

The Press & Dakotan

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Yankton Media, Inc., 319 Walnut St., Yankton, SD 57078

CONTACT US

PHONE:

(605) 665-7811
(800) 743-2968

NEWS FAX:

(605) 665-1721

ADVERTISING FAX:

(605) 665-0288

WEBSITE:

www.yankton.net

SUBSCRIPTIONS/

CIRCULATION

Extension 104

mike.hrycko@yankton.net

CLASSIFIED ADS

Extension 108

tera.schmidt@yankton.net

NEWS DEPT.

Extension 114

news@yankton.net

SPORTS DEPT.

Extension 106

sports@yankton.net

ADVERTISING DEPT.

Extension 122

sales@yankton.net

BUSINESS OFFICE

Extension 119

ar@yankton.net

NEW MEDIA:

Extension 136

beth.rye@yankton.net

COMPOSING DEPT.

Extension 129

kathy.larson@yankton.net

MANAGERS

Gary L. Wood

Publisher

Michele Schievelbein

Advertising Director

Tonya Schild

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We Say

On The Job



THUMBS UP to the emergency personnel, divers and others who are involved in the search for a missing 6-year-old boy in the Missouri River at Yankton. This is a brutal, emotional job that is undertaken under a lot of duress and under any many types of conditions. This weeks chilly, rainy and breezy weather hasn't helped matters for anyone

involved, most of all for the people out on the water or under the water to bring this matter to a conclusion. There are always critics, but there also has to be some appreciation for the performance of this service that is done under the grimmest of circumstances.

Honored



THUMBS UP to Warrant Officer Kenny Podzimek of Avon for receiving a national award. The U.S. Army announced Podzimek will receive the General Douglas MacArthur leadership award during a May 29 ceremony at the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia. Podzimek serves as a construction engineer technician in the 155th Engineer Company in Wagner. Pod-

zimek was the only warrant officer chosen from the entire National Guard. His leadership has been tested in situations ranging from the loss of a soldier to two simultaneous natural disasters to an upcoming deployment to Kuwait. Congratulations on a job well done.

Invasion!



THUMBS DOWN to Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), which have become a growing issue in the Missouri River, James River and other bodies of water. The issue was a topic during the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks open house Thursday in Yankton.

The Asian carp has made its presence known below Gavins Point Dam, and a single alive adult zebra mus-

sel has been found at Lewis and Clark Lake. The prevailing wisdom is that it's much easier to prevent the arrival of invasive species rather than try to deal with them once they have taken root. Thursday's GF&P open house and next month's Clean Boat Event at local boat ramps are key ways of educating the public.

Winter Makes His Return



THUMBS UP to the return of a coaching legend. Bob Winter spent 47 years in a variety of coaching and administrative capacities within the Yankton School District before his retirement in 2010. The long-time Bucks and Gazelles basketball combined to win nine state championships and later served as activi-

ties director. After 22 years away from basketball,

he will make his return to the bench in Sunday's inaugural South Dakota Basketball Coaches Association/Sanford Pentagon All-Star Games in Sioux Falls. Will he bring back the trademark checkered jacket? No, he joked. But it'll be nice to see a Yankton legend back in the game, even if for one afternoon.

ONLINE OPINION

The results of the most recent Internet poll on the Press & Dakotan's Web site are as follows:

LATEST RESULTS:

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of Hillary Clinton?

Unfavorable 61%
Favorable 32%
No opinion either way 7%

TOTAL VOTES CAST 492

The Press & Dakotan Internet poll is not a scientific survey and reflects the opinions only of those who choose to participate. The results should not be construed as an accurate representation or scientific measurement of public opinion.

CURRENT QUESTION:

Would you rate Abraham Lincoln as America's greatest president?

To cast your vote in the **PRESS & DAKOTAN'S** Internet poll, log on to our website at www.yankton.net.

IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, April 10, the 100th day of 2015. There are 265 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On April 10, 1925, the novel "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald's Jazz Age evocation of empty materialism, shattered illusion and thwarted romance, was first published by Scribner's of New York.

On this date: In 1790, President George Washington signed the first United States Patent Act.

In 1815, the Mount Tambora volcano on the Indonesian island of Sumbawa exploded in one of the largest eruptions in recorded history, resulting in tens of thousands of deaths.

In 1864, Maximilian, archduke of Austria, was proclaimed emperor of Mexico.

In 1865, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee, a day after surrendering the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Court House, said farewell to his men, praising them for their "unsurpassed courage and fortitude."

In 1912, the RMS Titanic set sail from Southampton, England, on its ill-fated maiden voyage.

In 1932, German President Paul Von Hindenburg was re-elected in a runoff, with Adolf Hitler coming in second.

In 1947, Brooklyn Dodgers President Branch Rickey purchased the contract of Jackie Robinson from the Montreal Royals.

In 1953, the 3-D horror movie "House of Wax," produced by Warner Bros. and starring Vincent Price, premiered in New York.

In 1963, the fast-attack nuclear submarine USS Thresher (SSN-593) sank during deep-diving tests east of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, in a disaster that claimed 129 lives.

In 1974, Golda Meir told party leaders she was resigning as prime minister of Israel.

In 1985, singer Madonna launched "The Virgin Tour" with a concert at the Paramount Theater in Seattle.

In 1998, the Northern Ireland peace talks concluded as negotiators reached a landmark settlement to end 30 years of bitter rivalries and bloody attacks.

Ten years ago: Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon arrived in Texas to meet with President George W. Bush. Tiger Woods won his fourth Masters with a spectacular finish of birdies and bogeys.

Five years ago: Polish President Lech Kaczynski, 60, was killed in a plane

crash in western Russia that also claimed the lives of his wife and top Polish political, military and church officials. "Designing Women" co-star Dixie Carter, 70, died in Houston.

One year ago: A bus carrying 44 students from Southern California for a free tour of Humboldt State University on the state's far north coast collided with a FedEx tractor-trailer near Orlando; five students and three adult chaperones died, along with the drivers. A woman was taken into custody after throwing a shoe at Hillary Clinton as the former secretary of state began a Las Vegas convention keynote speech; the shoe missed. KISS, Nirvana and Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band were ushered into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame at Brooklyn's Barclays Center. CBS named Stephen Colbert to succeed the retiring David Letterman as host of the "Late Show." Phyllis Frellich, a Tony Award-winning deaf actress who'd starred in the Broadway version of "Children of a Lesser God," died in Temple City, California; she was 70.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Max von Sydow is 86. Actress Liz Sheridan is 86. Actor Omar Sharif is 83. Sportscaster John Madden is 79. Reggae artist Bunny Wailer is 68. Actor Steven Seagal is 64. Folk-pop singer Terre Roche (The Roches) is 62. Actor Peter MacNicol is 61. Actress Olivia Brown is 58. Rock musician Steven Gustafson (10,000 Maniacs) is 58. Singer-producer Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds is 57. Rock singer-musician Brian Setzer is 56. Rapper Afrika Bambaataa is 55. Rock singer Katrina Leskanich is 55. Actor Jeb Adams is 54. Olympic gold medal speedskater Kathy Turner is 53. Rock musician Tim "Herb" Alexander is 50. Actor-comedian Orlando Jones is 47. Rock musician Mike Mushok (Staind) is 46. Singer Kenny Lattimore is 45. Rapper Q-Tip (AKA Kamaal) is 45. Blues singer Shemekia Copeland is 36. Actress Laura Bell Bundy is 34. Actress Chylér Leigh is 33. Pop musician Andrew Dost (fun.) is 32. Actor Ryan Merriman is 32. Singer Mandy Moore is 31. Actor Barkhad Abdi is 30. Actress Shay Mitchell (TV: "Pretty Little Liars") is 28. Actor Haley Joel Osment is 27. Actor Alex Pettyfer is 25. Actress-singer AJ (AKA Amanda) Michalka is 24. Actress Ruby Jerins is 17.

Thought for Today: "Work is something you can count on, a trusted, lifelong friend who never deserts you." — Marguerite Bourke-White, American photojournalist (1904-1971).

FROM THE BIBLE

Preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 1:13. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.



One Momentous Week

BY KELLY HERTZ

kelly.hertz@yankton.net

We despair far too often (but, unfortunately, with terribly good reason) over the current rancorous political divisions in our country, which can be downright discouraging at times

But these sharp divides pale utterly when considered against the extraordinary events that occurred in America 150 years ago this week — certainly the most fateful moment in the history of our republic.

The toll of the long, brutal Civil War — the end of which finally came with Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox in Virginia on April 9, 1865 — and the assassination of Abraham Lincoln just days after that could have brought down a lesser nation and swept our history in far different directions.

But we persevered as a nation and as a people. And there is something genuinely amazing in that.

A war that both sides figured would last only a few months when it began in 1861 staggered through five terrible years and killed 2.5 percent of the U.S. population (the equivalent of 7 million Americans dying today) by the time Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant. The war left this nation in a vulnerable state militarily, financially and socially. We were a blood-drenched basket case and needed a strong yet steady influence to put this country together again.

Lincoln understood this. Despite howls from northerners to rain vengeance upon the defeated secessionists, the 16th president advocated relatively generous terms for the return of the rebel Confederate states to the union. His approach in the wake of such a bitter conflagration was spelled out in his second inaugural address, delivered just more than a month before the end of the war and his life:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

That vision was to be the shape of America's future.

But that future was nearly blindsided on



Kelly
HERTZ

April 14, 1865, in Ford's Theater in Washington. The next morning, Lincoln breathed his last, and his plan for the nation's reconstruction could have died, too.

Instead, Lincoln ascended to martyrdom in the American mind set. His assassination shocked this weary nation in a violent age when death had become a familiar and incapable ritual. His memory became the sturdy beacon around which we tied our notions of national goodness and strength, even as his successor, Andrew Johnson — a southerner who remained loyal to the union — labored to carry out an interpretation of Lincoln's post-war vision for reconstruction and ultimately faced impeachment.

This hardly seemed likely less than a year before. The previous summer, there were real concerns that Lincoln might not win re-election to a second term in office; only an autumn of battlefield triumphs by the

North secured his victory at the polls. And had he lived, the disagreements and divisions over how best to deal with the South would surely have diminished his historical standing — political machetes turn on such dimes, after all — and we would likely not remember him in such reverential terms today.

But death secured his legacy and the nation's destiny. Lincoln was canonized in our minds as an American saint, the emancipator of slaves and the savior of the beleaguered union. The Lincoln Memorial in Washington was really much more a monument to our perception of the martyr than it was to the mere man — a flawed soul (ask the Santee Sioux about that, for instance) who would have hated such a grandiose edifice being erected in his honor.

America more than merely survived that extraordinary week of 150 years ago. We bound our wounds and pulled ourselves together. We overcame self-inflicted wholesale death and destruction, then overcame the death of one man, to stand as a nation. We healed and we endured. We became what we are now — living through a test that makes our modern divisions look relatively trivial in comparison. And that's a profound statement when considering just what could have been.

It is a history lesson well worth remembering this week and always.

Follow @kelly_hertz on Twitter.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It Was Magic!

Emily Nelson, Yankton

Sacred Heart School and Parish

Harem pants, a golden palace, and a magic lamp all set the scene for Sacred Heart Middle School's performance of "Aladdin, Jr." Last year, the school performed "Willy Wonka, Jr." and chose "Aladdin, Jr." as its 2015 Middle School musical.

The students auditioned in January and have since been rehearsing chorus numbers in class and having extra rehearsals for the lead roles. The sixth graders performed the roles of the Townspeople, Jasmine's Prince Choices, Prince Attendants, and Genie's Chorus. The seventh and eighth graders performed as Harem Girls, Guards, Townspeople, Prince Ali's attendants, and leads that are listed below.

The Sacred Heart general music class played a large role by creating paint colors and drawing and painting the set. Brooke Madson, Abby Becker and Brodie Christensen all helped run the lighting: a very important job to the overall production. A general music student and talented dancer, Cate Perakslis, choreographed much of the beautiful dancing and worked one-on-one with the performers during rehearsals. In total, there were 77 performers and many behind-the-scenes students, teachers, and parents.

The production incorporated tumbling, singing, dancing, magic, dialogue, lighting effects, mystery, and even a Prince procession with gold candy thrown. As the director, I was extremely proud of the students for such a fantastic production and performance. Please

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SEN. JOHN THUNE: United States Senate SR-493, Washington, D.C. 20510; Washington Phone: (866) 850-3855; Sioux Falls Phone: (605) 334-9596; Fax: (202) 228-3855; Web: thune.senate.gov.

SEN. MIKE ROUNDS: Russell Senate Building, Courtyard 4, 20510, Washington, D.C. 20510; Washington Phone: 202-224-5842; D.C. Fax: 202-224-7482; Sioux Falls Phone: 605-336-0486; S.D. Fax: 605-336-6624; email: N/A

REP. KRISTI NOEM: 2422 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; Washington Phone: (202) 225-2801 or (855) 225-2801; Sioux Falls Phone: (605)