



Partly Cloudy
Low Tonight: 15
High Friday: 27
Tomorrow's forecast on Page 2A

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A look at Sunday's NFL conference title match-ups. Page 1B

Education vote...

PIERRE — The state House of Representatives voted Wednesday to keep in place a South Dakota law that requires two members of the state Board of Education to represent vocational education. See complete story...4A

Youth hunting...

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Jeffrey Sapa turned 14 years old just one week after the deer hunting season — a week too late for him to qualify for a hunting license. See complete story...5B

College Basketball

Gophers push #23 Iowa to three overtimes before falling. Page 1B

NHL

Positive thinking pays off in Wild win. Page 1B



Celtics down Timberwolves. Page 1B

Calendar

Saturday
The Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce will host a District 5 Legislative Cracker Barrel from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Watertown Regional Library. District 5 legislators Lee Schoenbeck, Al Koistinen and Bob Faehn will participate.

Sunday
13th annual Public Opinion Bridal Show, Event Center.

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Recycling this week: Paper



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Blasts rock downtown Baghdad

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A suicide attacker detonated an explosive vest in a crowded downtown coffee shop Thursday and another bomb exploded seconds later under a nearby car, killing at least 23 people and wounding 26, police and hospital officials said.

The blasts occurred as the mother of abducted American reporter Jill Carroll appealed for her daughter's release after her captors threatened to kill her if U.S. authorities don't release all Iraqi women in military custody by Friday night.

Iraqi authorities said six of the eight detained Iraqi females are expected to be released by the U.S. military next week, but they said it was not part of a bid to free Carroll, who was seized in Baghdad on Jan. 7. American

officials declined to comment.

A foreign assessment team also released a report saying it found numerous violations and reports of fraud during the Dec. 15 parliamentary election. But the International Mission for Iraqi Elections praised the ability to stage elections during a raging war and said there was an "urgent need ... for a formation of a government of true national unity."

Iraq's election commission prepared to announce election results, possibly as early as Friday, and the Interior Ministry said the number of troops and police on the streets would be sharply increased ahead of the announcement. Please see IRAQ, Page 12A



An Iraqi soldier walks through wreckage and debris after a roadside attack, Thursday in Baghdad, Iraq. Associated Press Photo

Waubay Clinic open at new location

By TODD KRYSIAK
Public Opinion Staff Writer

WAUBAY — When the Waubay Clinic moved to its new location almost three months ago, patients found they could still stop in at the bank, Post Office and library when making the trip for a check-up.

The clinic, operated by Avera Health Systems, moved a few buildings south from its previous location into the recently-remodeled Greening's Variety Store.

"A lot of patients, especially the elderly, will come down, get their mail, hit the bank and then come in," said physician's assistant Brenda Holscher. "The patients appreciate that."

When officials at the clinic began looking for a new location, they had hoped to remain in downtown Waubay. "People are very happy we have a service like this in the community," said registered nurse Amy Gaikowski. "They like the fact that we stayed on main street and they are happy to see a nice, new facility."

The clinic has two full-time staff members and Dr. Vichit Vandurongvan makes the trip from Milbank to see patients once a week.

The new building is comparable in space to the clinic's previous location and continues to offer the same services, but it's the working environment that

was the cause for the move.

"The other building needed a lot of repairs," Gaikowski said. "With the remodeling here it's just like a brand new building."

Holscher added it makes work easier for the staff.

"The building is more professional-looking and it makes our work more efficient," she said. "It's also more patient-friendly."

The Waubay Clinic opened under Avera Health in 2000, and is the first stable practice of its kind the community has had in decades.

Prior to its opening, several clinics opened up only to shut their doors a short time later.

Holscher said she expects the clinic to be around for a long time.

"Each year we have more and more patients," she said. "We add anywhere between 10 and 20 new patients each month."

The clinic draws patients from Watertown to Roslyn and Webster to Summit.

The Greening family had the building erected nearly 50 years ago, and Holscher said they were glad to see the clinic move in after they retired and closed the variety store.

"So many of these buildings in small towns like this just go empty or are turned into storage," Holscher said. "They were glad to see it remain useful to the community."



Public Opinion Photo by Todd Krysiak
Patient Lori Skadsen of Grenville watches television as she waits for her appointment in the lobby of the new Waubay Clinic. The clinic, operated by Avera Health Systems, remodeled the old Greening's Variety Store and moved into the former store in November. The new location is a few buildings south of the clinic's old building.

Wind power could get a big boost

By BOB MERCER
Public Opinion Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — If consumers are willing to pay for the costs, electric utility companies are willing to build new transmission lines in South Dakota to carry the additional power that could be generated by wind farms, a spokesman for the electricity industry said Wednesday.

Legislation is scheduled to be officially introduced today that would create a state law allowing companies to directly recover their costs as transmission projects proceed, by charging customers more for their monthly service.

The approach would mark a partial departure from the standard, long-range rate-setting process used by the state Public Utilities Commission.

"I like to call it pay as you go," said Bob Miller, executive director of the South Dakota Electric Utility Companies organization. "We think we have really found the key this time."

Insufficient capacity on existing transmission lines has been the major roadblock to more development of wind power in South Dakota. Please see WIND, Page 12A

Sunnyside to close its doors



Sunnyside Inn, above, will close its doors on Jan. 28 after decades of serving Watertown and surrounding communities for reunions, weddings, parties and just everyday dinner and dancing. Right: Al and Hildy DeVille, who purchased Sunnyside in 1951, are shown behind the bar in 1967. Three of their children, Dick, Pork and Steve, currently run the establishment.



Courtesy Photo

By JENNIFER NIELSEN
Public Opinion Staff Writer

It was a different time with different entertainment years ago when the DeVille children used to help their parents run the Sunnyside Inn into the wee hours of the morning.

People came to the supper club for dinner and dancing, and they weren't about to go home until they had their fill.

"We've seen it where to have the band play (longer) they'd pass a hat, or one time they sent a guitar case around and people would throw money in it to keep it going," Steve DeVille said.

The regulars would all come out and the couples would dance and dance, sometimes until 4 in the morning. Sometimes even later.

There were no laws about how late an establishment could serve liquor in those days and the DeVilles didn't set any limits on how late their guests could stay out and have a good time.

That's not really the case anymore.

"People don't stay out all night anymore," Dick DeVille said.

That is just one of the small changes that convinced the DeVilles to sell the Sunnyside Inn after having it in the family for 55 years.

"There's so many things that you need to make it work," said Dick, who runs the Sunnyside with Steve and their brother

Pork. Their brother Ron and sister Rita also have many years invested in the business.

And with the changing face of the food and entertainment industries along with other factors, it just seemed like a good time for the brothers to get out of the business, they said.

"If you take the emotion out of it, I think it's a good business move," Steve said. "But it's tough to take that emotion out of it. ... We had a lot of soul searching."

The Sunnyside will close its doors on Jan. 28 after decades of hosting reunions, weddings, Christmas parties, family get-togethers or just everyday dinner and dancing.

Al and Hildy DeVille purchased the Sunnyside Inn from Mike and Irene Arbogast in March of 1951. Years before that, the establishment had been known as Brown Gable and included a number of cabins that people could rent.

The DeVille family was no stranger to supper clubs and other entertainment. In addition to running race tracks in other towns in the area, they also ran the DeVilla Club in Watertown for about six years as well as the Casino Speedway.

In fact, they often would serve Sunday dinner at Sunnyside and then head to work at the speedway Sunday night.

Please see DOORS, Page 12A

Animal, election, gun and tax bills introduced

By JOE KAFKA
Associated Press Writer

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Among a passel of bills introduced Wednesday in the Legislature is one that would make it illegal to feed big-game animals.

The measure forbidding people from feeding deer, elk, antelope and wild turkeys would carry up to a \$500 penalty and 30 days in jail. It says people could not feed grass, hay, grain, fruits, vegetables or commercial livestock feed to big-game animals for the purpose of supplementing their diets or attracting them for viewing.

Customary agricultural practices would be exempt. Other new bills deal with elections, guns, and taxes.

Two bills would revive an early presidential primary election in South Dakota, holding it on the last Tuesday in January. Counties would get up to \$450,000 for their expenses.

An early presidential primary was held in February 1988, 1992 and 1996, but the Legislature moved the election to June in 2000 because of low voter turnout and the added expense.

Please see BILLS, Page 12A

2006 Bridal Showcase



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