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MMC's Benoit Resigns

President's
Resignation
Takes Effect
Immediately

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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The president of Yankton's Mount Marty College has resigned after just under three years with the Catholic liberal arts institution.

The resignation of Dr. Joseph Benoit, the college's 10th president, took effect Monday. He joined Mount Marty in July 2011.

"My family and I have been honored to be part of Mount Marty College and the Yankton community," Benoit stated in a media release. "Although I have enjoyed leading Mount Marty

College, I have missed teaching, as well as scientific research and policy. I am looking forward to resuming my scientific career and being directly engaged in the education and training of future scientists."

Benoit plans to pursue opportunities in the biomedical science field.

According to college officials, he was unavailable for further comment Monday.

"In light of Dr. Benoit's resignation, the (Mount Marty College Board of Trustees) will now begin the process of hiring



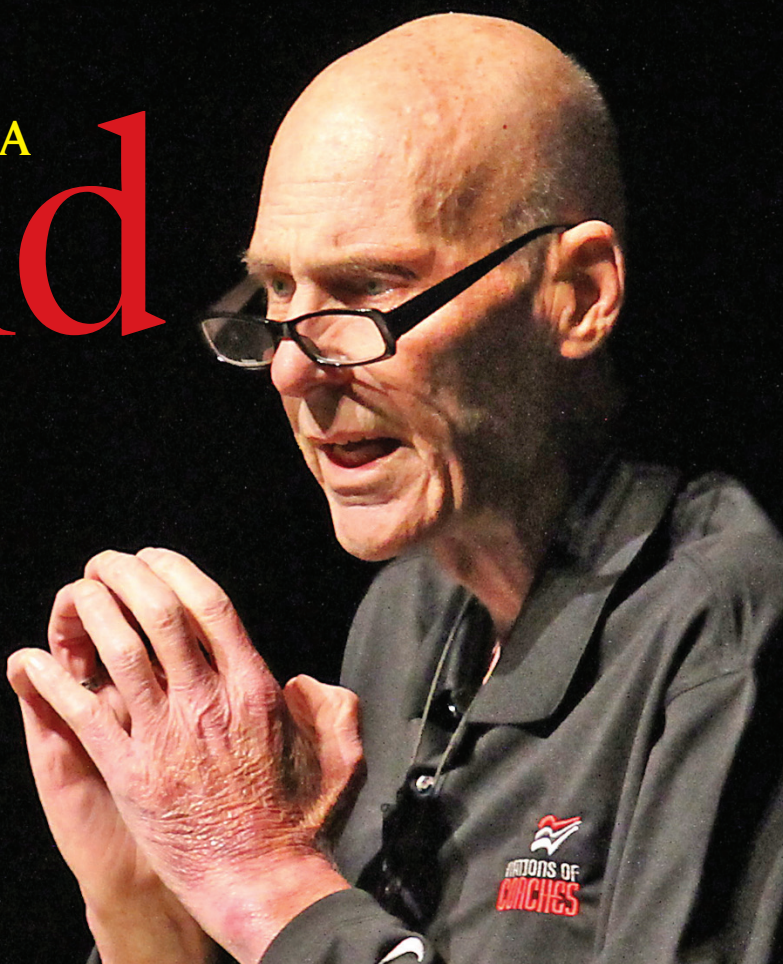
P&D FILE PHOTO

Dr. Joseph Benoit has resigned as Mount Marty College's president, a post he has held since 2011.

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REMEMBERING A Legend

Two Yankton Men Look
Back On What Made The
Late Don Meyer More
Than Just A Winning Coach



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Hall of Fame basketball coach Don Meyer is shown speaking at the YHS/Summit Activities Center in Yankton in March. Meyer died Sunday at age 69.

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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With legendary coach Don Meyer in failing health last winter, Ted Quinn hoped to book Meyer for a speaking engagement in Yankton.

When Meyer retired in 2010 from Northern State University at Aberdeen, he had become the NCAA's winningest coach in men's basketball history with 923 victories. Duke's Mike Krzyzewski surpassed Meyer's record in 2012.

Quinn, a Yankton resident and former college coach, had known Meyer for years and now serves with the Nations of Coaches ministry. He traveled to Aberdeen last December to visit with Meyer about basketball and a Yankton speaking engagement.

Quinn was stunned by Meyer's quick response to the request.

"When I talked to the coach in December, I was thinking about doing something in Yankton next fall," Quinn said. "But a month later, he said, 'I can come in March, but you better get me fast because my schedule is filling up.' So we booked him for March 18 at the Summit Center's theater."

The Yankton appearance turned into a special evening, Quinn said. Those memories have become even more special with Meyer's passing last Sunday morning at age 69.

Meyer had battled health issues following a 2008 near-fatal accident and a subsequent cancer diagnosis. He won the Jimmy V. Award for Perseverance at the 2009 ESPY Awards.

"Maybe Coach Meyer knew something (about his

health) last December, when we got together," Quinn said. "He looked tough, and I didn't know if he would still be with us for very long. At one point, he reached over, hit me on the shoulder and said, 'You know, I feel a lot better than I look.' He must have seen something on my face that looked shocked."

Quinn holds special memories of that March evening at the Summit Center theater.

"We had a terrific turnout. People were really interested in Coach Meyer and really got a lot out of it," Quinn said. "A lot of people hung around afterwards. They picked up (Meyer's) book, and Coach personalized all of those books for everyone. He vis-

"He won a lot of games, which was really good, but he did it the right way, with integrity and character. He was a unique mentor and role model."

TED QUINN

ited with people and really enjoyed the night."

Quinn isn't surprised the legendary coach acted quickly on the request for a Yankton appearance.

"Coach Meyer said, 'If there's anything I can do for your guys on the Nations of Coaches, just say,'" Quinn said. "He did as much as he could for us, healthwise. He was instrumental and excited to speak on our behalf. He was supportive of what we do, and we were able to support him."

Meyer lived a strong Christian faith, but he seemed to show an even greater intensity in recent months, Quinn said.

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Services Planned For 1971 Crash Victim

BY DAVID LIAS
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VERMILLION — A memorial service for Cheryl Miller will be held on the 43rd anniversary of her passing.

The service will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, May 29, at First Baptist Church in Vermillion.

Miller and her friend, Pam Jackson, both juniors at Vermillion High School, were last seen on May 29, 1971, driving in a 1960 Studebaker which was discovered in Brule Creek in Union County last September. The two girls had planned to attend a party held at a gravel pit located near the creek.

The car was discovered in the creek in late September 2013. Laboratory testing confirmed that skeletal remains found in the car were of Miller and Jackson.

The cause of the two girls' death was a car accident, said Attorney General Marty Jackley at press conference held Tuesday afternoon, April 15, in the Union County Courthouse in Elk Point.

There was a time when local law enforcement believed the girls may have fallen victim to foul play.

In August 2004, investigators focused on the Kerwyn Lykken farm of rural Alcester. Armed with search warrants, authorities searched the Lykken farmhouse and went through barns from top to bottom, digging up floors in some buildings.

David L. Lykken was 17 and residing at the farm at the time of the girls' disappearance.

The investigation eventually led to



Miller

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Kayak Event To Also Celebrate Trail Designation



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

The growing local popularity of kayaking will be on display again this weekend when the annual South Dakota Kayak Challenge takes to the waters of the Missouri River near Yankton.

BY DEREK BARTOS
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Paddlers entering the annual South Dakota Kayak Challenge this weekend will be the first to officially race down one of the newest additions to the National Water Trail System.

This year's challenge begins with check-in and activities Friday in Yankton, followed by the race down the Missouri River on Saturday and Sunday.

In conjunction with Friday's safety briefing, the National Park Service (NPS) will hold its ribbon cutting and official dedication of the Missouri Na-

tional Recreational River (MNRR) Water Trail.

The MNRR was added to the list of water trails, which are routes that can be used for both recreation and travel, last November. The designation offers extra protection for the waterway, more funding and resource opportunities and added promotion for the recreational activities available.

"Local people know it's a great resource and a great place to fish and hunt and kayak and canoe on," said NPS interpreter Dugan Smith. "But we want to spread the word to the nation

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