



# YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN

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## YMS Activities Saved

### Community Raises Necessary Funds For Grades 5-8

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE  
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Pauline Rhoades surprised the Yankton School Board on Monday night with not only a donation of \$85,000 raised through donations from the community to save seven seventh and eighth grade activities, but also with an unexpected donation from Larry and Diane Ness and First Dakota National Bank for an additional \$33,000 to save four fifth and sixth grade activities, as well.

"Larry and Diane had always said if we were able to raise the funds to save the seven seventh and eighth grade activities, that they would step up and provide the funding to re-

instate fifth and sixth grade girls and boys basketball and fifth and sixth grade boys and girls track," Rhoades explained to the school board. "With the final inflow of donations, I am happy to say we have met our goal."

The group organizing the fundraising said that in the past week it received a \$5,000 community grant from Wal Mart, as well as help from several community groups, individuals and clubs to meet the final \$5,000 needed to reach the \$85,000 goal.

"It is really something when you have individuals in the community that are that concerned about students and wanting to ensure they have something to do between the hours of 3:40 and 6 p.m. in the evening,"

Rhoades said. "They have come through to help make sure those activities continue for this year. We are very pleased about that. Larry knew all along what our goal was, he said if that goal was met he would like to talk about the possibility of reinstating fifth and sixth grade activities as well."

Rhoades said tonight's donations speak volumes about our community.

"What we heard was the people of this community were very concerned about these cuts," she said. "Whether or not you agree with the cuts being made to the district,



SHAUNA MARLETTE/P&D  
Student services director Kathy Wagner detailed the district's results in the annual No Child Left Behind Dakota Step Tests from this spring. Saying that nearly 75 percent of the district met or exceeded the levels set by the state. A full story on the districts results will be in an upcoming Press and Dakotan.

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MMC PRESIDENT:

## College Good For Business

### Benoit Speaks At YAPG Quarterly Investors' Meeting

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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Mount Marty College isn't just great for education, it's also good for business, the new MMC president told community leaders Monday.

Joe Benoit, who took office July 1, spoke with Yankton Area Progressive Growth (YAPG) members during their quarterly investors' meeting on the MMC campus.

Benoit has been in office only five weeks, but he brought an aggressive business agenda to Monday's meeting. He spoke of Mount Marty's role in providing a trained workforce for Yankton and in attracting medical and other businesses.

"We are looking for partnerships, and Yankton is well aware that we at Mount Marty can be good partners," Benoit said. "We want to offer what works well for Yankton."

However, MMC is working to get out its message even more, the president said.

"We need more visibility (as a college). We aren't drawing the community of Yankton into our environment," he said. "We hope to offer more opportunities and have groups like (YAPG) on campus."

Benoit, a Louisiana native who previously served at the University of North Dakota, said he and his wife got to know Yankton's business district and quality of life during prior visits and since moving to the community.



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D  
Mount Marty College president Joe Benoit, who took office July 1, speaks Monday to Yankton Area Progressive Growth (YAPG) members about MMC's resources in helping meet local economic-development needs.

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## Dow Loses 634 As Worried Investors Flee Stocks

BY PAUL WISEMAN  
AP Economics Writer

The stock market buckled Monday under the weight of a crisis in Europe and danger of recession at home. Reeling from a downgrade of American debt, the Dow Jones industrials plunged 634 points.

It was the worst day for the market since the financial crisis in the fall of 2008 and extended Wall Street's sudden, sharp decline. Stocks have lost 15 percent of their value in just two and a half weeks.

Monday was the first trading day since Standard and Poor's downgraded the United States' risk-free credit rating, and the selling started at the opening bell. The Dow dropped 250 points in minutes. For the rest of the day, investors looked for safer places for their money. With few buyers left for stocks, the market could only drift lower.

The Dow finished the day down 5.5 percent. The point decline was the worst since Dec. 1, 2008, and the sixth-steepest ever. The average ended at 10,809.85, its first close under 11,000 since November.

In a bit of irony following the S&P downgrade, investors decided U.S. debt was one of the safest places to be. They also sought refuge in gold, which set a record price.

"The S&P downgrade of U.S. government debt is the least of our problems," said economist Scott Brown at Raymond James & Associates. "The bigger worry is subpar economic growth and the threat of a new recession."

Economists at Goldman Sachs peg the chances of another recession at one in three, most likely in the next six to nine months. The threat was barely

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SCOTT BROWN

talked about earlier this summer.

The U.S. economy grew at a feeble 0.8 percent annual pace the first half of 2011, its slowest since the end of the Great Recession in June 2009. Manufacturing and consumer spending have slowed dramatically.

Oil prices plunged 6 percent to the lowest price of the year Monday — \$81.31 a barrel. Investors predict a weakening economy means that consumers and businesses will buy less gasoline.

The turmoil in the U.S. markets was the end of a daylong rout that swept the world. Stocks lost 4 percent in South Korea and 2 percent in Japan, then 5 percent in Germany and 4 percent in France.

In the U.S., stocks fell even though Moody's, another major credit rating agency, stood by its top rating of Aaa for the United States. It said it could downgrade the U.S. if it did not cut its deficit, "but it is early to conclude that such measures will not be forthcoming."

Financial markets were not comforted by an afternoon statement by President Barack Obama, who said Washington needs more "common sense and compromise" to tame its debt.

"Markets will rise and fall," he said. "But this is the United States of America. No matter what some agency may say, we've always been and always will

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## 4-Her Doing Well After Weekend Horse Accident

From P&D Staff Reports

A Yankton County 4-Her is doing well after a Sunday afternoon horse riding accident during Achievement Days, according to the girl's mother.

The family has requested that the girl's name not be released, according to Lauren Fosheim, Yankton County 4-H/youth development program assistant.

The girl fell from her horse while riding in a demonstration

event at the Pine Acres 4-H complex. She remained on the ground for several minutes.

As a precaution, the girl was taken by Yankton County EMS ambulance to Avera Sacred Heart Hospital.

The mother reported the girl was checked out, was found in good condition and was released.

The girl returned to the 4-H grounds about two hours later for the close of Achievement Days, Fosheim said.

## City Approves Agreement For Menards Development

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
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In anticipation of the Menards retail development on the community's north side, the Yankton City Commission agreed Monday to an intersection improvement agreement with the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT).

Ground was broken in June for the home improvement chain's Yankton location, which will be northeast of the Highway 81 and Highway 50/31st Street intersection.

As part of the development, 33rd Street will be built to join with Highway 81. The intersec-



Russell

tion improvement agreement specifies that the City of Yankton is responsible for the cost, design work, environmental clearances and other considerations at the site.

"This will provide an understanding of the responsibility for future upgrades and control of the intersection improvements, which would fall upon the city should they ever be deemed to be necessary," City Manager Doug Russell said.

"With getting this completed, we'd have everything in order to

get the permit to occupy the right-of-way and for Menards to actually improve the traffic flow avenues on Highway 81."

The only immediate requirement at the intersection will be a right turn lane adjacent to the northbound lane of Highway 81. However, in the future it could mean a traffic signal system has to be built.

"It's just going to depend on when the state is going to want it," Russell said. "The opening of a Menards would not generate enough traffic by their calculations to necessitate a traffic signal at that location. But in 10 years with other build-out there, it might be the tipping point. It's

one of those things where we'll have to wait and see."

Commissioner Charlie Gross inquired about how much the intersection could end up costing the city.

Russell said it could total somewhere between \$225,000-\$250,000. However, he added that by working with the SDDOT, that cost could be brought down to the \$100,000 mark.

Also, Russell said the city may be able to incorporate the expenditure into the tax-increment financing district in place for infrastructure improvements at

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