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‘Powerful storm’ predicted for region

Rain expected to gradually turn to heavy snow, strong winds

By C.S. Hagen
The Forum
FARGO — A “surprising return to winter” is forecast in North Dakota and northern Minnesota this week, bringing heavy snow and a potential blizzard to the region. Rain Tuesday will

gradually turn to heavy snow and strong winds, most likely lasting into Thursday, said WDAY Chief Meteorologist John Wheeler.
“It’s going to be a powerful storm. It’s pretty likely this will be a major disrupter if not a complete shutdown within the areas that get mostly snow,” Wheeler said Sunday.
Not everyone is likely to get a foot of snow, Wheeler said. Some areas

may be hit with more rain, while other areas may get the heavier snowfall. It’s early in the prediction process for specific details.
“I don’t want to paint the picture that everyone will get buried with a foot of snow. That’s not how it will work,” Wheeler said.
The early spring storm is known as a “Colorado low,” Wheeler said. It comes from east of the Rockies and moves

northeast, bringing with it humidity and snow.
With at least two days to go until the storm hits, Wheeler said meteorologists will know more Tuesday, when they can more precisely predict which areas will get hit the hardest.
“A foot of snow is likely for more than half and possibly most of our area along with wind. Strong wind is likely and a blizzard is possible,” Wheeler said.

The National Weather Service also reported that Fargo and Grand Forks could see “crippling winter impacts” with a potential for at least 12 inches of snow. West of Fargo has a high chance of major snow, the National Weather Service reported.
Travel will be extremely difficult or impossible across all of North Dakota into northwestern Minnesota late Tuesday into Thursday.

Some affected areas could see up to three feet of snow, the National Weather Service reported.
With more snow on the way, a second spring crest of the Red River in Fargo could be seen Friday just under 25 feet, which is the height of moderate flood stage, according to a hydrograph from the National Weather Service.
Readers can reach Forum reporter C.S. Hagen at 701-241-5535 or cshagen@forumcomm.com.

NDSU prof logs 51 years in classroom and counting
Architecture professor known for stories, knowledge joins club of three

By Barry Amundson
The Forum
FARGO — A member of the elite club of the longest-serving professors at North Dakota State University said most of his friends are former students.

Ron Ramsay, who said he basically had to be pushed through the door in his first architectural department class in August of 1971 at the young age of 26, can probably credit that to the more in-depth connections he made with his students that he continues to forge as he finishes up his 51 years of teaching.
Matt Peikert, a current student from Osakis, Minnesota, said beside Ramsay’s “wide array of knowledge on not only architectural history but everything,” he has learned much more from the 77-year-old.
“He told all of us that he wanted to know who we were, our passions and hobbies,” Peikert said. As the conversations continued, the student said he also “learned a lot about life’s lessons” from the Chicago native.
Moreover, Ramsay’s approach to teaching architectural history is noteworthy, according to his students and colleagues.

RAMSAY: Page A6



Eric Hylden / Grand Forks Herald
A farmer plants wheat in the northeastern North Dakota town of Nekoma, home to a Cold War-era, pyramid-shaped missile silo complex. State commerce department officials want to see the decommissioned site retrofitted into a large-scale data center, possibly one that mines cryptocurrency.

Courting crypto

ND aims to draw Bitcoin miners with promise of world’s ‘cleanest crypto’

By Adam Willis
The Forum
Bismarck
North Dakota has a new sales pitch for out-of-state investors: a home for the “cleanest crypto on the planet.”
That was the mantra at the Bitcoin 2022 conference in Miami, where two state Department

of Commerce representatives traveled last week to talk with prospective investors in the world of digital currencies. A \$35,000 trip, the commerce department said it intended to yield a return of 20,000% or more from the Miami conference.
A combination of cold, dry weather

and cheap electricity costs are attracting a growing number of data center operators to North Dakota. At the same time, government leaders have touted the state as an emerging hub for these energy-intensive server farms, some of which mine cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, Ethereum and others.

Commerce Commissioner James Leiman said the state’s cryptocurrency pitch is part of a broader effort to diversify an economy largely dependent on commodity markets like oil and agriculture. While the state has so far announced around \$3 billion of crypto investment, Leiman said his department

is close to sealing investments from another \$3 billion worth of projects, including several investors that state officials planned to meet with in Miami.
Data center projects have not received any state funding in North Dakota to this point,
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Scottie Scheffler takes home the green jacket.
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Today’s weather



48°
33°
Scattered showers
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Fourth Cass County human services leader retires amid bullying, favoritism claims

By April Baumgarten
The Forum
FARGO — A fourth Cass County Human Services leader has quit after an internal investigation found he harassed, intimidated and bullied staff — all claims that he denied.
Economic Assistance Manager Sidney Schock retired April 1, according to documents obtained by The Forum through an open records request. He announced his resignation in a six-page email

sent March 25 that denied claims of wrongdoing laid out in an investigative report.
Schock had been on administrative leave since Jan. 11 after a complaint was filed against him on Jan. 5.
An investigative report dated March 18 detailed those complaints, which surfaced Dec. 22. The formal complaint noted concerns of favoritism,
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