



The Bismarck Tribune

www.bismarcktribune.com

\$1.00

Serving the region since 1873 ■ 701-250-8210 to subscribe

Slippery slope
Cities note liability
in sledding hills
Life, 1C



Getting healthy
Bison get a chance to
heal before title game
Sports, 1D



2 killed in crash

Also, 12 injured when train hit school bus near Larimore

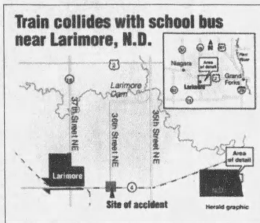
Forum News Service

LARIMORE — Two people died and 12 were injured after a school bus and a train collided just east of Larimore just before 4 p.m. Monday.

Killed was the 62-year-old male school bus driver and a 17-year-old female student, the North Dakota Highway Patrol said. The school bus driver failed to yield to an oncoming train, said Lt. Troy Hischer of the Highway Patrol.

The ages of the students on the bus varied from 6 to 17, Hischer said. Some of the injured suffered broken bones; three were in "very serious condition," he said.

Continued on 7A



SESSION 2015

Gov.'s address kicks off 2015 session

By NICK SMITH
Bismarck Tribune

Lawmakers will begin the process today of charting the next two years of the state's fiscal future as the 2015 North Dakota Legislature convenes.

Debates over a record budget proposal as well as statewide infrastructure funding and tax cuts will take a backseat today as Gov. Jack Dalrymple delivers his State of the State address before a joint legislative session.

"The governor will highlight North Dakota's good progress," Dalrymple spokesman Jeff Zent said. "He'll also speak about the state's priorities and challenges moving forward."

Lawmakers are limited to an 80-day session by state law. Infrastructure, increased funding for oil patch communities and appropriate levels of tax cuts will be high on the list of priorities for lawmakers.

Soft oil prices are also to loom large during the session, with prices recently dropping to the \$50-per-barrel range for the first time in five years. How long the price of oil stays low could determine how lawmakers prioritize spending in the governor's proposed \$13.72 billion budget.

Major issues

Senate Majority Leader Rich Wardner, R-Dickinson, said lawmakers will have a number of major issues that will require immediate action, such as funding for the oil patch.

Wardner said his hope is that the session doesn't go the full 80 days, as it did for the first time in state history in 2013. He said many lawmakers he's interacted with in the past month have already been busy as though the session were

Continued on 7A

SESSION: DAY 1

■ Session convenes
1 p.m.: Gov. Jack Dalrymple State of the State address, 1 p.m.

■ Session information can be found by visiting the legislative branch website at www.legis.nd.gov.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The governor will highlight North Dakota's good progress. He'll also speak about the state's priorities and challenges moving forward."

Jeff Zent, spokesman for Gov. Dalrymple

OUT IN THE DEEP FREEZE



TOM STROMME/Tribune

RUNNING ERRANDS: Christine Dietz was unfazed by below zero cold or falling snow as she pedals across Seventh Street in south Bismarck on Monday afternoon while out doing a number of errands. "I ride all year," she said. "My dad bought me this bike. It's like a tank and goes through a lot of snow." For more weather news, see Page B1.

As oil drops, rigs slow

By LAUREN DONOVAN
Bismarck Tribune

Another dip in oil prices Monday, briefly touching a five-year low at less than \$50 a barrel, caused an upset in the stock exchange and focused more attention on response by companies drilling the Bakken in North Dakota.

Crude for February delivery was posted at \$50.35 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange on Monday.

The active rig count in North Dakota dipped to 170 Monday, a drop of 14 rigs drilling in less than three weeks.

Some of that slowdown may be seasonal, but some can be attributed to companies laying off rigs while watching what happens in the oil market. Bakken oil is discounted another \$10 to \$16 a barrel because of transportation costs.

Reactions

One major Bakken producer, Continental Resources, recently announced it will cut its Bakken rigs by half of what it had planned for 2015, down to 11 from the 19 rigs it expected to have drilling under an earlier forecast.

On the other hand, company owner Harold Hamm said he still expects to complete 188 Bakken wells this year while oil well service costs, which include hydraulic fracturing, should decline by 15 percent.

Hess Corporation spokesman John Roper said his company has 17 rigs drilling in the Bakken and was still hiring as of last week, despite rumors of layoffs in the oil patch.

A December company investor presentation said Hess expected to have 14 rigs drilling during 2015 and Roper said Hess will update its investors about 2015 drilling activity sometime in January.

Marathon Oil said it will announce its 2015 Bakken drilling program in February.

A company statement said: "Expected impacts to oilfield service costs plus the change in crude oil (prices) warrants additional time before finalizing our 2015 budget."

Whiting Petroleum, which recently completed the purchase of Kodiak Oil & Gas Corp. to become the largest Bakken oil producer, said much the same

Continued on 7A

Trafficking: Know what to look for

Officials, public can pick up on the red flags

By KATHERINE LYMN
and AMY DALRYMPLE
Forum News Service

A young woman tells domestic violence advocates she feels trapped with an older man. He's the only person who can inject her with the heroin to which she's addicted.

INSIDE
The life: "Nobody likes a prostitute."
7A

"Abusive boyfriend," the advocates conclude, and they set about trying to help her.

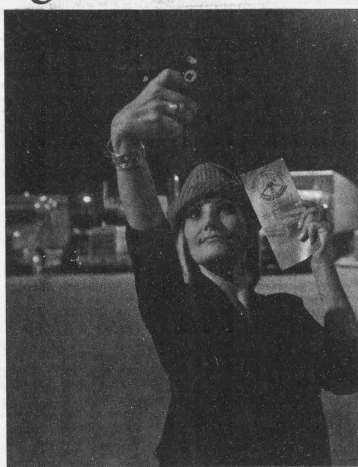
They don't see that his control of her may have an even darker purpose.

Elsewhere, a young woman tells her doctor she has had more than 500 sexual partners in her 19 years.

He writes it off as promiscuity. Then there's the man who parks a block away from a transitional living center where many former runaways and homeless young adults live.

Staff members see him as the possessive boyfriend of a resident, and they keep an eye out.

All were witnessing possi-



Forum News Service

Windie Lazenko, founder of 4her North Dakota, takes her photo at a Williston, N.D., truck stop to share with the organization Truckers Against Trafficking. Lazenko plans to do truck stop outreach to raise awareness about sex trafficking.

ble sex trafficking without initially realizing it.

Around North Dakota and the country, training is underway to help people identify potential trafficking in every interaction a victim may have with others. These incidents have been used as

examples in training sessions where North Dakotans are getting crash courses on what forms sex trafficking can take and how to know when a victim may be right before their eyes.

It's part of a larger fight against a crime that many

say has an everyday presence in the Bakken oil patch. A large part of the education in North Dakota requires overcoming a reluctance to believe that such a horrific crime can happen "in our backyard."

Experts say the red flags are everywhere, if you're aware.

"It's one of the more perfect crimes against people because, I mean, it's laced with coercion, it's laced with social stigma," said sociologist Tim Pippert, who has visited the Bakken from Augsburg College in Minneapolis in his research on the social effects of such rapid growth.

"So it's difficult, experts say, to identify trafficking victims who often don't even know they're victims or who are warned not to snitch, and with pimps who can be as good at manipulating others as they are at manipulating the women they control.

"If you haven't seen it, realities are you're looking in the wrong place," said Joy Friedman with Breaking Free, a St. Paul, Minn., organization that helps women trying to leave prostitution. "It's right in front of your face, actually."

Not a 'boyfriend'

Darriane Johnson is a strong believer in eyes. She says you can tell a lot about a person that way. She once saw a victim of sex trafficking

Continued on 4A

AirAsia tragedy

Officials suspended; plane was allowed to fly without permits — 2A

Well blowout

Cleanup continues at 600-barrel spill near Keene — 1B



Wednesday

Store-bought broth can't compare to homemade variety

Classified 5C Money 6D
Crossword 7C Morning Briefing... 4C
Deaths 5A Movies 6D
General Info 800-472-2273
Circulation 701-250-8210
Classified 701-258-6900



Trafficking: Know what to look for

Continued from 1A

ing speak and couldn't believe how dead she looked in her eyes.

"Her life was over," Johnson said.

Highlighted by bright blue eyeshadow and blue-rimmed glasses, Johnson's eyes conveyed hope. And she needs a full measure to counter the evil and abuse she sees every day as director of Dickinson's domestic violence crisis center.

But now she's seeing some of the ugliness and despair differently. Gathered with other advocates around a long table in the center's conference room one August morning, she and her advocates reassess past cases, wondering ... could it have been trafficking?

Crisis centers across North Dakota are doing the same, looking for sex trafficking in cases they previously might have identified solely as violent relationships, rape or controlling boyfriends.

"A lot of times they don't look at themselves as victims of human trafficking. So it's difficult to get that out of them when that's not how they see their situation," said Nichole De Leon, an advocate at the Dickinson center. "They call him their boyfriend quite often, so you're not assuming. Well, that's her pimp."

Discussing the case of an older man injecting a younger woman with heroin, in a form of control, Johnson pauses.

"I never even thought of that as a trafficking case until just now," she said.

Advocates across the state say they see possible sex trafficking only because they're now looking for it.

At a sex trafficking summit in Bismarck this past November, Mark Heintz, a program manager at Youthworks there, described his lightbulb moment from about a year before.

A man would park about a block away when a certain woman was staying at the transitional living shelter, where many former run-aways or formerly homeless people find shelter.

"Our first inclination is we've got ourselves a possessive boyfriend; we've gotta watch out," Heintz said.

Staff members alerted law enforcement officers, and Heintz later found out the man was actually the woman's pimp.

"That wasn't necessarily as large of a flashing beacon for us," he said. "You know, one year ago, five years ago, 10 years ago, as it feels like it is right now."

Seeing a victim

Fifteen years ago, Grant Snyder thought of prostitution the way many older beat cops did: It was a choice. The women were just drug addicts. They should get real jobs.

Now a sergeant with the Minneapolis Police Department, Snyder has trained thousands of officers, including hundreds in western North Dakota, on how trafficking can look.



Forum News Service

Williams County Deputy Jake Manuel investigates a 911 call in the vicinity of a new RV park near Williston in October 2014.

"I didn't always see a victim," he said.

But after a few interactions with men like when he found a 16-year-old girl who looked even younger, being prostituted out of a crack house, his views and his policing changed.

"That journey for me was really an opportunity for me to really see and challenge our own biases," he said. "They don't make us bad people; they just make us uniformed."

Cops may already have opinions about prostitution and the women in that life, and past interactions with law enforcement can make a woman wary of them, too. Snyder urges patience for cops handling trafficking cases, with victims who may feel ashamed or who may not yet accept that they have been exploited.

"One of the things I really try to teach cops is you've got a golden opportunity to be the one person in these kids' lives that go into that situation and don't ask for something in return," he said. "Don't go in there hoping they'll make you case."

Today, at trainings, sometimes after an overnight shift or on their day off, police officers are looking back and realizing they have seen sex trafficking. They just didn't know it at the time.

"I've been around human trafficking more than I've realized and I think most law enforcement will say that," said Art Walgren, the Watford City police chief, at a training there in October.

Learning the complex art of detecting and interacting with a sex trafficking victim is even harder in western North Dakota, where turnover and general business plague departments big and small.

"We have a lot of very hardworking law enforcement officers, very dedicated, but not always the most experienced," McKenzie County State's Attorney Jacob Rodenbiker said.

Many oil patch police and sheriff's departments have a large number of officers in their 20s who are working their first law enforcement job.

"Truckers have an amazing ability to call the hotline and identify victims."

Wendie Lazenko, founder, 4her North Dakota

The Williams County Sheriff's Office has had turnover rates of between 12 and 17 percent each of the past four years, not including jail staff. Department administrators fear that turnover will be even greater after young, new hires, often from Minnesota or other states, gain experience and find jobs closer to home as the economy recovers.

Deputy Jake Manuel, one of the recent hires in Williams County, said many deputies leave Williston after gaining experience because their significant others don't want to live there or they get tired of living in an apartment where housing is scarce and expensive.

"If that's your experience base, how do you expect somebody like that to be able to possess the kind of skills that they need to talk to a victim about what will arguably be the most shameful thing they'll ever have to talk about?" Snyder said.

At the Watford City training session, then-New Town Police Chief David Shawstad told the small crowd he may have witnessed trafficking just a few days before.

"What started as a domestic dispute in a car had some red flags: The girl was much younger than the man, and she told police the man didn't let her talk to anyone. One thing after another and it's like, this is what it is," Shawstad said.

With runaways being perhaps the most vulnerable to pimps, John Vanek, a retired San Jose Police Department lieutenant who now trains officers on trafficking, encouraged officers in his tour of western North Dakota last fall to "screen" girls who they return home to ask where they slept, how they ate.

"From what I learned today, it's quite possible I have been in contact with trafficking victims and I didn't connect it," Burleigh County sheriff's Detective

Troy Fleck said during Vanek's day in Dickinson.

Since moving to North Dakota from Florida in the fall of 2013, Wendie Lazenko has worked to increase awareness of sex trafficking, including giving talks for church and school groups. Lazenko founded 4her North Dakota and is assisting sexually exploited women and girls in western North Dakota.

She has led some training sessions in the Bakken using materials provided by an organization called Truckers Against Trafficking.

Lazenko said 4her North Dakota plans to do outreach at area truckstops to equip truckers and business owners to identify victims and how to respond.

Everyday interactions

Private businesses also have implemented training to help employees detect victims.

Minneapolis-based Jefferson Lines is working with Snyder on a training guide for bus drivers, dispatchers and others to handle situations that just don't seem right.

"All forms of transportation have been affected by this," said Bonnie Buchanan, a former vice president with the bus company.

From Amtrak, which has since 2012 trained its employees in signs of trafficking, to the Department of Homeland Security's "Blue Lightning" campaign for airline personnel, workers in various modes of transportation are joining the fight.

Some hotels and motels, too, mandate training for employees. But the bigger chain companies — the ones that don't want sex trafficking attached to their names — are more likely to educate employees than the smaller establishments, where a "Do Not Rent" blacklist might be as involved as they get.

Treating patients

A majority of more than 100 sex trafficking victims surveyed came into contact with health care professionals during their victimization, according to a 2014 study.

None of those surveyed was rescued as a result of their interactions with health care personnel.

Dr. Jeff Barrows, an Ohio obstetrician and gynecologist who has trained health care professionals in signs of trafficking since 2006, said he too missed signs early in his career.

One patient, a 19-year-old woman, told him she'd been with more than 500 sexual partners.

Barrows said he wrote the woman off as promiscuous, not asking further questions. "Those biases can cause us to jump to conclusions or assumptions before we really should," Barrows said. "So we will missclassifying."

Emergency room workers and other practitioners can be in the unique position of seeing a person one on one, or even seeing physical effects of trafficking, such as pimp tattoos or cigarette burns.

"I think they come away thinking something very weird is going on but I don't know what it is," Barrows said. "You can't know what it is if you haven't had the category for it created in your mind."

The Department of Health and Human Services launched a pilot program last year to train health care workers to identify victims of human trafficking. Training sessions were held in Williston and New Town in September, along with much larger cities Atlanta, Boston, Houston and Oakland, Calif.

"We have a problem," Barrows told health care workers in New Town. "We have a majority of these victims that come in contact with us and we're missing them. That's horrific."

A victim's perpetrator may insist on coming into the exam room with her, providers learn, and the victim herself may be overly submissive. She may not know her address, or even what city she's in, as the stops on a pimp's circuit begin to bleed together.

In Williston, Mercy Medical Center CEO Matt Grishaw said the hospital has not confirmed any of its patients were victims of

human trafficking, but hospital officials felt it was important to receive the training on identifying victims.

"If there can be one safe haven for somebody who's in that situation to quietly reach out for help," he said, "it may be when they're in a hospital or they're in a clinic receiving treatment."

Mark Bekkedahl, director of mission at Mercy Medical Center, said some of the red flags — like a patient not knowing her address — would not necessarily indicate trafficking in Williston, where a high percentage of the population is transient.

"I think the training heightened our sensitivity to take a step back and ask that question. 'Is this just weird because it's Williston, or is there something going on?'"

Public can help

While training is underway in various sectors, many say the general public, with a few exceptions such as one company or police department, is what really needs education.

"They see a lot more than we do," McKenzie County sheriff's Deputy Troy White Owl said.

About half of states require signs bearing the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline number be posted in certain places, according to Polaris, a national anti-trafficking organization that runs the hotline. In Texas, for example, bars must post it.

One proposed law for this legislative session requires the signs in North Dakota's rest stops and hospitals.

Officers, meanwhile, are recording any incidents so if a case is being built down the road, investigators can look at history and see any other interactions with a trafficker or victim, be it a traffic stop or an arrest.

Dickinson police Detective Sgt. Kylan Klauer said officers there are learning to look a little closer, like inside the car at a traffic stop.

"You get a car and you got one guy and three girls, and maybe they're from out of state and their stories don't match up completely as to why they're here," he said.

Through the course of those types of things, you can figure out that OK, well maybe they're up here for prostitution."

Affordable Training. Unparalleled Safety Tools and Resources.

NDSOC's 42nd ANNUAL SAFETY & HEALTH CONFERENCE

February 3-5, 2015 - Bismarck Event Center

Safety, Supervisory and Leadership Training for Construction • Health Care • Manufacturing Mining • Oil & Gas • Transportation • Utilities

Register by Friday, January 9 for early bird rates!

REGISTER NOW! Visit www.ndsocio.org

2015 Top Sponsors

WSI North Dakota Workers Safety & Insurance

Hess Sanford Health Occupational Medicine

Tesororo

ALLIANCE EPC S&P PROTECTIVE Bobcat

BOS

ConocoPhillips Continental

CP ENBRIDGE EPS GARDNER

IBI

STEEL ENERGY

Weatherford

QUESTIONS? Call (800) 932-8890

YOUR APPLIANCE SUPERSTORE • MORE BRANDS • MORE CHOICES

THE BEST BRANDS IN LAUNDRY

ALL AT ONE STORE

LG MAYTAG Amana

Electrolux Whirlpool

SAVE NOW

BRAND SPECIAL CORWIN CHURCHILL APPLIANCE

BEST BRANDS IN LAUNDRY FOR OVER 10 YEARS

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

Online at ccappliances.com 223-1173 • 309 N. 3rd St. Bismarck

NOW OFFERING

DOT Physicals

- Same Day Appointments
- Nationally Certified Doctors

Call Healthways 701-223-6613

Hw Healthways

1033 Basin Ave. Bismarck, ND

www.healthways.cc