfield and Rep. Burt Tulson.

IM 22 talk dominates 2017 Clark County Cracker Barrel

In recent years, the President's Day Monday means that the Ulylot Building in Clark will be the site of the District 2 Legislative Cracker Barrel. Sponsored by Clark County Farm Bureau and Clark County Farmers Union, the beautiful 50° weather must have been a deterrent of coming inside for the 90-minute legislative briefing.

Farm Bureau moderator Matt Vandersnick introduced the three District 2 legislators: Sen. Brock Greenfield, Rep. Lana Greenfield and Rep. Burt Tulson.

Sen. Greenfield is the President Pro Tempore of the S.D. Senate and he began by telling the group of the duties that come with this leadership role, primarily the committee assignments, including the chairman and vice chairman of each standing committee in the Senate.

After introductions, the three legislators spoke about Initiated Measure 22 (IM 22). This subject matter dominated the cracker barrel as it has dominated the legislative session to this point.

In a nutshell, IM 22 as a campaign/lobbying reform measure passed in the general election, by the voters of South Dakota, 51.63% to 48.37%.

Sen. Greenfield spent some cracker barrel time talking the basics and history of IM 22, stating, "This out of state group ran a very effective ad campaign, but prior to putting the 30-page 17,000 word measure on the ballot, the Legis-

lative Research Council, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General all voiced their objections of 'unconstitutional' to this measure, as it appropriates money and that is unconstitutional."

Sen. Greenfield continued that shortly after the measure was passed in the general election that it has gotten hung up in the courts and it could take up to two years before a decision is handed down.

One of the first things done by the 2017 South Dakota Legislature was to repeal IM 22. In the S.D. House of Representatives there are 10 democrats and 60 republicans. In the S.D. Senate there are six democrats and 29 republicans. IM 22 has very much become a political issue between the two parties. All three District 2 legislators are republican.

Sen. Greenfield continued, "IM 22 also implanted certain policies, etc. that created much uncertainty and indecision (as a lawmaker)."

Rep. Lana Greenfield picked up on the Senator's rhetoric, adding, "I'm a life-long retired educator and because of being a legislator now, I couldn't receive (potentially) my pension."

Rep. Greenfield told of misconceptions of the tax credit clause within IM 22. "Some people thought they were getting gyped out of a tax credit. That simply is not true."

Rep. Burt Tulson stated, "I, and the state legislature, want things that are constitutional. The IM 22

people were told to take some of the things out because they were unconstitutional and they did not. I don't feel we are disrespecting (voters). We want to get things right!"

Sen. Greenfield then spoke of Senate Bill 54, one of several bills working their way through the statehouse. As mentioned, IM 22, and its repeal, has been a hot-button political issue, on both sides of the aisle.

Rep. Tulson noted that 388 bills had been introduced in Pierre, to this points and discussion jumped to many of the potential new laws.

* The Animal Research and Diagnostic Lab, on the South Dakota State University campus is antiquated and Sen. Greenfield commented, "It is in the best interest of all South Dakotans to target this area and help with a new building."

* Gail Temple asked about Country of Origin labeling and expressed the wish of a 'grown in the United States' label, as now the federal government no longer has it as a federal issue, leaving it up to the states.

* Rep. Greenfield spoke of the new (proposed) science building on the Northern State University campus, that is to be built with private monies, \$25,000,000.

* The State Legislature runs through Friday, March 10, with the day to override Governor vetoes set for Monday, March 27.



Seven wrestling Cyclones State B bound

These seven Clark-Willow Lake Cyclone wrestlers qualified for the South Dakota Class B Wrestling Tournament this weekend in Sioux Falls.

In order to wrestle this coming weekend, at State, the wrestler had to place in the top four of his weight class at Region 1B, in Volga, Saturday.

Three Cyclones won Region 1B championships; Gage Burke at 106; Jess Karber at 145 and Caleb Orris at 170. Wyatt Burke was second at 152 and

placing fourth were Brandan Gehrke at 160, Landon Werdel at 182 and Tate Shape at 285.

The Clark-Willow Lake wrestlers who qualified for the Sioux Falls tourney include left to right, front row, Karber, Gehrke and G. Burke. Back row, left to right; Shape, Orris, W. Burke and Werdel.

A weather disturbance is predicted for southeast South Dakota for Thursday and Friday, with snow and strong winds.