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3 To Join **YHS Athletic Hall Of Fame**

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Crash And Search

Authorities Investigating Accident At Lake Yankton

BY ROB NIELSEN

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An afternoon accident at Lake Yankton briefly necessitated the deployment of area search and rescue units Thursday

Shortly after 1 p.m., authorities were called out to Lake Yankton after a 2008 Nissan Versa, driven by Trevor Balderas, 21, drove off Toe Rd., along the foot of Gavins Point Dam, and into the lake near the Cottonwood Recreation Area.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Michael Rothschadl of the Yankton County Sheriff's Department told the Press & Dakotan that witnesses said Balderas grabbed an item out of the car and ran into the brush of an island on the lake. Rothschadl was unsure of what the item was.

Balderas was found alive but Rothschadl was unsure of his exact condi-

Yankton County Search & Rescue, Yankton County EMS, the Yankton County Sheriff's Department and Cedar County Sheriff's Department all responded.

Follow @RobNielsenPandD on Twitter.



An accident near the Cottonwood Recreation Area below Gavins Point Dam results in a brief search for a missing person Thursday afternoon. Law enforcement from both Yankton County and Cedar County handled the incident.



Today is the 14th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, and this flag, which is on display in the 500 block of Burleigh in Yankton, offers a stirring tribute to the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. The stripes of the flag contain all the known victims of the 9/11 attacks as of Sept. 11. 2008. Several people have reportedly stopped by to look at the flag. Today (Friday), Gov. Dennis Daugaard has asked that all flags in South Dakota be flown at half-staff in observance of Patriot Day, which remembers the anniversary. It is asked that flags fly at halfstaff from 8 a.m. until sunset. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)

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Education Background **Drives Hawks**

BY ROB NIELSEN rob.nielsen@yankton.net

The 2016 campaign season started in Yankton at the Territorial Capitol Building in Riverside Park Thursday night with an

appearance by U.S. House candidate and South Da-kota legislator Paula Hawks

(D — District 9). The event, organized by the Yankton County Democrats, was meant to introduce the candidate who has served District 9

Hawks

Hawks told a packed room of nearly 30 people that one of her first loves has been teach-

ing.
"I was a teacher — I taught high school science for 10 years at West Central (High School)," she said. "It's my passion. I love biology and I love science and I love seeing the light go on for a kid when they finally understand what energy is. ... I still love teaching and education is at the heart of

She added that it was her former career in teaching that drove her towards politics.

"While I was a teacher, I was also a president of the local education association," she said. "In 2012, I'd had it with the Legislature. They passed that God-awful piece of legislation ... (House Bill) 1234 was the straw that

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Emergency Personnel Face Day Of Tests

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN alissa.woockman@yankton.net

Several area law enforcement and emergency response agencies took part in a full-scale exercise Thursday afternoon in Yankton. Scenarios in multiple locations set the stage for responders to test their abilities in protecting resi-

dents during life-threatening situations. More than 25 agencies and organizations from South Dakota, including Yankton, Bon Homme and Clay counties, had their emergency management tested during the drill.

The group started out the day with a simulated fire at their Emergency Operation Center on Eighth and Douglas. This exercise caused operators to move to their plan B location at the fire station on 23rd st., where they set up a second command center.

The "fire" also caused two of management's leaders, Yankton County Emergency Manager Paul Scherschligt and Yankton Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal Larry Nickles, to be "injured." Both were removed from the line of communication and Chief Deputy Emergency Manager Steve Hermanson was forced to step in as active manager.

"We never know what emergency calls are going to come up tomorrow, said Deputy Emergency Manager/Public Information Officer Lee Rettig. "The idea of coming blindly into this and relying on training is really what this is all about."

The exercise also featured "shooters" in the Yankton Police Department, "killing" two of their dispatchers. This

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Friends Bid **Farewell To Passionate Servant**

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

Bob Cappel was described as a disciple and a servant, whether it was leading the Chamber of Commerce or his later calling as a United Methodist pastor.

Cappel made a smooth transition between careers, which wasn't surprising as he practiced a strong Christian faith in everyday life, according to those who knew him.

His Christian faith and positive attitude also served him well in dealing with health issues. Those struggles ended Tuesday, when he passed away at age 70 in Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton.

Brian Steward saw Cappel's spiritual qualities in dealing with people when the two men shared offices in the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce building. Cappel served as the Chamber executive director at the time. while Steward works with Yankton Area Progres-

sive Growth (YAPG). "Bob had the ability to see God in everything and not judge people. He just accepted them as

they were," Steward said.
Cappel took the same approach at both the Yankton Chamber office and as associate pastor at First United Methodist Church in Yankton,

"Bob believed in serving others, whether it was through the Chamber or during his mission to the church," he said. Cappel's death was hitting the Methodist

church members hard, said the Rev. Ron John-

"He connected with people here, and we're having a tough time," said Johnson, the senior pastor. "You're talking to one who is really struggling with it. Bob really took care of me (as a minister) and reached out to me.

Cappel preached at services during Johnson's absence, as well as on the fifth Sunday of a month. He also performed numerous tasks behind the scenes.

"Bob was devoted to his church work. He was supposed to be part-time, but he was more like full-time and even more than that," Johnson said. "Even after he stepped away for health reasons, he continued to be as involved as he

Cappel kept his faith and sense of humor even while in hospice during his final days, Johnson said. "Bob was strong very much to the end," he added.

The family had gathered at Cappel's bedside during his hospice stay but parted to make way for Johnson during his visit.

"Bob woke up, looked around and saw me.

"Bob woke up, looked around and saw me.

He threw his head back and started laughing and said, 'Rookie, how you doing?'" Johnson said. "He was jabbing me like he always did."

Cappel's positive attitude and likeability were infectious, Steward said.

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YHS Homecoming **Royalty Named**

The royalty for the 2015 Yankton High School Pioneer Days homecoming includes, front from left: Brianna Benjamin, Rebecca Frick, Sophie Drotzman, Rachel Frick, Ashley Van Meeteren and Erin Luken; back row: Joseph Kelly, Gabe Dannenbring, Reid Sawatzke, Tanner Frick, Jeffrey Kollar and Colby Benson. The YHS coronation is set for Thursday, Sept. 17, with the annual homecoming parade slated for Friday, Sept. 18, followed by the football game between the Yankton Bucks and Aberdeen Central. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)



