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Former South Dakota Gov. Mike Rounds discussed his reasons for running for the U.S. Senate in 2014 while speaking at the Yankton County Republicans' Lincoln Day dinner Satur-

Rounds Says Budget, **Defense Are Top Priorities**

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE news@yankton.net

Former South Dakota Gov. Mike Rounds addressed the Yankton County Republican Party's Lincoln Day dinner Saturday night to outline the issues he will focus on if he elected to the U.S. Senate in 2014.

Rounds stressed the importance of healthcare, the national debt and education. The right to bear arms, religious freedom and immigration were also discussed.

"I believe there are some things we as Americans should all agree on," Rounds said. "We protect our country and our society from those who would do us harm. We take care of those who cannot take care of themselves: the very young and the very old. We provide a quality education for our children because they truly are our future.'

Åfter his speech Rounds said his main priorities would be the federal budget and national defense.

'The first and most important part for us is to get the federal budget under control," he said. "We have to recognize our responsibility to begin paying down the deficit. Along with that our government's first and primary mission is the defense of our country. We cannot allow that to go to the wayside. We have to defend our country and defend our borders. After that everything else becomes second-

ROUNDS | PAGE 5

Another Storm Hits Dakotas

More Ice, Snow For Some; Recovery Continues For Others

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Officials closed Interstate 94 across most of North Dakota on Sunday as a spring storm carrying heavy snow and high winds spread across the state.

The North Dakota Transportation Department and the Highway Patrol closed I-94 from the Montana border to Fargo and U.S. 83 from Bismarck to Underwood and I-29 from Fargo to Grand Forks, saying snow and wind were causing areas of near zero visibility and significant drifting that made the roadway impassible. Officials were advising people not to travel on other highways in the Dickinson, Bismarck, Jamestown, Valley City and Fargo

"It's white-out conditions, with visibility down near zero," National Weather Service meteorologist Lindsay Tardif-Huber of Bismarck said. 'We have a lot of snowdrifts, making travel very

treacherous and hazardous," Tardif-Huber said. The North Dakota Legislature also announced its Monday session was canceled because of the storm, which had brought 15 inches of snow to

Bismarck by 5:30 p.m. Sunday. The storm was expected to spread north and east before ending sometime Monday or early

Tuesday, the National Weather Service reported. In western North Dakota, Dunn County emergency manager Denise Brew said as much as a foot

of snow had fallen in the area by 2 p.m., and officials were urging people to stay off the roads. She said the storm could cause problems for ranchers whose cows are having calves.

"Those are the people I worry about right now," Brew told the Dickinson Press.

In northern South Dakota, a combination of snow and freezing rain was expected to continue until Sunday night, with some areas getting 6 to 12 inches or more of snow in the north-central and northeastern areas of the state.

Residents of Sioux Falls and surrounding areas in southeastern South Dakota were still recovering from a storm that dumped freezing rain and heavy

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MEETING ON THE HILL



Approximately 15 people attended the annual Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce fly-in to the nation's capital Thursday and Friday to meet with government agencies

and lobby for the Yankton region's interests. Most of the delegation was present for this photo taken Thursday after a meeting with Sen. John Thune on Capitol Hill.

Yankton Officials Go To Washington

City Discusses Water Challenges With Government Agencies

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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WASHINGTON — With a large water system upgrade in the planning stages, City of Yankton officials sought to lay the groundwork for the project in Washington, D.C., last week while meeting with federal offi-

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While a portion of the delegation went to meetings focused on Yankton's water system challenges, the other members attended meetings that addressed a broader range of issues important to the area.

In order to move forward with a water project and have it completed by 2015, Yankton officials have identified a variety of federal agencies they believe will be necessary to coordinate with in the coming

With that in mind, meetings were arranged with the Economic Development Administration (EDA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of the Interior, which oversees the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park

A call from the Chamber to meet with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was not returned, a fact that Rep. Kristi Noem (R-S.D.) found unacceptable when

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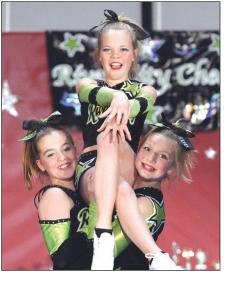


NATHAN JOHNSON/P&D

Yankton Economic Development Director Mike Dellinger (left) is seen here with USDA **Rural Development Under Secretary Dallas** Tonsager, a South Dakota native. Topics during the meeting included rural wireless broadband and grain elevator projects planned for Yankton County.

LAST CHEER

Members of the Cyclones cheer team performed Sunday night at the second annual **River City Cheer Extrava**ganza, held at the Summit Activities Center gymnasium. The performance was the last of the season for River City Cheer, which consists of four teams of various ages. River City Cheer enjoyed a successful winter, winning numerous honors in several competitions. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)



Gun Control Proposal Gains Support

BY DINA CAPPIELLO **Associated Press**

 ${\it WASHINGTON} \ -- \ A \ bipartisan \ Senate$ proposal to expand background checks for gun buyers gained the backing of one Republican and the potential support of a second Sunday as sponsors said the vote

expected this week was too close to call.

The plan would "strengthen the background check system without in any way infringing on Second Amendment rights," Maine Sen. Susan Collins said in a statement explaining her support for the measure. But she added that "it is impossible to predict at this point" what will be



McCain

Arizona Sen. John Mc-Cain, who has a B+ rating from the National Rifle Association, said he was "very favorably disposed" to the proposal that has emerged from Sens.

Patrick Toomey, R-Pa., and Joe Manchin, D-W.Va. "I appreciate their

work," McCain said. "And the American people want to do what we can to prevent these tragedies. And there's a lot more that needs to be done, particularly in the area of mental health.

It was in McCain's home state that a gunman with schizophrenia shot then-Rep. Gabrielle Giffords in the head during a 2011 rampage in Tucson that left six people killed.

Collins and Sen. Mark Kirk of Illinois are the only two Republicans besides Toomey who are expected to vote for the compromise as of now.

It will take 60 votes to pass, meaning that more Republicans will have to come on board because some Democrats from gun-friendly states are expected to op-

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Thursday, April 18, 2013

FIRST DAKOTA HUYQQ. presented by... her-voice Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C.

Advance Tickets: Only \$20 Available at Hy-Vee and the Press & Dakotan until April 14





