



Celebrate Dakota Days: Part II

From war to rock and roll

By Alan Dale

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America had survived the “war to end all wars” and “the Great Depression” and in turn so did the University of South Dakota.

What the first 25 years of Homecoming – i.e. Dakota Days – represented was an embracing of the here and now while respecting what the university on the prairie had grown to be.

Now as the next 25 years loomed – 1939 to 1963 – it was on to even more challenging times.

From the worldwide

threat of Adolph Hitler and the dreaded Axis to the Cold War and the A-bomb, USD survived it all.

Then of course there were The Beatles.

But what might have shaped a large part of the USD campus’ identity was a productive war between two talented alpha males.

They two shaped the University of South Dakota if not in turn America.

A World War of South Dakotan proportions

I.D. Weeks had already been in the role of President for the University of South Dakota for six years when

Pearl Harbor was bombed.

He would survive World War II and many other challenges to become the longest tenured USD president (1935-1966) of 31 years.

What he would witness was a cultural shift on campus as the bombs flew, men left for corridors of war, and American women took their place as the backbone of a nation.

“During the war you had very few men on campus so women did everything,” Susan Tuve, Senior Director of Planned Giving and a 1970 USD alum, said. “They were student body presidents, in charge of the annual and the paper. It was pretty true across the country. Some of those women later on became fairly prominent and some of them have given back.”

“I remember looking at the annuals and saw how women stepped up.”



The last cover of the last USD yearbook in 1986.

(Courtesy Photo)

The war saw American involvement for nearly four years and when it ended the nation gave back.

By creating the G.I. Bill, the United States government would change the direction of a nation for years. The bill was a law that provided a range of benefits for returning World War II veterans (commonly referred to as G.I.s). Benefits included low-

cost mortgages, low-interest loans to start a business, cash payments of tuition and living expenses to attend university, high school or vocational education, as well as one year of unemployment compensation.

“The war defined the period,” Current USD President Emeritus Ted Muenster said. “After the war there was a resurgence in the student body because of the

GI Bill”

“(The bill) made a difference in the student body because these GIs were coming back and they were much more sophisticated,” Tuve said. “They had seen the world, they had survived the world. It gave a different flavor to the campus.”

It may have been one of the last times where Americans almost unanimously support the troops following war.

“It was a clear cut victory,” “Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq are most likely not going to be clear cut victories. It’s hard to deal with it when there isn’t victory with a peace.”

Despite women taking prominent roles during the war, many settled back into what they knew prior to the war.

“Women proved they could do it and women fell back into their former roles,” Tuve said. “It was still harder to see women get ahead. It didn’t really start around the early 60s. It still didn’t quite affect the Midwest like it did on the coasts.”

“I don’t think the charge for women started until later.”

During all that time, Weeks became what Muenster called the person who defined the USD campus.

Not only had he overseen the enrollment boom after WWII, he established the school of nursing, oversaw

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BEAUTIFUL YANKTON COUNTY ACREAGE

Auction Saturday Oct. 18th 10:30 am

Real Estate Sold

Personal Property Sells at 10:30 am

Open House: Thursday Evening, October 2nd, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Located: 44873 309th Street, Gayville, SD. Approx 8-miles East of the Jim River Bridge on Old Highway 50.

Legal: Tracts A, B, C Segard’s S Div Lot 1 and in SE1/4, NE1/4 Sect 4-93-54, Yankton, County, SD. Taxes are \$1,544.08

Acreages like this rarely come up for sale! Home was built in 1955, has 1,150 square feet of living space, a nearly full, DRY basement, plus an attached 26’x26’ 2-car finished Garage. There are 3-bedrooms and 2-baths in the house. Basement has been drained tiled, partially finished and has laundry hook-ups. Home has Central Air, Propane heat, and is hooked to B-Y Water. A new roof on the home was put on in 2009. Some appliances are included with the home including a front load washer & dryer. It is a ready-to-move into home and has been meticulously maintained!

Also on the property is 60’x40’ James Steel Building with a partial concrete floor and radiant heat. This is a great building for the part-time mechanic, wood worker, or hobbyist. There is also a 19’x32’ garage and a 14’x30’ shed.

There is a beautiful, artesian well fed, duck and fish pond on the property. You’ll have your own private bluegill and bass fishing hole! Lots of room for your family and pets plus a long driveway for privacy and safety too! All of this conveniently located on a hard surface road about 10-miles east of the Yankton City Limits. Call to schedule a viewing or make plans to attend the open house, you won’t be disappointed.

TERMS: \$15,000 nonrefundable down payment due day of auction with the balance on closing date of November 18, 2014. Title insurance and closing costs will be split 50/50 between buyer and seller. Possession on closing. Taxes will be prorated to day of closing. Yankton County Title Company, Closing Agent. Auctioneers are acting as agents for the seller. Property subject to prior sale.

Gary & Jackie Copperstone, Owners

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YANKTON COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION

Auction Wednesday Oct. 22nd 9:30 am

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AUCTION TO FOLLOW

Located: 2011 Green Street, Yankton, SD (1 block South of the Yankton Mall).

The real estate consists of a Butler 40’x110’ steel constructed building with 2 offices, 2 bathrooms, coffee room with kitchenette, elec heat and central AC. Shop area is approximately 40’x84’ plus parts room and loft. Shop area has (3) 12x12 overhead doors. The shop is insulated and heated with natural gas and wood, fully concreted. There is also a wood constructed building 30’x95’ that has full loft for storage. Real Estate is zoned highway business. For viewing or more information call Kent at 605-665-3450 or 605-661-3450.

Legal: North 226.7’ of Block 2, paralleling the RR property on the West Side; plus 455.3’ along the North Side of the Property & North 209’ of Block 2 parallel to the East side of Green Street; Plus South Side of North 226.7’ and the south Side of the North 209’ of Block 2; all in Joe Goeden Addition, City of Yankton, SD. Taxes are \$2,783.52.

TERMS: 10% Non-refundable earnest money deposit the day of auction with the balance due on closing. Yankton County Title Company, Closing Agent. Taxes prorated to the day of closing. Title Insurance & Closing Costs split 50/50 between the buyer and seller. Closing on Nov 24th, 2014. Possession on closing. Auctioneer’s are acting as agents for the seller.

Goeden Construction, Owner
Kent Goeden (605) 665-3450 or (605) 661-3450

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