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Hatching up a storm

Hatchery produces while setting records
Life, 1C



Career change

U-Mary sprinter leaves hurdling behind
Sports, 1D

Photo release risky

President says leak 'not who we are,' orders seal

By KIMBERLY DOZIER and ERICA WERNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama ordered grisly photographs of Osama bin Laden in death sealed from public view on Wednesday, declaring, "We

don't need to spike the football" in triumph after this week's daring middle-of-the-night raid. The terrorist leader was killed by American commandos who burst into his room and feared he was reaching for a nearby weapon, U.S. officials said.

Several weapons were found in the room where the terror chief died, including AK-47 assault rifles and side arms, the officials said. They spoke on condition of anonymity as they offered the most recent in a series of increasingly detailed and sometimes shifting accounts of bin Laden's final

minutes after a decade on the run.

Obama said releasing the photographs taken by the Navy SEAL raiders was "not who we are" as a country. Though some may deny his death, "the fact of the matter is you will not see bin Laden
Continued on 5A



In this image taken from video and released by CBS, President Barack Obama speaks with "60 Minutes" correspondent Steve Kroft at the White House in Washington on Wednesday. (Associated Press)

FISHING ... GONE?



TOM STROMME/Tribune

The water level of the Missouri River channel has risen nearly 2 feet since last week because releases are increasing at the Garrison Dam from Lake Sakakawea. The river is projected to rise a total of 5 feet, perhaps by week's end.

Revised runoff worries

By BRIAN GEHRING
Bismarck Tribune

An updated runoff forecast from the Corps of Engineers has fishery managers in North Dakota and South Dakota nervous.

The recently-released forecast is for high summer water releases that haven't been seen for at least 14 years. In 1997, the last time releases were that high, fishing took a huge nosedive on Lake Oahe and took years to recover.

Greg Power, fisheries chief for the North Dakota Game and Fish

Department, said as much as two months ago, there was discussion that the corps miscalculated mountain and plains snowpack runoff.

The runoff is coming and will continue to come this spring, but the three upper basin reservoirs — Fort Peck, Lake Sakakawea and Lake Oahe — are all but full.

Mike Swenson of the corps district office in Omaha said normally snowpack in the mountains peaks in mid-April, but that has not been the case this year. "We've seen a lot of change in

the snowpack in the last half of April" because of continued precipitation, Swenson said.

In early April, he said, the forecast for snowpack between Fort Peck and Garrison was 112 percent above normal.

The May forecast came in at 136 percent above normal, Swenson said.

In April, Lake Sakakawea rose more than 7 feet and Oahe 3 feet, while Fort Peck came up about 2 feet.

Downstream, Fort Randall, Big
Continued on 9A

Oil tax revenue sets new record

Factors come together for \$100M record

By REBECCA BEITSCH
Bismarck Tribune

Instability in the Middle East is one of the contributing factors for a record-breaking month for oil tax revenue in North Dakota.

It is the first time the state has surpassed a \$100 million benchmark for tax revenue, thanks to production in March, the most recent data available.

From November 2010 to February of this year, oil has brought in tax revenues hovering around \$80 million, but in March, that number rose to more than \$100 million for the first time.

That brought in \$20 million more than in February despite a drop in production of about 2,000 barrels.

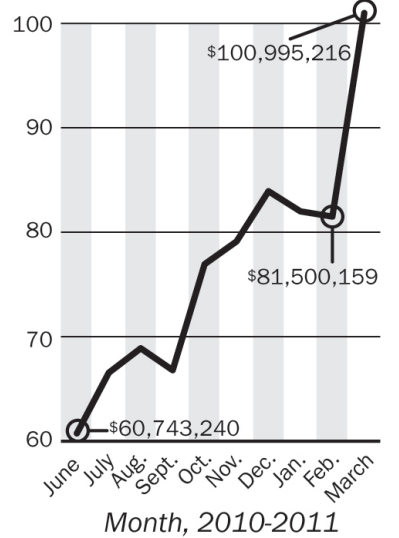
The lower production levels didn't affect tax revenue because the taxation formula also relies on the price of crude. That rose about \$14 between February and March, to rest at \$92 a barrel.

Rioting in Egypt in late January, followed by a civil war in Libya starting in February and protests in Bahrain in March have all combined to take a toll on the price of oil, which is traded in a global market.

"The market is very sensitive to any kind of unrest like that. It's true that Libya has significant production, but it isn't to the extent that it couldn't be made up somewhere else," said Deputy Tax Commissioner Ryan Rauschenberger, adding

TOTAL OIL TAX REVENUE COLLECTIONS

Millions of dollars



SOURCE: NORTH DAKOTA TAX DEPARTMENT

COURTNEY SINNER / TRIBUNE

that the price swings could be more of an emotional reaction since most Libyan oil isn't imported to America. "It's more about the unrest than exactly where those barrels were going, and can Saudi Arabia pick up the slack? I think it has more to do with just the fact that it's in a region that supplies such a great deal of the world's oil," Rauschenberger said.

Patrick DeHaan, a petroleum analyst for the website www.GasBuddy.com, agreed with that interpretation, saying price increases are "very much an emotional reaction." "The U.S. got 2 million barrels of
Continued on 9A

Playing chicken with Big Oil industry?

By MICHAEL J. CRUMB
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Researchers have developed ways to substitute chicken feathers for petroleum in some plastic products, and at least two companies are working to bring items ranging from biodegradable flower pots to office furniture to market.

The substitution would allow the U.S. to cut back on its oil use, however slightly, and give poultry producers another market for the more than 3 billion pounds of leftover chicken feathers they have each year, the developers and others said. The challenge, they added, is coming up with products that manufacturers and consumers want at a price that's right.

"What works in the lab and what works commercially are two different things," said Sonny Meyerhoeffer, whose company began selling flower



Associated Press

Eastern BioPlastics president Sonny Meyerhoeffer displays a handful of feathers at his plant in Mount Crawford, Va.

pots made partially from feathers last fall.

His company has patented a process for removing keratin resin from feathers for use in making plastics. Keratin, a tough protein fiber also found in fingernails, hair and horns, can replace petroleum in some cases. Right now, Meyerhoeffer's company sells flower pots that contain 40 percent

bioresins, although it has been able to make ones that are completely biodegradable and made from feathers.

"It still needs a little refining," he said. "We're a year, maybe a year and a half
Continued on 9A



"What works in the lab and what works commercially are two different things."

Sonny Meyerhoeffer, whose company sells flower pots made partially from feathers

JENNIFER WEISGERBER/Tribune

OK to celebrate?

In U.S., many celebrate bin Laden death, some question taste — 2A

Outage is tax 'blip'

Lost oil production due to storm won't show until May reports — 1B



Friday

New 'Thor' movie rumbles but it never quite roars

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General info 800-472-2273
Circulation 250-8210
Classified 258-6900



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