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LAKOTA NATION INVITATIONAL



PHOTOS BY FRANK ESPINOZA, JOURNAL STAFF

The 48th Lakota Nation Invitational kicked off inside The Monument with a red carpet event on Tuesday, Dec. 16, welcoming a number of schools. The event runs through Dec. 20. The flagship event is basketball and LNI features many other sports and cultural events highlighting the Native American community. **VIEW:** For full coverage from the Lakota Nation Invitational, point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link. [NEWSVU](#)



Senate passes \$901 billion defense bill

STEPHEN GROVES
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate gave final passage to an annual military policy bill Wednesday that will authorize \$901 billion in defense programs while pressuring Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth to provide lawmakers with video of strikes on alleged drug boats in international water near Venezuela.

The annual National Defense Authorization Act, which raises troop pay by 3.8%, gained bipartisan backing as it moved through Congress. It passed the Senate on a 77-20 vote before lawmakers planned to leave Washington for a holiday break. Two Republicans — Sens. Rand Paul and Mike Lee — and 18 Democrats voted against the bill.

The White House indicated that it is in line with President Donald Trump's national security priorities. However, the legislation, which ran more than 3,000 pages, revealed some points of friction between Congress and the Pentagon as the Trump administration reorients its focus away from security in Europe and toward Central and South America.

Please see **DEFENSE**, Page A6

NDN, Gateway trial continues

Judge threatens to hold hotel owner in contempt

SHALOM BAER GEE
Journal staff

The federal judge presiding over a civil rights trial in Rapid City involving the NDN Collective and the Grand Gateway Hotel's parent company warned Nick Uhre's counsel he could be held in contempt after he questioned her rulings and mentioned topics the judge ruled he couldn't, including the death of his mother.

Uhre was the manager of the hotel at the times in question and is still an owner on Retsel Corporation's board.

"I don't want to hold him in contempt, but I can tell you he's treading that line," U.S. District Court Judge Karen Schreier told Retsel Corporation's attorney, Donald Derrico. Derrico said he went over with his client what he wasn't supposed to discuss, but he would reiterate those things.

Please see **TRIAL**, Page A6

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Weather
Very windy in a.m.
High 36 • Low 24
FORECAST • A10

Inside

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----|---------|------|------------|------|
| Calendar | A2 | Legals | B7-8 | Obituaries | A9 |
| Classifieds | B9 | Lively | D1 | Opinion | A7 |
| In Focus | A8 | Markets | A10 | Sports | B1-9 |



6 18134 13203 2

