

## REGION DIGEST

### Heavy Rain Closes Boat Docks In S.D.

OMAHA, Neb. — Heavy rain and runoff is expected to push Lake Francis Case, behind Fort Randall Dam, high enough to close some boat ramps, campgrounds and roads. The elevation of the reservoir is expected to reach 1367.8 feet by next week.

Because of rising water at Gavins Point, releases from Fort Randall have been cut from 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 1,000 cfs. The South Dakota State Parks Division has reported that boat ramps at some parks are closed already, with others likely to follow. Some areas have secondary, high water ramps that will be in service. American Creek Campground and North Point Campground will likely be flooded and closed. For site specific information about campground and boat ramp closures, contact the South Dakota GF&P at the Park, or call 605-773-3391.

People visiting the reservoir should be cautious around flooded areas because shorelines may be undercut and could fall into deep water without warning. Those driving in the area should be aware of possible road closures and avoid driving through flooded roadways.

### Pirates Theme Headlines Yankton Library

Pirates, puppets and Tropical Creations are next week's special guests at the Yankton Community Library. Kids are invited to the library at 515 Walnut Street for a fun-filled week three of summer activities for kids young and old.

On Monday, June 21, the week's activities kick off at 6:30 p.m. with our Family Story Hour. There will be a puppet show, "The Frog Prince," which will be presented by Sue Berberich, Mary Elsen and Aimee Huntley.

At 10:15 a.m. Tuesday, June 22, there will be readings of "Shiver Me Letters" and "How I Became a Pirate," and pirate hats will be made. Kids are invited to wear their favorite pirate costumes. And don't miss the pirates hanging around the Circulation Desk.

Also Tuesday, at 1 p.m., grades 4-6 will hear a special presentation from Leonard Gollnick of Tropical Creations. At 6:45 p.m. that evening, the family movie feature "Flipper" will be shown. Popcorn will be served. Bring your own drink in a container with a lid.

A photo-op at our pirate backdrop will be available all week. Bring your own camera or the staff will take and print your colored picture for the nominal fee.

On Wednesday, June 23, at 1 p.m. grades 1-3 may attend the presentation "Tropical Creations."

At 10:15 a.m. Thursday, June 24, there will be a story hour for preschool ages on up. Readings will include "Pirates Don't Change Diapers" and "Henry and the Buccaneer Bunnies," with parrots as the craft. At 1 p.m., the 'tweens can hear the program "Tropical Creations."

Activities wrap up for the week on Friday, June 25, with a board game playing session from 1-2 p.m. All ages are welcome to come and play "Ocean Bingo" and other games.

It's not too late to register your 2-year-old through eighth grade children for the reading program. Kids are turning in their reading minutes and earning some amazing prizes from the Coral Reef Store. For more information, call the library at 668-5275.

### Yankton To Hold Serve Safe Class July 8th

There will be a Serve Safe Class taught on July 8. It will be an eight-hour class starting at 7:30 a.m. in the Yankton Extension Office.

Deadline to register is by July 3 for the class. To register or for more information, call 665-8579 and ask for Sandi Kramer.

### 'Friends Of The Library' To Meet June 21

The Friends of the Yankton Community Library will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, June 21, in the library meeting room, 515 Walnut. All interested individuals are invited to attend.

Friends holds a monthly book sale and actively supports the library through purchases of needed equipment and program materials.

For more information, contact Kathy at the library at 668-5275.

### MMC's Nelson To Participate In A.P. Program

Dr. Terry Nelson, assistant professor of sociology at Mount Marty College, was selected to participate in the annual Reading and Scoring of the College Board's Advanced Placement Examinations this June in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Each year, the AP Program, which is sponsored by the College Board, gives more than 1.5 million capable high school students an opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses and examinations. Based on their exam performance, successful students can receive credit and/or advanced placement when they enter college.

"The Reading draws upon the talents of some of the finest teachers and professors that the world has to offer," said Trevor Packer, vice president of the Advanced Placement Program at the College Board. "It fosters professionalism, allows for the exchange of ideas, and strengthens the commitment to students and to teaching. We are very grateful for the contributions of talented educators like Dr. Nelson."

More than 10,000 AP Readers from universities and high schools evaluated more than 2.9 million examinations from more than 30 AP courses. Representing many of the finest academic institutions in the world, these educators come from the United States, Canada and abroad.

The AP Reading is a unique forum in which academic dialogue between high school and college educators is fostered and strongly encouraged.

### S.D. Gets High Marks For Birth-To-3 Services

PIERRE — South Dakota is one of only 16 states to earn the highest ratings possible under both Parts B and C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, according to information recently released by the U.S. Department of Education.

IDEA Part B monitors the effectiveness of special education services at the preschool and K-12 levels, while Part C refers to the state's Birth to Three program, which serves younger children and their families.

South Dakota's special education programs met the established targets on 16 of 18 public reporting areas required under Part B. The state demonstrated that it provides valid and reliable data and has high levels of compliance in the eight areas of the State Performance Plan.

The state must also keep track of determinations for each of the public school districts it serves. In South Dakota, all the public school districts met requirements as well. Nearly 18,000 children, between the ages of three and 21, received special education services from more than 150 school districts statewide.

"Our districts are a huge reason why the state met requirements. If it was not for their hard work and dedication, we would not have such high and accurate standards," said Ann Larsen, director of the South Dakota Department of Education's Special Education Programs.

The South Dakota Birth to 3 program is evaluated on 14 indicators under Part C of IDEA and had 100 percent compliance on federally mandated requirements. State Birth to 3 Director Susan Sheppick also said credit was due at the local level.

"The Birth to 3 program has 27 service coordinators statewide, and it is because of their hard work that we were able to hit these benchmarks," Sheppick said.

During the reporting year, the South Dakota Birth to 3 program served approximately 2,000 children ages birth to three, who have developmental delays or disabilities. If further services are needed, the child will transition into Part B special education services at age three.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

IN REMEMBRANCE	
<b>Baby Matthew Oien</b>	<b>Lorraine L. Bauman</b>
Graveside Service 10:30 AM, Saturday Crofton City Cemetery Crofton	10:30 AM, Saturday Holy Family (Sts. Peter & Paul) Catholic Church Bow Valley
<b>WINTZ &amp; RAY</b> FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc. 605-665-3644 www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com	<b>WINTZ</b> FUNERAL HOME INC. Harrington, Coleridge, Crofton 402-254-6547

## MICHELS

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want a man like Matt Michels to be leading South Dakota." Michels said the turn of events have been "overwhelming."

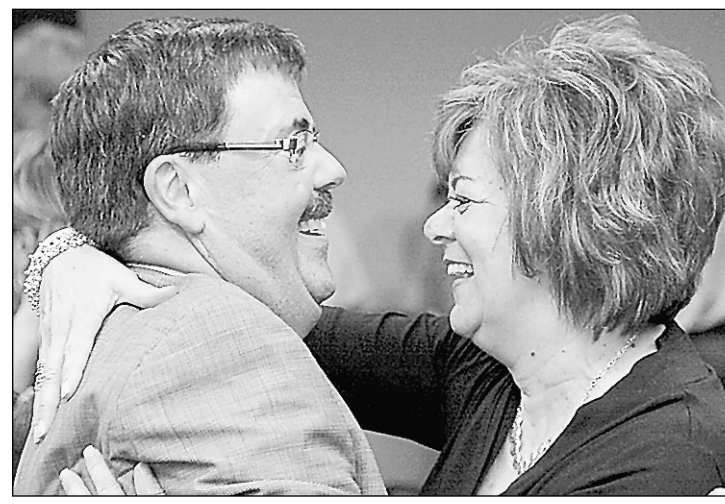
He added, "Dennis has the vision and the values and the ethics and the energy to lead us to build a stronger South Dakota. He is dedicated not only to South Dakota, but especially to South Dakotans in need and moving our state forward."

Not everyone was enthusiastic about Thursday's announcement of Michels as the lieutenant governor candidate.

Erin McCarrick, executive director of the South Dakota Democratic Party, stated in a press release that the selection "suggests business as usual from two political insiders" and "appears to be the follow-through on a deal Daugaard reportedly made with Michels in order to keep the former legislator from Yankton from running against Daugaard for the Republican nomination for governor."

McCarrick also criticized Michels' support of the 2006 abortion ban.

Speaking with reporters after the event in Yankton, Michels dismissed the claim that he and



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

**Matt Michels receives congratulations from friend Pauline Rhoades after Michels was introduced Thursday as the running mate for Republican gubernatorial hopeful Dennis Daugaard.**

Daugaard had struck a deal. He called his decision not to run for governor one of the most difficult he had ever made.

"Dennis and I talked because he is a gentleman," Michels said. "He told me he was going to run, and he was going after some of the same supporters I had."

Frankly, I had a great number of supporters from my legislative days. He was very respectful and did not come to Yankton County. I said, '(My wife and I) haven't made up our mind because of family issues, decisions and concerns.' Frankly, I just didn't have the fire in my belly (to run), and it was pretty shocking to me

when I went through that."

Michels said the question of him being Daugaard's running mate wasn't officially raised until this past weekend. Daugaard was vacationing in Yankton and asked Michels to meet at Magilly's Lakeside Eatery.

"We sat down, had some ice tea, and he asked if I'd be interested," Michels recalled. "I said, 'Absolutely.'"

Daugaard told reporters that choosing Michels could have been a quick, easy choice, but he went through a thorough process instead.

"I tried to be fair to myself and other people who were

interested," he said. "There were some people who approached me during the campaign and said, 'I'd like to be considered for lieutenant governor.' There were other people who I met along the way and had known over the years that I knew I should also consider."

Eventually, Daugaard consulted people he trusted for advice — and all of them included Michels on their short list of candidates.

"That was the only person for whom that was true," Daugaard said. "I tried to create a list of qualities, pro and con, for each candidate. In the end, it wasn't very hard. In the end, Matt rose to the top pretty quickly. He's a quality guy, a man I trust and respect, and he would be a great governor if something happened to me."

Political considerations about what Michels would add to the ticket were not part of the process, he added.

"I think people who make choices based on election aims are cheating the people of South Dakota," Daugaard said. "I think, in the end, you've got to be honest about what the job is really about, and that is, if something happens to the governor, they can be there."

The feelings between the two men are mutual.

"He's going to be a great governor," Michels said, "I don't say words I don't mean."

## 2009-10 SDHSAA Academic Achievement Teams Announced

PIERRE — With the completion of the 2009-10 spring athletic and fine arts activities, the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) recognizes the various high school athletic teams and fine arts groups in the schools throughout the state that have achieved the "Academic Achievement Team Award" for the spring season.

The recently completed school year marks the 13th annual award recognition by Activities Association of athletic teams and fine arts groups for their academic excellence. The "Academic Achievement Team Award" program is sponsored by the SDHSAA to encourage the members of athletic and fine arts teams in every school to excel in the classroom as well as to provide recognition for the academic success of the teams.

Numerous independent studies conducted by the U.S. Department of Education as well as major Universities continue to demonstrate that students who are involved in interscholastic athletic and fine arts activi-

ties tend to have higher grades in school, have better school attendance, have fewer discipline problems, and are less prone to using drugs or having other problems with breaking the law than non-participating students. These recent studies are a clear demonstration that high school students learn lessons and lifetime skills not only inside the classroom but also through their participation in school athletic and fine arts activities programs outside the classroom. In addition, many studies indicate that students who are involved in multiple activities tend to have better academic success than students that are involved in only one activity.

All varsity athletic teams and fine arts groups participating in SDHSAA sponsored activities are eligible for the "Academic Team" recognition program. The "Academic Achievement Team Award" provides every athletic and fine arts participant with the opportunity to prove that they can be successful both in athletics or fine arts activities competition as well as academically in class. Any varsity athletic team or fine arts group

achieving a combined grade point average of 3.0 or higher is eligible to receive the "SDHSAA Academic Team Award" Recognition.

The following area schools and teams have been designated as "SDHSAA Academic Achievement Team Award" recipients for the 2009-10 spring season:

- Andes Central — Boys' Golf Team, Girls' Golf Team, Boys' Track Team, Girls' Track Team;
- Beresford — Girls' Track Team;
- Menno — Student Council, Large Group Band, Large Group Chorus, Yearbook, Boys' Track Team, Girls' Track Team;
- Parker — Boys' Golf Team, Large Group Band, Large Group Chorus, Student Council, Girls' Track Team, Boys' Track Team;
- Parkston — Girls' Golf Team, Large Group Band, Girls' Track Team, Boys' Track Team;
- Scotland — Girls' Golf Team, Boys' Golf Team, Girls' Track Team, Large Group Chorus, Large Group Band, Student Council;
- Wagner — Girls' Golf Team, Girls' Track Team, Boys' Track Team.

## ROUNDS

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tors were having a real tough time just getting in and finding the resources to actually fix the road in an appropriate fashion. That's going to be an ongoing challenge."

Other areas have been granted funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), although the money has not arrived yet, Rounds said.

"My understanding is, the rea-

son is Congress has not yet appropriated the money that FEMA needs to pay," he said. "So once again, we're subject not only to Mother Nature, but to a federal government that sometimes struggles to get its work done in an appropriate fashion."

Rounds also spoke of the current status of South Dakota's economy, which he said should encourage more businesses to establish and expand there.

"I think in times of trouble, businesses look for stability, and in South Dakota they're finding a very stable business environment," he said. "We do our best to

roll out the red carpet. We don't cut corners. And I think that's what businesses like. When they're expanding, they want an opportunity to know what's expected of them."

Economic indicators point to "solid growth in the months ahead," he said.

"The business issues index based on supply managers in the state report South Dakota at a regional high of 70.1. Any index over 50 reflects growth. That's really good news," Rounds said.

Additionally, the state's unemployment rate stands at 4.6 percent, and is currently third-best in

job growth, he said.

The state has also managed to avoid accruing some of the debts seen by others.

"When I became governor in 2003, we had about \$106 million in our reserve accounts. Today, we have \$107 million in our reserve accounts," Rounds said.

"We have not touched our budget reserves since the beginning of the national recession in 2008. We have lived within our means. We use federal resources whenever possible, and we made the right decision not to spend money if we don't have it."

## BILL

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In fact, efforts to pass a stand-alone measure to forestall the Medicare cuts could be revived as early as Friday, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., appeared amenable to a compromise floated late Thursday that would give doctors six months of relief from the Medicare cuts, accompanied by measures to ensure the payments wouldn't add to the deficit.

The broader measure long had been considered a must-pass bill since failure to pass it would cut off jobless benefits, force about 30 states to rewrite their budgets to make up for lost federal aid and impose the Medicare cut on doctors. Republicans supported many of the policies in the bill but began making ever more stringent demands to pare back its deficit cost.

On Wednesday, after losing a test vote by a wide margin, top Democrats cut the measure's deficit impact by \$25 billion — to \$55 billion over the upcoming decade — and made a host of changes aimed at winning over GOP moderates and wayward

Democrats. They included easing proposed tax increases on venture capitalists and small businesses organized as so-called S corporations.

"It's moving in the right direction but it's not there yet," Collins said.

Democrats were clearly frustrated after a full day of talks with elusive Republicans.

"To be honest, given the attitude over on the other side of the aisle, I don't know that there's anything that'll get a vote," said Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., who just Wednesday had serenely predicted the measure would advance easily.

Republicans instead pressed an alternative plan to extend unemployment benefits and aid to doctors but to pay for them with spending cuts to reduce the budget deficit. It was easily killed on a mostly party-line vote.

Congressional Democrats began the year with an aggressive agenda of passing a series of bills designed to create jobs. One has become law, offering tax breaks to companies that hire unemployed workers. Others stalled as lawmakers, after hearing from angry voters, became wary of adding to the national debt, which stands at \$13 trillion.

## OBITUARIES

### Danny Wright

There will be a graveside Memorial Service at Rosehill Cemetery in Scotland for Danny Wright at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 19, 2010, led by Fr. Mark Lichten of Yankton.

Danny died November 18, 2009, in Rapid City.

Coffee, cookies and memory sharing will follow the service at the Main Hideout downtown Scotland. All are welcome.

Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton, is handling arrangements.

### Anna Margaret Swensen

Anna Margaret Swensen (Margaret), 84, of Yankton died peacefully at Sacred Heart Hospital surrounded by her many children.



Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. today (Friday) at St. Benedict Catholic Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Paul Josten officiating. Burial will be Sacred Heart Cemetery.

Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton, is in charge of arrangements.

**Thank You**

Thank you to our children and grandchildren for all your work and great-grandchildren for being there for our 60th anniversary. Thank you to everyone for the cards, gifts, flowers, best wishes and attendance. What a celebration!

**Don & Rosemary Heirigs**

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