

# Eighth best place to live

Pierre draws people in for the outdoors **C1**



## GOVS VS RAIDERS

Pierre travels to the Black Hills to take on Rapid City Stevens in tonight's matchup **B1**

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## Some honey producers weathering drought just fine

BY LANCE NIXON  
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For hobby bee farmers James and Edith Jesser of Iroquois, S.D., the drought of 2012 had an effect on their honey production that seems counterintuitive: More, not less, of some of the best honey in the country.

"We did have quite an abundant crop," said James Jesser, who will

be selling raw honey from their 2012 harvest as well as beeswax lotions at this week's Capital City Farmers Market in Pierre. The market takes place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the corner of Sioux Avenue and Coteau Street.

"This year our production was 82 pounds per hive," Jesser said. "Seventy pounds was our previous high. And 50 is an average for this area."

Jesser said the honey is thicker and darker this year, though.

Jesser is not alone in seeing some good yields despite the drought. Mike Hall of R. Hall & Son Apiaries, a honey producer based in Davis, S.D., south of Sioux Falls, said his production this year is in the range of 85 to 90 pounds per hive, up from 65 to 75 pounds in a normal year. Hall has hives in the Interstate 29 corridor

from about the North Dakota border to the Iowa line.

"We always do a little better on this end of the state when it tends to be a little drier," Hall said. "This is probably the best year we've had in about five years."

Although there's such a thing is too dry, Hall said, for many producers east of the Missouri River,

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### SD honey production

Year	Pounds
2011	16,500,000
2010	15,370,000
2009	17,820,000
2008	21,375,000
2007	13,260,000
2006	10,575,000
2005	17,380,000
2004	22,575,000
2003	15,050,000
2002	11,475,000
2001	15,275,000

## FINDING HOME



Will Clark drives his boat under the bridge this past summer. Normally we never find out who is in a distant photo like this one but Will's mother, Lori Clark, spotted his profile in the 2012 Newcomer's Guide. (Nick Lowrey/Capital Journal)

## It's easy if you keep an eye out while trolling for walleyes

BY LANCE NIXON  
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It's an iconic image of what life in the heart of South Dakota is about: A fisherman making his way home at sunset as the Missouri River is turning rose-colored under the railroad bridge and haze is settling in over the river breaks.

Our talented intern this past summer at the Capital Journal, Nick Lowrey, shot this photograph from the east shore of the Missouri River without even knowing who the guy in the boat was, or what he was thinking. Those are questions for which we don't usually learn the answers when we shoot a feature photo from a distance.

But in this case we did; because Lori Clark of Pierre called us when we dropped the photo into our 2012 Newcomers' Guide. She wanted a copy of the photo, she said, because it was her son, Will. It was his boat and his profile, without a doubt. That's when we learned there was a story there – about finding home.

It was the same Will, she told us, who said to his sisters when he was about 10, coming down the Missouri River bluffs after a trip to Rapid City, "Don't we live in the best place in the world?" To which his sisters both rolled their eyes, Lori Clark recalled.

Same Will who, midway through his college career, talked to his father about coming home to Pierre and getting involved in his dad's business – Brad Clark Electric.

Same Will who figures he can be on the river within about 10 minutes of when he's done with work. He fishes virtually every night at those times of the year when the fish are biting. And the Missouri River was the deciding factor in why he's chosen to stay in Pierre – though pheasants, grouse, geese and a bird dog named Stella also had something to do with it.

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Will Clark and bird dog, Stella, out walking the fields recently. (Lance Nixon/Capital Journal)

## Riggs HS celebrates Native American culture

BY ALLISON JARRELL  
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Native American Week kicks off at Riggs High School on Monday with a Native American Day Pow Wow from 1-6 p.m. The high school gym will be filled with dancers, drummers and the smell of Indian tacos frying at the concession stand.

Potato and rabbit dance competitions will be held during the pow wow, as well as a switch dancing competition where boys dance like girls and vice versa.

Urban Indian Health will be providing free health screenings from 1-5 p.m.

Along with the pow wow, other events throughout the week will be open to the community as well. On Tuesday, storytelling will take place at 7 p.m. in the Riggs High

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## GFP ponders a bigger harvest of mountain lions next season

BY BOB MERCER  
STATE CAPITOL BUREAU

DEADWOOD – The foremost advocate for sustaining the Black Hills population of mountain lions and the executive director for South Dakota's leading sportsmen's group took the same side Thursday in speaking against major expansions of the 2013 hunting season.

But also among the 31 people who testified at the hour-plus public hearing held by the state Game, Fish and Parks Commission were plenty of Black Hills hunters who supported increasing the season harvest limit to 100 from the 70 that

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