Theta's Model Students at Home with CASA Fundraiser

By Elyse Brightman The Plain Talk

Fashion and fundraising come together on Saturday night for the University of South Dakota's Kappa Alpha Theta's annual "KATwalk".

The money raised from this event benefits the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), a national organization that assigns a volunteer to support abused and neglected children in court.

'The money that we raise for them is used to train volunteers that represent children in a court room setting when their families are going through the court system," said Abby Pierce, a University of South Dakota Junior and Kappa Alpha Theta service and philanthropy director. "It brings awareness to CASA, which not a lot of people do know about, so we have someone from CASA come and talk and they tell about the impact

that we make."

Yankton's branch, Southeast CASA has been advocating for abused and neglected children in Yankton County for the past three years, and at Saturday's "KATwalk", CASA will make an official announcement that they will begin to provide advocacy services for children in Clay County. They will also be recruiting volunteers who wish to become trained advocates.

Theta chapters across the country hold their own events that all benefit CASA, but the money raised on Saturday stays local and is given to the branch in Yankton. Last year the event raised \$4,000 and this year Theta members are hoping to surpass that.

"Theta has been partnering with CASA for 25 years so it's our milestone anniversary," said Alexa Moeller, Theta member and USD junior, who added that most of the



Members of the University of South Dakota's Kappa Alpha Theta sorority are holding a fashion show fundraiser Saturday night to benefit the Court Appointed Special Advocates Southeast.

COURTESY PHOTO

house members do attend the event.

This will be the fourth year that Theta has put on a fashion show as a way to raise money.

"We have girls from our house and girls from other sororities on campus who model the clothes and then we have a silent auction and raffle tickets," Pierce said.

All the items in the silent auction and raffle are donated and can include items such as handed made quilts, baby clothes, USD apparel and Keurig baskets.

"We bring in (Lot 2029) boutique from Sioux Falls, it's what we have done in the past, and they sponsor the show," said Pierce.

Theta brings in different boutiques each year and this will be the first year that Lot 2029 has its clothes modeled by the students. They will also have a trunk show of their apparel with 10 percent of the sales going to CASA.

"We have about 15 girls that are going to model. A lot of spring and summer type clothes. A lot of color, lightweight and flowy." said Brynn Joki, Lot 2029's manager in Signy Falls.

manager in Sioux Falls.

The show will also
feature a male modeling

competition.
Lot 2029 has three locations in South Dakota and North Dakota and the store's owner is expected to be at the event.

"It seemed like a good event especially for the cause," said Joki. "We're always open to that kind of stuff."

The show starts at 7 p.m. Saturday night in the Muenster University Center Ballroom on the USD campus. The announcement from CASA is scheduled for 6:45 p.m. immediately before the start of the show.

Tickets for the event are sold every day in the Muenster University Center and cost \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door.

■ SPRING,

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just help them get know the play book," Donovan said.

Glenn is also noticing improvements in the special teams with the direction of new special team's coordinator Marquice Williams.

"Where we really need to get better is on cover, kickoff coverage and punter and we're really working hard," Glenn said. "(Williams) has got some new drills that I think are really helping and they're really something new to our kids. A lot of good stuff going on in that area, I feel like we'll

be much improved."

Williams is bringing in drills learned from the last two years as an intern at the Chicago Bears fall camp.

Kicker and punter Miles Bergner will be returning for his senior season with the Coyotes. Bergner has been a starter for the last two seasons and made every field goal attempt in the 2014 season.

The Coyotes have 10 remaining spring practices including a game to conclude the offseason on Saturday April 25.

Practices are held inside the Dakotadome on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:15-6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9-11 a.m. and are open to the public.

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when we have to throttle back down eight runs."

Johnson was relieved by No. 30 in the top of the fifth after handcuffing a Vermillion (0-2) offense that showed signs of pop in the Dakota Valley contest.

"We were able to execute offensively and jump on them a little bit and we were able to get a good win to get our season off the bat."

Some fielding mishaps early put the Tanagers in a first inning hole as the host Bucks loaded the bases with no outs.

Two walks, a wild pitch and one hit led to four runs and the Bucks led 4-0 after the first frame.

Yankton starter Austin Johnson began to take control from the mound and the Bucks' offense didn't slow down. They added four more runs in the bottom half of the second and Yankton had the Tanagers by the shorthairs, 8-0, after two at bats.

Things settled down over the next two innings with both teams showing solid defense and pitching to keep no one from plating.

Yankton did get a triple from Ben Ulmer in the bottom half of the fifth inning, but another run opportunity was wasted as the Tanagers locked down and worked their way out of the inning.

Despite being down by a big margin on the late innings, the Tanagers kept battling and in the top of the sixth got a Joe Miller hit and a tough Jefferson Galvin at bat that induced a Buck error.

Still Yankton found a way to thwart the threat and maintain its edge to wrap up the win one Tanager frame later.

Wyatt Adam, Ulmer, and Johnson all had two hits to lead the Yankton offense.

"We have a lot of experience at a lot of different positions and especially on the mound," Krier said. "We have a lot of guys who threw a lot of innings for us coming back. They throw strikes for us and give us a chance to win and that's always nice to have."

Jake Odens and Hunter Christopherson added late singles.

"We always play with pride and if we keep playing like that we really will find our game and if we start playing like that we will have more wins," Tanager sophomore Carter Kratz said. "We have to have a lot more energy (when the game start) and kids are still getting adjusted to new sports. It will click and it will come together."

TRACK, From Page 7A

The medley relay team of Ashley Schulz, Makenna Koble, Martinez, and Lavin placed second with a time of 4:40.86 behind Dakota Valley's 4:27.65.

The girls' 4X100m relay team of Schulz, Makenna Druecker, Tasha Samudzi, and Maddie Gregoire finished third with a time of 57.70. In the individual

races, Lavin placed third

in the 200m with 28.83

in the 1600m with 5:41.96,

Druecker also placed third

while Ashley Shulz was a close fifth with 29.66.

the 400m with 1:05.93 with Kost coming in sixth with 1:06.65 and Gregoire took fourth in the 100m dash with a time of 13.65.

Overall, the girls' team scored 47 points, good enough for sixth out of nine teams.

On the boys' side, Jeremiah Johnson earned first place in the quadrathalon, an event unique to Elk Point that consists of the 200m, 400m, long jump and shot jump.

Johnson came out on top in the 200m and 400m runs 24.25 and 54.85 respectively. Johnson jumped 17 feet 7 inches in the long jump portion of the event while the shot put was cancelled due to the rain.

"Really a good day for him to kick off his outdoor season," Billberg said.

Logan Peterson placed second in the 800m run with a time of 2:11.71.

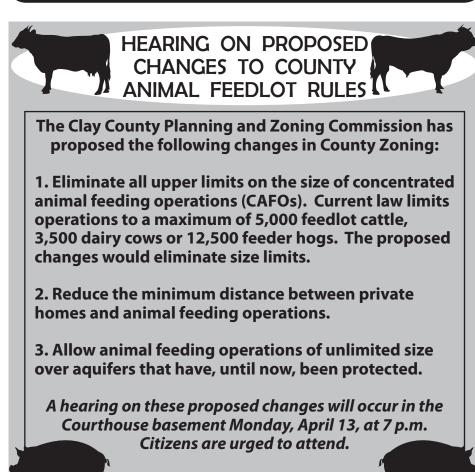
"The rest of the young boys were just out of the placings against some tough boy's teams," Billberg said.

The team tied for an eighth overall placing with 10 points.

"In a tough day in rain and cold the Tanagers had a rally good kick off to their season," Billberg said. "We had really good things to happen to our young squad."

Vermillion High School's next meet is Thursday afternoon at home starting at 2:30 p,m.





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