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## Focus On The Future

Corey Briest, Wounded In Iraq, Works Every Day With Wife To Live A Full Life

*EDITOR'S NOTE: This is part of a series of stories looking back at the impact of the Iraq War on the 10th anniversary of the beginning of combat operations.*

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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Corey and Jenny Briest's newest family member shows dogged determination to serve the Yankton couple and their two children.

Baker, the black Labrador Retriever, jumped on Corey's lap and nearly tipped him sideways. "Awesome!" Corey said, laughing and giving a "thumbs up" as he played with the enthusiastic dog.

"Baker has become Corey's best friend," Jenny said, giggling at the sight.

Playfulness is a common trait for many pets, but Baker isn't an ordinary pet. His harness signifies he comes from "Can Do Canines" assistance program through the Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota.

Corey and Baker were paired together nearly three years ago. In many ways, Baker has become Corey's chance at experiencing everyday life after suffering combat injuries.

In 2005, Corey was serving in Iraq with the Yankton-based "Charlie Battery" of the South Dakota National Guard (SDNG). Charlie Battery was among SDNG units deployed after the Iraq War began 10 years ago today (March 19).

During his mission, Corey was severely injured by a roadside bomb in Baghdad. He suffered traumatic brain injuries, and Jenny was advised to plan her husband's funeral because he wasn't expected to survive.

Instead, Corey proved them wrong, much as he has done every day since then.

The 32-year-old veteran has gained more independence with Baker in his life. The dog provides the former soldier with greater mobility and more self-reliance.

"The process (of securing a dog) took about a year. We were on waiting lists with other people who wanted service dogs," Jenny said. "We looked at this (Minnesota) company, and they did all the things we needed. They didn't want to train the dog with Corey in a different setting and then come home to an unusual place. And that's what we wanted, for the train-



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

Corey and Jenny Briest of Yankton enjoy the playful company of their black Labrador Retriever, Baker, who helps Corey with his mobility after suffering combat injuries in the Iraq War.

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**SDSU Women Face South Carolina In NCAA Opener**  
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**Coyote Women Make WBI Tourney, To Take On Utah State Thursday**  
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## County Board Deals With 3 Levy Matters

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
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The Yankton County Commission dealt with three instances Monday where property tax levies had not been applied or had been applied incorrectly.

Both Utica and Volin approved property-tax opt-outs in 2011 that should have been payable in 2012.

However, commissioners said they had been notified by officials from those communities that they had not received those extra funds.

In Volin's case, the opt-out is for \$10,000 annually during a stretch of 10 years. The specifics of Utica's opt-out were not known, but commissioners believed it was between \$12,000 and \$15,000 annually.

"These townships basically based their budget a year ago on the revenues of their opt-outs, which means they are critically short now on revenue," Commissioner Garry Moore said.

Volin provided various pieces of evidence to the commission in advance of the Monday meeting that it had gone through the public notice process to make the opt-out legal.

"If this is adequate proof from the township board that they provided it to us, what do we do?" Commissioner Mark Johnson asked.

Commissioners took no action on the matter but said they would consult with the Yankton County State's Attorney and the South Dakota Department of Legislative Audit on how to proceed.

The Yankton County Auditor's Office is responsible for



Moore

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COURTESY PHOTO

Yankton High School is holding its first-ever "A" raffle this week, offering students the chance to turn their good grades into prizes. The YHS student council came up with the idea for the raffle and also solicited the prizes from local businesses. Pictured are student council members Johanna Lipert (left) and Julie DeWitt.

## YHS Raffle Project Gets 'A' For Effort

BY DEREK BARTOS  
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To encourage its students and reward their hard work, Yankton High School is literally offering some food for thought.

YHS is holding its first-ever "A" Raffle this week, giving students the opportunity to turn good grades into prizes. For every "A" that students earned during the third quarter, they will receive one entry into the raffle. Students with straight "A's" can enter the same raffle, or instead may choose to enter once in a separate raffle for a grand prize.

The drawings will be held Friday.

"Recognizing students for their accomplishments and hard work is always good," said YHS principal Wayne Kindle. "This is another way for us to highlight their efforts and encourage other students to reach their potential."

The new raffle was initiated by the YHS student council during one of the group's meetings following its election in December, said Becky Tasa, student council advisor.

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### Decision 2013

## Budget Issues Dominate School Board Forum

BY ANDREW ATWAL  
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Yankton School District (YSD) school board candidates debated several hot-button issues, including the budget, facing the district during an Interchange forum on Monday.

There are two openings on the board, with four members running for the positions. Candidates include incumbent Jim Fitzgerald and newcomers Butch Becker, Sarah Carda and Wayne Wurth.

One of the first topics of discussion was why each candidate decided to run for the a position on the board.

Fitzgerald said he decided to run for school board three years ago to be involved with something in which his family entire was involved.

"We need to continue to offer a quality education," he said. "There also needs to be opportunities for kids in different areas, including the arts."

Carda said she decided to run after previously serving on the board at Sacred Heart School.

"It's important for me because I have

kids in the district," she said. "I'm pro-education and want people to have choices. It's only fair that people who are able to give back do so."

Wurth's motivation to run for school board is based on informing the public that the school belongs to the people.

"People get silenced if they don't agree with school district officials," he said.

Becker said that, if elected, he would keep a careful eye on the financial situation for the district, if elected to the board.

The candidates were asked what the district has done well and what they've done poorly over the past several years.

Carda cited the strong academic reputation of the district as one of the things they've excelled in for years.

"YSD has had an exemplary graduation rate, which is good to have," she said. "However, I think they've done poorly for explaining budget implications and what it means for students."

Becker agreed with Carda, saying he

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Duane 'Butch' Becker



Sarah Carda



Jim Fitzgerald



Wayne Wurth

## Forum: Detection Vital In Cyber-War Defense

BY TRAVIS GULBRANDSON  
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VERMILLION — As more data is uploaded to computer networks around the world, more of modern warfare may be conducted in cyberspace.

However, while cyber warfare may have an effect, it won't necessarily have an enduring result, said Lt. Col. Damian Donahoe, senior military science instructor at the University of South Dakota.

"(Cyber warfare) has a method that may be used to prevent something from happening or slow something down, but in and of itself, it usu-

ally doesn't out and out destroy something," Donahoe said.

These statements were made during an international forum called, "Are We Ready for Global Cyber War?" which took place at USD Monday afternoon.

One recent example of cyber war took place in Iran, where an attempt was made to slow down that nation's uranium enrichment project.

"What we've seen with Iran is, obviously, they've done some things and worked around it, and they're starting to rebuild their capability. That's one of the things," Donahoe said. "Cyber

warfare is kind of a support function. In and of itself, it's not the end, it's the means that might help you get some immediate results."

Part of the reason for this is expense, said Joe Reynoldson, information technology security officer for the University of South Dakota.

"It turns out that that's not a cheap way of doing things, and it's certainly not the way that things are tackled most often," he said. "Most often, it's these simple attacks against users. Instead of trying to launch a frontal assault against

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