

THE Groton Independent

South Dakota

Growing Families & Opportunities

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The students in the picture are Rebecca Hanson, Ashley Gustafson and Ady Dwight. Terry Osborne came to Langford as a guest clinician for their percussionists today. He wrote the Langford drum cadence in 1965 and was invited back to help polish it up and get it to its original version. The girls pictured are just a few of the students that he worked with. (Photo from Kelly Wieser's Facebook Page)

The author returns to polish up his drum cadence

Trevor Osborne wrote Langford's drum cadence in 1965. Over the years, it has lost a little bit of its originality. Kelly Wieser, said that she invited the author back to Langford. "I wanted him to come back and help us polish it up and get it to its original version," she said.

Osborne accepted the invitation and was there on Wednesday, Aug. 28. "I came out to listen to the summers and help get them ready for the marching season," he said. "I really enjoyed working with the drum team. They're a great bunch of kids."

Osborne retired from Langford in 1997 as the band director, the athletic director and high school principal. During the last year, Wieser came on board to be the choir director which Osborne had also done up to that point. Wieser had the opportunity to work under Osborne for that year and he said, "I felt really good handing the music reigns over to Kelly when I retired. She has really done a great job keeping up the tradition of great music in Langford."

He said that they worked on the counting and getting the cadence back in original condition. He said that he will be going back to Langford a second time to listen and to make sure the improvements are correct.

The new music room addition recently built really impressed Osborne. "The new music room is really nice. I'm impressed with it," he said.

Langford has won many award over the years and that is with the help of the community. Osborne said, "Langford is a very supportive community when it comes to school activities . . . the best!"

- Paul Kosel

Garcia begins as new Groton Police Officer

Tony Garcia has started as the new police officer in Groton. He officially started September 1. Garcia completes a circle of venue, starting in Groton in 2010, leaving in 2013 and now coming back back.

He is from Hutchinson, Minn., and served in the Army National Guard in Minnesota. We worked for a construction company out of Minnesota, building the grain silos for South Dakota Wheat Growers near Andover. He helped with the slip form for the concrete silos 140 feet in the air. He started working there around 2010 and while working there, he and his family lived in Groton. After his work on the silos, they remained in Groton where he worked at Poet. He was also a firefighter and a first responder.



Tony Garcia
Groton Police Officer

"I always wanted to get into law enforcement," Garcia said. Under state law, if you have a department sponsor you, you can attend the law academy. A position opened up in Groton, but he was not offered the position at the time as he did not have any experience. The Webster Police Department hired him and they then moved to Webster in 2013. From there, he was a deputy for Marshall County, worked at the Madison Police Department as during the past four months, he was a canine officer in Flandreau with a dog named Tusox. Then the job opening in Groton came up again. "We always wanted to come back to Groton," he said. "The kids love it here - the school is great - the community has made it feel like home."

His wife, Melissa, will be a CNA at Avantara Groton. She was a CNA when they first lived in Groton when it was the Golden Living Center. Their children are Marcos, a sophomore; Nathalia, a freshman; Anthony Jr., a fifth grader; and Michael is four years old.

Garcia is also a taser instructor, a certified court translator and a certified rescue diver. "When Groton offered the job to me, I didn't think twice. It's good to be back here."

- Paul Kosel

Legacy Healthcare providing support for Avantara Groton

Legacy Healthcare has taken over the Groton long term care facility and according to interim administrator, Tiffany Schlomer, "they've been fantastic."

According to the Legacy website, "Legacy Healthcare is a leading provider of outstanding residential health care consulting services. Headquartered in Skokie, Illinois, we currently service 48 facilities across 4 states." Avantara Groton is part of their "collection."

There has been uncertainty among the long term care facilities across South Dakota, including the Groton facility. But things have been on the upswing.

Schlomer is a Transitional Specialist with Legacy. Her husband, Stuart, is the manager of the Oahe Hills Country Club in Mobridge. Tiffany is a licensed nursing home administrator, which, under federal law, is required to manage a long term care facility.

Legacy has already invested in the Groton facility, according to Schlomer. "I love the new IT upgrades," she said, "and new uniforms are coming." One thing about the Avantara group is that they are colored coordinated to purple and gray. There also has been a building assessment done on the needs of the facility. "Unofficially, new flooring is on the list," she said.

During the transition to Legacy, Schlomer said that there has been a lot of training and forms that need to be filled out. "We have had nothing but good things with Legacy," she said. "They answer the phone, they provide resources — they're just wonderful to work with."

Schlomer announced that Jackie Thorson has been promoted to Director of Nursing in Groton. Thorson has been working at the facility for six years.

No grass grows under Schlomer's feet even in her position in Groton. Even while the interview, she was responding to text messages, answering e-mails and setting up appointments. "It's very busy out here," she said. "The best part of this job is that I get to put a smile on someone's face and to brighten their day."

Legacy is also community orientated. Schlomer said that Legacy will be making a donation to the school and will be donating supplies as well.

- Paul Kosel



Tiffany Schlomer
Interim Administrator
Avantara Groton

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NOTICES
 St. John's Lutheran Church is having its annual soup, sandwich, and pie luncheon (\$2.00 each) on Thursday, September 12th, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. along with crafts and a bake sale.

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Lady Netters hand Ipswich first loss



Kaylin Kucker
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

Groton Area's volleyball team handed Ipswich its first loss of the season while upping its record to 2-0 with a 3-0 win. The match was played Tuesday at Ipswich and was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Dakota Risk Management.

Groton won the first game, 25-19. After the game was tied at one, Groton took control and led by as many as 10 points at 19-9. Ipswich started to rally at the end of the game but Eliza Wanner hit the game winning kill for the win. Nicole Marzahn had three kills and two assisted blocks to led the Tigers in that game. Other adding to the score were Wanner with two kills, Indigo Rogers had a kill, Kaylin Kucker had a kill

The second game was tied five times with Groton holding the edge throughout most of the game. It was tied at 15 before Groton went on a four point run to take a 19-15 lead. Groton led, 23-18, when once again, Ipswich cut the lead down and it was a one-point game at 24-23. Eliza Wanner, once again, hit the game winning kill

for the 25-23 win. Marzahn had five kills while Madeline Fliehs and Eliza Wanner each had two kills, Indigo Rogers had two kills and an ace serve and adding one kill each were Payton Colestock, Madeline Fliehs and Kaylin Kucker, Tady Glover had an ace serve and assisting on blocks were Fliehs and Stella Meier.

Ipswich had the early lead in the third set and Groton was not able to tie the game until the score hit 13. It was tied twice before Groton captured the lead, 15-14. Groton opened up a six point lead, 22-18, and Stella Meier had the game winning kill. Indigo Rogers and Stella Meier each had two kills, Marzahn, Wanner and Kucker each had a kill, Fliehs had a block and Colestock had two ace serves in the third game.

Ipswich had more ace serves, 7-4, with Chesney Olivier and Halle Heinz of Ipswich and Payton Colestock of Groton each having three and Tady Glover added one ace serve.

Groton Area had more assists, 28-21, with Kucker having 20 for Groton and Heinz 11 for Ipswich.

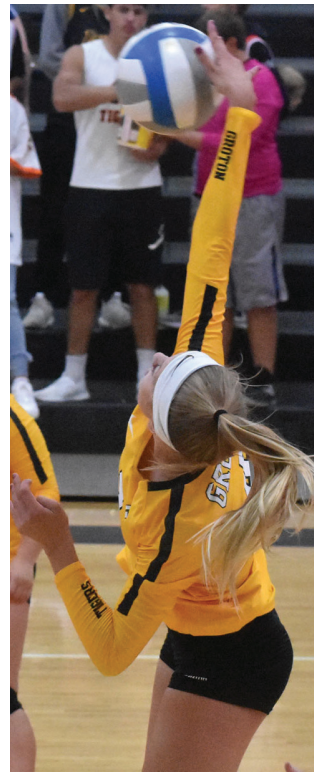
Groton had 32 kills compared to 21 for Ipswich with Marzahn having 12, Fliehs seven and Wanner five. Heinz led Ipswich with six. In blocks, Groton Area had more more, 5-4, with Fliehs having three assisted blocks and Marzahn having two. Groton Area led in digs, 87-74, with Wanner having 27 for Groton and Colestock 19 while Ipswich was led by Olivier with 25 and Lindsey Grabowski with 11.

Groton won the junior varsity match, 26-16 and 25-16, and Groton also won the C match, 25-23 and 25-12. Groton Area won both junior high matches.

Groton is now 2-0 on the season.



Indigo Rogers
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Nicole Marzahn
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Payton Colestock
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Eliza Wanner
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Tady Glover
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Groton Area Coach Chelsea Hanson and Ipswich Coach Trent Osborne give their lineups to the officials prior to the game Tuesday in Ipswich. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton City Hamilton Variance Notice

NOTICE OF VARIANCE HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton Planning & Zoning Commission will be holding a public hearing on September 23, 2019 at 6:00pm CDT at City Hall, 209 N Main, Groton, SD for a variance of Chapter 11, Section 11.0106 of the Groton Zoning Ordinance. This application was made by Doug Hamilton, 411 N 4th St, Groton,

SD, for the reduction in side yard to be less than 7 feet to move in a storage building on property legally described as 1st Addition, Block 27, Lot 12. A variance is required for the reduction in required minimum side yard size in a Residential (R-3) District.

Any person wishing to present testimony for or against this variance may appear in person or by representative at the above time and place.

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Wind energy expansion in S.D. to bring 888 more turbines, \$3.3 billion investment

By: Bart Pfankuch

The prairies and rolling hills of South Dakota will soon become dotted with wind turbines after the approval of eight major wind-energy projects that will bring 700 more turbines and an investment of \$2.6 billion in the state by the end of 2020.

Two other projects now in the regulatory approval process would bring 188 more turbines and another \$640 million in investments to the state, bringing the total of new turbines to 888 and the investment by energy companies to \$3.26 billion.

The rapid expansion of wind energy will reach across the state, with the majority of new turbines targeted for the northeast corner, but with other projects planned in Hand and Hyde counties in the center of the state and one 45-turbine project now under construction near Newell in Butte County in the far northwest.

Just two years ago, despite being home to the third-most-active winds in the nation, South Dakota ranked No. 19 for wind-energy production among the 50 states, with 15 wind farms and a total of 584 turbines able to generate 1,014 megawatts of electricity.

New national ranking data is not yet available, but the approved and docketed projects would raise the total of wind farms to 25 and nearly triple the number of wind towers in the state. The electricity-production capacity would rise to more than 3,600 megawatts. Though it is variable, one megawatt of electricity can power about 1,000 homes; South Dakota ranks third in the nation for the number of homes, about 300,000, that are powered by wind energy.

Any new energy project is subject to extensive review and typically draws significant opposition. Most of the new wind farms approved for construction in South Dakota faced questions by neighbors about the impacts of 500-foot tall towers, noise and light flicker from rotors that operate in a 380-foot diameter, and the potential effects on property values and local birds and wildlife.

Those who support renewable energy and the economic benefits of new industry, however, are exuberant over the spate of new wind farms approved for construction. The eight project approvals all came between June 2018 and July 2019.

"For rural South Dakota, this is an awesome boom," said Steven Wegman of the South Dakota Renewable Energy Association. "No one ever spent \$300 million in Codington County



in a construction season."

Landowners, local governments and schools will all see significant financial benefits from the projects. One wind farm approved in Clark County, the Crocker Wind Farm, will pay leaseholders \$46 million over the next 20 years, according to documents filed by developer Geronimo Energy. That project, which includes up to 120 turbines and an expected investment of \$600 million, will also create 10-20 full-time jobs, support a "community fund" of \$1.6 million, and generate \$36 million in tax revenues for the state, county, township and local schools in its first two decades of operation.

Many people who travel on Interstate 90 across South Dakota have undoubtedly obtained an up-close view of the ongoing expansion of wind energy in the state after a pair of small wind farms came online last year. The Aurora Wind Farm, with nine turbines, began generating electricity in Aurora County south of the interstate in October 2018.

That same month, the Brule Wind Farm began generating electricity with nine turbines that are clearly visible south of the interstate near Kimball. Those projects were the only significant wind farms to begin operation in South Dakota from January 2016 to October 2018.

Stage is set for wind energy in S.D.

Several factors have led to the rapid expansion of wind-energy projects since then.

Wind-energy developers are rushing to bring projects online as quickly as possible to obtain the significant financial benefits of the Renewable Electricity Production Tax Credit for new wind projects. The U.S. Congress has voted to begin phasing out those credits starting in 2020 and ending in 2025. The 10-year tax credit remains a major driver of new wind projects across the United States.

The rush to obtain the full value of those tax credits has dovetailed with the recent completion of two 345-kilovolt power lines that created new capacity to move electricity produced in South Dakota and North Dakota to markets in neighboring states, particularly to the energy-hungry metroplex of Minneapolis. The two new lines now extend from Ellendale, N.D., to Brookings, S.D., and can then carry energy on a separate line to the Twin Cities area.

In advance of those projects, South Dakota lawmakers in 2015 approved a measure to reduce the state tax on production of each kilowatt of wind energy by roughly a third.

The other factors driving the wind-energy expansion are an increased push by many states to encourage or require further usage of energy from renewable resources, and a dramatic decrease in the cost of harnessing wind energy. In the early 2010s, it cost energy companies about \$3,500 to build turbines and machinery to harness a kilowatt of electricity. Due to advancements in design and maturation of the industry, that cost has fallen below \$2,000 per kilowatt of capacity, Wegman said.

In recent years, South Dakota lawmakers and officials have tried to lure wind-energy companies to the state, where the wind blows at full capacity about 40% of the time, the third-highest rate in the nation. Suddenly, the state has the full attention of energy compa-

NEARLY 900 MORE WIND TURBINES COMING TO S.D.

Here is a glance at the eight wind-energy projects that received approval for construction in South Dakota from the Public Utilities Commission between June 2018 and July 2019, along with two others (**) now under consideration. Projects are listed chronologically by approval date and with location county or counties. Most projects have a completion date of sometime in 2020, though some may be completed in late 2019.

Crocker Wind Farm

Clark County, 120 turbines, 400 MW, \$600 million

Dakota Range Wind Project

Grant/Codington, 72 turbines, 302 MW, \$380 million

Prevailing Wind Park

Bon Homme/Charles Mix/Hutchinson, 61 turbines, 220 MW, \$100 million

Dakota Range III

Grant/Roberts, 42 turbines, 151 MW, \$200 million

Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm

Deuel, 112 turbines, 310 MW, \$400 million

Crowned Ridge Wind Farm

Grant/Codington, 130 turbines, 300 MW, \$400 million

Triple H Wind Project

Hyde, 92 turbines, 251 MW, \$300 million

Sweetland Wind Farm

Hand, 71 turbines, 200 MW, \$240 Million

Crowned Ridge II**

Codington/Deuel/Grant, 132 turbines, 301 MW, \$425 million

Tatanka Ridge**

Deuel, 56 turbines, 155 MW, \$216 million

Totals: 888 turbines, 2,590 MW, \$3.26 billion

Notes: Information from S.D. PUC; project costs may include construction, taxes and landowner payments; megawatt listing is for maximum electricity-generation capacity. Projects with asterisks (**) are now under consideration by the PUC.



Construction crews work on turbine construction for the Buffalo Ridge Wind Farm in Deuel and Brookings counties. South Dakota will soon be home to hundreds more wind towers across the state. Photo: Courtesy of Steven Wegman

Groton Area School Receives Wind Money

We receive approximately \$170,000 per year each May through Day County for the wind towers that are located in our school district south of Andover. They are supposed to be building another wind farm to be completed in 2023. I am not sure how that has been progressing or even how much new revenue there will be for our school district, but the power generated will tie into the Generation Station in Groton. On a side note, this is one of those "other revenue sources" that the State skims from us and gives to other school districts. As a result we no longer receive monthly state aid.

- Mike Weber, Groton Area Business Manager

nies that see South Dakota as a viable place to make money off the wind.

"It's about time; we've been in the wading pool for a long time, and now the tide has come in," said Wegman. "A lot of small towns and counties and townships are going to get an economic boost that they've never, ever had since South Dakota became a state."

Arduous, imperfect approval process

The approval process for new wind farms is arduous and can take years and cost energy companies several million dollars in up-front costs.

Eight major wind projects were approved in a 13-month period by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, an incredible pace for the three-member elected board that reviews and rules on energy-construction projects and also regulates utility rates.

For regulators, the past 15 months have been a whirlwind of reviewing construction plans and siting documents and sifting through arguments both for and against the projects, said Gary Hanson, chair of the PUC.

Hanson said a legislative change last year that granted regulators nine months instead of six months to consider energy projects helped the agency but did not totally alleviate the feeling of being rushed.

"There's a lot of adjectives to describe it, some of them good and some of them bad," Hanson said. "It's been very hectic with wind development, and to have all those projects on top of each other is like having five kids in college at the same time."

Hanson said the PUC, the developers and local officials and residents have worked hard to reduce the impacts of the wind farms and turbines.

Several of the approved projects have dozens of conditions placed upon developers in response to concerns or complaints levied by local officials and neighbors of the projects. Counties where wind farms will be built have control over some siting issues, including the critical matter of setbacks that determine how close towers can be to roads, neighboring homes or municipal boundaries.

Hanson said the PUC tries to develop precedents that can guide developers and locals in how to approach contentious issues. Hanson said no process is perfect and that he understands that some people don't want a wind tower in their neighborhood. He said the PUC is bound to follow state laws and regulations and that if a developer meets all the requirements, the PUC is bound to approve a qualifying project.

For example, Hanson said the PUC approved the Brule wind farm even though he now feels that the towers are too close to I-90, which he said was a county and not a state decision.

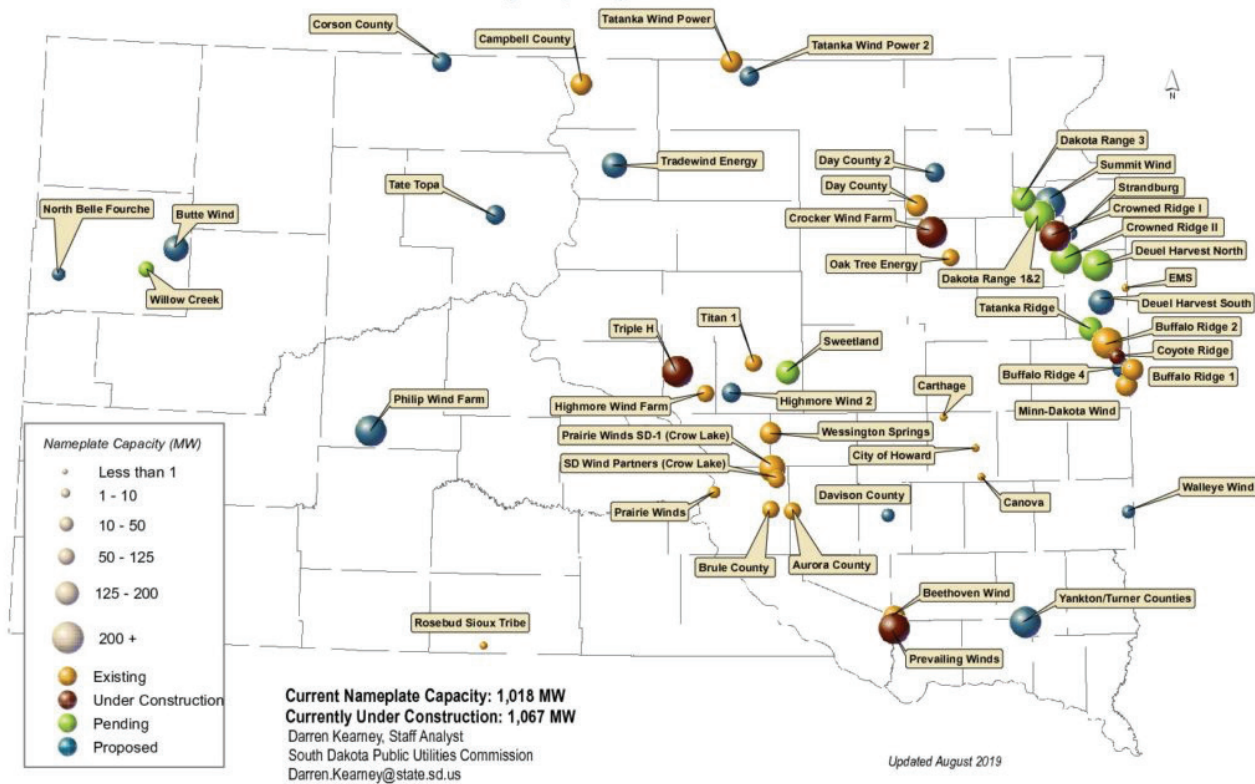
"It's not always the way we want it," Hanson said. "We may love something or we may hate something, but in the end we have to vote based on what the law tells us to do."



These wind towers are part of the state's first wind farm built south of Highmore in Hyde County in 2003. These older towers are 213 feet tall, while modern towers now being built are often more than double that height. Photo: Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

South Dakota Wind Energy Development

by Capacity and Status



This map may not represent every proposed wind farm in S.D. It represents projects that developers have communicated to the PUC. Location of the wind farms are approximate.

Hanson said the big burst of new wind projects may have subsided. But Hanson said he has heard that more projects are in the discussion stage and that he expects the PUC may soon place more wind farms on its docket of projects to review.

Wind energy brings economic benefits

There is no guarantee that all of the approved or docketed projects will be built, as some projects can change hands or suffer from capital deficits, but those who know the wind industry believe most South Dakota projects are likely to move forward. Also in question is whether energy firms will use South Dakota contractors and suppliers to support construction and maintenance of the wind farms.

However, the rapid growth in wind-energy production is welcome news for the eight South Dakota companies that provide equipment, support and maintenance services to wind-energy developers and operators, said Mike Sherman, president of Renew Energy Maintenance in Sioux Falls.

"It definitely benefits our company and creates opportunities for us to add employees," Sherman said.

Renew aids in construction of wind-energy projects but mostly on a smaller scale than the size of the wind farms coming to South Dakota, Sherman said. But after the South Dakota projects are up and running, Renew may see a financial and employment boost by providing maintenance services.

"We don't do a lot of new construction work, but we travel all over North America doing maintenance," Sherman said. "For us, it's nice to be finally be able to do work in our home state."

Renew is often called on to help wind-energy companies to perform quality-control efforts and reduce continuing costs of operation, Sherman said.

Renew, which now has about 260 employees, operates from offices on East River Ridge Place just northeast of the intersection of 26th Street and Interstate 229 in Sioux Falls.

Even with the rush of new wind projects, finding new employees may be a challenge, however. Like many technology-based firms in South Dakota, Renew has a hard time recruiting qualified workers. Sherman said the company has a representative on the advisory board at both Mitchell and Lake Area technical institutes in its efforts to cultivate its workforce.

"With the economy being good right now, if we could find the right people, we could hire another 30 to 40 employees today," he said.

Sherman said the projects should also provide a big boost to rural counties across the state.

vide a big boost to rural counties across the state.

"It's absolutely good news and a real big boost to local economies," Sherman said. "It creates jobs in rural areas and significant tax benefits that come to the counties through construction and operations."

Even though the projects will generate significant property taxes for several rural counties in South Dakota, not all local officials are excited about the wind farms.

Deuel County Commission Chair Steve Rhody said he is reserving judgment on the potential long-term outcomes of the Deuel Harvest North Wind Farm, which has been approved to build up to 112 turbines in the eastern side of the county by 2020.

According to filings with the state by developer Invenegy, the project will cost \$400 million to build, create 400 temporary and 15 permanent jobs, generate \$87 million in payments to landowners and result in \$40 million in tax payments to state and local governments over the 30-year life of the project. The company predicts it will pay \$23 million in wages and benefits to local employees during that time.

Deuel Harvest is one of two new wind-energy projects that may be partially or fully sited within Deuel County in the coming years.

Rhody said that outside of those who will receive lease payments, the project was not supported by many residents of the county, including several who testified against it during public hearings.

"I know that we will make more money," Rhody said. "But it's not going to be all good. They're going to wreck some roads and it's going to be really busy until it gets totally built."

Rhody said he understands that the wind projects are seen as a benefit to the state, and that state economic officials are excited about the potential windfalls.

"They've been going wild over it, but of course, they aren't living underneath them," Rhody said. "Lots of people who are opposed to them, and I'm kind of reserving judgment," he said. "Time will tell how it turns out."

About Bart Pfankuch

Bart Pfankuch, Rapid City, S.D., is an investigative reporter for South Dakota News Watch. A Wisconsin native, he is a former editor of the Rapid City Journal. Bart has spent almost 30 years as a reporter and editor.



Boys soccer team beats Vermillion; Vermillion girls win

Groton boys beat Vermillion 2-0 on Saturday. The score was 0-0 at halftime. The Tigers had several shots on goal and kept it up to score 2 second half. For the first goal Austin Jones beat the defense and scored with a nice assist from Piet Solling. The second goal was scored by Piet Solling on a penalty kick. Grady O'Neil had some great saves and all the boys played hard to secure a win. Groton is now 3-1 on the season and will host Tea Area next Saturday at 1 p.m.

Vermillion won the girls game, 6-0. It was 1-0 at half time. Vermillion had 27 shots on goal with seven corners for Vermillion. Groton had four shots on goal with two corners. Coach Chris Kucker said, "The girls played very tough throughout the game."



Piet Solling is pictured above getting the penalty kick which was good. In the photo below left, Austin Jones' kick went right over the defender's hands for the goal. (Photos by Marjae Schinkel)



Isaac Smith
(Photo by Mindy Jones)



Emma Schinkel
(Photo by Marjae Schinkel)



Kenzie McInerney
(Photo by Tricia Keith)

Groton Senior Citizens

Groton Seniors met August 12. Fifteen members were present. President opened with the flag pledge. Lee Schinkel played, "What a friend we have in Jesus". An invitation to a card party at the Golf Course in Groton September 12. Lunch, dinner and dessert will be served. A charge of fifteen dollars. Reservations need to be made to go. Different card games are played. Meeting adjourned and cards were played. The winners of the games. Pinochle- David Kleinsassor, Whist- Darlene Fischer, and Ella Johnson, Canasta - Belinda Nelson, door prizes, Darlene Fisher, Dick Donavon and Elda Stange.

August 19 Seniors met with 17 members present. President led the flag pledge. Marilyn Thorsen and Don Darwin were chosen king and queen for Home coming parade. Cards were played. The winners of pinochle - David Kleinsassor, Canasta- Beulah Hoops and Marilyn Thorsen, Whist- Darlene Fischer and Ruby Donavon. Door prizes. Ruby Donavon, Eunice McColister, David Kleinsassor. Lunch was served by Darlene Fischer and Belinda Nelson.

August 26. Groton Seniors had the flag pledge. Darelene Fischer made the motion to have Chicken from Ken's for our September and October pot luck dinner. Bingo was played after dinner. Dick Donavon won black out. Cards were played after bingo. Left overs were served before going home. Door prizes went to Beulah Hoops, Sarge Likness and Grace Albrecht.

Groton's Blood Drive Brings in 31 Volunteers

GROTON, SD – Groton community hosted a blood drive with Vitalant, formerly United Blood Services, on August 22 at the Community Center which helped collect a total of 33 units of blood products for patients in need.

A total of 31 individuals volunteered to donate blood and 26 individuals were able to donate at the Vitalant blood drive on August 22. A total of seven donors also came forward to donate Power Red Cells (2RBC) which collects two units of red blood cells while returning platelets, plasma and a saline solution back to the donor.

Vitalant expressed their gratitude to Kathy Sundermeyer, who coordinated the drive.

Vitalant strives to keep a 5-day supply of every blood type on the shelf at all times to be able to meet the needs of patients across the region. Donations from O-negative donors, the universal blood type, are especially important this time of year due to increased accidents and trauma cases.

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Tigers open season with win over E-E-K

Groton Area's football team posted a 22-12 non-conference win over Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm in a game played in Ellendale.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Hanlon Brothers, Bahr Spray Foam, DeHoet Trucking, Allied Climate Professionals, Milbrandt Enterprises, Professional Management Services, BaseKamp Lodge, John Sieh Agency, Groton Auto Works, Aberdeen Chrysler Center, Abeln Seed, Olson Development, Mike-N-Jo's Body-N-Glass and the Touchdown Sponsor - Patios Plus.

Groton's first possession started in good field position at its own 44 yard line. On the second play, Jonathan Doeden broke free and ran 27 yards to get down to the Thunder 14 yard line. Then on fourth and 22, Kaden Kurtz connected with Doeden for a 27-yard pass play. The PAT kick was blocked. With 8:36 left in the first quarter, the Tigers took a 6-0 lead. That drive went 56 yards on eight plays in 2:33.

Groton's second drive was also fruitful but it took an EEK penalty to keep the drive alive. On fourth an 18 on the Tiger 45, Groton punted the ball, but a roughing the kicker penalty was called on the Thunder so Groton got a first down and the ball deep into EEK territory. Kurtz had a good run down to the one-yard



Darien Shabazz, Brodyn DeHoet, Peyton Johnson and Jonathan Doeden shake hands with the captains of E-E-K and Coach Shaun Wanner greets the E-E-K Coach Jon Schiele. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Kaden Kurtz passes the ball to a team mate. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

line and on the next play, he punched it in for the score. Doeden ran in the extra point and it was 14-0 with 1:15 left in the first quarter. That drive went 70 yards in 3:25 and there were four first downs.

The first quarter ended with Groton Area leading, 14-0. Groton had control of the ball for 43 percent of the first quarter while EEK had it 57 percent.

GDILIVE suffered a power outage that resulted in the loss of EEK's drive being recorded. It culminated with Wyatt Henningson having a 14-yard catch from Cale Mathan. Doeden blocked the PAT kick and the half time score was Groton Area 14, Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm 6. In the second quarter, Groton had possession of the ball for 45 percent during its three possessions.

Groton received the ball to start the third quarter and Andrew Marzahn took the opening kickoff and returned it 62 yards down to the Thunder 19-yard line. On third and 11, Doeden got a first down and the ball down to the one-yard line. On the next play, Doeden scored. The PAT pass was good from Kurtz to Brodyn DeHoet and the Tigers took a 22-6 lead. That drive went nearly two minutes, 81 yards and two first downs. In the third quarter, Groton had control of the ball 83 percent of the time during its three possessions.

On the last drive of the third quarter, Groton started out on the Thunder 46 yard line. The drive extended into the fourth quarter where it ended up first and goal from the five yard line. The Tigers got it down to the one-yard line, but the Thunder's goal-line stand was firm and Groton was not able to score.

EEK's next drive started at the one-yard line, but they ended up driving the length of the field to score. It was fourth and nine from the EEK 38 and the Thunder went for it. They got the first down and the ball down to the Tiger 16 yard line. With 3:08 left in the game, the Thunder scored on a seven yard pass from Mathan to Jace Hanson. The two-point conversion was no good and it remained a two-touchdown lead for the Tigers.

The Thunder tried an on-side kick but Thomas Cranford pounced on the ball and that basically ended any threat from EEK. Groton had possession of the ball 52 percent of the time in the fourth quarter with the other 48 percent going to EEK's lone drive.

Jonathan Doeden led the Tigers with 160 yards rushing and 27 yards receiving. Kaden Kurtz had 37 yards rushing, passed for 45 yards, had 12 tackles and two sacks. Brodyn DeHoet had 18 yards receiving. Austin Jones had eight tackles and two sacks and Alex Morris had two sacks.

The Tigers had more first downs, 16-7, and had more offensive yards, 249-144. Groton also had more penalties, eight for 95 yards to EEK's seven for 75 yards.

Jorgen Paulson led EEK with 78 yards rushing.

Continues on next page



Jonathan Doeden breaks free for a 27-yard run on Groton's opening driving of the game. Also pictured is Garrett Schroeder. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Jonathan Doeden is being tended to after suffering a leg cramp in the second half. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Mr. Dedicated Tiger Tom Woods was busy keeping the stats. When it comes to Tiger Football, you can ask Tom about anything and he'll know the answer. He is a regular featured guest at half time on GDILIVE.COM. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton Area Coach Shaun Wanner said that Groton's experience showed up at the game. "We executed well and our kids did a good job on defense. Coach (Travis) Kurth did a great job in getting the defense ready."

Wanner talked about the rivalry between EEK and Groton Area. "It's almost like a North Dakota vs. South Dakota game," he said. "We've shat play at een them play in camps. But I think for us, our motors were so high in the first half - our kids wanted to play football and they wanted to win this game that sometimes we forgot our assignments."

The Tigers had to make some adjustments when they found out on Tuesday that Trey Gengerke would not be playing. "We put Jamison Stange in there and this was this third time ever in snapping the ball. I thought Jamieson did a great job for his third time out. One of our other backups, Seth Johnson, was gone to a funeral. We used Alex Morris a couple of times, but we like to keep him in the guard spot as he does a good job in making the line calls."

The Tigers will travel to Webster on Friday. The Bearcats return to 11-man football this year after playing nine-man for six years. "They've had a lot of success at nine-man football," Wanner said. "They have all of their skill positions back from last year and they have good tradition. They're 2-0 and we're 2-0 so it should be a good game. We're looking forward to it."

Leg cramps were plaguing the Tigers in the second half. "I'm not sure what's up with that," Wanner said. "We need to talk about that at our next practice. It was 65 degrees and we shouldn't be getting cramps."

- Paul Kosel

First of three special meetings set for Sept. 11

"Gospel Solutions to Social Issues", sponsored by Groton Churches with emphasis on Drugs and Alcohol will take place Sept. 11 at the Groton United Methodist Church.

A light supper will be served at 5:45pm and the Seminar will begin at 6:30pm. There is no charge to attend, but a free will offering will be taken.

The speakers are Levi Jensen, a State Trooper for the Highway Patrol and Andrea Kost who works at the Journey and Safe Harbor. Andrea does intake interviews and payee services for the Journey Home, works at Safe Harbor, and formerly worked at Northeastern Mental Health. Andrea will share her experience working with at risk foster children, and her work for 8 years at a group home. Levi will share his experiences seeing what drugs and alcohol do to youth and adults and display paraphernalia used.

Please rsvp as to how many people would like to come for the dinner at 605-377-0709.

Other future Seminars include Sex Trafficking and Date Violence on Oct. 9th at the Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance Church and

Suicide and Bullying on Nov. 6th at the Groton Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

Groton Area will not pursue a make-up game

Groton Area will not schedule another football game after McLaughlin forfeited its season due to lack of numbers. According to Coach Shaun Wanner in a GDILIVE.COM interview, he said he had talked with the players and gave them options. Having the bye week before the Mobridge-Pollock game was more important than trying to schedule a game that late in the season. "We like that bye week where it's at. We decided to take our points from the McLaughlin game and move forward with the season," he said.

GROTON AREA

First Downs	16
Rushing	44-204
Jonathan Doeden	30-160
Kaden Kurtz	9-37
Darien Shabazz	5-7
Passing	
Kaden Kurtz	2-8-45-0
Receivers	
Jonathan Doeden	1-27
Brodyn DeHoet	1-18
Fumbles	Had 2 lost 0
Penalties	8-95
Defense	
Kaden Kurtz	12 tackles, 2 sacks
Austin Jones	8 tackles, 2 sacks
Alex Morris	2 sacks
Record	2-0
Next Game	Friday at Webster
Scoring	
First Quarter	
8:36: Groton - Jonathan Doeden 27 yard pass from Kaden Kurtz. (PAT blocked)	
1:15: Groton - Kaden Kurtz 1 yard run. (PAT Jonathan Doeden run)	
Second Quarter	
9:29: EEK - Wyatt Henningsen 15 yard pass from Cale Mathern. (PAT blocked)	
Third Quarter	
10:03: Groton - Jonathan Doeden 1 yard run. (PAT: Kaden Kurtz pass to Brodyn DeHoet)	
Fourth Quarter	
3:07: EEK - Jace Hanson 7 yard pass from Cale Mathern. (2 pt. PAT no good)	

ELLENDALE/EDGELEY/KULM

	7
	23-77
Jorgen Paulson	5-78
Kodie Slivoskey	6-20
Jace Hanson	1-1
Anton Carroh	1-(-1)
Cale Mathern	10-(-21)
Cale Mathern	8-17-67
Jace Hanson	2-16
Wyatt Henningsen	1-14
	Had 0 lost 0
	7-75
Kodie Slivoskey	12 tackles
Dalton Madcke	9 tackles
	1-1
	Friday at Thompson, ND

Netters open

season with 3-1 win over Redfield

Groton Area's volleyball team opened its season with a 3-1 win over Redfield in action played Thursday in Redfield. The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Dakota Risk Management.

Game scores were 25-17, 18-25, 25-21 and 25-15.

The first game featured the game being tied three times and there were three lead changes in the first part before Groton went on a rally of five points to take a 12-6 lead. Groton led by as many as eight points at 17-9 and went on to win by eight.

Redfield took charge of the second game to even the series. The Pheasants had an 8-1 rally to take a 13-3 lead and went on to win, 25-18.

The third game became more intense with the game being tied 10 times and the lead changing hands five times before Groton had a four-point rally to take a 22-18 lead and went on to win, 25-21.

Groton was in full charge of the fourth game. At one point, the Tigers scored nine straight points to take a 15-3 lead and went on to win, 25-15.

Payton Colestock had five ace serves and Nicole Marzahn had four ace serves and three bucks and tied with Eliza Wanner with 12 kills each. Kaylyn Kucker had 28 sets. Wanner had 25 digs and Tady Glover had 20.

Kailee Clausen and Courtney Turck each had nine kills for Redfield and Kiara Terry had three ace serves. Georgia Kuehn had 12 digs. Groton won the junior varsity match, 25-21, 25-27 and 15-11. Redfield won the C match, 25-14 and 25-11. Groton also won both junior high matches.

Coach Chelsea Hanson had the following comments about the match: That was probably the most fun match I've ever coached. These girls love the game and they love to play it together! We have 6 seniors that have been waiting since 7th grade to get to all play together again and you could feel their excitement in that first set, our younger players were able to take that energy and thrive and that's exactly what good leadership creates. I thought the girls played for each other and were genuinely happy for their teammates when they made huge defensive plays or got a big kill and that makes playing easier. We rode the emotional roller coaster in set one and we warned them playing with that much energy for an entire match is tough, everything kind of went our way in the first and when it didn't in the second I thought they stayed together and encouraged each other and got the momentum back to take us into the final two sets. Overall we were happy with game one and ready to go back to practice and prepare for next week!

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2019 S.D. Farmers Union Day at the State Fair Supports South Dakota's Family Farmers & Ranchers & Rural Communities

HURON, S.D. - Recognizing rural heroes, awarding more than \$25,000 in scholarships, feeding more than 1,000 fairgoers and discussing industrial hemp with policy makers and much more – 2019 South Dakota Farmers Union Day at the State Fair, August 31, focused on supporting South Dakota's family farmers, ranchers and rural communities.

"We work all year to make this day's events relevant and educational for South Dakotans involved in agriculture and those who aren't," explains Karla Hofhenke, SDFU Executive Director.

As one of the state's largest agriculture organizations, and a premier sponsor of the South Dakota State Fair, members of the grassroots organization recognized those who give back to rural communities across the state with the Rural Dakota Pride Award. The 2019 Rural Dakota Pride honorees include Rich Bakeberg, Frederick; Jeannie Hofer, Huron; Jim Lane, Groton; Angie Mueller, Ethan and Franklin Olson, Pierpont.



As one of the state's largest agriculture organizations, and a premier sponsor of the South Dakota State Fair, members of South Dakota Farmers Union recognized those who give back to rural communities across the state with the Rural Dakota Pride Award. The 2019 Rural Dakota Pride honorees, pictured here with Jr. Miss Rodeo Aberdeen, Gabrielle Rebelein (far left) and SDFU President Doug Sombke (far right), include (left to right) Jeannie Hofer, Huron; Angie Mueller, Ethan; Rich Bakeberg, Frederick; Franklin Olson, Pierpont and Jim Lane, Groton. (Courtesy Photo)

"South Dakota's agriculture producers and their communities are closely connected. In good economic times they both prosper. When the economy is down, like today with the trade war, low commodity prices and extreme weather conditions, they both feel the pain," says Doug Sombke, SDFU President

and fourth-generation Conde farmer. "The Rural Dakota Pride honor is one of many ways SDFU works to show our support for both."

Providing hands-on educational opportunities for fairgoers, SDFU hosted its annual Farmers Share Lunch and Team Up for Safety Quiz Bowl.

Feeding more than 1,000, the lunch is designed to help those not involved in agriculture understand the gap between the price paid for food in the grocery store and what a South Dakota family farmer or rancher earns. The lunch, which would retail for \$12, only cost fairgoers 25 cents. Learn more, visit www.sdfu.org.

Educating youth about farm safety is a large part of SDFU educational programming. The organization's interactive Farm Safety Trailer is on display throughout the entire fair, and during Farmers Union Day. Four qualifying FFA teams put their farm safety knowledge to the test, competing in the Team Up for Safety Quiz Bowl. FFA Chapters competing included Wolsey Wessington, Hoven, Howard and Dell Rapids. Learn which team won by visiting www.sdfu.org.

Policy makers discuss industrial hemp

Industrial hemp has been on the minds of South Dakota legislators this summer as they work to develop a bill Governor Noem will sign in 2020. And today Farmers Union hosted two legislative members of the Summer Industrial Hemp Study to discuss with fairgoers what they learned from visiting with leaders from other states where the agriculture crop is legal.

"We're working to come up with legislation everyone can be comfortable with," explains Lee Qualm, House Majority Leader and Chair of Industrial Hemp Summer Study.

After the South Dakota Senate failed to override Governor Noem's veto of House Bill 1191, which would have legalized industrial hemp, a group of legislators, including Minority Whip and District 28A Representative,

Oren Lesmeister began meeting with officials from states where industrial hemp is grown and processed, to learn how state departments of agriculture work with law enforcement, farmers and citizens.

"We are seeing that these states have strict rules in place, but we also see that the fear industrial hemp is a backway to produce the drug, marijuana, is unwarranted," Lesmeister, a Parade rancher and small business owner explains. "We have also learned farmers can make money from this."

New marketing opportunities from the hardy crop that can be grown in nearly every region of South Dakota, are the reason Qualm and Lesmeister voted to legalize growing the crop during the 2019 Legislative Session.

"Industrial hemp is the first new crop that has come along in decades," says Qualm, a Platte farmer. "It provides the opportunity to add value to a crop before it leaves the state. We are so used to shipping out raw commodities instead of processing them here."

"Industrial hemp would give South Dakotans opportunities," adds Lesmeister. "I say South Dakotans, not just farmers or ranchers, because it's the business as a whole, through manufacturing opportunities that could benefit the entire state."

Support for legalizing industrial hemp became part of SDFU policy in 2018. The organization will continue to lobby Pierre to legalize the crop during the 2019 Legislative Session. Learn more about SDFU policy at www.sdfu.org.

Supporting rural youth through scholarships

The South Dakota Farmers Union Foundation, in cooperation with Farmers Union Insurance, recognized recipients of the Insuring a Brighter Tomorrow \$1,000 scholarship.

Over the past 12 years, the Foundation has awarded more than \$300,000 in scholarships to students attending South Dakota post-secondary schools.

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