

STATUS

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Gordon Howie of Rapid City, state Senate Majority Leader Dave Knudson of Sioux Falls, Ken Knappe of Buffalo Gap and Scott Munsterman of Brookings will face off in June's Republican primary.

The only time the Rounds administration took a risk and expended some political capital was when it rounded up support for the Homestake Mine project, Heidepriem said.

"We still don't know if it was the right thing to do, but he at least took a chance," he stated. "He went out there and did what governors are supposed to do, which is to risk failure in order to succeed. That's the only time I can think that Mike actually did that."

Heidepriem said he is not interested in simply presiding over state government. Instead, he wants to take an activist role.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to actually move my state to the next level," he said. "Let's try to do some interesting things."

At the same time, Heidepriem promised to be the candidate of fiscal reason.

"I will not increase taxes. I will not resort to accounting tricks. And I will end the practice of no-bid contracts," he said. "Every Democrat has been attacked as a tax-and-spend liberal. We're taking that issue off the table. It will not be a credible argument. I am on record as opposing tax increases and supporting limitations on government. They can't deny that."

Heidepriem has sponsored bills in the Legislature for the past four years that would limit government spending to 3 percent growth or the rate of inflation, whichever is lower.

"In all my time in public service, I've never heard another state leader come along who said, 'We absolutely need to implement some concrete ways to discipline state spending,'" said House Minority Leader Bernie Hunhoff, who accompanied Heidepriem on

his Tuesday visit.

During the 2010 legislative session, Heidepriem said he felt Democrats and Republicans had come together to agree on 80 percent of the necessary cuts to balance the budget. It would have included across-the-board cuts and the elimination of some full-time equivalent employees. However, the Rounds administration convinced Republicans at the last minute to scrap most of that bipartisan agreement, Heidepriem said.

One of the casualties of the plan that was eventually agreed upon was K-12 education. Far more than the approximately \$3.5 million needed for the minimum school funding increase could have been collected if Republicans had agreed to eliminate tax breaks to the second TransCanada pipeline being built in the state, according to Heidepriem.

The company received up to \$19 million in construction-tax refunds for the first pipeline it built.

"No one thinks for a second that TransCanada needed a nickel's worth of incentive to come here," Heidepriem said. "All we said was, they're coming with another line. Let's not give away \$18-\$19 million a year — when we can't even fund education — for a project that needs no incentive. The only reason we have that law is to incentivize people to bring wind projects or Big Stone II to South Dakota. Instead, Republicans decided not to eliminate it all together and still give TransCanada \$10 million in taxpayer dollars for Keystone XL."

In another case, Heidepriem said the Legislature found money to build a \$3.8 million prison instead of increasing education funding.

"It's a matter of priorities," Heidepriem said. As governor, he said he will be willing to discipline government spending while funding education.

"There will be some people who are unhappy, but I'll take responsibility for that," Heidepriem said. "Let's work together to establish some priorities going forward. Education is going to be the key."

Yankton Precinct-By-Precinct Voting

PRECINCTS	SCHOOL BOARD			CITY COMMISSION			
	Chris Specht	Terry Winter	Jim Fitzgerald	Jeffrey Swedeen	Paul Lowrie	Brad Woerner	Charlie Gross
1 — Yankton City (City Hall)	88	106	84	49	99	100	107
2 — Yankton City (Senior Citizens Center)	107	124	104	75	117	123	132
3 — Yankton City (Middle School)	210	159	165	83	182	207	240
4 — Yankton City (Lincoln School)	165	142	146	92	144	181	200
5 — Yankton City (Yankton Mall)	338	220	306	119	250	329	359
11 — Vangen Fellowship Hall	37	51	37	—	—	—	—
12 — Utica Lumber Yard	19	13	20	—	—	—	—
26 — Rural (Lincoln Elementary)	67	61	51	—	—	—	—
28 — Rural (Senior Center)	9	10	8	—	—	—	—
TOTAL (Unofficial)	875	744	775	418	792	940	1,038
	37%	31%	32%	13%	25%	29%	33%

CITY

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Despite serving on the commission for more than 15 years, Gross said he still gets nervous before elections.

"You don't really know what's going to happen, especially this year where you had no real big issue in front of the voters," he said.

To know that people still appreciate your input on city issues is a good feeling, according to Gross.

"I work hard, study the issues and try to do what I think is best for the community," he said. "We have a budget issue to deal with. I pulled the story out of the Wall Street Journal today about all the cities, counties and states making massive cuts in people, budgets and services. We're not there, and I'm grateful for that. Probably our biggest challenge will be keeping an eye on sales tax revenue going forward and monitoring that. If we have to make adjustments, we will."

Woerner also said he's glad to have the election out of the way.

He looks forward to serving the community he has called home for eight years.

Woerner will replace Mayor Dan Specht, who opted not to run for another term on the commission. As he settles into his commissioner role, Woerner said he will stick to his core values of fiscal responsibility and providing basic services like water, wastewater and solid waste, as well as fire and police protection.

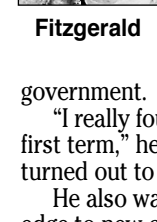
"Those are really the true needs in the community, in my opinion," he stated.

Woerner said Monday's commission meeting wherein the groundwork was laid to add approximately 60 jobs to the community provides him with plenty of optimism about what can be accomplished in the future.

"(Monday) night was a great example of how (Yankton Area Progressive Growth) and the city can work together with other businesses in the community ... and bring unique opportunities to Yankton," he said. "I'd like to



Specht



Fitzgerald

see that continue." Lowrie said his priorities have not changed since the first time he was elected three years ago. First and foremost, he wants to make sure there is transparency in city government.

"I really fought for that in my first term," he said. "I think that turned out to be a good thing."

He also wants to impart knowledge to new commissioners trying to figure out the ropes of serving on the commission and ask the common-sense questions that are often discussed on the street but rarely in the commission chambers.

"Sometimes I think people walk on egg shells and avoid bring up issues that need to be brought up," Lowrie said.

In what turned out to be a very close school board election, Specht held on to his seat and Fitzgerald narrowly defeated new-comer Terry Winter for the second available seat. Specht, who drew 1,040 votes, or 37 percent, will start his second full term on the board.

"I had no idea what to expect going into this election," Specht said. "I have enjoyed my years on the board. Terry and Jim are both good guys so we all campaigned and left it in the voters hands."

"On the School Board, you are just one vote of five, you can't do anything on your own," he added. "You work with the faculty, administration and staff. I think Jim will do a nice job, and I look forward to working for the Yankton School District for another three years."

For Fitzgerald, who drew 921 votes, or 32 percent, to Winter's 886 votes, or 31 percent, it will be his first term on the Yankton School Board.

"I am happy the people had enough confidence to vote me in for the Yankton School Board," he said. "I plan to get involved right away with the school and its policies and procedures, so in July I can hit the road running. I look forward to the work ahead and ... to continue to produce a quality education for the students."

A total of 1,663 of the school district's 11,943 active voters came out to the polls, amounting to an almost 14 percent turnout.

NOEM

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the ranch where we are."

Noem, who is currently serving her second term as a South Dakota House member, said that soul-searching as a family — her number one priority — led her to visit with several representatives currently serving in Washington before she even decided to seek her party's nomination for the U.S. House.

"One reason I came so late to the race is, I had to make sure that it was a decision our entire family was comfortable with," she said. "Farming with my family for the last 20 years, we all live very close together. ... With all the answers we got talking to people currently in D.C., we decided it was a path we could pursue."

Joining the campaign trail on Feb. 16, Noem had an immediate impact on the upcoming race.

"When we announced, two days later the analysts in D.C. released a new look at our race," Noem said. "Before I announced, the race had been leaning predominantly left. Two days after I announced, the analysts moved the race into the toss-up category, saying our entering the race was a game-changer. This was without doing any media yet."

Republican candidates in the primary election for U.S. House include Noem, Chris Nelson and Blake Curd. Other candidates include Democratic incumbent Stephanie Herseth Sandlin and independent B. Thomas Marking.

Noem attributes her fast start to a connection with the people of South Dakota.

"I am a farmer and a rancher, and have done that all my life," she said. "I am also a small-business person. I have a hunting lodge which I managed, a restaurant which I managed, my husband and I own an insurance agency. People want someone in

"I most of all just want the people of South Dakota to know that I am willing to go and serve. I believe we are best represented by someone who lives here and has a background in business and legislative experience. (I hope that) will be something that voters look at and say this is the kind of person I would like to support."

KRISTI NOEM

D.C. who knows about business and know what it is like to meet a budget, fill a payroll and apply it. People can look at my story and know it is someone who isn't looking for a career. I am not at the end of my road looking for something to keep me busy. I am looking to go to Washington, make a difference, and then come back to South Dakota to continue living."

Saying that she offers voters a unique perspective because she knows how federal laws and regulations can adversely affect state issues, Noem says she will take what she has learned serving in the South Dakota House of Representatives and work to apply it at the federal level.

"The first thing I want to work on is the health care bill," Noem said. "We have a president who likes the bill, so expecting to repeal it is not realistic. What we need to work on is not fully funding it or fixing the parts of it that we can. I wholeheartedly support a balanced budget and implementing it at the federal level like we do here in the state. We need that kind of accountability."

Noem said that currently, of every dollar spent at the federal level, 43 cents of it is currently being borrowed — a practice she wants to see ended.

She would also like to see changes made to the farm bill and how it is implemented.

"The farm bill is such a small part of the federal budget, but it has a huge impact on South

Dakota," she said. "When you look at the state, it is very important for us to know what is coming and take the volatility out of it. A lot of the farm bill dollars, almost two-thirds, are conservation and food-related rather than ag-farm related. It affects not only the farmers but also the food prices in the country and state."

She said there is a need to enforce some of the anti-trust laws that are making it hard for small farmers in the state to compete with larger companies.

"Farmers are finding it impossible to compete, so the government needs to look at the protections that can be put in place, but still keep the free market system there as well," she said.

Looking toward the primary election, Noem is concentrating on getting her message about where she stands on the issues to as many people in the state as she can.

"I most of all just want the people of South Dakota to know that I am willing to go and serve," she said. "I believe we are best represented by someone who lives here and has a background in business and legislative experience. (I hope that) will be something that voters look at and say this is the kind of person I would like to support."

Early voting period for the primary election begins April 26. The primary election will be held June 6 and the general election will be held Nov. 2.

AREA

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Menno, Mission Hill, Springfield and Tabor city races and the Freeman and Hurley school board races.

However, newcomers won office in the Tabor, Tripp and Wagner city elections and the Hurley school board race. New office holders were guaranteed in Tabor and Wagner as incumbents did not run for re-election.

The following are election results from area South Dakota communities.

CENTREVILLE: In the city election, incumbents won both council seats up for grabs.

In Ward II, Kevin Kroger defeated challenger Kris Olson 68-13 for a two-year term.

In Ward III, David Wixon emerged with 34 votes to claim the two-year term. He turned back challengers Harry Smith with 11 votes and Debora Otto with 5.

Ward II saw 81 voters head to the polls for 35 percent turnout. Ward III saw 50 voters for a turnout of 28 percent, according to City Finance Officer Nancy Kludt.

FREEMAN: In the Freeman Public school board race, incumbents Dr. Brian Anderson and Laverne Diede won re-election for three-year terms.

Diede and Anderson finished with a respective 331 and 230 votes. The third candidate, challenger Craig J. Paulson, collected 200 votes.

The election drew 435 of 1,885 registered voters for 23 percent turnout.

HURLEY: In the school board race, voters selected one incumbent and one newcomer for three-year terms.

Jim Gerdes and Bruce

Ebbesen won office with 95 and 74 votes, respectively. They emerged over Chad Mason with 71 votes and Denise Schoolmeester with 66.

Ebbesen and Schoolmeester are the current office holders. Ebbesen was elected in April 2007, while Schoolmeester was appointed to the board last August.

The election saw 24 percent voter turnout.

MENNO: Incumbents won both races in the city election. In the mayor's race, incumbent Darrell J. Mehlhaf defeated Roger Simonsen, a former mayor, 206-87 for a two-year term.

In Ward I, incumbent Jerry Fischer defeated challenger Aaron Matthaei 85-36 for a two-year term as alderman.

Tuesday's election drew 293 voters in the city-wide mayor's race and 122 voters in the Ward I race, according to City Finance Officer Peggy Thranum.

Menno has 540 registered voters on the rolls, but the figure includes individuals who are deceased or moved away and haven't been purged from the list, Thranum said.

Even with those inactive voters, Menno still recorded 54.3 percent turnout in Tuesday's election.

MISSION HILL: In the municipal election, incumbent D.W. Duhacek defeated challenger Edison Jared 34-28 for a three-year term as trustee.

Both candidates have served on the board, according to finance officer LeAnne Cutts. Duhacek, a current trustee, formerly served as mayor. Jared served on the board about 20 years ago.

The three trustees choose the mayor from among themselves when they reorganize each year, Cutts said.

Tuesday's election drew 62 of 123 registered voters to the

polls for 50.4 percent turnout, she said.

TABOR: In the municipal election, voters chose incumbent Teresa Holland and newcomer Joe Carda for three-year terms on the Board of Trustees.

Carda and Holland topped the field with a respective 83 and 81 votes, followed by challengers Tony Souhrada with 69 and Linda Spencer with 61.

A new trustee was guaranteed, as incumbent Larry Reining did not run for re-election.

Tuesday's election saw 53 percent voter turnout, according to Trustee Laverne Schieffer.

TRIPP: The City of Tripp has a new mayor, as Edward Rembold won the open seat for the two-year term.

Rembold rolled up 184 votes, outdistancing Rich English with 28 and Timothy Earl Scott with 6.

In Ward III, newcomer Gerald J. Schoenfelder defeated incumbent Glen A. Batterman 44-27 for the two-year council seat.

WAGNER: In the Ward III election, Roger Schroeder won the two-year term with 47 votes, followed by Dale A. Petrik with 28 and Randy Meiers with 11.

A new councilman was guaranteed as incumbent Roger Wiltz did not run for re-election.

The election saw 86 of the 215 registered voters cast ballots for 40 percent turnout.

Tuesday's turnout far surpassed last year, according to finance officer Becky Brunson.

"Last year, we had an election in two of our three wards, and the overall voter turnout was 25 percent," she said.

YOUR NEWS! The Press & Dakotan

OBITUARIES

Marie Hochstein

HARTINGTON, Neb. — Marie Hochstein, 94, of Hartington, Neb., died on Tuesday (April 13, 2010) at her residence.

Funeral services are pending at Wintz Funeral Home, Hartington.

ST. JUDE NOVENA

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pray for Us: St. Jude, worker of miracles, Pray for Us: St. Jude, Helper of the Hopeless, Pray for Us.

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