

Cold With A Few Clouds

9 a.m.: **12** | 3 p.m.: **26**
 FORECAST DETAILS: PAGE 2A

'Sleeping Beauty' Flies Across SAC Stage This Weekend. 1B

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KELLY HERTZ/P&D
 Mount Marty College President Joseph Benoit provides an update during Thursday's annual "State of the College" address at Marian Auditorium.

President Lays Out MMC's Future

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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Mount Marty College plans to launch a major fund drive in 2014, and MMC could add health care programs with its new science and nursing centers, President Joseph Benoit said Thursday.

Benoit delivered his annual State of the College address in Marian Auditorium. He also spoke with the Press & Dakotan during an interview following his address.

Next year's fund-raising campaign will be comprehensive in nature, Benoit said. He declined to list any specific dollar amount or goal at this time.

"This is not to be thought of as a capital campaign. It will address a number of needs of the college," he said. "The fund drive will fuel scholarships, faculty endowments and annual giving support."

Benoit delivered good financial news in that MMC's net assets grew \$2 million over a one-year period. He credited strong returns on investments as fueling the increase. The net assets grew from \$27 million on June 30, 2012, to \$29 million on June 30, 2013.

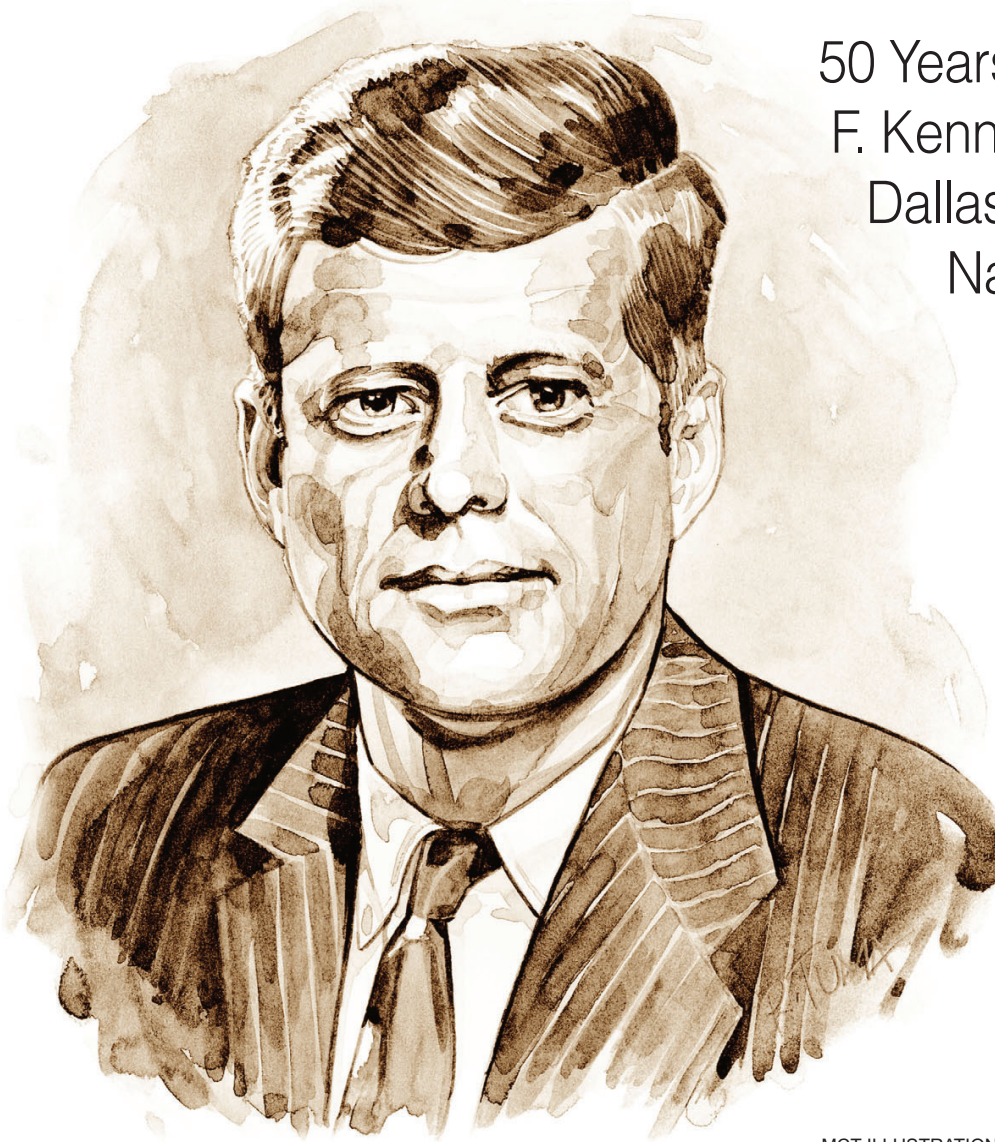
MMC enrolls about 1,250 students on its Yankton campus, its Watertown location, its graduate programs at Sioux Falls and at the Yankton Federal Prison Camp, the college president said.

Overall, the enrollment figures have created a 4 percent budget shortfall for the current year, Benoit said.

"There is no reason for panic," he said, noting that budget adjustments will be made. He told the Press & Dakotan that the figure represents less than two weeks of operating expenses.

MMC | PAGE 12A

Camelot's End



50 Years Ago Today, John F. Kennedy Was Killed In Dallas, Changing Our Nation Forever

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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As many older Americans recall the exact circumstances under which they found out about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy 50 years ago, newer generations learn of the transformative event in the classroom without the benefit of personal experience.

However, area teachers say that Kennedy's presidency and death still resonate with students.

"His legacy still lives on with every new generation," said Doug Haar, a history and government teacher at Yankton High School.

"Students love hearing about Kennedy. His mystique and legend endure. He provided an example for those that followed him in regards to some of the goals that he set, including declaring war on poverty and the challenge to go to the moon."

In some ways, the Kennedy presidency may be the most vibrant presidency of our times despite the passage of decades. A constant stream of movies, television shows and books keep memories of "Camelot" alive in the minds of even the youngest Americans.

President Abraham Lincoln may be Kennedy's only rival in that respect.

"Although 50 years is ages ago for most students, there is no question that they can relate to the Kennedy assassination more closely than they can to other U.S. presidential assassinations," said Sam Herley, a history professor at the University of South Dakota. "Lincoln can be kind of mythical, and many students have hardly heard anything about (President James Garfield) or (President William McKinley). There was a distinct look and manner to Kennedy and his presidency that was unlike anything before it. His was a modern presidency, and I think most students can feel that. If 50 years seem distant for students, Kennedy's appearance and style do not."

Given Kennedy's place in popular



TODAY

A Nightmare Amplified | **4A**

What JFK Was – And Wasn't | **4A**

JFK's Death Haunts Us Still | **8B**

SATURDAY

Readers Recall Tragic Day In Dallas

EB-5 Investigation

Benda's Death Ruled Suicide

BY DIRK LAMMERS
 Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — Former South Dakota economic development director Richard Benda died of a self-inflicted shotgun wound to the abdomen, Attorney General Marty Jackley said Thursday.

Benda died Oct. 20 and was found Oct. 22 in a grove of trees near Lake Andes, in southeast South Dakota. He was wearing some blaze orange clothing, Jackley said, indicating he may have been hunting.

The attorney general on Thursday announced the results of the autopsy, which was conducted by the forensic pathologist with the Minnehaha County Coroner's Office, and his office's own investigation into the death.

"We did an additional investigation, scene reconstruction," Jackley told *The Associated Press* on Thursday. "We conducted interviews, we collected evidence at the scene and we did further forensic testing that was all consistent with no foul play and what the forensic autopsy showed."

Jackley said a 12-gauge shotgun was the only weapon found at the scene. He said no suicide letter was left.



Benda

Benda's family members could not be reached for comment Thursday.

Benda served as secretary of Tourism and State Development from 2006 to 2010 under former Gov. Mike Rounds, who is now a Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate.

The day after Benda's funeral, South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard acknowledged that an investigation was underway into the Governor's Office of Economic Development involving possible financial misconduct prior to his administration. Daugaard said there had also been a federal investigation.

Jackley said he expects to provide information to Daugaard regarding the state's economic development investigation this week.

"These have been two separate matters," Jackley said.

After leaving state government, Benda served as loan monitor for the Northern Beef Packers plant in

BENDA | PAGE 2A

Rise And Shine

Members of the Beadle Elementary School staff came dressed in proper attire while performing "Wakin' Up is Hard to Do," a parody of a hit Neil Sedaka song, during Beadle's fall concert Thursday night at the YHS/Summit Activities Center theatre. Students in grades 4-5 presented a program of American-made tunes, including "The Swing," written by Yankton native and former Beadle student Justin Metz. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)



Climatologist:

Flood Conditions Being Monitored

BY DEREK BARTOS
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While it is still early in the snowpack season, parts of the upper Missouri River Basin are being monitored for potential flooding conditions, according to South Dakota State climatologist Dennis Today.

Today spoke Thursday afternoon during this month's Midwest and Great Plains Drought Update Webinar. The presentation was held not only to update the regions on drought conditions, but also to inform interested parties of other soil and climate conditions and outlooks.

Today said it is too soon to make an in-depth assessment, but mountain snowpack water content above Ft. Peck and from Ft. Peck to Ft. Garrison is



Today

above average for this time of the year. Soil moisture levels in Montana and the Dakotas are also above average due to the heavy precipitation earlier in the year, he said.

"We have seen surface drying over the western plains, but fall is not typically a good time to dry soils out. Temperatures just aren't warm enough," he said. "So we're going to be carrying over some moist soils into the winter and spring."

Today added that runoff from precipitation this fall has refilled a number of reservoirs in Wyoming

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Awareness
Education
 Prevention

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month

Call 605-668-8279
 for more information.