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### 'Come to the Table' planned by Bergen Women on Oct. 11

The Bergen Lutheran Women of the ELCA wish to extend an invitation to their annual "Come to the Table" event on Sunday, Oct. 11 at 2:30 p.m. in the Bergen Church fellowship hall.

The afternoon will include a program of music and inspiration by Dot Stoll of Yankton. Her lifetime love of music and her gift to create songs out of prayers have led to her first self-published album, "Quilted." Music has been a part of Stoll's life for as long as she can remember and says she has grown musically through the process of creating her album. Creating an album of her music has been a longtime dream and what started out as a family project became much more.

"Come to the Table" began at Bergen several years ago and has offered a wide variety of musical and entertaining programs. Highlighting this year's event will be a display of quilts and antiques.

Everyone is welcome to attend and bring a friend. The Bergen Church is located seven miles west of Vermillion on the Timber Road.

### Test scheduled Wednesday, Oct. 14

The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) will be given on Wednesday, Oct. 14 at 8:30 a.m. in the new gym at Vermillion High School.

### VHS fall play to be performed next week

Vermillion High School will present the comic farce *Is He Dead* by Mark Twain next Saturday, Oct. 10 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 11 at 2:30 p.m.

Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for senior citizens and students and free with Vermillion School District activity ticket.

### Plain Talk poll results

#### Poll results 9-25-09

Was Congress correct to censure Rep. Joe Wilson for shouting "You lie!" at President Obama?

Yes (79 Votes)  
No (90 Votes)  
Undecided (4 Votes)

To participate in the *Plain Talk* Internet poll, log on to [www.plaintalk.net](http://www.plaintalk.net).

## Fischbach competes for Team USA

Vermillion native to play in inaugural Australian Youth Paralympic Games

By Justin Rust  
Yankton Media, Inc.

Fourteen-year old Dylan Fischbach sees his disability as more of an opportunity. Fischbach, who had his right leg amputated just before he turned 3 years old because of cancer, was selected to be a part of Team USA's Under-20 National Junior Wheelchair Basketball team for the Inaugural Australian Youth Paralympic Games.

"I don't look at it as a disability really," Fischbach said. "If this is a disability, then it's a gift from God because it's giving me an opportunity that not many people get."

Fischbach, who is from Vermillion, has had many opportunities since he lost his leg.

He has been a part of a local wheelchair basketball team, the Nebraska Red Dogs, and is a two-time national champion in wheelchair basketball and wheelchair softball.

Bruce Fischbach, Dylan's dad,

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Dylan Fischbach battles with Emily Maas, a member of the USD Coyote Soccer Team, during exhibition basketball action at the DakotaDome in late February 2009. Dylan's skills on the court has him playing a key role on Team USA's Under-20 National Junior Wheelchair Basketball team. (Photo by David Lias)



University of South Dakota law professor Mike Meyers has worked with health care issues as an attorney, administrator and educator. He says that health care reform and other factors will exert a significant influence on the careers of today's health care students. USD medical student Seth Harrer of Sioux Falls serves as a student delegate with the American Medical Association (AMA), representing 14 states. Harrer predicts some reform legislation will come out of the debate now before Congress. (Photo by Randy Dockendorf, Yankton Media, Inc.)

## Only the beginning

Vermillion hosts race with goal  
to cure breast cancer

By David Lias  
Plain Talk

Eric Murphy of Sioux Falls crossed the finish line of Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Sunday morning with two very good reasons for participating in the event perched on his shoulders — his two-year-old twin daughters, Emma and Erica.

"We didn't all walk in the race the whole way," Eric said, referring to his wife, Donna, and their two young girls. "I think the girls got pushed a little bit," he said, laughing, referring to how he and his wife carried their girls for the first half of the 5 kilometer race, and tried their best to keep them on track as they all walked the second half.

Racers could choose between a 1 mile fun run/walk or a 5K fun run/walk. Both events began shortly after 9 a.m. outside of the DakotaDome, wound through the heart of Vermillion, and finished below a large arc of pink balloons midfield on the Dome's gridiron.

"We're here for a friend, Jill Roberts, who has just been diagnosed (with breast cancer)," Eric said. "She is two or three months along (since being diagnosed) and we're hoping everything turns out well."

"She's our neighbor and our good friend," Donna said. "So we needed to be part of this. It was fun. We eventually were chasing our girls; as they were throwing things, we were picking them up, and they kept losing their shoes. They kept us entertained."

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Ellen Grimlie of Sioux Falls is overcome with emotion as she's presented with a trophy and quilt in recognition of her logging the best time of cancer survivors who ran in Sunday's race. The quilt was donated to the local Susan G. Komen race committee by Misti Kockles who owns Four Seasons Fabrics in Yankton. The quilt was handmade by Misti's mother, Carol Winter. (Photo by David Lias)

## Future in the balance

Medical students  
await outcome of  
health care reform debate

By Randy Dockendorf  
Yankton Media, Inc.

Seth Harrer is spending a month in Omaha, completing a rotation in his orthopedics residency for the University of South Dakota School of Medicine.

But the Sioux Falls native is also keeping a sharp eye on Washington.

For Harrer and other students in the medical field, the health reform issue represents far more than a political debate. Whatever does — or doesn't — come out of Congress will have a profound impact on the careers of health care professionals who aren't even out of school yet.

Harrer has been selected as a student delegate to the American Medical Association (AMA). He began his work as a delegate at his first AMA meeting in June, which featured extensive debate about health reform.

Harrer quickly learned the complexity surrounding the issue.

"Reform means different things to different people," he said.

Two delegates and two alternates are elected in each of the seven AMA regions of the country. Harrer will help represent medical students in 14 states, primarily in the Great Plains, Rocky Mountains and West Coast, along with Alaska and Hawaii.

"I hope I can assist with positive changes in the health care field," he said. "Our top priority must always be to do what's best for the patient."

Harrer said working with medical students from around the country has given him valuable perspective on health care.

"One of the reasons why I got involved with the AMA (is that) it's one of the larger groups of physicians," he said. "They are really active with health reform. They are in on the big discussions and trying to guide this reform."

Harrer thinks some sort of legislation will come out of Washington, possibly this year.

"From hearing (President) Obama speak, he sounded pretty eager to get something through," he said. "I could see something in the near future."

The time seems right for reform, but the process needs a great deal of input, Harrer said.

"I believe there will be something much sooner than later," he said. "The more people you have involved to guide that reform, the better off it will be."

For now, medical professionals are waiting for a clearer picture of proposals coming out of Washington, Harrer said.

"I think a lot of the questions have to do

Turn to **DEBATE** on Page 12



USD President James Abbott checks to see that he is strapped in properly before he and other university personnel lift off in a South Dakota Army National Guard Blackhawk helicopter. (Photo by David Lias)

## Blackhawk is unique element in ROTC training exercises at USD

By David Lias  
Plain Talk

A portion of the University of South Dakota campus was transformed into a military training ground of sorts on Friday, Sept. 25.

Cadets involved in the ROTC program at the university and several other area schools used the campus as a gathering point, a place to learn a few lessons on the ground as they awaited their ride to the Austin Training Area, located near the Missouri River between Elk Point and Jefferson. It's a place where more extensive military exercises were being held last week.

A bumpy ride in the back of a military truck wasn't in their future. Part of last week's training included, for several of the cadets, an introduction to one of the sweetest rides the U.S. Army could offer — a Blackhawk helicopter.

"These cadets are from USD, because we're the host program for Army ROTC, and we also have satellite programs at Mount Marty College, Dakota Wesleyan, and also from Morningside down in Sioux City," said Lt. Col. Tom Martin.

Martin is a professor of military science in the Military Science Department at USD. Last Friday, he looked more the part of a soldier than a teacher, dressed in the same camouflage U.S. Army garb as the cadets.

"This is our fall field training exercise," Martin said. "Everything ROTC does is about leadership training. We take a student who has some leadership abilities. We foster those abilities and bring out even more. If they have weaknesses, we identify those weaknesses, and that way the individual can realize what they need to work on, and so we continue to develop those

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**National Breast Cancer  
Awareness Month**

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