



Mount Marty Falls To Dakota State In VB • 11

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A small spark can turn into bigger problems during a drought — a fact the Yankton Fire Department had to cope with Tuesday. A ditch fire, possibly caused by a discarded cigarette, turned into a larger blaze that charred almost 40 acres along Southwest Jim River Road in Yankton County. The blaze was first reported by a passing dump truck at approximately 12:45 p.m. The fire quickly moved into some pastureland and singed a nearby soybean field. This firefighter works on an electrical pole along a fence line, while a rolling field of smoldering stubble looms behind him. Firefighters were on the scene for more than two hours on the hot, breezy day, which saw a high temperature of 97 degrees in Yankton. Readings are expected to be much cooler today (Wednesday), with the mercury forecast to climb only into the low 80s. But breezy winds could still cause fire problems. For more weather details, see page 2.

KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Cancer Survivor Continues Effort To Grow Awareness

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

Bob Cappel was able to overcome prostate cancer 16 years ago, but he couldn't fight off the feeling that the experience gave him a new responsibility to encourage others to get regular prostate exams.

"I made a personal commitment to do what I could do to help inform men that, when they reach a certain age in life, they need to be concerned about their prostates," he said. "I've been an advocate since that time."

Leading by example, Cappel, 67, has gotten a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test every six months since he had cancer.

Because of his diligence, it was recently discovered that he has had a recurrence of prostate cancer.

"I never got complacent, even when I got out past 15 years, which increased my odds that it wouldn't recur," Cappel said. "And now here it is recurring."

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BOB CAPPEL

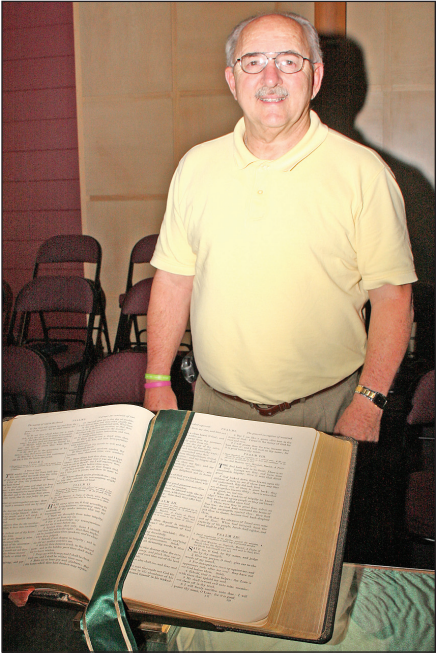
September is National Prostate Awareness Month, and he hopes his experience is a reminder to others about the importance of getting a prostate exam.

The Avera Sacred Heart Cancer Center will be holding its annual reduced-price prostate screening Thursday, Sept. 6. The prostate screening will take place from 4:30-7 p.m. at the Cancer Center. It includes a PSA test and prostate exam.

Darla Gullikson of the Cancer Center said that more than 90 men took advantage of the event last year.

"The biggest thing is the awareness," she stated. "If they don't take advantage of these opportunities that are provided, hopefully they make a point to talk to their doctor about what the plan of action should be for them."

Should an issue be discovered, the patient will be



Bob Cappel, an associate pastor at the First United Methodist Church in Yankton, is encouraging men to take advantage of a reduced-price prostate cancer screen to be offered Thursday at the Avera Sacred Heart Cancer Center. Cappel beat prostate cancer 16 years ago, but during a recent regularly-scheduled PSA test, a recurrence of the disease was discovered.

KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Across The Pond And Down The Mighty Mo

British Man Visits Yankton On 1,000-Mile Swim For Cancer

BY ANDREW ATWAL
andrew.atwal@yankton.net

A British adventurer traveled through Yankton on Tuesday as part of his journey of swimming 1,000 miles down the Missouri River to raise money and awareness for breast cancer.

Dave Cornthwaite began swimming the 1,000 miles in Chamberlain on Aug. 10. He will wrap up the journey in St. Louis at the beginning of October. The rest of his team will make the journey either by canoe or stand-up paddleboat. No members of the team will have any form of motorized transportation for the trip.

Cornthwaite and his team hope to raise \$150,000 for Coppafeel!, a breast cancer awareness organization. The charity was founded by his close friend Kris Hallenga, who was diagnosed with breast cancer at age 23 after having been misdiagnosed two

times in that previous year. The charity aims to educate young people about breast cancer symptoms and how they can prevent late diagnosis.

"So far, it has been a real challenging journey, but it has been going well," Cornthwaite said Tuesday after he reached Riverside Park. "We all made it to Yankton in one piece."

The group has traveled about 180 miles — with about 820 still to go. Cornthwaite and his team have been averaging about 10 miles a day without currents, but when they have the current guiding them downstream, they average closer to 25 miles a day.

"We have done with 180 miles so far, most of which with no current at all," Cornthwaite said. "We have battled headwinds, and I had a pretty bad ear infection only



Dave Cornthwaite, a British adventurer, stopped in Yankton on Wednesday. He is swimming 1,000 miles down the Missouri River from Chamberlain to St. Louis to raise money for breast cancer awareness.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D

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Firefighters Closing In On Neb., S.D. Wildfires

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Fire crews expressed relief Tuesday as they gained control over wildfires in Nebraska and South Dakota that had threatened homes and burned vast expanses of grassland and forest.

Emergency responders reported that two major fires in the Nebraska Panhandle were 85 percent contained. A third blaze that had crossed into South Dakota was three-fourths contained. A state official estimated that the cost of battling the blazes will exceed \$3 million.

The Wellnitz fire charred an estimated 120 square miles in Nebraska and South Dakota combined, roaring through an expanse of jagged buttes and pine

trees that's nearly the size of Omaha.

"Yesterday, we were a little worried," said Bill Kight, a spokesman for the emergency response team. "But great progress was made, so today things look really good for us."

The Wellnitz fire spread to South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, where it scorched 44 square miles — an area almost as large as Rapid City. State and federal authorities joined forces with nearly 40 volunteer fire departments from Nebraska and seven from South Dakota.

The fire destroyed two mobile homes on the reservation. One was unoccupied; the other be-

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