



A Mild End To September

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**Yankton Boys Win Soccer Playoff Opener Tuesday**  
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Inside Today

# HERITAGE

70/40: World War II (1945-2015) • Vietnam War (1975-2015)



PHOTO: BOB CHAVIS

Bob Chavis, center, is shown with two members of his team while working with the military police (MP) in South Vietnam in the late 1960s during the Vietnam War. The team's duties included far more than internal security, as they also went on patrols and were involved in firefights with the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong.

## As MP In Vietnam, Chavis Took The Fight To The Enemy

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This profile of Vietnam War veteran Bob Chavis, a longtime Yankton lawyer and state's attorney, was written by Dave Hosmer. To see more articles by Hosmer regarding World War II, see today's HERITAGE edition.

BY DAVE HOSMER  
For the Press & Dakotan

Bob Chavis should be dead. Probably many times over. Perhaps he was over eager once or twice, but that's the life of a professional soldier. His survival may be just plain luck. If the truth be told, it is we who are the lucky ones because we have gotten to know this man. This warrior. He was and is passionate about his military life and we can learn a lot from him.

Bob joined the Army on May 5, 1958 — with a ninth grade education. His sister forged his mother's name on his enlist-

ment papers so he could join at age 17. Living in Peoria, Illinois, he was raised by a single mother. His two older brothers were both in the military, the older in the airborne during World War II. Both brotherly love and pride shine as Bob presents their pictures.

After basic training, he sought out airborne infantry. Due to his vision, he moved to airborne MP. His first duty in the MP was assignment to the 101st Airborne where he earned his wings. He was honorably discharged in 1962 at Specialist 4th rank. Sixty days later, he re-enlisted and was assigned to Headquarters 5th Army and then to the 8th Airborne MP which was stationed in Bad Kreuznach, Germany. He truly loved that assignment.

Thereafter, he took an assignment with the 82nd Airborne. He was with the 82nd when it was deployed in the Dominican

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## Voters Reject County Levy

Seventy Percent Of Voters Reject Tax Proposal

BY ROB NIELSEN  
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A proposed levy to help fund road and bridge repairs in Yankton County failed to garner enough votes to be implemented during a special election Tuesday night.

The final tally was 2,396 voting against (70 percent) and 1,029 (30 percent) voting for the measure. A total of 3,427 ballots were cast, with two blank ballots being rejected. Voter turnout was 24 percent.

The proposed levy, allowed with the passage of Senate Bill 1 during this year's state legislative session, was originally adopted by the Yankton County Commission in July. However, a successful petition drive referred it to a vote of the county.

Yankton County Commission chairman Todd Woods said the commission did its best to make its case.

"I'm disappointed, of course, but the people have spoken," Woods said. "What I'm proud of is the effort our commissioners put in to get out to the people to talk to (them) — whether it was the town hall meetings, whether it was the forums or education sessions. The people have spoken and we'll listen."

From here, Woods said the county will have to research its options.

"We have to go to the drawing board and figure out what our next step will be," he said. "The problem's still there. The roads are bad and the solution is still going to need some kind of funding to take care of them. We're just going to how that's going to be."

In an email to the Press & Dakotan, levy opponent Randy Gleich accused the commission of not exploring every available option.

"It is the commission's obligation to the taxpayer to uncover every rock and explore every possibility available for funding before they tax citizens of Yankton and Yankton County," Gleich said. "This I know was not done and they basically took the 'easy' way out and passed the 'tax levy.' To add insult to injury, they passed the maximum tax possible as if the 'world' were going to end."

He added that there was a need for additional language allowing any imposed levy to be put to rest and specify where the money went.

"Unfortunately, the initial levy legal language did not include such items as the 'sunset clause' or 'for the purpose of' and, as we all know, sooner than later the funds will quickly be absorbed and lost within the government's general budget. This is not what the people want."

Woods said from here, the commission must take a look at the budget and what they'll be able to do with roads in 2016.

"The budget will be formalized here really soon," he said. "In 2016, not much can be done for roads. The money's not there. Whatever road projects need to be done, we'll have to look at them again and see if we can pull some money out of the unassigned cash. We're going to have to reevaluate the budget."

Under Senate Bill 1, counties are allowed to vote for

VOTE | PAGE 12



Woods

## Railroad Bridge Near Scotland Replaced; Investigation Ongoing

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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SCOTLAND — Rail service has resumed, but the clean-up continues following the recent derailment of ethanol tanker cars and ensuing fire southeast of Scotland.

The Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) train derailed Sept. 19 in Bon Homme County. The 96-car train was crossing a wooden bridge around 6:15 a.m. when the derailment occurred. Seven cars filled with ethanol went off the tracks, with three cars breached and spilling ethanol that caught fire.

No injuries were reported in the incident, which occurred just north of S.D. Highway 46. The immediate site was sealed off by federal and railroad officials.

The tracks re-opened Sept. 23, BNSF spokeswoman Amy McBeth told the Press & Dakotan.

"The bridge was destroyed in the incident. It was replaced with large 9-foot culverts," she said Tuesday. "This is common for replacement projects. Across our railroad, when we have planned bridge replacement projects,

BNSF | PAGE 12



## ... Upon A YHS Star

Yankton High School's Abby Boyd performed a solo version of Tori Kelly's "Dear No One" during the YHS choir's annual "Evening with the Stars" concert, held Tuesday night at the YHS/Summit Activities Center theatre. Besides solo or small group performances, numerous YHS vocal ensembles performed during the event, which showcased songs that have become popular since 2010. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)



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TOMORROW: TransCanada Holding Drills In Yankton

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