



Yankton Bucks Win Homecoming Game • 7

YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN



VOLUME 138
NUMBER 120

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | **16 PAGES** | www.yankton.net

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DAVID LIAS/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK
A small plane circles around the area where a pilot was killed in the crash of an ultralight plane in a cornfield near the Vermillion airport Friday afternoon.

Plane Crash Kills Pilot

Aircraft Crashed In Middle Of A Cornfield West Of Vermillion City Airport

BY DAVID LIAS
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VERMILLION — Bill Brown, who lives near the corner of 12th and Broadway streets below the bluff in lower Vermillion, is used to watching planes take off from Harold Davidson Field, the municipal airport located south of the city.

He knew by the sound coming from the sky that an ultralight aircraft he had been watching was in trouble.

The aircraft crashed in the middle of a

cornfield located west of the city airport, killing its pilot.

"Standing here in my driveway, looking across the Vermillion River, I could see it," Brown said. "It was sideways, with the wing straight up in the air, and the engine was full throttle, and I could see it going down.

"I knew something was wrong, and I heard it hit the ground across the river," he said.

Brown hopped onto his four-wheeler and drove to the scene.

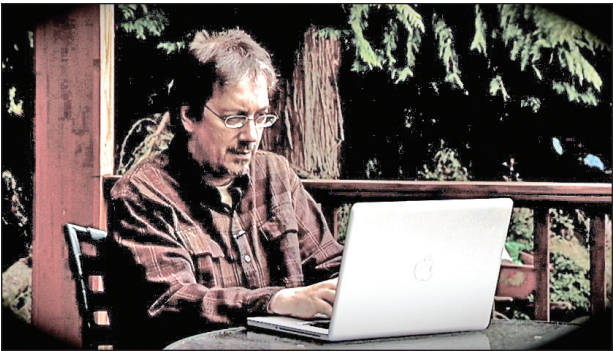
"I got within 10 to 15 feet of it (the plane), and I was scared to get any closer," he said.

"The cornfield was all on fire when I got there, and everything was totally engulfed."

Brown said he called out into the field, but received no reply. "I was hollering over there, hoping that somebody would holler back. I didn't know if they may have had a parachute on or not, but I didn't hear anybody holler back."

Brown also joined a chorus of concerned citizens who dialed the Clay Area Emergency Services Communications Center in Vermil-

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COURTESY PHOTO
Bob Nelson, who was born in Yankton and visited family in Hartington, Neb., while growing up, will have his screenplay, "Nebraska," made into a movie next month. The production will be filmed in and around Norfolk, Neb.

Telling The Story Of 'Nebraska'

Yankton-Born Bob Nelson To Have Screenplay Directed By Oscar-Winning Director

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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Bob Nelson is making inroads in Hollywood by having his first screenplay made into a film this fall, but he hasn't forgotten Yankton.

Well, what little he remembers of it anyway. It turns out that Nelson, 56, of Whidbey Island, Wash., has only spent two days of his life in Yankton.

But if you read through his resume — combing through such facts that his "Nebraska" screenplay will be directed by Oscar-winning Omaha, Neb., native Alexander Payne or that he is working with comedian Chris Rock on the adaptation of the French film, "La Premiere Etiole" — you will find the following line: "Nelson was born in Yankton, South Dakota."

His parents, Hartington, Neb., natives Jean (Walz) and George Nelson, had lived in Yankton from about 1952-56. When Nelson came into the world, his mother was living in Hartington as she prepared to join her husband in Washington. However, her doctor was in Yankton, so that is where Nelson was born. The only other time he was in Yankton was around the time his grandmother died in 1985.

"So that's a total of two days in Yankton for me, and they were both good," Nelson

told the Press & Dakotan during a recent phone interview. "I understand I did cry a lot the first time, but it had nothing to do with Yankton itself."

Nelson was raised in the Seattle area but visited his family in Hartington a handful of times while growing up. He has always held on to the fact that he was born in Yankton, he said.

"When you're out here in Seattle and you say you were born in Yankton, S.D., it sounds kind of exotic," Nelson stated. "I grew up with Yankton as my birthplace, and I've always really celebrated that. It does kind of create this strange tie, even though I was only there for one day."

Those visits to Hartington provide much of the basis for Nelson's fictional town of Hawthorne in "Nebraska."

It was announced in August that Payne would begin shooting "Nebraska" in October. The production will be based in Norfolk, Neb., and shooting there, as well as surrounding communities such as Plainview and Stanton.

"Hartington was an inspiration for what became Hawthorne, but it's not Hartington," Nelson said. "It's a little rougher version. Because Hartington is such a nice town and so

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CARD SHARKS AT HOMECOMING PARADE



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Two youngsters "shuffle" their way to one of the "cards" handing out treats during the Pioneer Day parade Friday in downtown Yankton. The festivities including a homecoming football game on Friday night that the Yankton High School Bucks won against the Aberdeen Central Golden Eagles.

Former S.D. County Clerk Charged With Grand Theft

KENNEBEC (AP) — A former county clerk of courts in South Dakota is accused of stealing more than \$1,100 in fines paid for traffic violations.

Denise Anderson, of Kennebec, is charged with one count of grand theft. She is scheduled to be arraigned next month.

Authorities say Anderson stole \$1,183 in fines paid to Lyman County between September 2008 and June 2010.

The charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison.

Anderson was fired from her position as clerk of courts in 2011. A county official tells the *Daily Republic* that the indictment is not connected to Anderson's dismissal.

Defense attorney Michael Strain was not immediately available for comment.

Juvenile Injured In Homecoming Parade Accident

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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A 14-year-old female freshman was injured Friday afternoon when her leg was run over by a float in the Yankton High School Homecoming Parade, according to the Yankton Police Department.

"She either fell off or jumped off a float. We have conflicting witness reports," said Lt. Michael Burgeson. "She got her leg underneath a tire, and the float went over her left leg."

The injury was to her lower leg. Burgeson said he did not know if there was a bone fracture.

First responders were called to the accident in the 400 block of Pine Street at 3:03 p.m.

The female was transported by ambulance to Avera Sacred Heart Hospital.

"This is an unfortunate thing that happened," Burgeson said. "I don't foresee charges stemming from this incident."

Yankton School District Superintendent Joe Gertsema said he and his staff were saddened by the accident. He and High School Principal Wayne Kindle met with the family at the emergency room.

"We just hope that any injuries that occurred are minor in nature," Gertsema said. "We wish the family well."

He said it is too early to tell if safety policies surrounding the annual parade will have to be examined.

"We'll take a look at all those kinds of things in the future," Gertsema said. "At a homecoming parade, there are a lot of kids involved, and it is a happy time for the student body. We understand the students' enthusiasm."

He commended the emergency responders, hospital staff and school staff for their efforts.

"They really did their very best under some trying circumstances, and we hope the student turns out OK," Gertsema said.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage

Quinn Takes Over At YAA

BY DEREK BARTOS
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As a musician, Jackie Quinn knows what it's like to be on the receiving end of the work of Yankton Area Arts (YAA).

Quinn participated in the organization's summer concert series several years ago, and as a fan of the arts, she has always admired YAA's many contributions.

"I've seen just how much they do for the community, and I've always respected that," she said.

Now, as the new YAA executive director, Quinn is excited to have her chance to give back.

"Yankton has given my family so much, especially when (my husband Ted) and I were starting out our careers 10 years ago," said Quinn, who started the position Monday. "It's

great to be back in Yankton full circle and to be able to contribute to the community."

Quinn recently returned to Yankton, where she taught music and language arts for five years at Sacred Heart School, after living in Iowa and New York to accommodate her husband's coaching career.

"We had a chance to come back, and my husband had a chance to coach again with his mentor Jim Thorson at Mount Marty," Quinn said. "So it was very fitting for me to look for something in the community."

After inquiring about the open YAA position, she felt the job was a perfect fit, she said.

"As an advocate for the arts, being able to be a representative for the community with that (role) really spoke to me," she said.

Quinn said the most appealing aspect of the

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COURTESY PHOTO
Jackie Quinn was recently named the new Yankton Area Arts executive director, taking over for Amy Miner who left to teach at Yankton High School.