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YANKTON DAILY

PRESS & DAKOTAN



MMC Tops #6 Northwestern ■ 7



ANDREW ATWAL/P&D
Dave Anderson, founder of the "Famous Dave's" chain of barbecue restaurants, spoke to students at Wagner School on Wednesday. Anderson told the students that they can never give up on their dreams, no matter what life throws at them. He was energetic during his speech, and said people need to be passionate about each other, friends and families, like football fans are passionate for their favorite team.

'Famous Dave' Cooks Up Powerfull Message

BY ANDREW ATWAL
andrew.atwal@yankton.net

WAGNER — Seventy percent of high school students fail to graduate ready for college. Only 54 percent of high school students will graduate. Seventy-five percent of college students lack the skills to perform real life tasks.

"Famous Dave" Anderson, owner of the "Famous Dave's" barbeque restaurant chain, delivered a speech to Wagner school students on Wednesday saying they can be all they can be in life and can achieve any dream they have.

While in high school, Anderson said, he was shy and bashful but he knew if things in his life were going to change, he would have to change, too, in order to get anywhere.

As he got older and began to develop his restaurant chain, he said he was invited to speak in front of a group of about 300 students at the University of Illinois.

"I was so nervous," he said. "After that speech, I swore I would never get in front of another audience and speak again."

Anderson told the students Wednesday that they all have seeds of greatness within them and have the power to change lives and change their community.

"You might not know it now, but you can unleash that energy within you," he told students. "You can all make a difference and stand out."

He made the reference of football fans painting their faces and sitting out half-naked in cold temperatures in order to show passion for their teams.

"Instead of showing passion for our favorite teams, why don't we show passion for each other, for school and for

WAGNER | PAGE 11

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Nov. 29
26 shopping
days to Christmas

Suspect Waives Prelim Hearing

Held On 2nd-Degree Murder Charge For Tuesday Shooting

BY DIRK LAMMERS
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — A 23-year-old man suspected of fatally shooting his uncle on the Yankton Indian Reservation in southeastern South Dakota waived a preliminary hearing on Wednesday.

Dancing Bull Fischer, a Yankton Sioux Tribe member, made his first

appearance in federal court Wednesday in Sioux Falls. He's being held on a second-degree murder charge in the Tuesday morning shooting of Tony Fischer Sr., 47, inside a Lake Andes trailer home in Charles Mix County near Marty.

A second man shot, Dominic Fischer, was in critical condition Wednesday at a Sioux Falls hospital, according to a hospital spokeswoman.

Magistrate Judge John Simko ordered that Dancing Bull Fischer be detained on the charge, based in part on more than a dozen driver's license violations and an active warrant for failure to appear. Simko said the court normally doesn't consider traffic violations in such a decision but the pattern shows a failure to comply.

Tim Langley, Dancing Bull Fischer's

court-appointed attorney, asked to waive the preliminary hearing but did not argue against the detention.

According to the arrest affidavit in the case, a witness told agents that Dancing Bull Fischer and the other men had been drinking together in the living area of the trailer home. He said he was in a back bedroom with his girlfriend

SHOOTING | PAGE 9

HONORING EDUCATION GREATNESS



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D
Bloomfield math teacher Duane Wilken (left) and Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman display the Blue Ribbon School flag during Wednesday's ceremony honoring Bloomfield Junior-Senior High School. Only six schools in Nebraska received the award for academic excellence.

Bloomfield Named A National Blue Ribbon School

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman says he talks with University of Nebraska football coach Bo Pelini, who has guided the Cornhuskers to this weekend's Big 10 Conference title game with Wisconsin.

However, Heineman's attention was turned Wednesday to another group of Nebraskans receiving national recognition.

The governor attended the community celebration honoring Bloomfield Junior-Senior High School as a 2012 National Blue Ribbon School for academic excellence. Bloomfield was one of only six schools in Nebraska chosen for the U.S. Department of Education honor.

"You just won your national champi-

onship. You are the best of the best," Heineman told the Bloomfield students. "At the end of the day, what really counts is that, in the classroom, you are No. 1."

Bloomfield finished among the Top 10 schools in Nebraska for all test areas on the statewide rankings in the State of the Schools report, the governor said.

"No other school district in Nebraska falls in the Top 10 for all categories," he said. "No other school district in Nebraska falls in the Top 20 in all categories, except you."

Bloomfield enjoys a history of strong performance in and out of the classroom, Heineman said.

"This is a team effort by the entire community. You have made the investment of resources and parental involvement," he said. "We (adults) don't have

to do the homework, but we'll be there for you (students)."

The governor noted he grew up in rural Nebraska and could relate to Bloomfield's success. Rural students compete successfully against students from large cities, he said.

Small schools offer their students a well-rounded education, including a variety of extracurricular activities, that prepare those students well for life.

"You take today and continue to apply it to the future," he told the students.

Heineman returned to his football analogy, urging the Bloomfield students to seek a "repeat" championship.

"As coaches can tell you, it's easier to win a national championship than to

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New Blow For Rice: Moderate Senator Voices Her Concerns

BY DONNA CASSATA
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A moderate Republican senator, vital to any White House hopes of getting U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice confirmed as secretary of state, said Wednesday she couldn't back any nomination until more questions are answered about the deadly Sept. 11 attack in Libya and Rice's State Department role during the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombing in Kenya.

In a fresh suggestion of eroding GOP support for Rice, Sen. Susan Collins of Maine emerged from a 90-minute, closed-door meeting with the ambassador voicing new criticism of her initial account about Libya. Collins also questioned what Rice, the assistant secretary of state for African Affairs in the Clinton administration, knew about requests for enhanced embassy security before the Nairobi truck bombing.

Pressed on how she would vote if President Barack Obama names Rice to succeed Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Collins said, "I would need to have additional information before I could support her nomination."

At the White House, Obama called Rice "extraordinary" and said he couldn't be prouder of the job she has done as U.N. ambassador. Cabinet members joined Obama in applauding Rice, who attended the meeting. Obama has not named a replacement for Clinton, who has said she intends to step down soon.

The misgivings from Collins, the top Republican on the Homeland Security Committee, came one day after three other GOP senators said they would try to block Rice's nomination. Sens. John McCain of Arizona, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina and Kelly Ayotte of New Hampshire said they were more troubled than ever by Rice's answers on Libya even though the ambassador conceded that her much-maligned first explanation was wrong.

RICE | PAGE 11

USD Grad Discusses Afghanistan Successes

BY DEREK BARTOS
derek.bartos@yankton.net

VERMILLION — "Nothing comes easy to the counterinsurgent."

That was the message of U.S. Army Capt. Christopher L. Mercado, a 2004 distinguished military graduate of the University of South Dakota, who spoke Wednesday afternoon at USD's Farber Hall about his experience combating insurgency in Afghanistan. Mercado was the company commander of the Bushmaster Company, 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment during its counterinsurgency effort from February 2011 to February of this year in the Imam Sahib and Dast-e Archi districts of the Kunduz Province.

"Insurgency remains one of the

most prevalent forms of conflict in the modern world," he said. "Combating insurgency is very difficult business, and finding solutions to these ambiguous problems requires committed teams consisting of outstanding soldiers and leaders."

Mercado said his company's efforts began well before its deployment in February 2011, as the soldiers underwent six months of training in Europe to prepare for the mission. Not only did they train physically, but they also had to create a campaign that had a chance to be successful, he said.

"The campaign plan we designed was to influence the people of Imam Sahib and Dast-e Archi through engagement, to choose the government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and Afghanistan's legiti-

mate national security forces over the Taliban," he said.

The company determined that to do this, it had to create a partnership with the Afghan Uniformed Police.

"Together with the local police, we would combat disinformation and propaganda with frequent meetings with village elders, mullahs and tribal leaders," Mercado said. "We wanted to be first with the truth and we wanted our Afghan partners to be right there by our side."

Equally important was the company's mindset, he said. The company focused on discipline, strength, honor and fraternity.

"This is important because this

MERCADO | PAGE 11



DEREK BARTOS/P&D
U.S. Army Capt. Christopher L. Mercado speaks at the University of South Dakota Wednesday afternoon about his experience with counterinsurgency in Afghanistan. A USD graduate, Mercado led counterinsurgency operations in the Imam Sahib and Dast-e Archi districts of the Kunduz Province from 2011-2012.