

RB Days Parade Winners Announced

The winners from the 2013 Riverboat Day parade held last Saturday have been announced.

In the Non-Profit division, Blossom and Friends took first place, followed by Pheasants Forever, 4-H, Yankton Area Ice Association and CASA.

In the Commercial category, Cedar County Veterinary took top honors, followed by Sparks Custom Upholstery and Cork 'n Bottle.

In the Vehicle category, Robert Nissen took first place, Duke Ellingson second and Country Peddler was third.

The Riverboat Days raffle winners were as follows:

- \$1,200 cash: Lloyd Brunick;
- \$700 cash: Austin Oliver;
- \$400 cash: John Jussel;
- Jolene Steffen print: Terry Williams;
- Truxedo Tonneau Cover: Mary Lohff;
- \$250 Slumberland Gift Certificate: Arlene Stoeber;
- \$250 Yankton Bucks: Rolly and Joan Farnham;
- \$200 Murdo Gift Certificates: Joan Byers;
- \$100 Hy-Vee Gift Cards (5): Lavonne Halverson, Jerred Hysell, Dee Dinino, Diane Reese and Chris Davenport;
- \$100 Wal-Mart Gift Cards (5): Jody Johnson, Brandon Lloyd, Anne Mello, Chad Cox and James Steckelberg;
- Fryn' Pan Meal Cards (4): Evelyn Schindler, Fay Simek, Deb Overseth and Kathryn Osborn.

(Note: This information was courtesy KYNT-AM.)

Roadwork Near Verdigre To Begin Thurs.

VERDIGRE, Neb. — Weather permitting, on Thursday, Aug. 22, Road N-84, just east of N-14 near Verdigre, will be opened to traffic, according to the Nebraska Department of Roads.

At the same time, N-14 will be closed to through traffic from the junction of N-84 and N-14 to the junction of N-59 and N-14, to allow for highway repair work on N-14. Traffic will be detoured east on N-59, north on N-13 and then west on N-84.

The anticipated completion date is early November. Drivers are urged to use caution when traveling in this area.

Yankton Ice Registration Is Sunday

Walk-in registration for hockey, figure-skating and learn-to-skate new and returning players/skaters of all ages is Sunday, Aug. 25 from 6-8 p.m. at the Yankton Kiwanis 4-H Ice Arena/Building.

Please visit the Yankton Ice website at www.yankton-ice.org for additional information.

Hockey and learn-to-skate questions can be directed to Rhonda Schenkel at 665-3076. Figure skating questions can be directed to Sue Zavadil at 660-6316.

No experience is necessary for new players wishing to learn hockey.

Additionally, Yankton Miracle Hockey is offering a try hockey for free "Discover Hockey" session Oct. 13 from 1-3 p.m. (girls only, all ages) and Nov. 2 from 4-6 p.m. (boys & girls, all ages). A "Discover the World of Figure Skating" session will be held Sunday, Oct. 20 from 2-4 p.m. (girls and boys of all ages).

Co-Op

From Page 1

year, but the schools' combined enrollment for the co-op will give the Razorbacks a quantum leap into the largest nine-man division of Class 9AA.

In addition, Menno and Marion formerly competed as independent teams. Now, the co-op will play in the rugged Cornbelt Conference against the likes of Freeman Public, Canistota, Howard, Bridgewater-Emery/Ethan, Hanson and Mt. Vernon/Plankinton. In addition, the co-op will play non-conference games against Irene-Wakonda and Baltic.

"It gives us something to look forward to," Gortmaker said of the tough schedule.

Lehr agreed. "We are going up against tough competition, so it will be exciting."

LOOKING AT OPTIONS

Last year's lean rosters prompted the two schools to begin discussions about a co-op following last season.

"At Menno, we started out with 19 players in grades 9-12. We ended up with 13 or 14 players at the end of the season because of injuries," Pasco said.

Safety became an issue with the low numbers, according to Menno athletic director Jacques Liebl. Those concerns intensified when Menno's younger players were pressed into action against larger, more experienced opponents.

"We didn't want a smaller freshman going up against a 200-pound senior," she said. "If there were injuries, nothing good could come of it."

With the larger Razorbacks roster, not nearly as many players will be forced to play both offense and defense as previously occurred, Obele said.

"Before, we had players who weren't able to breathe (because they didn't get a break)," he said. "Now, they are able to get in and out of a game. They can play at a 100 percent level instead of 80 percent tired."

The larger roster also contains the number of players needed for scrimmaging offense against defense, Obele said. Before, players would run plays in practice against imaginary opponents.

"Last year, Marion had 12 players," Obele said. "This year, we'll be able to do more than practice against air."

In addition, the larger roster forces players to compete for positions and playing time, which should sharpen the team's quality, Pasco said. "To be part of the team, they're going to have to work hard," he said.

Liebl sees an important life lesson in competing for playing time. "In life, spots aren't guaranteed — you have to work for it. And these kids are willing to work," she said.

The co-op covers not only varsity but also junior varsity (JV) and junior high, Pasco said.

"With a larger roster, we're not asking freshmen and sophomores to play varsity as much," he said. "They will play JV games against kids their size and age. They can get minutes in a game and get experience."

Assistant coaches are Ken Bruckner from Menno and Greg Bryan from Marion, while junior high coaches are Cody Garvey of Menno and Doug Larson of Marion.

The development of younger players will benefit the co-op in future years, Obele said. "This will also provide us with a feeder system, which you need for playing football," he said.

TAKING ACTION

When Menno and Marion began their discussions last fall, they needed to act quickly in order to receive approval of the co-op at last January's meeting of the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA), Liebl said.

The SDHSAA was setting up its two-year rotation for placing teams into classifications, she said. The state also sets up football schedules.

Menno and Marion superintendents and athletic directors held meetings, taking information back to their respective school boards. Later, joint meetings included school board members, and the boards held open meetings where they fielded concerns from their patrons.

"We talked about what each (school) wanted, and we hashed it out," Liebl said. "We finalized the details, so that we will have two home games at

each school with all playoff games at Menno."

The school board submitted a list of questions before the agreement was finalized, Liebl said.

"There was a lot of work on the part of the administrators," she said. "If we were going to do it, we were going to do it right and not half-way."

The driving distance between towns for practices and games drew questions, Liebl said.

"The biggest thing (for opponents) was the distance of 30 miles between Menno and Marion," she said. "In this day and age, 30 miles isn't that far. People commute to work longer distances."

Obele believes the distance factor will fade away as the two communities become more familiar with each other and the co-op routine. "At time goes on, the 30-mile bus route will get closer and closer," he said.

Some patrons also don't want to give up having their school's own team, Liebl said.

"Nobody wants to lose their school identity," she said. "We could get hung up on these things, but we're focusing on the kids."

EMBRACING THE FUTURE

In that respect, students embraced the co-op, Liebl said. The two student bodies selected three finalists for mascot along with choices for team colors. The players made the final selection on both counts, going with Razorbacks and the colors of Kelly green, black and white.

The co-op has also provided for alternating weeks of practices, maintaining homecoming activities at each school, allowing up to four cheerleaders from each school, and playing the University of Southern California (USC) fight song as the co-op's official song.

"The superintendents even had a coin flip to decide in which order the teams would be named for the co-op," Liebl said.

She noted the Menno and Marion players were laughing, talking and "high-fiving" with each other after last year's hard-fought game, won by Menno. The camaraderie rose to a new level with the co-op's formation.

"I told people that, last

spring, I had never seen so many kids excited about football," she said. "The co-op brought the opportunity to have success."

Lehr and Gortmaker said the two schools' athletes were already friends before the co-op. Last summer, they attended football camps and worked out together.

"The guys get along, and the chemistry has formed really quick," Lehr said.

"We already bonded before we began (football) practice," Gortmaker added.

Menno and Marion could decide to co-op in other sports, Liebl said, pointing to volleyball as a possibility. She pointed to the large number of co-ops and consolidated schools in the region.

"Nobody is getting bigger. Small towns are getting smaller," she said. "That doesn't mean they won't do well, but they are getting smaller."

A team picnic was held earlier this month for Razorback players and parents at the Marion park, Liebl said. She saw a positive start to a long-term relationship between the two schools.

"We will work together and focus on the team," she said. "There will be bumps and bruises, but we will recover and learn from our mistakes."

As for this season's fortunes, the Razorback head coaches like the looks of their depth and experience.

"We are very positive, and we think we'll be competitive," Pasco said. "We hope to be in the running for a playoff spot."

The coaches and players are excited about starting a new tradition, Obele said. "There has been nothing but positive so far. It's been an all-around great experience," he said.

Lehr and Gortmaker are looking to make some noise during their senior year but also lay the foundation for future years.

"I hope that we get things going, and this is a great jumping-off point," Lehr said.

Gortmaker agreed. "I hope that things go well, and they build off this for years to come," he said.

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/rdockendorf

OBITUARIES

Marilyn Cooley

Marilyn A. Cooley, age 75 of Yankton died in her sleep at her home on Friday, August 16, 2013.

Memorial services will be at 4 p.m. Friday, August 23, 2013 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Chapel, Yankton with Chaplain Mary Hochstein officiating.

Visitations will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home with a lunch to follow the service. A private family burial will be in the Yankton Cemetery.

Marilyn was born March 4, 1938, in Yankton to Wesley and Elsie (Mitchell) Novotny. She married James Herschel Cooley of Huron on December 3, 1957 in Sioux Falls, SD. They lived in Fairmont, MN and Parkston, SD, before moving to Yankton in 1966. They had been married nearly 50 years when he died in 2007 after a long illness.

Marilyn graduated from Mount Marty High School in 1956 and attended Loretto Heights College in Denver, CO and Mount Marty College. She received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Yankton College in 1971, and she taught at Stewart and Webster Schools in Yankton and in Menomonee, NE before joining the staff at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital. She worked as a switch-board operator there and extended her loving care and compassion to patients and their families for 32 years before retiring in 2010.

Marilyn was a descendant of the Frick and Arend families, who were among the first settlers of Dakota Territory. She shared a love of Yankton's history and family genealogy with her husband. She also enjoyed reading, gardening and traveling to Arizona and California and had a life-long interest in health care, learning disabilities, antiques, current events and the weather.

She was a member of the Dakota Territorial Historical Society and Beta Sigma Phi sorority.

Marilyn's main interest was her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and she loved to see them every chance that she



Marilyn Cooley

could. She said, "They make my life worth living."

She is survived by her three daughters: Karen Cooley (Martin Kouma) of Carlsbad, CA, Kellie Koletzky (Dave Poppe) of Yankton, SD, and Lia Azeal (Candace Lowell) of Venice, CA; five grandchildren: Daniel Koletzky, Dusty (Sherril) Koletzky of Yankton, SD, Marshall Cooley, Michelle Cooley and Johna Koch, all of Boise, ID; six great-grandchildren: Cavan Cooley of Boise, ID, Caid, Kobe, Kalli, Kinsley and Kami Koletzky, all of Yankton, SD; brothers, Wesley "Bud" Novotny, and William (Mary) Novotny, both of Phoenix, AZ; sister, Jean Novotny of Phoenix, AZ; five nieces, seven nephews; her sons' widows, Deb Cooley Koch of Boise, ID and Lliana Ruiz-Cooley of Santa Cruz, CA; and two aunts, Leona Bouska of Yankton, SD, Marguerite Brown of Florence, OR; and uncle, Alfred (Marge) Novotny of Tyndall, SD

She was preceded in death by her mother in 1997 and her father in 2001; her husband, Jim in 2007, her three sons, infant son Christopher in 1966, John Herschel in 1991 and James Jay in 2007; and an infant grandson, Ronald Koletzky Jr. in 1979.

Memorials can be directed to some of her favorite charities: Graves Disease Foundation, P. O. Box 2793, Rancho Santa Fee CA 92067; HHT Foundation, P. O. Box 329, Monkton, MD 21111; American Cancer Society, 4904 S. Technopolis Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57106; Benedictine Health Foundation, 1000 West Fourth Street, Suite 14, Yankton, SD 57078; and the Yankton Historical Society, 610 Summit, Yankton, SD 57078.

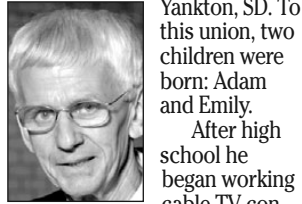
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Dale 'Ole' Hansen

Dale "Ole" Hansen, age 59, of Yankton, SD passed away early Monday, August 19, 2013 at the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton, SD after a courageous battle with cancer. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 AM, Thursday, August 22, 2013 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Yankton, with Rev. Mark Lichten officiating. Burial will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, Yankton, SD. Visitations will begin at 5:00 PM, Wednesday, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a rosary at 7:00 PM followed by a video life tribute and then a Scripture service at 7:30 PM. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Ole was born June 18, 1954 in Viborg, SD to Lester and Dorothy (Friman) Hansen. He grew up on a farm between Viborg and Hurley. He attended school in Hurley graduating from Hurley High School in 1972. On August 6, 1977 he married Barb Kleinschmit at



Hansen

Yankton, SD. To this union, two children were born: Adam and Emily.

After high school he began working cable TV construction. He worked for Zylstra Communications and built the first cable TV system in Yankton. He worked at Wilson Trailer Company building gooseneck trailers for 32 years until his health forced him to retire in August 2010.

Ole had a passion for youth and youth activities. He was instrumental in developing the Jaycees Jr. Leader football program. He was a founding member of the Roger Haas Basketball Tournament. He was very involved in the Jaycees at the local, district and state levels. He was also a member of the Optimist Club, the YHS Booster Club and YBL. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Yankton.

Through his involvement in

community service he received various awards. He and his family were named the Outstanding Young Jaycees Family of the Year. He also received The Optimist Friend of Youth Award, and the Sertoma Club Service to Mankind Award.

Ole was an avid sports fan following Adam and Emily as well as all of his nieces and nephews with their athletic activities. Even after the graduation of his children he continued supporting the Bucks and Gazelles along with USD and Mount Mary athletics. At home games you could always find him in his "reserved" seat because he was always one of the first fans in the stands.

In recent years, Ole was able to follow his granddaughter's activities. Trips to Pierre this summer included watching Jillian play soccer and softball and sitting through Jillian and Brooke's three hour dance recital. Although too young for organized sports, Xavier enjoyed playing basketball on his little hoop with Grandpa. He

enjoyed napping and cuddling with his newest granddaughter Halle.

He is survived by his wife, Barb Hansen of Yankton, SD; son, Adam (Megan) Hansen of Pierre, SD; daughter, Emily (Keiron) Taylor of Omaha, NE; four grandchildren, Jillian Hansen, Brooke Hansen, Xavier Taylor and Halle Taylor; brother, Dennis "Buzz" (Betty) Hansen of Cherokee, IA; sisters: Karen (David) Schooley of Casper, WY, Mary (Richard) Raub of Beaver Creek, MN; brother-in-law, Arvid Magnuson of Parker, SD.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lester and Dorothy Hansen, sister, Debra Magnuson, and mother-in-law, Clara Kleinschmit.

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www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Jean Breckenridge

Jean Breckenridge, 93, of Yankton died Monday, Aug. 19, 2013, at Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton

Memorial services are at 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home, Yankton, with the Rev. Ron Johnson officiating. Inurnment will take place at the Garden of Memories Cemetery, Yankton.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home, with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of South Dakota, 1000 N. West Ave., No. 250, Sioux Falls, SD 57104.

To send an online sympathy message, visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com/.

Sarah Meyer

Sarah M. Meyer, 103, of Hartington, Neb., died on Monday, Aug. 19, 2013, at the Golden Living Center, Hartington.

Mass of Christian Burial is at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Aug. 23, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Hartington, with the Rev. Jeffery Loseke officiating. Burial is at St. Michael's Cemetery in Hartington.

Visitation is 4-8 p.m. Thursday at the Wintz Funeral Home, Hartington, with a vigil service at 7 p.m. Visitation will continue on Friday at church from 9:30 a.m. until service time.

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