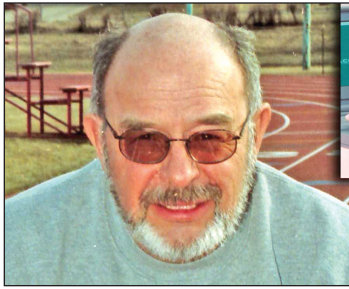




YHS Athletic Hall Of
Fame To Add 4 • **1B**



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Ideas For School Funding?

Board Members Taking A Cautious
View Of State Education Study Group

BY ANDREW ATWAL

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South Dakota lawmakers are taking a new look at funding for public school districts.

Last week, the Legislature's executive board approved forming a study committee to look at the funding formula for public school districts and the revenue sources available the fund the districts.

However, local officials have cautious reactions to the committee.

"I'm happy that they're putting a committee together," said YSD school board member Jim Fitzgerald. "I think that the 20-plus year old way of funding schools may not be the best for us today. I'm hoping that the committee can come up with different avenues of funding to help better meet the needs of YSD and the students."



Fitzgerald



Specht



Williams

He added that if the committee decides that everything is working well the way it is, it must emphasize that they state should follow the guidelines set in place and fund the schools at the rates that are mandated.

The current formula requires state aid to schools increase by 3 percent each year, or the rate of inflation, whichever is less.

"If they were to fund schools each year the way the formula says they should,

SCHOOL | PAGE 5A



COURTESY PHOTO

Jacob (left) and Luke Feimer, along with their parents, Doug and Katie, are being honored as the ambassador family for the local March of Dimes annual March for Babies this Saturday in Yankton. Both Jacob and Luke were born premature, and the Feimers received assistance from the March of Dimes during the boys' recoveries.

CIRCLE IN THE SKY



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

A circle floated in the skies over Yankton for a time early Thursday afternoon as the sun was encircled by a rainbow ring, caused by light rains passing through water and ice particles aloft. While the sun was a welcome sight after Wednesday's snow and cold, blustery conditions still made it feel more like late March than early May. Chilly, rainy conditions may be in store this weekend, but conditions are expected to warm up early next week. For weather details, see page 2A.

Housing Study Can Be Map Forward

Project Could Have Consultant In 3-5 Weeks

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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Local officials are hoping that a planned housing study will provide clues about how to address current and future needs in the Yankton area.

Yankton Area Progressive Growth (YAPG) will fund the housing study, with the City of Yankton taking the lead in hiring and working with a consultant to produce a report.

"Anecdotal, we believe there is a shortage of housing availability in the Yankton community," YAPG President Mike Dellinger told the Yankton City Commission recently. "Major employ-

ers have indicated to us that their employees are having a hard time finding places to live. We hoped we could partner with the city and the Economic Development Council to provide the scientific data and have the study indicate where we are benchmarking our current housing stock.

"Hopefully ... the results of this study will stimulate the private market into doing something about this housing shortage," he added. "Banks will recognize there is an opportunity to lend. Developers will recognize there is an opportunity to develop. And home builders will have more places to build homes. That's our intention."

Last week, the City Commission authorized City Manager Amy Nelson to enter into an agreement with YAPG whereby the non-profit economic development corporation would provide up to \$40,000 for the housing study. Nelson is also authorized to execute a contract associated with the study, if needed.

Yankton Community Development Director Dave Mingo is overseeing the process and said Thursday he expects to have an agreement in place with a consultant in the next three to five weeks.

Once the consultant is chosen, a Housing Study Group will be convened to provide a framework for a scope of

STUDY | PAGE 10A

Mount Marty's Benedictine Roots To Be Celebrated In Song Sunday

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF

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Andy Henrickson believes Mount Marty College has an interesting story to tell, with its Benedictine roots dating back to Switzerland in the 1500s.

In fact, Henrickson — director of the MMC theater department — has written seven short narratives for this weekend's premiere of a new work celebrating the college's 75th anniversary.

The concert will feature the commissioned work by University of South Dakota composer Stephen Yarbrough. The cantata, "Everlasting Is His Love," will be performed at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at Marian Auditorium on the MMC campus. The event is open to the public.

Henrickson's narratives complement the eight musical movements. He doesn't narrow his focus to Mount Marty's 75-year history. Instead, he incorporates the story of the college's founders, the Benedictine Sisters, whose motherhouse was founded in the 1800s in Maria Rickenbach, Switzerland.

"How can you do a history of Mount Marty College without a history of the Benedictines?" he asked. "When you think of the college and certainly of the founders, you think of the Benedictines."

Henrickson wanted his narratives to provide more than just historical facts. He used about a half-dozen sources, including books by the late Yankton author Bob Karolevitz,

CONCERT | PAGE 3A



PRAYERS ON THE WIND

Windy and chilly conditions held down the crowd numbers at the annual National Day of Prayer vigil, held Thursday on the grounds of the Yankton County Government Center. Attendees prayed throughout the noon hour for the well-being of national, state and local leaders and area institutions and businesses. Thursday was proclaimed a National Day of Prayer in Yankton by Mayor Nancy Wenande. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)

MARCH | PAGE 3A

INSIDE TODAY



USA Weekend

SPORTS



Yankton Topples
Vermillion In Prep
Tennis • **7A**

CORRECTION

In the geocaching story in Thursday's *Press & Dakotan*, the last name of Will and Shirley Dangler was misspelled. We apologize for the error.

* * *

Body Of Missing Ravinia Man Found Near Corsica

From P&D Staff Reports

LAKE ANDES — The body of a Charles Mix County man who had been missing since late March was found Wednesday in Douglas County.

According to a press release from the Charles Mix County Sheriff's Office, the body of Harold Cavier, 83, of Ravinia was found Wednesday in an agricultural field about 2 miles east of Corsica. Cavier was reported missing on March 26.

Cavier had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and other medical conditions.

An investigation is continuing by the Charles Mix County Sheriff's Office, Douglas County Sheriff's Office and the Division of Criminal Investigation.