

USD projects approved by Regents

By Travis Gulbrandson

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The state Board of Regents approved a trio of major projects for the University of South Dakota at a meeting Wednesday afternoon in Vermillion.

The regents approved an expansion of the Muenster University Center (MUC), the preliminary facility statement and facility program plan of the USD Science, Health and Research Lab, and the facility program plan of the USD Sports Performance Enhancement Facility Arena.

According to Sheila Gestring, vice president of finance at USD, the MUC expansion essentially will replace the north commons dining facility.

"The expansion will be to the south on both the east and west sides of the existing connector between the library and the facility today," she said.

The university is looking to add 28,000 square feet of seating space in the MUC, and 31,000 square feet overall, Gestring said.

The north commons dining area has approximately 21,000 square feet, she said.

Gestring said current usage numbers point to the expansion as being necessary, with sales of meal plans being up approximately 30 percent, and retail sales in the MUC increased by 45 percent.

"Students are not just dining in this facility," she added. "I think what you'll find around here is, they come in, they dine, they stay and they study. So, this facility we're finding is utilized most hours of the day, as opposed to the old dining facility. We would find they were using it about three hours of the day extensively."

According to a document distributed

to the board of regents, funding for the expansion will come from operating income and cash from the MUC operations totaling \$4,472,393, and a loan from the auxiliary system totaling \$7,127,607, to be repaid from MUC operations through FY2023.

University President James Abbott addressed the board regarding both the Science, Health and Research Lab and the Sports Performance Enhancement Facility Arena.

The lab is being referred to as "the connector" by USD representatives, Abbott said.

"The point is, we're connecting the DakotaDome with the arena using this academic space," he said.

That space will accommodate areas of health sciences including the occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician's assistant and kinesiology and sports sciences programs.

The "connector" also will provide some much-needed space to DakotaDome employees, Abbott said.

"We don't have any space in the Dome for any sort of offices anymore," he said. "We've got four people in little teeny offices, or chairs, really. This will be a much better use of that space, I think, and it will also provide that connection, because I don't think we want to have an arena separate from the Dome."

The connection will be constructed on the south side of the DakotaDome.

According to board of regents documents, the lab will be constructed at an estimated cost of \$10,609,000.

Funding for the project will be \$8,695,000 from HEFF binding in FY2014 and \$1,194,000 in donations, the document said.

Abbott described the USD Sports Performance Enhancement Facility



University of South Dakota President James Abbott describes details of facility plans for proposed additions to athletics and academics facilities on the campus, including the addition of a basketball arena near the DakotaDome, the construction of a science, health and research lab, and an outdoor track and soccer complex. Abbott addressed the South Dakota Board of Regent's Committee on Budget and Finance during its Wednesday afternoon meeting in the Muenster University Center.

(David Lias/Vermillion Plain Talk)

Arena as "a 6,000-seat basketball, volleyball, outdoor track and soccer complex."

According to a Board of Regents document, the project will be constructed at an estimated cost of \$48,178,885, funding for which will come from more than \$14 million in cash donations, a

cash pledge from the USD Foundation of \$9,938,559 and athletic revenues of \$3,400,000.

A further \$20,690 will come from debt financing, repaid with a \$20 million Sanford gift, \$2 million from rental agreements and \$8.4 million from corporate sponsorship agreements, the

document said.

"No student fee increases beyond the amount needed for utilities are anticipated for construction, operation or maintenance of this facility," the document said.

All three projects were met with unanimous approval.

OBITUARIES

Iona Freier

Iona E. Freier was born Jan. 14, 1922 in Tyndall. She was the daughter of Carl and Rosia (Vilhauer) Jungling. She died Oct. 13, 2012.

Funeral services were held 7 p.m. Oct. 15, 2012, at the Fraternal Burial Assoc., Viborg, with the Revs. Todd Johnson and Laura Johnson officiating. Burial was Tuesday, Oct. 16, in Gracehill Municipal Cemetery, Tripp.

Iona grew up on a farm near Tripp, married and farmed near Wessington Springs, later owned and operated a restaurant in Tripp, and a bar in



FREIER

Scotland; but her first love was farming. In 1985 she moved to Vermillion where she supervised and participated in the building of her home on Vonnie St. Designing, creating, and sewing beautiful dresses, (particularly wedding dresses); quilting and gardening were among her many talents and interests.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters, Viola Jungling and Edna Phillippi.

Iona is survived by one son, Gerald (Karen) of Viborg; one daughter, Sharen (Glenn) Downer of Fairfax, VA; four grandchildren, Kimberly McCoy, Laura Johnson, David Downer and Melissa Bissee; 10 great-grandchildren, Kayla, Michael, Madeline, Kendra, Alyssa, Kate, Jonah, Anna, Ian and Ella; and four sisters, Verna Pardum of N. Sioux City, Ada Schaefer of Wisconsin, Lillian Mazourk of Yankton and Eunice Jurgensen of Elk Point.

Clois Smith

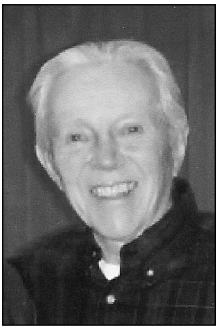
Clois Esten Smith, 78, of Vermillion, passed away on Oct. 11, 2012, at the Golden Living Center - Covington Heights in Sioux Falls.

A funeral service was held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2012, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Vermillion, with Pastor Trisha Boese and Pastor Will Johnson officiating.

A visitation was held from 5 to 7 p.m., with a prayer service beginning at 7 p.m., on Monday, Oct. 15, at Kober Funeral Home in Vermillion.

Burial was in BluffView Cemetery immediately following the service with military honors provided by V.F.W. Post 3061 and American Legion Post 0001.

Clois was born on Dec. 10, 1933, in Yankton to Clifford and Ruth (Lien) Smith. He went on to graduate from Vermillion High School and the University of South Dakota. After graduation he served in the U.S. Navy as a trumpet player in the



SMITH

Navy Band. After leaving the Navy he went on to earn a Master's Degree from Indiana University. After graduation he rejoined the military, becoming a member of the Marine Corps President Band, where he went on to play for seven sitting presidents. During his time in both branches of service, Clois played concerts in all 50 states, Canada, Mexico, South America and the Virgin Islands.

After leaving the Marines, Clois gave private lessons in piano and trumpet in the D.C. area.

Clois returned to Vermillion in the mid '90s and remained a resident until his passing. During his time in Vermillion Clois met Barbara Ernst and they maintained a close and loving relationship for more than 12 years. In his free time, Clois continued to play trumpet every day just for his own enjoyment.

Clois is survived by his special friend, Barbara Ernst; and numerous cousins.

Clois was preceded in death by his parents, Clifford and Ruth Smith.

Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion, South Dakota is entrusted with the arrangements.

Condolences may be posted online at www.koberfuneralhome.com.

Phyllis Jones

Phyllis M. (Hanson) Jones, 79, passed away Sunday, October 14, 2012 at the Country Club Retirement Center in Ashtabula, OH where she had been a resident for the past year.

She was born May 31, 1933 in Vermillion, SD, the daughter of Alfred and Fannie (Powell) Hanson and had been a resident of Euclid, OH most of her life. Phyllis graduated from Vermillion High School in 1951 and studied at the University of South Dakota.

She worked as an accountant at Addressograph Multigraph for many years until it closed and then worked for Progressive Insurance and later for Aetna Insurance in the accounting departments as well.

Phyllis enjoyed casino trips, crossword puzzles, and counted cross-stitch. She cross-stitched many beautiful pieces that she had shared with her family.

Her survivors include two daughters, Jennifer Jones (and her husband Mark Zmijewski) of Chicago, IL and Lori Jones of Dorset, OH; one grandson, Phillip Zmijewski of Chicago,

Dennis Girard

Dennis Ray Girard died Oct. 10, 2012 at Wakonda Heritage Manor.

Dennis was born Aug. 6, 1958 to Francis and Evelyn (Lambert) Girard. He attended Westerville Country School and graduated from Wakonda High School in 1976. He was active in sports during high school. He later attended Mitchell VoTech graduating with a degree in Heating & Air Conditioning. He enjoyed watching sports on television and fishing.

He is survived by his mother, Evelyn, of Vermillion; three

brothers, Leonard (Pat) of Vermillion, Roger (Karen) of Yankton, and Marvin (Pat) of Wakonda; also several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Francis, in 1973.

Memorial services were 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2012 at the Hansen Funeral Home in Vermillion. Burial of ashes followed in Calvary Cemetery at Vermillion.

For obituary and online condolences, visit hansenfuneralhome.com Hansen Funeral Home 605 263-3343

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Lilly Acosta

Lilly Elizabeth Acosta took her first breath at 2:51 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 8, 2012. In the 11 short hours she was in this world, she stole the hearts and forever changed the lives of many. Her mother, Faith Elizabeth Acosta, her

maternal grandparents, Frank & Elizabeth Acosta of Vermillion, her uncle, Ian Gabriel Acosta and countless friends and talented care givers at Sanford Health of Sioux Falls were blessed with the chance to hold her hands, sing her songs and shower her with tears, prayers and boundless love.

At 35 weeks, Lilly was 3 pounds, 15 oz. and 15 & 3/4 inches long. She had the most beautiful deep Navy blue eyes, a full head of dark brown curly



hair, her grandfather's nose, 10 fingers and 10 toes. After a beautiful baptism by Pastor Sandy Aakre of First Baptist Church, Lilly took her final breaths in her mother's arms as Faith made the ultimate sacrifice to pass her back into Jesus' awaiting eternal embrace.

While Lilly's uncle and aunt, Chris & Olivia Acosta of Bellingham, WA, and her great-grandmother, Lourdes Marquez of Houston, TX, were not able to meet her in this world - their love for Faith has automatically embraced the life and loss of Lilly indelibly in their lives forever, too.

A remembrance of Lilly was held at First Baptist Church in Vermillion on Saturday, Oct. 13 at 2 p.m. Your presence, prayers and simple understanding were greatly appreciated and a blessing to our family.

Lilly's Prayer - No matter what, it is our greatest privilege to know your unconditional love. God, thank you for this precious gift and help me to not walk through life with blinders on, but be open to the presence of your angels everywhere.

Joseph Oakie Sr.

Joseph Carl Oakie Sr., 65, of Vermillion, passed away on Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012, at the Royal C. Johnson Veterans Hospital in Sioux Falls.

A visitation was held from 5 to 7 p.m. with a Native American prayer service beginning at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 12, 2012, at the Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion.

A committal service took place in the Oakie-Chasing Hawk Cemetery in Red Scaffold.

Joseph was born on Nov. 7, 1946, in Eagle Butte, to Herman and Mary (Chasing Hawk) Oakie. After leaving Eagle Butte, Joseph served in the U.S. Navy. After his time in the military, Joseph moved to

Vermillion, where he was a resident for more than 30 years.

Joseph is survived by his wife, Kathy (Begay) Oakie; his daughter, Zonnie Oakie; his sons, Ronnie Oakie Sr., Cecil Oakie, and Joseph Oakie Jr.; his granddaughter, Cheyenne Oakie; and his grandsons, Brandon Blackbear, and Ronnie Oakie Jr., all of Vermillion.

He was preceded in death by his son, Christopher Oakie; his parents, Herman and Mary Oakie; his sisters, Mary Oakie and Lynda Whitewolf; his brother, Stuart Oakie; and his grandson, Stuart Nezzie.

Services were entrusted to Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion.

Condolences may be posted online at www.koberfuneralhome.com

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**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF INTEREST**
 The South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) is soliciting Statements of Interest from engineering and planning consulting firms to conduct the Interstate Rest Areas Study: Along the I-29 and I-90 Corridors.
 Those interested in submitting a Statement of Interest should download the complete Notice of Request for Statement of Interest from the SDDOT webpage www.sddot.com/transportation/highways/planning/specialstudies/Default.aspx.
 Statements of Interest should be directed to Mr. Brad Remmich; Office of Project Development, SDDOT, 700 East Broadway Avenue, Pierre, SD, 57501-2586; and must be received no later than November 9, 2012 at Noon Central Standard Time. Both one hard copy and one electronic copy (Adobe PDF format preferred) of the Statement of Interest must be included in the submittal. Questions regarding this Request for Statement of Interest should be emailed to Mr. Brad Remmich at bradley.remmich@state.sd.us by 5:00pm, November 1, 2012.
 Per SDCL 17-2-28, Notice published once in 120 newspapers for the cost of \$800.

Coyoteopoly FOOD DRIVE
 Saturday, October 27th
 Please place this bag with food donations on doorstep or porch by 9:00am
 Place monetary donations in envelope.
 ALL donations are given to the Vermillion Food Pantry
 Items needed most:
 •Tuna and Other Canned Meats •Macaroni and Cheese
 •Chunky Brand Soup •Pasta and Rice
 •Crackers •Cereal
 •Hamburger Helper •Canned Fruit
 •Scalloped Potatoes •Muffin Mix
 •Mashed Potatoes (boxed) •Peanut Butter and Jelly
 •Chili