

Press & Dakotan

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Sweet Surprise

Butler Shocks Top Seed Syracuse, While Kansas State Survives Double OT Against Xavier. PAGE 7A



Winter Images

A Look Back On The Busy Winter Season, As Seen Through The Lenses Of P&D Photographers. RIVER CITY/1B



INSIDEtoday



Bye-Bye

USD Athletic Director Joel Nielsen Leaves For Same Job At Kent State. PAGE 7A

MIDWEST



THE DR. IS IN: Rapid City Dr. To Run In Dem. Primary. PAGE 3A

NATION/WORLD

LOOSENED UP: Pentagon Eases Ban On Gays In Military. PAGE 6A

WEATHER

Weather forecast: 9 a.m. 3 p.m. 39 55

Mild, breezy and partly sunny

PAGE 2A

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RECYCLING

River City Recycling This Week NORTH of 15th St.



TOMORROW

NEIGHBORS: Animal Rights Advocates Vs. Ag



TRAVELING TO TEACH



SHAUNA MARLETTE/P&D

In an effort to help area schools maintain and expand their technical education courses, Yankton's Regional Technical Education Center has partnered with Andes Central School District. The partnership between the two education centers is a pilot project that Josh Svatos, RTEC general manager, and instructor Glen Lammers are just the first of many such projects going forward. Pictured are Svatos (left) and instructor Glen Lammers instructing students in programming and building a robotics unit.

RTEC Takes Classes On Road

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is part of the Press & Dakotan's monthly series spotlighting occupations, tasks and duties in our coverage area.

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE shauna.marlette@yankton.net

LAKE ANDES — In today's ever-changing educational climate, many schools are reducing or eliminating technical education course work. Regional Technical Education Center (RTEC) general manager Josh Svatos and instructor Glen Lammers are determined to not let that happen in area communities.

Twice a week, the pair has been making a nearly 150-mile round trip journey from Yankton to Andes Central High School in Lake Andes to introduce the students to the variety of technical opportunities that are available for careers after high school.

(Primarily), this is exposure to career and technical education," Svatos said.



On The Job www.yankton.net

Providing that exposure and training is exactly what officials at the Andes Central School District was counting on when they contracted with RTEC.

"When we were starting to work with personal learning plans (PLP) for our students, we found

RTEC, Page 12A please

C-Battery Back In U.S. Today

Return Home Expected Next Week

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

After a year-long mission in Kuwait, the Yankton-based Charlie Battery should arrive on U.S. soil today (Friday).

"The plan is for them to arrive at Fort McCoy, Wis., at approximately 6 a.m. (Friday)," said Maj. Brendan Murphy, public affairs officer for the South Dakota National Guard (SDNG).

Charlie Battery, along with other members of the 1st Battalion, 147th Field Artillery, are serving the mission under the 115th Fire Brigade of Cheyenne, Wyo.

No date has been finalized for Charlie Battery's arrival in Yankton, Murphy told the Press & Dakotan in a phone interview. However, the unit should return home by the end of next week, if not sooner, he said.

"Generally, the time they anticipate is about a week, maybe a little less," he said.

Charlie Battery conducted its Relief In Place/Transfer of Authority (RIP/TOA) ceremony last Tuesday, signaling the completion of their mission, said SFC Brooks Schild, the unit public affairs officer.

The approximately 2,500 members of the brigade have spent recent weeks preparing themselves and their equipment for the trip home, Schild told the Press & Dakotan.

Once they completed their mission, Charlie Battery waited for word on shipping out from the war theater, Schild said. The unit has overseen security detail for the Seaport of Debarkation and Embarkation (SEPOD/E), which oversees 95 percent of the supplies headed for Iraq and Afghanistan.

With Charlie Battery's arrival back in the United States, the unit will now complete final requirements at their demobilization station at Fort McCoy, Murphy said.

CHARLIE, Page 11A please



Tabor's Blue - And Proud Of It

School Lauded For "Blue Ribbon" Designation

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

TABOR — A long list of dignitaries praised the Tabor school at Thursday night's community celebration, but the real celebrities sat in the audience.

The school, with about 50 students in grades K-5, has been honored as a national Blue Ribbon school. The K-12 schools

are either academically superior in their state or demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement to high levels.

Thursday night, the gym was filled with the high-achieving students wearing their "Tabor, Blue Ribbon" T-shirts. They were joined by family, friends, teachers and community members showing pride as one of top schools in the nation.

In fact, private funds covered the expenses for Principal Mike Duffek and teacher Troy Goehring to accept the Blue Ribbon award in Washington, D.C.

"We didn't have to use any school dis-

trict funds. We just kept raising money, and then we got the last amount we needed," said Bon Homme school board chairman Ben Hellmann.

Such support is not unusual, said Hellmann, who has two children in the Tabor schools.

"I am very proud to be part of this community and district. The support from the parents and patrons is great," he said.

"They help with a lot of field trips, and they support the teachers. It's just awesome."

BLUE, Page 11A please



Nationally Recognized Blue Ribbon School 1999 Tabor elementary principal Mike Duffek talks about the school's outstanding achievements as a national "Blue Ribbon School."

ON THE MARCH

Approximately 300 students at Yankton's Stewart Elementary School were on the march Thursday in recognition of March for Meals Week. The week is designated to draw attention to the plight of hungry senior citizens in this country. Many fundraising events are also being held to support the local Meals on Wheels program. To see of purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net. (KELLY HERTZ/P&D)



Legislators Discuss Budget Woes

BY NATHAN JOHNSON nathan.johnson@yankton.net

In a freewheeling Yankton County Farmers Union legislative forum Thursday that included discussion of the state budget, a federal health care reform lawsuit and even marriage, District 18 legislators shared their thoughts in advance of Monday's session in Pierre.

Not surprisingly, talk quickly turned to balancing the state budget, an issue that consumed much of the 2010 legislative session.

"We still don't have a budget passed, so we're going to go back out there ... and hopefully by Tuesday or Wednesday have

a budget passed," said Rep. Nick Moser, a Republican.

Legislators will work to find between \$38 million and \$40 million in budget cuts, according to Senate Appropriations Chair Jean Hunhoff, also a Republican. Tens of millions of dollars in federal funds the Legislature had hoped would materialize have not, and may never do so, she said.

"There is no money. There is no federal money. There is nothing," Hunhoff said. "All it's going to be is cuts. I think both (parties) have said they don't want to use reserves. We'll have to see how that plays out."

House Minority Leader Bernie Hunhoff said he believes many

cuts proposed by Democrats in the early days of the session, such as getting rid of funding for full-time equivalent positions that don't actually exist, will end up in the final budget.

"I think that will include an across-the-board cut of some size," he said. That is a measure Democrats and Republicans have shown support for, despite Gov. Mike Rounds' opposition.

"I don't think there are many years when a budget gets broad bipartisan support," Hunhoff added. "Right now, I think there's a fair chance that could happen."

Democratic Sen. Frank

FORUM, Page 12A please

5th Annual Lewis & Clark Home Builders Association 2010 Home Show March 27th & 28th, 2010 Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Sunday: Noon - 4 p.m. Kiwanis 4-H Ice Center 709 Whiting Drive, Yankton, SD