

## JOBS

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hour without fringe benefits. Among all areas in the labor shed study, it is \$17.10.

"It's often said to me that we have a difficult time in Yankton when times are good at finding employees (because of low unemployment)," Dellinger said. "This study indicates that for a nominal increase in the value of that wage for that job, there are lots of employees that could be attracted either by existing or new employers. I think the expectations of the labor force and the employers are not too far out of whack with each other. It's just, where do we find a happy medium?"

## STOCKS

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The Dow closed up 127.83, or 1.2 percent, at 10,447.93.

Broader indexes also rose. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index rose 14.41, or 1.3 percent, to 1,104.51, while the Nasdaq composite index rose 33.74, or 1.5 percent, to 2,233.75.

About three stocks rose for every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume was relatively light at 3.6 billion shares.

Bond prices fell as sentiment on the economy improved, sending interest rates higher. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note jumped to 2.71 percent from 2.63 percent late Thursday. Its yield is often used as a gauge

The labor study, which cost about \$18,000 to complete, has traditionally been done every three years. However, due to the downturn in the economy, local economic development officials decided to update the study after only 18 months.

"We wanted to get a better idea of how (the recession) has affected labor availability and workforce expectations," Dellinger said. "We send it to target companies and have it on our website for the world to access at no cost. We use this to try to demonstrate to companies that the skill levels and the workers are there currently at lower wage levels than what they might gain elsewhere. Employees here are not looking for a 100 percent match to the rest of the world because people are willing to sacrifice a little bit for what they love about

being in Yankton. Otherwise, they wouldn't be here. The market would pay them better elsewhere."

Dellinger said he will continue to encourage companies to pay better wages.

"What we're trying to do is see how we can help companies get their wages up above the threshold and into a more median wage average," he said. "If we have 11,000 people in the workforce, what would happen if we had \$11,000 more an hour running through the local economy 24/7. That's what we're trying to accomplish: (help) to drive not a grossly maladjusted type of wage increase in the area but one that brings a greater reward and additional income into the economy to benefit all of us."

to set interest rates on mortgages and other consumer loans.

Investors have received more encouraging reports on the economy over the past three days than they did throughout August, when data regularly fell short of the market's already modest expectations. Reports beginning with Wednesday's manufacturing data touched off a rally at the beginning of September, which is historically a bad month for stocks.

There were other encouraging signs in the employment report Friday, including revisions to June and July's reports that showed the economy added more jobs than the government previously said.

More than a half-million Americans resumed their job searches in August. That drove up the unemployment rate to 9.6 percent from 9.5 percent, but it could also be a sign that more

people are hopeful about the recovery.

For the week, the Dow is up 2.9 percent, while the S&P 500 and the Nasdaq are both up 3.7 percent. It was the first week of gains in a month for both the Dow and S&P.

The S&P 500, the market gauge most used by professional investors, lost 4.7 percent in July on a string of disappointing economic news. That was the worst August performance for the index since 2001, when the dot-com bubble was bursting.

The Institute for Supply Management said the services sector continued to expand in August, but that growth slowed sharply from the previous month and more than economists predicted. The services sector, which accounts for 80 percent of jobs in the country, has not recovered as strongly as manufacturing.

## RAIN

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"If we have normal precipitation for the rest of the year, receiving 5.78 inches, Yankton would hit 36.33 inches," he said. "That would put it in third place behind the record in 1944 and the second-place mark of 37.02 inches in 1995."

Yankton is not the only reporting site that could set a new record in 2010, Schumacher said.

"In Sioux Falls, we are already in the top 20 for an entire year, and we still have four months to go," he said. "I believe, with normal precipitation the rest of the year, we will be very close to breaking the all-time annual record."

Other regional reporting stations logged record or near-record rainfall during June, July and August.

- Centerville, six miles southeast, recorded 18.19 inches, the third highest amount, with 7.27 inches in June, 8.04 inches in July and 2.88 inches in August. The record stands at 20.51 inches in 1899.

- Marion recorded 26.32 inches, a new record, with 8.14 inches in June, 12.74 inches in July and 5.44 inches in August. The new record smashed the old mark of 21.98 inches in 1944.

- Memo recorded 19.77 inches, the third highest amount, with 8.50 inches in June, 5.77 inches in July and 5.50 inches in August. The record stands at 21.04 inches in 1944.

- Tyndall recorded 18.88 inches, the third highest amount, with 8.40 inches in June, 7.21 inches in July and 3.27 inches in August. The record stands at 22.20 in 1944.

- Vermillion, two miles southeast, set a new record of 21.56 inches, with 7.26 inches in June, 11.99 inches in July and 2.31 inches in August. The new mark rolled past the old standard of 19.47 set in 1944.

- Wakefield, Neb., set a new record of 18.98 inches with 9.18 inches in June, 7.77 inches in July and 2.03 inches in August. The new mark sailed past the old record of 17.39 inches in 1923.

One major factor contributed to this year's record rainfalls and flooding, Schumacher said.

"We had a weather pattern with a front that hung over the Missouri River valley," he said. "Typically, in July it's further north, over North Dakota and Canada. But this year, it hung around our area."

In turn, warm fronts moved through the region every two or three days, Schumacher said.

"In the past, you might go through a long period of time, maybe three to seven days, with rainfall. Then you had a two-week period that was relatively dry," he said. "This year, we had rainfall every two or three days over a four- to eight-week period. That starts adding up. We had moisture out of the Gulf of Mexico that reached our area and stayed in the Missouri River valley."

The saturated ground over a large area contributed to the major flooding and flash flooding that plagued the region, Schumacher said. The situation was worsened by a series of major rain events, he said.

"You had more than 3 or 4 inches in a night, and 10 inches at a time in some places," he said. "And that happened multiple times over a fairly large area. That's why you heard about so much flash flooding."

However, August brought hotter weather that dried out the region and brought badly-needed heat units, Schumacher said.

"No rain has helped in general," he said. "We have gotten relief with these relatively dry, windy days that have been sucking the moisture out of the ground."

The drier weather and lack of additional rainfall has also eased flooding of rivers and tributaries, the meteorologist said.

"The James River receded during much of August," he said. "Mitchell was back up near flood stage briefly late this week, but it has gone down."

As a result of the receding water, the NWS has cancelled its flood warning for the James River near Scotland.

However, the NWS continued the flood warning Thursday for the Missouri River near Verdel, Neb., and at Niobrara, Neb., and Springfield. Lowland flooding will continue along portions of the Missouri River between Fort Randall Dam at Pickstown and Lewis and Clark Lake for the next two weeks.

- At Verdel, the river stood at 25.1 feet, above the flood stage of 24 feet.

- At Niobrara, the river stood at 22.7 feet, above the flood stage of 21 feet. At stages near 23 feet, Nebraska Highway 12 east of Niobrara could be overtopped by water backing up Bazile Creek.

- At Springfield, the river stood at 11.3 feet, above the flood stage of 10 feet. At stages near 10 feet, the bottom road near Springfield begins to flood.

The Missouri River flooding isn't caused by rainfall and shouldn't continue indefinitely, Schumacher said.

"What drives the Missouri River flooding between Fort Randall Dam and the Lewis and Clark Lake has been the higher releases from the dams," he said. "Once those releases go down, we will start to see the river falling."

On an optimistic note, the region saw fewer tornadoes than past years, Schumacher said. However, the Yankton and Vermillion areas sustained major damage from last month's storm with 70 mph winds, he said.

Overall, the region also saw much cooler weather this summer, he added. Yankton did not see any 100-degree days this year.

"There were 37 days of 90 degrees or more, which is below normal but the most in three years," he said. "Last year, there were only 18 days of 90 degrees or more. In 2008, we had only 25 days of 90 degrees or more."

On the other hand, this year had two days with lows in the 70s compared to the normal mark of nine days, he said.

For Labor Day, the forecast calls for temperatures in the 70s with a chance of thunderstorms, Schumacher said.

"We could get warm again in September. Looking at next week, there could be a brief period into the 80s. There could be a period where we have five to seven days with higher humidity," he said. "We are in a LaNina weather pattern. September should be near normal for both temperature and precipitation. There is no indication of above- or below-normal readings. For the fall, September through November, we are seeing slightly better chances for above-normal temperatures and precipitation."

Regardless of what happens the rest of the year, 2010 has already gone down in weather history, the meteorologist noted.

"All of this will be remembered as one of the wettest summers across the region," he said.

## MMC

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"We have been waiting with the screenings until everyone is back on campus," he said.

MMC advertised online and in higher education publications, accepting applications until Wednesday, Krause said. Six applications arrived in recent days, boosting the total to 56.

"We are very pleased. We have a good deal of interest in Mount Marty College," Krause said. "We are very optimistic about the institution and, out of that pile (of applications), there are some good ones."

Weber agreed, noting the search has brought quality as well as quantity.

"Dr. Krause said, from his experience, 50 would be the number expected," she said. "We have got some very nice quality applicants, a number of people we could very comfortably consider. But there is an uncertainty if they will stay in the search. We don't assume that every person is applying only here."

The MMC search has attracted applicants looking for a smaller, Christian college in a rural

community, Weber said.

The search has drawn applicants with administrative leadership in higher education, she added.

"We weren't expecting a sitting president to apply," she said. "But we have people with some presidential experience, who have risen through the ranks in their institutions and taken some leadership but not the presidency itself. That's typical for small colleges like Mount Marty."

The average college president serves five years, Weber said. The new MMC president must show long-range vision and the ability to plan strategically, she said.

"We definitely want someone experienced and capable in fundraising," she said. "And they need to be able to support the Benedictine and Catholic values and traditions."

The search committee is seeking a number of qualities in candidates, Krause said. They include leadership, innovation, fundraising and development abilities, strong financial and facilities management, and the ability to work with different groups.

Regardless of a candidate's background, he or she needs to understand academia, Krause said.

"We need a visionary who can see where the future of education is going," he said. "That may include academic and business backgrounds. Ideally, they have both."

The new president must also show the ability to lead multiple campuses in Yankton, Sioux Falls and Watertown, Weber said.

The new president will inherit increased enrollment this fall along with a number of projects on the horizon, Krause said.

Alumni mailings went out a week ago, soliciting donations for renovating Marian Auditorium, he said. The project seeks to raise \$350,000, with work starting next summer after the end of the spring semester. MMC also looks to convert the old library into a state-of-the-art science facility in about two years.

The college is also building its endowment, offering more scholarships and expanding the fundraising base, Weber said.

The presidential search comes at an exciting time for MMC, Krause said.

"I think the attitude on campus is very positive," he said. "I believe the people we invite in (for interviews) will be excited about the possibilities of leading the institution."

## Honduran Helped Massacre Survivor Flee

BY FREDDY CUEVAS

Associated Press Writer

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras — A Honduran who survived the massacre of 72 migrants in Mexico helped untie the only other survivor — a wounded Ecuadorian — and the two fled together, an official said Friday.

In an interview with El Herald newspaper, Honduran Deputy Foreign Minister Alden Rivera revealed details for the first time about the escape.

Mexican officials had previously said there was only one survivor of the massacre — the Ecuadorian who stumbled wounded to a military checkpoint and alerted marines. The Mexicans said when they learned that a Honduran also survived, they kept it a secret to protect him. But Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa revealed the information earlier this week.

Investigators believe the Zetas drug gang kidnapped the migrants and gunned them down after they refused to work for the cartel.

Marines found the bound, blindfolded bodies slumped against a wall last week after raiding the ranch in the northern state of Tamaulipas, which has been embroiled in a vicious turf battle between the Zetas and their former employer, the Gulf Cartel.

Mexican officials say cartels have increasingly been recruiting vulnerable migrants to smuggle drugs.

After the shooting stopped, the Honduran survivor managed to untie himself, then helped free the Ecuadorian, who had been shot in the neck, Rivera said.

Rivera did not say whether the Honduran was hurt but the Ecuadorian survivor, Luis Freddy Lala Pomavilla, told state-run television in Ecuador on Thursday that the Honduran somehow managed to avoid being shot.

Lala, 18, was flown home to Ecuador on Sunday after recovering from his wounds at a Mexican hospital. He is now under a witness protection program in Ecuador. The Honduran is under the protection of Mexican security forces.

Rivera said the two migrants fled the ranch together but when they heard gunshots behind them, they separated.

Lala said he approached two groups of people who refused to help him until he finally reached the marine checkpoint.

The Honduran, Rivera said, walked for a long time until he found a migrant shelter. Rivera revealed no other details about the migrant's escape, but said he was in good health and had been in contact with his family in Honduras.

Lala told Ecuadorian television that a total of 76 migrants were traveling together — Hondurans, Ecuadorians, Guatemalans and at least one Brazilian.

But a spokesman for Mexico's Attorney General's Office, Ricardo Najera, said Friday that 77 people were in the group; the 72 killed, the two survivors and three Mexicans whose whereabouts were unknown.

The Mexicans were two drivers and an assistant, he said, adding the information came from the testimony of the Honduran and the Ecuadorian migrants.

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