

# MUSIC & MESSAGE

## Christian Band Vota Headlines Lifelight Tour Stop In Yankton

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE  
shauna.marlette@yankton.net

Great music, an important message and a fun night for adults and teens alike are the schedule of events for the fall Lifelight tour that will be in Yankton next Wednesday.

Scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., Nov. 16 at the National Field Archery Center, the Love.Sex Tour, headlined by the Christian rock band Vota, is meant to be a challenge to area teens that making healthy choices when it comes to relationships is only in their best interest.

"Because we want the kids to come to the concert, we made

the title more in your face," said Yankton Youth Ministry representative Carla Hummel. "We had some apprehension because it does say the Love.Sex tour. There are adults

and even pastors who have been shocked at the name. But the whole point is to get the kids there so we can have the conversations with them, and talk about the biblical perspective of relationships presented in a way that they are open to it and give them the message. It is in your face. We are adults; these are little words that shouldn't be so intimidating."

Vota will be leading the way both musically and by sharing their own personal messages, said lead singer Bryan Olesen.

"I think we do these tours because it gets more personal," Olesen said in a phone interview with the *Press and Dakotan*. "I am able to dive into the mistakes with my story and share what I think a guy needs to be talking about. It offers more valuable content and is more directed to a specific audience. We have a girl doing the talk for the girls. When you are diving into the decisions you make in the are with boyfriend, girlfriend I think this is a great way to do it."

Joining Vota on stage as the opening act will be Rachelle Hope, of Sioux Falls, who will also share her own message with the girls in the audience.

Olesen said he enjoys being able to share some of the mistakes he has made as a youth and the lessons he learned from them.

"It is an entertaining night, but also an important night to hear the messages from people who have been a bit farther down the road," he said. "I think there will be something for everyone. We all have the tendency to make some of the same mistakes and go down those paths that we know are not good for us. I think it is going to be a good evening, entertaining as well as something to learn."

That message is important to local organizers, as well.

"I think the tone of the concert matches what we are trying to do with the speakers and the breakout sessions," Hummel said. "(It's about) really talking to the boys about modesty, even in what you are looking at. Talking with the girls about having respect for yourself and modest in dress, and how you portray yourself. Having that talk individualized, a definite different talk for the boys and girls, is huge."

Just as important as the message shared with the speakers and breakout sessions will be the great music Vota and Hope will bring to the National Field Archery Center.

Vota, formerly called Casting Pearls, is literally in the process of recording its newest album, and Olesen said he and band members John Wooten, Justin Wantz and Stefan Carlson are looking forward to

sharing what they are working on with the tour.

"We are actually going into the studio to start our next album this weekend, so we are very excited about that," Olesen said. "Pretty much the road map of what we are going to do and a lot of songs are there, but the actual getting in and getting them recorded professionally in the studio starts this weekend."

The process of recording the new album is one that taps all sorts of emotions, he said.

"There is this fear because you don't feel like your lyric is quite done and you are not sure you are ready," Olesen said. "The other end is it is so exciting to work with our producer and just see the vision for something come to life. Working with people who are so talented at what they do, it just gets so exciting to create in that way. It is just a whole different sort of process once you get into that process, and I really enjoy it. We are overdue for an album. What has been great is we are not sure what songs to include on the album because we do have so many great ideas right now. That is a good problem to have."

Olesen said that fans who have seen them in concert before will find the set being performed on the Love.Sex Tour very unique to what they usually perform.

"There will be more of an acoustic flair to our set, which I think fans will say they get to see the more intimate side of our music," he said. "When you strip the music down, it is actually a blast; it is just a whole different element. The people who have seen us before will really enjoy it. We also pull out some songs we don't usually get to do on tour with the full band that sound better acoustically."

"We will be playing a few of the new songs that we haven't released and we will get to play a

few we never get to, like 'Be Mine.' Acoustically is how it is meant to be played. We are adding things to our set, as well. It will be fun."

Olesen said in addition to the Lifelight tour, Vota is also very involved in its own 180tour.

"We actually go into public high schools and middle schools," he said. "We do character-based programs like anti-bullying. Everywhere we go, we have an evening event planned right in the school. We try to make it free. We started that in 2006 and have done close to 400 of the

LIFELIGHT | PAGE 9B



COURTESY PHOTO

The Christian rock band Vota — formerly known as Casting Pearls — headlines the Lifelight fall tour stop in Yankton on Wednesday, Nov. 16. The group performs at the National Field Archery Center, with the show starting at 7 p.m. This is a free event.



COURTESY PHOTO

Christian artist Rachelle Hope will also perform in Yankton Nov. 16.

### Not only are they the area's largest team, they have the most experience.

AVERA SACRED HEART HOSPITAL PHYSICAL THERAPISTS,  
140 YEARS OF COMBINED EXPERIENCE.



Meet our team!

Front (L to R): Sandy Cope, PT;  
LuAnn Kathol, PT;  
Lisa Wolfgram, PT

Back (L to R): James Reiner, DPT;  
Kevin O'Brien, PT; Brian Fedde, PT;  
Dan Hunhoff, PT;  
Michael Donner, MPT

At Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, our team of physical therapists treats patients whose limitations keep them from enjoying life to its fullest potential.

Here are a few of the many situations we assist with:

- Sports injuries
- Orthopedic issues
- Amputations
- Neurological conditions (stroke, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, Guillaine-Barre syndrome)
- Oncological issues
- Sensory impairments
- Pulmonary problems (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, lung cancer)
- Cognitive, perceptual or emotional impairments
- Pediatric conditions

When you want an experienced physical therapist team, you want Avera Sacred Heart Hospital.

**Avera**   
Sacred Heart Hospital

**Look no further.**

  
HEALTHGRADES<sup>®</sup>

(605) 668-8000 ■ [www.AveraSacredHeart.org](http://www.AveraSacredHeart.org)