SECTION B

▶ Jeff Martin: Metro editor, 331-2373

or jemartin@argusleader.com Newsroom fax: 605-331-2294

CONTACTUS

ARGUS LEADER, SIOUX FALLS, S.D. SATURDAY APRIL 16, 2005

Bike path sprayed for mosquitoes

PREVENTION TIPS

Check window screens for tears and empty any standing water.

► Check for faucets that collect water or tarps that gather rainfall.

Avoid being outdoors at night, or use an insect repellent that con-

tains at least 30 percent DEET.

Source: Epidemiologist Lon Kightlinger

Sioux Falls launches efforts to prevent spread of deadly West Nile virus

BY NANCY KELSEY

nkelsey@argusleader.com

Health experts can't say how severe the West Nile virus will be this summer, but Sioux Falls isn't taking any chances. The city started spraying the bike path this week as a precaution.

Rainfall, temperatures and personal efforts to ward off the mosquito-borne virus all play a

role in how hard South Dakotans will be hit, said state epidemiologist Lon Kightlinger.

"Nobody is making predictions," he said, but "we want people in South Dakota to prepare themselves and start thinking about it."

In 2003, South Dakota led the nation with 1,039 human West Nile cases. Last year, the state

reported 51 cases.

Minnehaha County has had 67 human cases since 2002, when the virus first appeared in the state. Seventeen of those resulted in the type that affects the nervous system - "the worst kind," Kightlinger said. One case was

The Sioux Falls Health Department started spraying the bike

path this week because it is such a widely used, high-risk area, said Dorothy Franklin, environmental health supervisor.

"If we waited until June, that wouldn't be good management," she said.

The health and parks departments are working to determine when spraying should be done in popular parks as a preventive

measure. The spray, commonly known as Scourge, probably will be used later in the season when traps set up around the city indicate that the number of adult mosquitoes is high enough.

A citywide spray would be considered only if the mosquito problem got out of hand, Franklin

See WEST NILE, page 5B

Hit-run driver receives 9 years

Yankton incident killed pedestrian

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

YANKTON - The driver in a fatal hit-and-run in Yankton nearly a year ago was sentenced Thursday to nine years in prison.

Jeremy Zimmerman, 23, of Sioux Falls pleaded guilty in September to second-degree manslaughter and hit-and-

He initially was charged with alternate counts of firstdegree murder and seconddegree murder in the death of Brian Pokorney, 25.

Pokorney was hit as he stood in the street and died the next day.

Zimmerman also was ordered to make restitution of \$40,000.

Pokorney was struck by the car as he and others gathered outside a Yankton house May 16 at 5 a.m.

According to witnesses, a car ran through a stop sign at a nearby intersection and sped past the group. Someone yelled at the driver to slow down. The driver turned around, returned at high speed, swerved, hit

Pokorney and drove off. In imposing the sentence, Circuit Judge Glen Eng made note of Zimmerman's record of being ticketed for speeding and exhibition dri-

ving. "Maybe using a vehicle in an inappropriate manner is not a minor offense," Eng

"If there is a message, it is that people must be aware that their actions - no matter how minor - can result in the death of another person."

But Eng said the defining factor in the case was alcohol.

"Perhaps if alcohol had not been involved, we wouldn't be here today," he said. "Perhaps no one would be dead."

According to the state's attorney, the night of the accident, Zimmerman had consumed at least eight cans of beer before midnight and continued drinking afterward.

SHE'S SMILIN' IN THE RAIN



STUART VILLANUEVA / ARGUS LEADER

Wet day can't dampen shopper's spirits

Arlene Cuhel laughs from under the hood of her raincoat as water droplets collect. Cuhel, who was walking down East 23rd Street with her groceries, wasn't discouraged by Friday's soggy weather. "I just love to walk in the rain," she said. Today is expected to be partly cloudy, with a high of 67, and Sunday promises sunshine and a high of 77, but Cuhel may get more chances for wet walks at the beginning and end of next week.

For Complete Weather Information, See Page 2A.

CDC checking bacteria from S.D. hospital

BY RANDY HASCALL

rhascall@argusleader.com Specialists with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta are testing a strain of bacteria found in a South Dakota hospital to determine whether it's linked to an outbreak in several oth-

er states. A South Dakota patient was diagnosed with the bacteria in his bloodstream, was treat- shine said. "There's no evied successfully and has dence it is linked. We're in the closed which hospital discovrecovered. Dr. Rebecca process of determining that." Sunenshine, a CDC physician, said Friday.

whether the bacteria came from a magnesium sulfate solution that often is given intravenously to patients

might be contaminated with Serratia marcescens bacteria.

The product has been linked to cases in several states and hospitals, Sunenshine said.

The CDC has recommended that hospitals and clinics don't use any magnesium sulfate from PharMEDium.

"In South Dakota, there is one suspected case," Sunen-

The South Dakota samples are in molecular analysis now The tests will show and will be compared with is fairly common in hospitals, ed the flu vaccine at a British bacteria from other states. The CDC should have answers next week.

shine said. Because of the recall and

CDC's recommendation to health providers. there should

Lon Kightlinger be no further risk, Sunenshine said.

The South Dakota Department of Health hasn't disered the bacteria.

State epidemiologist Lon mine whether it came from a specific product.

If specialists determine "We've alerted everyone in investigation is continuing, undergoing cardiac surgery. there is a link to other cases, the state and asked them not PharMEDium Services of that means another lot of the to use this product," Houston has recalled its prod- magnesium sulfate product Kightlinger said. "At the uct nationwide because it is contaminated, Sunen- moment, there's not a con- 2320.

cern that more people will get

The public can't buy the product, so the focus is on clinics and hospitals, which all have been notified, Kightlinger said.

Exposure to the bacteria can result in life-threatening illnesses in patients with compromised immune systems, the Food and Drug Administration says. A New Jersey hospital had five cases of the

bacteria infection. Serratia marcescens bacte-Kightlinger said the bacteria ria also is the germ that taintso it requires testing to deter- factory, which caused a vaccine shortage in the winter.

Sunenshine said the CDC and PharMEDium Services is cooperating.

Reach Randy Hascall at 331-

'They get the sense of, "I am a citizen, and what I have to say makes a difference." You can't imagine how helpful it is to have one person in the world say, "You can do it." '

Tim Neyhart, program director with South Dakota Advocacy Services



VAL HOEPPNER / ARGUS LEADER

Tim Neyhart (left) and Clarence Pigney of Vermillion share ideas Friday at a Partners in Policymaking course held in Sioux Falls.

INSIDE

MEET PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING: For more about the program, when classes meet and how to get involved,

SEE PAGE 5B

Program lets people with disabilities share experience, gain confidence

BY JENNIFER SANDERSON jsanders@argusleader.com

Sometimes, crowds make Cindy Jo Taber feel small.

can be brave when she wants state. They meet in Pierre experiences.

recent milestone Friday Radisson Encore Hotel. afternoon.

the Partners in Policymaking tools to navigate an often

live as they choose. Parents of young children

But Thursday night in with disabilities take part, one weekend a month, "It's difficult for me. But I November through April, went to the mall. I went by and this year's class - the selves instead of leaving the myself, and I had supper," state's 13th - will graduate said Taber, 34, of Chamber- tonight at a banquet and districts, city councils and lain, who told friends of her awards ceremony at the state departments.

program, she and other overwhelming benefits sys- See PARTNERS, page 5B

adults with disabilities are tem, access buildings and ready to try even harder to programs, land jobs that fit their skills and find places to call home. They learn how to work with the people who set Sioux Falls, she proved she too, coming from across the policies that shape their

> In the process, they determine what's best for themdecisions solely to school

"I learned how to stick up South Dakota Advocacy for myself more and be a bet-For Taber, pushing aside Services runs the program, ter person," said Eric Tennis the fear was no small victory. which gives people with dis- of Watertown, a 1999 Part-After six months of work in abilities and their families ners graduate. He's returned

SATURDAY BRIEFING

ONLINE POLL

QUESTION: Has the 400-point drop in the Dow Jones Industrial Average during the past three days made you more hesitant to invest in stocks? To vote yes or no, go online to www.argus leader.com/news. Vote by 9 p.m., and see

results in Sunday's newspaper.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS Should the state girls and boys high school basketball seasons be switched?

► YES: 42.7 percent No: 57.3 percent

► TOTAL VOTES: 1,636

For the latest local news, log on to www.argusleader.com

Alleged gang members facing drug charges

Four people accused of selling crack cocaine were arrested Thursday afternoon in north Sioux Falls.

All are affiliated with the Chicago gang Black Gangster Disciple Nation, police said. The Sioux Falls Area Drug Task Force executed a search warrant at 401 S. Sycamore Ave.,

No. 206. Charice Adams, 36, of that address, and Gigi-Io Terrett, 29, Steve Parker, 31, and Demetrius L. Nash, 26, all of Chicago, are facing felony

drug distribution and possession charges. Several rocks of crack cocaine and evidence of the sale of several ounces of crack were found at the apartment, police said.

Terrett, Adams and Parker made their initial court appearances Friday. They are being held in the Minnehaha County Jail on \$15,000 cash bonds.

Nash is facing federal charges. - From staff reports

REGIONAL BRIEFS, PAGE 2B

Junk old electronics without charge today

Homeowners can bring old televisions, computers, calculators and more to a free electronics recycling event today.

Millennium Recycling, the city's contractor, will be the drop-off point for items from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Located at 305 E. 50th Street North, Millennium is open to residents of McCook, Minnehaha, Lake, Lincoln and Turner counties.

Below is a list of devices that may be dropped off at no charge. Commercial and business loads, school district loads, household garbage, yard waste and other materials will not be accepted. LARGE ELECTRONICS DEVICES:

Desktop and personal computers, monitors, mainframe computers, battery backup uninterruptible power supplies, printers, scanners, copy machines, fax machines, televisions, videocassette recorders, laser disc players, digital video disc players and stereo receivers. HAND-HELD ELECTRONICS DEVICES:

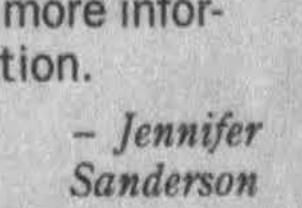
Cell phones, pagers, personal digital assistants, hand-held video games, calculators, MP3 players, compact disc players, cassette players, radios, walkietalkies and digital or electronic cameras. City staff and Millennium employees

The Sioux Falls Sanitary Landfill is not a free drop-off site, and normal rates will apply for any electronics brought to the landfill.

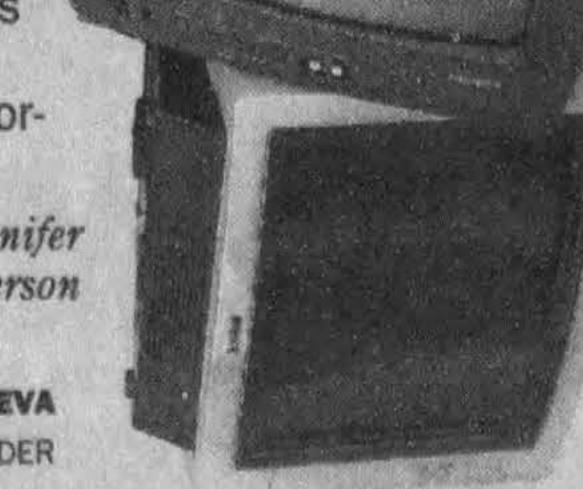
will help unload items.

4946 or 526-6636 with questions. Visit www. siouxfalls. org online and follow links for the public works department for more information.

Call 367-



STUART VILLANUEVA ARGUS LEADER



to affect policy, raise awareness

Continued from 1B

to the annual conference every year since. He works 30 hours a week at a grocery store, lives in his own apartment and rarely misses a high school game when the Arrows play at home.

"We come down and have a good time and just give advice if they need some," said Tennis, now in his mid-20s.

Practical knowledge is power, according to Tim Neyhart, a program director with SDAS. Although there's no requirement for graduates to become community activists, "there's certainly a hope" they'll share what they've learned with others.

"They get the sense of, 'I am a citizen, and what I have to say makes a difference," Neyhart said. "You can't imagine how helpful it is to have one person in the world say, 'You can do it.' This gives other people someone in their community that they know and trust."

Big-time commitment

Neyhart's group gets financial help from fellow members of the South Dakota Developmental Disability Network, along with support from Children's Care Hospital & School and the South Dakota Parent Network. Participants are reimbursed for hotel, meal and energy investment is all their own.

"I've known about Partners since year five, but it's a big-time and grows each year. commitment, and I didn't know if I could do it," said Terri Grab- sion of the family," said Kris Kralander, who lives on Rosebud tovil, who lives in Martin. "If you kids to see," Barthelman said. Sioux Indian Reservation land have a bad day, you pick up the daughter is a student and resident first few aren't home, you know over and over again." at Children's Care Hospital & there's a whole list of people you School in Sioux Falls.

"Personally, I thought I knew a lot about this stuff," Grablander said. "But it doesn't just end with helping yourself. It's helping other families and knowing there are people willing to help make those changes."

Partners reminds people that those with disabilities make up program. the largest and most diverse anyone can become a member, in

a life-changing split second. "With every year that goes by kindergarten through college for our boys - there are different challenges and issues," said Reed Hauge of Custer.

His sons, now 24 and 21, were in a car accident with their mother in

AT A GLANCE

WHAT: Partners in Policymaking, a national program for adults with developmental disabilities and parents of young children with cognitive and often physical disabilities.

WHY: To give people the confidence and tools to stand up for themselves and others, raise awareness of issues important to those with disabilities, make choices that improve their lives and become more self-reliant.

WHEN: Each year's class meets one weekend a month for six months, November through April. The 2005 class will graduate tonight, with an awards ceremony that caps the state program's annual

conference in Sioux Falls. WHO: Participants come

from across the state. South Dakota Advocacy Services runs the program through its partnership with the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities and the Center for Disabilities at the University of South Dakota's school of medicine. Together, the three form the state's Developmental Disability Network. The program gets additional financial support from Children's Care Hospital & School and the South Dakota Parent Connection.

GET INVOLVED: Starting May 1, SDAS will accept applications for the 2006 Partners in Policymaking class. Deadline is Sept. 11. Visit www. sdadvocacy.com online or call 800-658-4782 to learn more.

1986. Talking about the crash that I didn't even know existed," nearly 20 years later, Beth Hauge's said Pigney, 43, who's also been voice breaks, and she reaches to invited to participate in the South steady herself against the arm of a Dakota Protection and Advocacy woman seated beside her, some- Developmental Disabilities Proone she met only six months ago. gram's advisory group.

"That doesn't matter, because she knows," Beth Hauge said. "She's been there, and she gets it. ... The dues are very high to get travel costs, but the time and into this fraternity, but what you ties, and she helps clients and

> learn is incredible." The support network is lifelong

can count on."

Forming a network

for the more than 225 people graduation. who've completed South Dakota's

minority in the world - and that doing things they didn't think they Sioux Falls. "They asked us if we could do before Partners," said could recommend anyone for Part-

> Partners inspired him to apply to est gift will be giving someone this serve on the boards of two service opportunity early on, when it can agencies, including SESDAC in make the most difference." his hometown of Vermillion.

"There's a lot of things out there

Lora Barthelman of Sioux Falls will apply what she's learned at home and in the workplace. She has two daughters with disabilitheir families as a music therapist.

"We all have wants and desires, and to learn that we really are "Pretty soon, it's one big exten- capable of following them is important for us but also for our "You can get frustrated when you near Mission. Her 11-year-old phone and start calling. And if the come up to the same obstacles

Cheryl Faundeen already knows how she'll pass on the lessons from Partners. Her 17-year-old son, Christopher, was diagnosed with Past participants stay in touch, cerebral palsy around his first and each of this year's graduates birthday. The assurance that she's will take home a phone and e-mail done right for him along the way directory that includes contacts will be her reward from tonight's

"I thought maybe it was too late for me, that I'd been doing this too "We do hear back that they're long," said Faundeen, who lives in Robert Kean, executive director of ners, and I picked a woman from South Dakota Advocacy Services. my church who has a young daugh-Clarence Pigney's six months in ter with Down syndrome. My great-

> Reach reporter Jennifer Sanderson at 575-3629.

Partners: Participants learn how | Costello pleases all-age crowd

BY JAY KIRSCHENMANN jkirsch@argusleader.com

His voice nicely recovered from a canceled concert Tuesday in Idaho, Elvis Costello was back in form, pleasing a nearly full house Friday night at the Washington Pavilion's Great Hall.

"How are you?" someone yelled from the crowd after

through opening REVIEW rockers "Welcome to the Working Week" and "Uncomplicated."

"I'm fine, thank you, sir," Costello quipped, explaining that he postponed the Boise concert because he lost his voice. "Let's just see, shall we?"

With The Impostors as his backup band, Costello's voice held up fine for the nearly 21/2hour show. He growled and shouted for many tunes but was quiet and soulful for others.

His music appeals to all ages, judging by the crowd, including 19-year-old Matt Thomas of St. Cloud, Minn.

"You can't label his style," he said. "He dabbles in all styles." Robert Dickey, 43, of Sioux Falls still has his vinyl copy of Costello's debut record, "My Aim Is True," from 1977.

student at St. Cloud State Univer-

"I have others of his but have never seen him live," said Dickey, who brought his daughter, Lindsey, 16, to the concert.

"She likes pop-rock, and I look forward to showing her music from my era that's still being performed and is still good," he said.

teens were in for a surprise when Sondre Lerche, a young singer and guitar player from Norway, opened the show.

Lerche started his solo set, on stage with only a couple of hollowbody guitars and a microphone.

"I was just looking at his picture in Rolling Stone! I can't believe he's here. He's so cute!" After a half-hour intermission,

Costello took to the stage. Those "I have every album, and he not yet familiar with his latest Huron to hear Costello. "I'm not has never made the same record album, "The Delivery Man," a hard-core fan, but I can see that twice. That's why I dig him," said patiently listened as the band he is a true artist."

played several selections. Thomas, a musician and English

"Needle Time" featured some searing electric guitar licks, which drew applause. Another new tune, "Country Darkness," is a slower, memorable song. Costello used a warm electric vibrato on his oversized hollowbody acoustic for a pleasing effect.

But when he dipped into his past 25 years of records, pulling out such standbys as "Radio Radio," some in the crowd couldn't help jumping to their feet and shouting their approval. He's not above goofing off, too, inserting the Lindsey Dickey and other melody "I Feel Pretty" in the middle of a rollicking guitar solo, drawing chuckles.

Costello satisfied his fans with other well-known gems from the "Oh, my God," one girl said as past, including his reggae-inflected "Watching the Detectives" and slow-ballad hit "Alison," played as a medley with "Suspicious Minds," made famous by the king of rock and his namesake, Elvis Presley.

"He's phenomenal," said Gene Ellenson, 41, who came from

The West Nile virus arrived in

the United States in 1999. Most

West Nile: Sioux Falls allocates \$200,000

Continued from 1B

said. At best, the spray would kill 40 percent to 50 percent of adult mosquitoes, she said.

The city also is looking at bodies of water that might be problem areas, warranting the use of a larvacide, Franklin said.

"We'll monitor the adult population to make sure the adult population doesn't get too high," she said. "We don't want to let populations get out of hand right now. We want to get our hands on mosquito habitats early."

The city's mosquito-control trol and Prevention, has been Kightlinger said. budgeted at about \$200,000, but that could change depending on people diagnosed in October.

moisture and other factors, Franklin said.

and it is applying again this year. A decision is expected early next month.

Two-thirds of South Dakota 1 percent who become severely ill. communities did some sort of mosquito control last year, Kightlinger said.

The state's West Nile cases usually start in late June and peak in starts dwindling in September.

"When days get shorter and program, recommended by the nights grow cooler, the mosquifederal Centers for Disease Con- toes become less active,"

But it is not uncommon to have Reach reporter Nancy Kelsey at 331-

Last year, Sioux Falls received people who get the virus experia grant from the state health ence only a minor flulike illness department to combat West Nile, or have no symptoms at all. But the virus can cause brain inflammation, pain, hallucinations, fatigue and dizziness for the

South Dakotans are generally well-informed about West Nile prevention, Kightlinger said. In the department's 2004 public health survey, 68 percent said mid-July. The season typically they took precautions to prevent

> contracting the virus. About 62 percent said they used repellent, and 45 percent said they covered up more when heading outside.



0000030628

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