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**SPORTS**



**Baker Hired As  
MMC Head Men's  
Basketball Coach**

■ 10A

**INSIDE TODAY**



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**Efforts Increase  
To Stop Military  
Sexual Assaults**

BY ROBERT BURNS AND  
LOLITA C. BALDOR  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama said Thursday the nation's military leaders told him they are "ashamed" of their failure to end sexual abuse in the armed services, and he promised an accelerated effort to find solutions.



Obama

"We will not stop until we've seen this scourge from what is the greatest military in the world eliminated," he told reporters after addressing an unusually large gathering of military leaders to the White House led by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Senior military officers have spoken bluntly in recent days about the problem. Dempsey on Wednesday called it a "crisis," and the Army chief of staff, Gen. Ray Odierno, said Thursday his service's efforts are "failing."

"They care about this and they are angry about it," Obama said. "Not only is it a crime, not only is it shameful and disgraceful, but it also is going to make and has made the military less effective than it can be," Obama said.

Those summoned by Obama included not just Hagel, Dempsey and the chiefs of each military service but also the civilian heads of each service and senior enlisted advisers.

"I heard directly from all of them that they are ashamed by some of what's happened," Obama said.

The president added that because assault victims may be more likely now to come forward with complaints, the number of reported assaults may increase in the short run.

"I then want those trend lines to start going down because that indicates that we're also starting to fix the problem and we've highlighted it, and people who are engaged in despicable behavior,

**ABUSE** | PAGE 16A

# 512 Years

## YSD Says Goodbye To 18 Staff Members

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE AND  
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The Yankton School District is saying good-bye to more than 512 years of experience at the end of the school year. Eighteen staff members — ranging from the administrative level to the school board — have announced their retirement.

Terry Crandall, longtime high school counselor and one of those who is bidding farewell to the district, said that, although the school district will replace the people leaving, their experience will be missed. "That's a lot of experience," he said. "You can't replace that experience. You can replace the people, and I know they will, but you can't replace that experience."

The list of retiring school personnel includes:

- Dan Miller, middle school teacher, began at YSD in 1969: 44 years;
- Judy Tereshinski, high school teacher, 1970: 43;
- Marsha Bertsch, Stewart School teacher, 1973: 40;
- Marlene Johnson, enrichment and technology at Stewart, 1974: 39;
- Sandi Pierce, Beadle School teacher, 1977: 36;
- Mary Malchow, high school speech language, 1978: 35;
- Sharon Ehrhart, Lincoln School teacher, 1978: 35;
- Terry Crandall, high school counselor, 1980: 33;
- Ginger Larsen, high school physical education, 1980: 33;
- Nancy Schaap, middle school paraprofessional, 1980: 33;
- LaVonne Lorenzen, Stewart School counselor, 1985: 28;
- Sandy Rupiper, middle school counselor, 1986: 27;
- Joe Gertsema, superintendent, 1990: 23;
- Sandy Hoffner, high school teacher, 1992: 21;
- Chris Specht, school board



Sandy Hoffner (left), Terry Crandall (middle) and Judy Tereshinski (right) are three of the 18 Yankton School District personnel retiring at the end of the school year. Combined, the staff members who are retiring have served in the Yankton district for more than 500 years.

member, 1997: 16;

- Rhonda Bartekoske, middle school food service, 1999: 14;
- Karen Haffner, middle school food service, 2001: 12;
- Jennifer Satter, Stewart School secretary, (N/A).

Crandall said the top priority of the staff is to prepare students for the future, something they love doing and will miss once they retire. "Our goal here is to prepare the students and make sure they arrive there safely," he said. "As time changes the administration changes, and I've become more reflective of that, but teachers are still expected to do a job. We've been given the opportunity to do the things we felt we've needed to do to succeed and have our students succeed."

Here are profiles of three of the teachers who are retiring at the end of the school year.

**TERRY CRANDALL**

Crandall has served as a counselor at Yankton High School since 1980. Before that, he taught English and was a counselor in Irene.

Crandall said being a counselor was a natural transition for him, because people always came to him for advice.

"I didn't like teaching English, and people had always come to me to talk and come to me with their problems, so it was a natural fit for me," he said. "The counseling program just seemed like a second-nature thing for me. As I became a counselor at the school, I found out it really was a good way for me to express my interest and my abilities."

Throughout his years at YHS, Crandall has seen changes in administration as well as other aspects of the school, but he said what he noticed the most was the changes in communication and technology.

"There has been a huge change in technology as far as how we do things," he said. "The students' outlook and their world view have changed quite a bit over time. You're able to see what's going on in Russia in real time, and that's a new thing. We communicate through Twitter and Facebook and text messaging, and that's changed how we talk with each other."

Crandall said the students have always been a big part of his life at YHS.

**RETIRE** | PAGE 9A

## Recent Moisture Helps, But Drought Continues

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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Despite the past month's precipitation, the Yankton region looks to experience continued drought through the summer.

The outlook was shared Thursday in a news release by two South Dakota State University (SDSU) Extension specialists. Their findings reflect the U.S. Drought Monitor's report that southeast South Dakota and northeast Nebraska remain in extreme drought.

Precipitation events continue to ease drought issues in some areas of South Dakota, while others are ongoing, says Dennis Today, SDSU Extension Climatologist.

"The issue of easing versus continuing drought is one of location in the state," Today said.

Rainfall from the week of May 6, along with continued timely precipitation throughout the spring, have improved soil moisture conditions in the east, Today said. However, some soils are still dry, particularly deeper in the profile.

"The moist, but not wet, surface soils have made for good planting progress during the last two weeks," he said.

The quickly warming soils and limited run-off from precipitation continue to indicate that surface soils are not excessively wet in most of the row crop areas, Today said.

"Some locations along the Nebraska border are still in widespread D3 or extreme drought on the U.S. Drought Monitor because of little recovery from last year," he said. "This is reflected in very dry soils and limited surface water like ponds, dug-outs and streams."

Recent precipitation and snowmelt runoff have not been

**DROUGHT** | PAGE 16A

## Community Service Done To Mark Drug Court Month

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
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Josh Hackney felt lucky to be picking up trash in Yankton's Westside Park this week.

After struggling with methamphetamines, he was accepted into Yankton County's newly-formed drug court in January.

"I volunteered for it. I've been in trouble a couple times before, and I figured some extra supervision wouldn't hurt," Hackney stated. "I've come a long way. I've got an apartment. I've got a job at TruXedo. I've got a curfew, but it's gone from 10 p.m. to 11 p.m."

He is one of five participants in the drug court, an initiative local officials hope will reduce recidivism and help participants overcome drug addiction.

A drug court team consisting of court services officers, a defense attorney, a prosecutor, a police officer, a treatment provider and a judge oversee the program.

Earlier this week, the team joined participants for a day of public service. They assisted the City of Yankton with picking up trash in the community and planting flowers.

"It's great for team building," said Alan Swartz, a



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Sharon Kraft, the Yankton County drug court support specialist, works with drug court participant Laray "Cody" Slate to pick up trash in Yankton's Westside Park this week. The drug court team and participants spent a day doing community service for the City of Yankton as a way to recognize May as Drug Court Month.

court services officer who arranged the day's activities.

May is National Drug Court Month, and Swartz said the goal was to do some community service. Drug court participants already do community service on their own, but this was a chance for the team that oversees the program to join them for a day.

"It's part of the team commitment," said Magistrate Judge Tami Bern. "It's nice to do something outside of the courtroom so we can engage in a different environment."

**SERVICE** | PAGE 3A

## Obama Picks Budget Official To Run IRS

BY STEPHEN OHLEMACHER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama picked a senior White House budget official to become the acting head of the Internal Revenue Service on Thursday, the same day another top official announced plans to leave the agency amid the controversy over agents targeting tea party groups.

Obama named longtime civil servant Daniel Werfel as the acting IRS commissioner. Werfel, 42, currently serves as controller of the Office of Management and Budget, making him a key player in implementing recent automatic spending cuts known as the sequester.

"Throughout his career working in both Democratic and Republican administrations, Danny has proven an effective leader who serves with professionalism, integrity and skill," Obama said in a statement. "The American people deserve to have the utmost confidence and trust in their government, and as we work to get to the bottom of what happened and restore confidence



Werfel

Werfel replaces Steven Miller as acting IRS commissioner. Miller was forced to resign Wednesday amid the growing scandal, though he is still scheduled to testify Friday at a congressional hearing.

Also Thursday, Joseph Grant, one of Miller's top deputies, announced plans to retire June 3, according to an internal IRS memo. Grant is commissioner of the agency's tax exempt and government entities division, which includes the agents that targeted tea party groups for additional scrutiny when they applied for tax-exempt status.

Grant joined the IRS in 2005. Before that he was a top official at the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. It was not immediately clear whether Grant's

**WERFEL** | PAGE 8A