

Sunny And Cool

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FRIDAY ■ September 11, 2015



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 Rothschild 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. Rothschild was unsure of what the item was.

Balderas was found alive but Rothschild was unsure of his exact condition.

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.



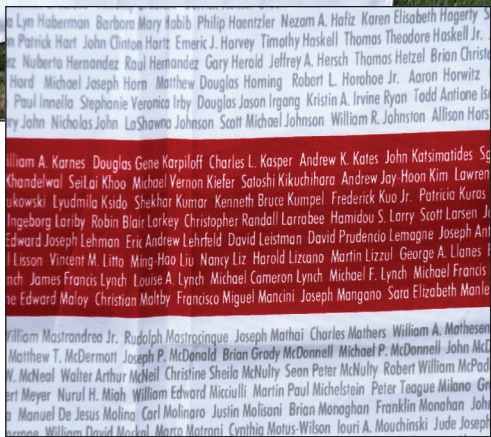
KELLY HERTZ/P&D

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.



'Flag Of Honor'

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 half-staff from 8 a.m. until sunset. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)



Education Background Drives Hawks

BY ROB NIELSEN
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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 Dakota 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 since 2013.

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

"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 my passion."

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

HAWKS | PAGE 10A

Emergency Personnel Face Day Of Tests

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN
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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 residents 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

DRILL | PAGE 10A



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)

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TOMORROW: Lake Yankton On Course One Year After Rebirth

YANKTON RECYCLING FOR THIS WEEK

SOUTH
OF 15TH STREET