



# BUILDING THE BAND

Students at F.W. Johnson to hold CD launch. A4



Sparky's among city's takeout favourites. B1

# WHO WANTS PIZZA?

REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

# LEADER-POST

BREAKING NEWS AT LEADERPOST.COM

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## FLOODING

# Flood threat wanes

EMMA GRANEY  
LEADER-POST

While the Water Security Agency (WSA) may not be quite ready to tell you to put away your rubber boots, it seems most communities in southern Saskatchewan can start to breathe easy.

Wascana Lake has peaked — and at a level lower than predicted, to boot — at 571.5 metres.

In a daily flood briefing on Tuesday, WSA spokesman Patrick Boyle stressed while the agency is still keeping its eye on Wascana levels, "it seems the threat there has passed."

The lower-than-expected peak for Wascana Creek has resulted in slightly lower predictions for the Qu'Appelle lakes in the coming days, though the ice stubbornly refusing to melt on the likes of Last Mountain Lake could cause issues and damage equipment and property if winds pick up.

It's expected lakes will peak in the next couple of weeks, starting with Echo Lake on May 18, Katepwa on May 20 and Last Mountain by late May or early June.

Water in Lumsden is also near its peak, again at lower levels than expected.

On Tuesday, it was running through the catchment at 200 cubic metres per second, which is about 100 CMS lower than flows were in 2011.

"The water there is filling the valley, but that was expected by everyone there," Boyle said.

"Because the water from the Moose Jaw River and Wascana (Creek) came in stages, we really avoided a worst-case scenario there."

Water will likely spill onto the flood plain at Craven, but levels again will be slightly lower than they were in 2011.

A slow melt, which allowed moisture time to seep into the ground, is once again being credited with the lower-than-predicted water levels.

Colin King, deputy emergency management commissioner, said the flood management operation "is proceeding very well," and praised the work of communities for their part in preparing their regions for possible flooding.

The focus now will switch to wildfires, with the southern half of the province on alert as temperatures warm and the ground continues to dry out.

"There is a high fire risk ... and our crews are manned and aircraft ready to respond as they occur," King said.



## GOING UP



BRYAN SCHLOSSER/Leader-Post  
Site bosses and architects look on as a crane lifts a piece of steel to set in place at the top of the building at Centre Square Place on the 2300 block Broad Street.

**See the story on page D1.**

## DRUG THEFT

# Doctor not at hospitals

PAMELA COWAN  
LEADER-POST

While a Regina doctor who is facing three criminal charges has not been suspended, he is no longer working at either Regina hospital.

Dr. Jordan Velestuk was arrested at the Regina General Hospital on April 28 and is to appear in Regina Provincial Court on June 3.

He will answer to charges of theft under \$5,000, fraud under \$5,000 and uttering a forged document.

**See DRUG CHARGES, A2**

## HOUSE EXPLOSION

# Investigation leads to possession charges

LEADER-POST STAFF

Regina police have charged a woman with possession of cannabis marijuana for the purpose of trafficking and say more charges could result from a house explosion on Monday night.

Natasha Myria Fritzke, 19, appeared briefly in Regina Provincial Court on Tuesday and was released on several conditions, including she abide by a curfew and abstain from non-prescription drugs and alcohol. Fritzke is scheduled to be back in court on May 28.

At around 8 p.m., Regina police and fire crews re-



DON HEALY/Leader-Post  
Yellow tape goes up at 3208 13th Avenue after an explosion occurred there on Monday.

**See EXPLOSION, A2**

## ASSAULT

# Warrant issued

LEADER-POST STAFF

The Regina Police Service has issued a Saskatchewan-wide warrant for the arrest of a 26-year-old soccer player alleged to have punched a referee at an indoor match on April 10.

Khalfan Banzima of Calgary is charged with common assault.

On April 10, police were called to the Credit Union EventPlex at Evraz Place during the World Class Players Cup where a caller had reported that a referee had been struck by a player.

Police determined the 45-year-old man had been hit in the jaw.

**See REFEREE, A2**

## Today's Weather

High: 14  
Low: 2



# INDEX

Arts & Life.....	B1	Comics.....	B6	Horoscopes.....	C10
Business.....	D1	Crossword.....	C11	Sports.....	C1
City & Province .....	A3	Death Notices .....	C9	TV Listings .....	B7
Classified.....	C8	Forum .....	A10	Weather .....	D8

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