

# USD Ranked Among Top Colleges

VERMILLION — *Forbes* has ranked the University of South Dakota among the top 650 colleges in the United States.

USD is on the 2015 list ahead of all other colleges in the Dakotas. It's the top public school and second behind only the University of Denver in the Summit League Conference. And USD ranked as the top school among those in the Missouri Valley Conference.

"We are excited about the endorse-

ment as the best in the Dakotas, but we are equally excited about where USD stands in our athletic conferences," said Scott Pohlson, USD vice president of Marketing, Enrollment & University Relations. "Being the best in the Missouri Valley Conference and second in the Summit League Conference aligns well with our strategic plan at USD, which is to be the best small public flagship university in the nation built upon a liberal arts foundation. It is an exciting

time to be at USD, and *Forbes'* endorsement reinforces why our Coyote Family continues to grow in stature."

*Forbes*, which partnered with the Center for College Affordability and Productivity for the ranking, said its methodology focused on what students get out of college, including satisfaction, post-graduate success, student debt, graduation rate, academic success and how each school ranked the past three years.

## Ponca

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cultural affairs.

The powwow is a celebration of the tribe's culture, heritage and traditions. The event will feature a variety of dancers, drum groups and vendors. Admission to all events is free, and the powwow is open to the public.

The powwow holds great meaning for those in attendance, Teboe said.

"This is a place where people come together to visit, laugh and share a meal. They rekindle old friendships," he said. "In the past, the powwow would have occurred in connection with an event. The tribe could have come back and celebrated a successful buffalo hunt."

This weekend's powwow actually starts at 5 p.m. Friday with the color run at the grounds. The event provides a wellness activity and raises awareness about diabetes, which strikes a large number of American Indians.

In addition, the tribe will formally dedicate the Ponca Educational Trail at 10 a.m. Saturday. The trail is located on the powwow grounds, south of Niobrara State Park.

The ¾-mile limestone trail

includes interpretive signage about the Ponca people and the history of the tribe, native plants, an amphitheater, earth lodge and buffalo overlook.

"The construction (of the trail) was finished in April, but the grand opening will be held Saturday," Teboe said. "The interpretive signage tells you about the interconnectedness between Mother Earth and the animals, and how we (tribal members) used the area back in the day."

The Poncas decided to wait with the trail's grand opening ceremony for a couple of reasons, said tribal spokesman Brett Ellis.

Workers have continued with improvements throughout the summer, with the native plants coming in good form, he said.

In addition, the powwow represents one of the largest gatherings of the year, he said.

"With the powwow, now there will be a lot of the (tribal) members there. It will be the first time that many of them will get to see the trail and walk it," he said.

"They can look at the educational exhibits at the kiosks. It talks about the Native (American) history and the powwow history, and they have an earth lodge."

The amphitheater pro-

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### RANDY TEBOE

vides a place for small outdoor educational programs, Ellis said. In addition, visitors can witness one of the tribe's two buffalo herds.

The Ponca Tribe holds what is considered a traditional powwow, Teboe said. This weekend's gathering doesn't feature the competitive events and prize money of some powwows, he said.

The Ponca Tribe's powwow remains a highly popular event, he said.

"We have the Ponca, Omaha, Sioux and other tribes. We have a variety of people," he said. "And they can come from anywhere. The main drummer is from Oklahoma."

Visitors can expect to see dancers wearing traditional regalia, Ellis said.

In addition, spectators will also witness the traditions carried out with the grand entries at the start of each session, Teboe said.

"The tribe comes in first with the United States flag,

the Ponca flag, the veterans' flag and then the eagle staff," he said.

The eagle feather carries great symbolism for Native Americans, Teboe said.

"If someone gives you an eagle feather, it's a sign of high respect. You have done something good, or you have made an accomplishment," he said. "The other part represents the eagle as the highest flying bird. It carries our prayers and our communication to the Creator."

Powwows are important because they provide the opportunity to share such traditions with both Native American and non-Native people, Teboe said.

All people are welcome and encouraged to attend the powwow, he said.

"It's meant to serve as an annual gathering and celebration of families and friends," he said.

Follow @RDockendorf on Twitter.

## Missouri River Hosts Upcoming Events

Missouri National Recreational River, the only National Park in southeast South Dakota and northeast Nebraska, will present the following ranger programs this weekend:

- Friday, Aug. 7, Niobrara State Park-RV Campground, 7 p.m.: "Let Me Go Home" — Ponca Tribe leader and his fight against those who would oppress and exploit the natives of this land. He was just a Nebraska farmer who wanted to return to his homeland, but instead Chief Standing Bear found himself in the middle of a precedent-setting federal court case. Driven by a desire to return his son's bones to the land of his ancestors, Chief Standing Bear along with his lawyers called upon the U.S. government to recognize him as a human being. In doing so, his pursuit for human rights set the standard for all civil rights leaders to follow. His words, "I am a man; God made us both" still resonate today for those who face injustice and persecution.
- For more information call the National Park Service office at 605-665-0209.
- Saturday, Aug. 8, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.: Fossil and Artifact Identification Day, Ashfall Fossil Beds Historical State Park, "Discover the Real Missouri River" — The Missouri National Recreational River Mobile Ranger Station will be set up at the park for visitors to explore. Visit with rangers about the longest river in North America which marks the boundary between glaciated ice age terrain and sediments deposited by an ancient sea. The unique geological features of the Missouri River include unusual marine fossils like the plesiosaur. Explore the MNRR Mobile Ranger Station and discover the few remaining natural, free-flowing stretches of the Missouri River bordering southeast South Dakota and Northeast Nebraska. Learn about the Missouri National Recreational River, the national park that preserves and protects the natural, historical, cultural and recreational qualities of this unique and valuable waterway.

## YHS Ninth Grade Orientation Set

An orientation for Yankton High School ninth grade students and their parents will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 11. Students will report to their homerooms at 7 p.m. Staff will be available to help students find their homerooms. A presentation for parents will be held in the YHS main theatre from 7-7:45 p.m. The student orientation and parent presentation will both run from 7-7:45 p.m.

Call Yankton High School at 665-2073, if you have any questions.

A letter pertaining to school information will be sent out prior to Aug. 11. Ninth grade schedules will be distributed in homerooms during Orientation on Aug. 11. All ninth grade parents are encouraged to put money into lunch accounts, purchase activity tickets, or pay any fees associated with particular classes from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Aug. 11. Staff will also be available Aug. 17-19 at the Yankton High School Principal's Office from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

## Half-Staff To Honor Fallen Firefighter

PIERRE — Gov. Dennis Daugaard asks that all flags in the state be flown at half-staff on Monday, Aug. 10, from 8 a.m. until sunset, in honor of U.S. Forest Service Firefighter David Ruhl.

Ruhl lost his life last week while on an assignment in California with the Big Valley Ranger District of the Modoc National Forest.

The Ruhl funeral service will be held on Monday at the Catholic Cathedral in Rapid City. A memorial service will also be held on Sunday, Aug. 9, at the Civic Center.

## Teachers To Hold Inaugural Duck Race

Which lucky duck will be the winner? Will it be a nurse duck, a big hair duck, a super hero duck, a firefighter duck, or one of a number of other special ducks? Yankton County Parents as Teachers will be sponsoring their inaugural Lucky Lucky Rubber Duck Race on Thursday, Aug. 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the Memorial Park Pool.

The Grand Prize winner for the fastest duck will go home with \$250 while the slowest duck will capture a prize of \$25.

Ducks are being sold for \$5 each, a quack pack of \$6 for \$25 or a flock of 25 for \$100. Celebrity Jumpers will be on hand to make some waves and propel the ducks through the deep end.

If you are interested in purchasing a duck or ducks, you may contact Deanna Branaugh at 605-661-4833 or from any of the Parents as Teachers board members. Limited number of ducks will be available that evening prior to the event.

Parents as Teachers provides information, support and encouragement to families through home visits and classes in order to promote child development during the first 3 years of life. Families interested in being involved in the program can call 605-661-4833.

## Governor Seeking Interns For Fall Term

PIERRE — Gov. Dennis Daugaard is currently seeking applications for two fall 2015 Governor's Office Internships in Pierre. The positions will be paid and run from September to December 2015.

Governor's Office interns have the opportunity to work at the highest level of state government, learning about and preparing legislation to be introduced in the next legislative session.

Internship duties will depend on interests and strengths. Typical duties will include aiding the Governor's general counsel, conducting policy research, preparing policy briefings and staffing the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and First Lady.

The positions are open to all undergraduate or graduate-level students. Preference will be given to South Dakota residents attending South Dakota colleges or universities.

Students who are interested in receiving credit should also apply. The Governor's staff is open to working with individual universities and professors to secure credit for the internship program.

Interested students should submit a resume, cover letter and two letters of recommendation by Aug. 15, via email, to Patrick.Weber@state.sd.us.

For more information on duties or logistics, visit [sd.gov/governor/Internship](http://sd.gov/governor/Internship) or contact Patrick Weber at Patrick.Weber@state.sd.us or 605-773-5999.

## OBITUARIES

### Robert 'Bob' Wiebenga

Robert "Bob" Wiebenga, age 62, of Yankton, South Dakota died Sunday, August 2, 2015 at Avera Yankton Care Center.

Memorial services are 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7 at Riverview Reformed Church in Yankton with Reverend Rodney Veldhuizen officiating. Inurnment will be at the Emmanuel Reformed Cemetery in Springfield, South Dakota.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the memorial service at church.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Yankton.



Wiebenga

He attended Drake Country School in rural Avon, South Dakota through the eighth grade. Bob then farmed with his dad and brother until 1995 when he moved to Yankton. He married Joyce Wright on June 27, 1997 in Yankton. Bob worked at Art's Garbage, Stockman's Livestock, then for Louis Kozak delivering newspapers, Vishey Dale Electronics, Bomgaars and also assisted his wife

with security at Kolberg-Pioneer. Bob was baptized at Emmanuel Reformed Church in Springfield and then became a member of Riverview Reformed Church when he moved to Yankton. He loved the farm and feeding his cows. Bob enjoyed playing cards, especially pinocle. He loved visiting with others, had a great sense of humor and always loved teasing his nieces and nephews.

Bob is survived by his wife, Joyce Wiebenga of Yankton; brother, David "Bud" (Elaine) Wiebenga of Springfield, SD; sister, Shirley Wiebenga of Clear Lake, IA; sister-in-law, Julie Wiebenga of Clear Lake; many nieces and nephews; and special friends: Jay Ruppelt, Sally, Matthew and

Rebecca Tjeerdsma.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Clarence "Clancy" Wiebenga; sister-in-law, Mary Wiebenga; and nephew, Greg Wiebenga.

To send an online message to the family, please visit [www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

**Yankton Press & Dakotan**  
**August 6, 2015**

**WINTZ & RAY**  
FUNERAL HOME and CREMATION SERVICE

Online condolences at: [www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com)

### Kyle McGill

Kyle D. McGill, age 25, of Yankton, South Dakota and formerly of Vermillion, South Dakota, died unexpectedly on Sunday, August 2, 2015, at his home in Yankton.

A memorial service will be at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 8, 2015, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with Reverend Larry Regynski officiating.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the memorial service on Saturday.

Honorary pallbearers are Cody McGill, Jeremy Jensen and Victor Aulman.

Kyle D. McGill was born July 16, 1990, in Sioux City,



McGill

Iowa, to Elda (Cummins) and David McGill. Elda married Victor Flint in 2000 and during Victor's career in the Navy, Kyle attended school in several states across the country. He graduated from Vermillion High School in 2008. He began working for Polaris in Vermillion for a few years until moving to Yankton in 2012, and began working for Wilson Trailer. He married Ashley Strong on October 20, 2012, in Yankton and

their daughter Jade was born on July 6, 2013.

Kyle was a very kind hearted and hardworking man. He enjoyed going to movies, playing video games, listening to loud music and fishing. He especially loved spending time with "his little peanut," Jade.

Jade was his entire world and he loved her dearly.

Survivors include his daughter, Jade of Yankton; step-daughter, Brooklynn Strong of Yankton; wife, Ashley Strong-McGill of Yankton; mother, Elda (Victor) Flint; two sisters: Ashley Marie McGill and April (Jeremy Jensen) McGill, both of Yankton; brother, Cody McGill and his fiancée,

Billie Chester of Yankton, and nephew on the way, Hunter Kyle McGill.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents and cousin, Nicole Sue Vrana.

To post an online sympathy message visit [wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

**Yankton Press & Dakotan**  
**August 6, 2015**

**WINTZ & RAY**  
FUNERAL HOME and CREMATION SERVICE

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### Dorothy Reppert

Dorothy Reppert, 54, of Yankton died Tuesday, July 21, 2015, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton.

Celebrations of her life will take place at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12, in the community room at Sir Charles Apartments, 120 E. 3rd St, in Yankton and also at

7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14, in the community room at Marne Creek Apartments, 610 W. 21st St., where Dorothy lived.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Yankton. To send an online message, visit [www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

**IN REMEMBRANCE**

**Roger Fay Copper**  
11:00 AM, Friday  
Wintz & Ray Funeral Home  
Yankton

**Robert "Bob" Wiebenga**  
3:00 PM, Friday  
Riverview Reformed Church  
Yankton

**Kyle D. McGill**  
2:00 PM, Saturday  
Wintz & Ray Funeral Home  
Yankton

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**Everyone Welcome!**

**South Dakota State Class "A" Amateur Baseball Tournament**

**Bob Tereshinski Stadium @ Riverside Field Yankton**

**Friday, Aug. 7**

GAME 1: Yankton vs. Renner, 5:30 p.m.

GAME 2: Castlewood vs. Sturgis, 8 p.m.

**Saturday, Aug. 8**

GAME 3: Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 11 a.m.

GAME 4: Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 1:30 p.m.

GAME 5: Aberdeen vs. Sioux Falls Squirrels, 5 p.m.

GAME 6: Sioux Falls Brewers vs. Colton/Crooks, 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, Aug. 9**

GAME 7: Game 5 loser vs. Game 6 loser, 11 a.m.

GAME 8: Game 5 winner vs. Game 6 winner, 1:30 p.m.