



YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN

VOLUME 138
NUMBER 256

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | **10 PAGES** | www.yankton.net

75¢



CHAMPIONSHIP CELEBRATION



The Watertown Lakers celebrate their 3-1 victory over Sioux Falls in the championship of the South Dakota Amateur Hockey Association's JV Girls' Tournament on Sunday at Yankton's Alcoa Arena. For details on the tournament, see page 7.

NICK ROBINSON/P&D

Firm Focused On Recruitment In Search For YSD Superintendent

BY ANDREW ATWAL
andrew.atwal@yankton.net

The Yankton School District (YSD) school board recently entered into an agreement with Dakota Educational Consulting. The agreement allows the consulting firm to lead the search for YSD's next superintendent.

Dakota Educational Consulting has previously led administrative searches for districts across the region, including in Sioux Valley, Canistota, Rock Valley and Storm Lake, among others. The firm is currently leading searches in other districts, including Viborg-Hurley and Aberdeen Roncalli.

Tom Oster and Dr. Rick Melmer head the two-year-old consulting group, and both have an extensive background in education across the

region. Oster currently serves as superintendent at Sioux Valley schools, was a superintendent in Avon and served as the Secretary of Education for South Dakota. Melmer currently is the dean of the College of Education at University of South Dakota, has been the South Dakota Secretary of Education and was a superintendent for Watertown schools and the Sioux Center school district.

The group will focus on recruitment as it conducts Yankton's superintendent search.

"We will spend a lot of time over the next few weeks contacting potential candidates, discussing the position and giving candidates information about the school district and the community,"

SEARCH | PAGE 5

Looming Budget Cuts Condemned, Blame Everywhere

Few Are Optimistic For Deal Before Deadline

BY PHILIP ELLIOTT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House and Republicans kept up the unrelenting mudslinging Sunday over who's to blame for roundly condemned budget cuts set to take effect at week's end, with the administration detailing the potential fallout in each state and governors worrying about the mess.

But as leaders rushed past each other to decry the potentially devastating and seemingly inevitable cuts, they also criticized their counterparts for their roles in introducing, implementing and obstructing the \$85 billion budget mechanism that could affect everything from commercial flights to classrooms to meat inspections. The GOP's leading line of criticism hinged on blaming Obama's aides for introducing the budget trigger in the first place, while the administration's allies were determined to illustrate the consequences of the cuts as the product of Republican stubbornness.

Former Republican National Committee chairman Haley Barbour, aware the political outcome may be predicated on who is to blame, half-jokingly said Sunday: "Well, if it was a bad idea, it was the president's idea."

Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., said there was little hope to dodge the cuts "unless the Republicans are willing to compromise and do a balanced approach."

No so fast, Republicans interjected. "I think the American people are tired of the blame game," said Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H.

Yet just a moment before, she was blaming Obama for putting the country on the brink of massive spending cuts that were initially designed to be so unacceptable that Congress would strike a grand bargain to avoid them.

Obama nodded to the squabble during his weekly radio and Internet address.

"Unfortunately, it appears that Republicans in Congress have decided that instead of compromising — instead of asking anything of the wealthiest Americans — they would rather let these cuts fall squarely on the middle class," Obama said on Saturday, in his last weekly address before the deadline but unlikely to be his final word on the subject.

"We just need Republicans in Washington to come around," Obama added. "Because we need their help to finish the job of reducing our deficit in a smart way that doesn't hurt our economy or our people."

With Friday's deadline nearing, few in the nation's capital were optimistic that a realistic alternative could be found and all sought to cast the

CUTS | PAGE 2

How Automatic Budget Cuts Could Affect S.D.

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — The White House compiled the numbers from federal agencies and its own budget office. The numbers are based only on the \$85 billion in cuts for this fiscal year, from March-September, that are set to take effect Friday.

As to whether states could move money around to cover shortfalls, the White House said that depends on state budget structures and the specific programs. The White House did not have a list of which states or programs might have flexibility.

EDUCATION:

— About \$1.16 million in funding for primary and second education, putting around 20 teacher and aide jobs at risk. In addition about 1,000 fewer students would be served and approximately 10 fewer schools would receive funding.

— About \$1.78 million in funds for about 20 teachers, aides, and staff who help children with disabilities.

— Aid to help about 90 low-income students finance the costs of college as well as work-study jobs for about 10 students

— Head Start: Head Start and Early Head Start services would be eliminated for approximately 200 children education.

ENVIRONMENT

— About \$1.15 million to ensure clean water and air quality, as well as prevent pollution from pesticides and hazardous waste

— \$735,000 for fish and wildlife protection

DEFENSE

— About 1,000 civilian Department of Defense employees would be furloughed

— About \$900,000 would be cut to operate Army bases in the state, and about \$1 million to fund Air Force operations

LAW ENFORCEMENT

— About \$37,000 for law enforcement, prosecution and courts, crime prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, and crime victim and witness initiatives

EMPLOYMENT

— About \$216,000 in job search assistance

— Child care for as many as 100 disadvantaged and vulnerable children

HEALTH

— \$65,000 for vaccines for diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, whooping cough, influenza, and Hepatitis, affecting about 950 children

— About \$122,000 to help the state respond to public health threats such as infectious diseases, natural disasters, and biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological events.

— About \$250,000 to help prevent and treat substance abuse, meaning about 100 fewer admissions to substance abuse programs.

— About \$34,000 for health departments in the state, resulting in around 800 fewer HIV tests.

— About \$16,000 for services to victims of domestic violence, affecting about 100 victims.

— About \$214,000 to provide meals for seniors.

Hanging Up The Mic

Retiring YHS Announcer Honored For 33 Years

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

After 33 years announcing basketball names for the Yankton Bucks and Gazelles, Terry Crandall found himself in the Summit Activities Center spotlight last week.

His famous line, "YOU have reached the Summit," was instead used to describe his longevity as the clock operator and public address announcer for Yankton High School basketball.

"It was very nice; I very much appreciated it," Crandall said a day after he was honored during Yankton's Tuesday night basketball doubleheader with rival Mitchell. It marked his final games behind the microphone for the Bucks and Gazelles.

"I was on the wrong side of the mic, though," he joked.

Crandall, in likely his last year as a counselor at YHS, has spent the past 33

years in Yankton after spending five years in Irene and two years at Dakota State University.

In addition to his YHS duties, Crandall also announced Mount Marty College basketball games for 20 years and has been in the press box to announce baseball games in the summer at Riverside Field.

Known for his enthusiastic way of announcing player names and objectivity toward opposing squads, Crandall joked that "obviously I'm a homer" but that he tries to keep things upbeat for the crowd.

Among those in attendance Tuesday night for Crandall's final duties at the scorer's table was Connie Sawatzke, a former Yankton Gazelle standout who was there for Crandall's first and last games.

"My memory was that I wasn't sure who announced us, but he would really put so much enthusiasm in his voice," said Sawatzke, who was a sophomore at YHS when Crandall assumed his role in 1979. "We all looked around and thought,



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Yankton High School counselor Terry Crandall was honored last Tuesday during his final stint as an announcer at YHS basketball games. He has served as public address announcer for 33 years. He also announced Mount Marty games for 20 years.

"Wow, that was cool."

"It was just fun, to have him put a little something behind it."

CRANDALL | PAGE 2

Affleck's 'Argo' Wins Best-Picture Oscar

BY DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES — Ben Affleck's "Argo," a film about a fake movie, has earned a very real prize: best picture at the Academy Awards.

From the White House, First Lady Michelle Obama joined Jack Nicholson to help present the final prize.

"There are eight great films that have every right, as much a right to be up here as we do," Affleck said of the other best-picture nominees.

In share-the-wealth mode, Oscar voters spread Sunday's honors among a range of films, with "Argo" winning three trophies but "Life of Pi" leading with four.

Daniel Day-Lewis joined a select group of recipients with his third Oscar, taking the best-actor trophy for

his monumental performance as Abraham Lincoln in the Civil War saga "Lincoln."

"Hunger Games" star Jennifer Lawrence triumphed in Hollywood's big games, winning the best actress as a damaged soul in "Silver Linings Playbook," while Ang Lee pulled off a huge upset as best director for "Life of Pi."

Anne Hathaway went from proping up leaden sidekick James Franco at the Academy Awards to hefting a golden statue of her own with a supporting-actress Oscar win as a doomed mother-turned-prostitute in the musical "Les Miserables."

Christoph Waltz won his second supporting-actor Oscar for a Tarantino film, this time as a genteel bounty

OSCARS | PAGE 5



Put Your Heart Health in Our Hands.
www.AveraSacredHeart.org (605) 668-8000



Avera
Sacred Heart Hospital