



TOP of the Week

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Feb. 23	36	19	tr
Feb. 24	34	17	tr
Feb. 25	27	17	0
Feb. 26	45	18	0
Feb. 27	59	29	tr
Feb. 28	38	20	0
Feb. 29	20	7	0
2016 precipitation to date	1.32		
2015 precipitation to date	.53		

Kaufman ties for 13th in Thailand



Kim
Kaufman

Clark native Kim Kaufman closed with a 4-under-par 68 on Sunday and tied for 13th in the LPGA Thailand in Chonburi, Thailand.

Kaufman finished the four-day event with a 6-under 282 (72-68-74-68) and earned \$25,986.

American Lexi Thompson won her seventh LPGA title after a final-round 68 that completed a six-stroke victory over In Gee Chun of South Korea.

Kim is the daughter of Terry and Teresa Kaufman of Clark.

World Day of Prayer, at St. Michael's

The St. Michael's Catholic Church women are hosting World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 4 beginning with registration at 9:00 a.m. at the church in Clark. The theme for the event is "Receive Children, Receive Me". All are welcome.

World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywoman's initiative which brings Christians of all denominations and traditions together to observe a common day of prayer each year. It is run under the motto of "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action" and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries. World Day of Prayer has its beginnings in the U.S.A. in 1887 and since 1927, the date for the observance has been the first Friday of March.

Region Music Contest held

The Clark School music department competed in the Region Music Contest for solos and small groups last Wednesday in Watertown.

Those earning superiors and medals for their performance in instrumental were: Gabby Moes and Saylor Hallstrom-snare drum duet; Katlyn Maynard-alto saxophone solo; Clarissa Daniels, Katlyn Maynard and Jos Hurlbert-saxophone trio. The following students received an excellent rating: Noah Huber, Correana Anderson, Gus Carlson and Matthew Streff-brass ensemble; Jen Hurlbert-snare solo.

In the vocal division, superior ratings for solos were Lauren Fjelland, Katlyn Maynard and Kathryn Paulson. Superior ratings for duets were Lauren Fjelland and Emily Binger and Kathryn Paulson and Marcie Foster.

Chelsie Gehrke and Emily Binger received excellent ratings on their solos.

Educators go the extra miles to keep programs on the road



By Wendy Royston

Splitting their time between classrooms in school districts even a few miles apart takes extra planning for teachers.

Angel Dubro, a speech language pathologist who divides her four-day workweek between the Huron and Iroquois school districts, said she has to think carefully about which school she's serving first so she arranges her supplies and equipment accordingly.

"Even my kids have to think about it, when I drop them off for school, as far as what car they need to put their stuff in," Dubro said.

Hiring teachers who are adept at that kind of juggling to work in more than one school has helped some South Dakota districts address the state's teacher shortage—and if a bill under consideration in the state Legislature passes, more schools might be encouraged to try the same teacher-sharing tactic.

"You're essentially addressing any sort of teacher shortage head-on, because you have one person filling what would have been two spots," said Sen. Corey Brown (R-Gettysburg), a member of the Blue Ribbon Task Force appointed by Gov. Dennis Daugaard to explore South Dakota's teacher shortage and provide

recommendations for overcoming it last year. "It also allows you to get a really high-quality teacher, and if the incentives are right, perhaps you can pay that teacher more for the extra duties that they are assuming by having to do that."

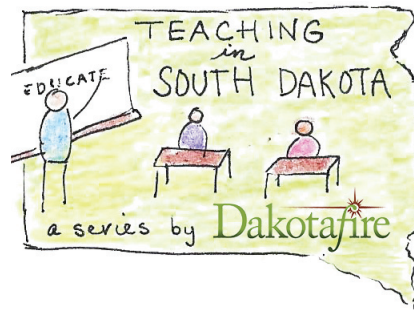
Senate Bill 133, scheduled for hearing on the House floor March 1, sets framework for the Department of Education to create and administer a grant program for school districts that share teaching staff. The bill was sponsored by the Senate Appropriations Committee, at the request of Daugaard's office, presumably because of recommendations by the Blue Ribbon Task Force.

Though South Dakota's status as home to the lowest-paid teachers in the nation has garnered the spotlight as the biggest cause of the state's shortage, officials say other factors could be changed to overcome the shortage, too.

"When the Blue Ribbon panel got together, we were tasked with looking at teacher pay, but (also) teacher shortages in general," said Sen. Corey Brown (R-Gettysburg). "Maybe teacher pay is a part of this issue, but there are other ways that you can address this as well."

Brown called an incentive program an "outside of the box" idea that would work in some situations—particularly elective coursework in the state's smaller districts.

"For those school districts that are able to make it work, from a policy



standpoint, I'm more than happy to incentivize that," he said, later suggesting two districts sharing a single teacher should each be compensated at a rate of 75 percent of a teacher salary under a proposed staff-based funding structure.

The 28 recommendations set forth by the Blue Ribbon Task Force have been visible in the 2016 Legislative Session.

"I think nearly every one of those was addressed in some fashion, and a lot of what (Daugaard's) bills look like are pretty reflective of what the report was," Brown said. "There were a few things that he addressed differently."

Sharing educators is saving electives

With declining enrollment and South Dakota's school aid formula, which has been widely criticized as deficient, hiring full-time teachers for some programs is extremely difficult. Finding part-time instructors can be nearly as challenging.

"With the demand put on our agriculture students coming out of (South Dakota State University),

there was just no way that somebody would come to these small districts to work part-time," said Damon Alvey, superintendent of the Scotland School District.

His school is in its fourth year splitting the costs and services of a full-time ag and shop teacher.

"You had to find someone in your local area, because graduates are snatched up really quickly out of SDSU, to either go out of state or to go to bigger programs," he said.

Gail Swenson, superintendent at Tripp-Delmont, where the instructor officially is employed, said finding a full-time teacher in some areas, such as agriculture—much less one for each district—often just isn't possible.

"Every district would love to be able to provide a full-time teacher for every program—tech ed and art and all of those programs that make kids' educations full and rich," she said. "We have a good situation right now, where we have a good person who is half-a-day, who is doing great work."

Leland Tjeerdsma, who retired as special security major at the Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield in December, is in his first year in the shared position. In his second career and in how he instructs his students, Tjeerdsma follows a motto handed down by his grandfather.

"When I start a project, I like to do it right," he said. "If you don't take the time to do it right the first time, how the heck are you going to

find the time to fix it later?"

Alvey said Scotland students have a first-year teacher with significant knowledge to share.

"They appreciate that someone is willing to come in and work with them part-time and still be able to fulfill the obligations and what we want this program to be," he said. "Being in a small, rural farming community, having an agriculture program is essential for us."

Swenson called the arrangement between Tripp-Delmont and Scotland "a win-win."

"I don't see any disadvantage," she said. "We have a very competent person in, whom both districts love and the kids love."

Separation anxiety

Working in two districts can give a teacher a valuable perspective on what equipment works well and what doesn't. Tjeerdsma, for example, has been able to provide valuable feedback to both the Tripp-Delmont and Scotland school districts regarding equipment purchases.

"He has the opportunity to use the best of both and share with the other one," Alvey said.

But transporting equipment from one district to another can also be a headache for teachers trying to separate, essentially, two part-time jobs.

Dubro uses separate laptops and iPads for her two school districts,

Educators
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Prairie Valley Cemetery is located northeast of Raymond

Editor's Note: Studying old records and visiting Clark County cemeteries reveals not only the final resting place of hundreds of early settlers, but also gives a partial glimpse of pioneer life when this area was still known as "Dakota Territory". Along with the large town and church cemeteries are those abandoned, forlorn private cemeteries that dot the landscape in this county. The following story is one in a series of histories of the twenty-eight graveyards in Clark County. Persons knowing of cemeteries that might be missed in this report, or have history material connected with cemeteries in the locality are urged to contact the Courier.

Located in a serene setting along 170th Street about two miles northeast of Raymond is where the Prairie Valley Cemetery is located.

One unique feature of the cemetery is a waterproof display case near the entrance in which one can identify and locate a particular gravesite. This addition was added by the board back in 2008. Merrill Hurlbert, then record keeper for the cemetery mentioned it to his son Lee who worked for Watertown Dakota Bodies at the time. They then constructed the weather tight case and donated it to the cemetery.

The idea came from Janet Hurlbert, who had seen a similar set-up at the White Cemetery where her parents are buried. Working then at the Register of Deeds office, she often received requests as to where

someone was buried/located. The Raymond Masons along with local volunteers, helped the project come together.

Approximately 591 gravesites are located at the cemetery according to records in the Register of Deeds office in Clark. Jeanne Claussen is currently the sexton and John Mills is the president of the board that meets annually.

For summer maintenance, Raymond Baker Post #209 members and volunteers gather at the same designated time and it takes about two hours to mow and trim the grounds in a group effort, notes Claussen, who is also one of those involved.

"I remember when my dad, Russ Roberts was the cemetery board **Prairie Valley Cemetery**

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Jeanne Claussen is shown just beyond the gate at the Prairie Valley Cemetery northeast of Raymond. Having grown up only a mile or so away from there, the daughter of Russ and Margaret Roberts, she is the current sexton for the cemetery.

The weather proof identification/location box was added to the cemetery in 2008, a gift from Lee Hurlbert and his company when his father - the late Merrill Hurlbert was on the cemetery board.



Dollar General Store has frame in place

A week before this picture was taken, there was nothing but a cement slab in place on the north side of US Highway 212 on the eastern side of Clark. In a short amount of time Midwest Steel out of Kansas City, Mo. has raised and put together the steel frame of the future Dollar General Store.

Foreman Jerry Diddle stated that it goes pretty quickly once they start and the whole outside struc-

ture should be done and the roof nearly done by Wednesday (today).

Plumbers and the electricians started the beginning of this week on their part in the building process of the store. More information as it is known will be forthcoming, as to when the store will be opening, etc.

Garden City and Henry School to hold elections

As Friday was the final day to file municipal election petitions, Garden City and Henry School will be holding elections on April 12, 2016.

Garden City

Two council positions are open in Garden City. According to finance officer Jeanette Warkentien, incumbent David Waples has filed his petition for the three-year term. For the two-year term on the council, incumbent Erica Benson has filed and Norman Alexander has also filed a petition for this position.

Henry School

Henry School District #14-2 will also be holding an election. School business manager Gail Thompson

states that incumbent Nicole Watson and Mark O'Neill have filed petitions for the three-year term on the school board.

Willow Lake

No election will be held in Willow Lake for the four positions that will become vacant. Del Bratland will be unopposed for the position of mayor. In Ward I, Matt Kadinger is unopposed for a two-year position and Duane Seefeldt, also unopposed will continue in Ward II on a two-year term. There were no petitions filed for the one-year term in Ward II so an appointment will

Election
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