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prostate cancer, lymphoma, anything. Cancer affects everyone in so many different ways, whether it's your kid or your husband or your grandfather," Cunningham said. "On our koozies it says, 'Every ribbon tells a story,' and that's really what we're all about."

Not only were last year's efforts a success for fundraising, but they also caught the attention of other dart players around the region and the state. During the state tournament earlier this year, Cunningham spoke with several dart players about forming similar groups.

"They thought it was an

awesome idea," she said. Since then, Oliver said he has spoken with other dart league operators who are trying to organize similar Pink Lady leagues. Cities that have shown interest include Mitchell, Huron, Aberdeen, Norfolk (Neb.), and Ainsworth (Neb.), he said. "And the Yankton ladies

basically started it all," he said.

From raising awareness and funds to inspiring similar leagues, Oliver said he is amazed at what the Pink Ladies of Yankton have accomplished.

"They bust their butts to give it all away," he said. 'They do a great job, and it's a great plus for Yankton."

For more information on the Yankton Pink Ladies or to help with fundraising, con-tact Cunningham at 605-665-4207 or Hetzel at 605-660-1179.

You can follow Derek Bartos on Twitter at *twitter.com/d_bartos*



From Page 1

Teachers

From Page 1

mind was, 'I'm going to die,'" she said. "There were days where I couldn't even breathe. I thought it was going to end. But you have to fight so that you don't fall apart.' Tereshinski knew firsthand the ravages of cancer.

My sister died of lung cancer in 1991, and she was only 39 years old," she said. "She was a smoker. She had a lung removed, and (the cancer) was a horrible death for her.'

Tereshinski was diagnosed Aug. 19 with Stage 1, grade 1 breast cancer. The disease was caught in its initial stages.

"I didn't find it with my self-exam. I found out when I had my yearly mammogram," she said. "Other people question the need for (mammograms). But for me, it was very important. If I had waited another year, if I had found out later, it would have been totally different."

"I am a firm believer in regular mammograms and check-ups." she said.

Because of her early diagnosis, Tereshinski found more options for her treatment. However, she still faced difficult decisions.

"I could have had surgery to remove my breast, but I didn't have the grade that warranted it," she said. "I thought the lumpectomy was the way to go."

Tereshinski underwent surgery Sept. 4, then proceeded with radiation known as brachytherapy. Under the process, high radiation doses are given close to the tumor itself while reducing exposure to healthy tissues.

"I qualified for brachytherapy because my tumor wasn't against my chest wall, and it was far enough from the top skin layer," she said. "I was given the option of

seven weeks of radiation once a day, but I went with the concentrated brachytherapy twice a day for five days." The recovery process will continue for some time,

Tereshinski said.

"I can choose from three different drugs for my follow-up care," she said. "Because I didn't have the breast removal, I will always be at risk for cancer."

Tereshinski said her case shows that breast cancer can strike anyone.

"Just because you don't have this (disease) in your family, don't think that you're free and clear," she said.

BREAKING THE NEWS

As teachers, Fleer and Tereshinski found themselves publicly disclosing their cancers and explaining their lengthy classroom absences. They were also left with breaking the news to students.

Fleer told her students in a simple manner.

"At Stewart, I have little kids. I told them that I would be gone for a few weeks because I had cancer, and the cancer needed to be gone," she said. "I wondered how my students would handle it. As it turned out, they understood more than I thought they would. One little girl had grandparents with cancer. They had already been through a set of experiences.'

Fleer wanted to reunite with her students before summer vacation.

"The kids were concerned after I came back," she said. "They would ask things like, 'Are you OK?

Fleer assured them she was going to do well. She continued to receive support from Principal Jerome Klimisch, the rest of the school staff and the community during summer.

"I got a lot of food, phone calls, texts and visits all

YHS From Page 1

a 'Dig Pink' night. The match will begin with the freshmen and junior varsity matchups against Sioux Falls Roosevelt at 4:45 p.m., with summer," she said. "The (school) staff would check on me, and people from my church and the community were taking very good care of me."

When she returned to the classroom this fall, Fleer talked to her new class of students about her situation. She also appreciated getting back into the swing of school.

"After a lot of months, it's good that I'm doing something that feels normal," she said.

On the other hand, Tereshinski learned of her diagnosis during late summer. She needed to take an extended classroom absence just as a new school year was starting.

She initially told her upper-level Spanish and Advanced Placement classes. However, word soon spread throughout the school.

'Everyone in the school was very sincere and caring. They made it possible for me to be gone," she said. "I don't know how the kids got my cell phone number, but they were texting me. I would tell them, 'I'll be fine. All is normal.' But I never thought it would be me with cancer.'

While absent from school, Tereshinski managed to remain part of YHS homecoming activities.

'The principal, Mr. (Wayne) Kindle, asked if I wanted to speak to the students," she said. "So he put me on speaker phone during 'The Gong Show' at the school. Mr. Kindle jokingly said I had to tell people in Spanish that he was good looking. I came on the speaker, got out 'Hola!' (for hello) and the kids just started shouting and cheering. It was wonderful!"

Tereshinski received another surprise when she returned to the classroom. "My kids all wore pink (for breast cancer awareness) on my first day back to school. I couldn't believe they did it!" she said.

She enjoys her return to the classroom. "I didn't want to sit home. I didn't want to do that," she said.

HELPING OTHERS

Tereshinski sees her cancer as an important life lesson for teenagers. "A lot of kids think they're 17 and (immortal), that they will never die. But it can happen to them," she said.

Besides school staff, she has received tremendous support from family, friends and church members.

Tereshinski and Fleer also credited medical and nursing staff — Fleer called them "complete angels straight from God" — who have provided non-stop support.

The two teachers have also received backing from other breast cancer survivors.

They call us and say, 'It's a sisterhood you don't want to be a member of, but since you are, here are our stories," Tereshinski said.

Fleer and Tereshinski said breast cancer survivors appreciate such acts of kindness and support.

'But it's also hard to accept. It's overwhelming at times," Fleer said.

Tereshinski agreed. "You think to yourself, 'This can't all be for me. I can't accept it all.' But my husband re-

minds me that people want to do this for you," she said. Fleer hopes the awareness efforts and research dedicated to breast cancer will eventually lead to advances against all cancers.

In the meantime, the two teachers said they are ready to help their fellow breast cancer victims.

'If we're able to help somebody else, we'll talk them through it," Tereshinski said.

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/RDockendorf

ical costs and transportation to and from treatment.

"It's a way to get girls in high school aware of breast cancer and help out others," Long said.

Long said that one of the most emotional parts of the Dig Pink fundraisers has been when girls know family members or friends that have had breast cancer and share their stories with each other.

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LININGEAST

Yeager Re-Enacts Historic Sound Barrier Flight

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NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. (AP) — Sixty-five years after becoming the first human to fly faster than the speed of sound, retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Chuck Yeager is still making noise.

The 89-year-old Yeager, who was featured in the movie "The Right Stuff," flew in the back seat Sunday of an F-15 Eagle as it broke the sound barrier at more than 30,000 feet above California's Mojave Desert the same area where he first achieved the feat in 1947 while flying an experimental rocket plane.

The F-15 carrying Yeager took off from Nellis Air Force Base near Las Vegas and broke the sound barrier at 10:24 a.m. Sunday, exactly 65 years to the minute the then-Air Force test pilot made history.

It also happened on the same day that daredevil skydiver Felix Baumgartner shattered the sound barrier after making the highest jump ever from a balloon 128,100 feet above the Earth.

Baumgartner hit Mach 1.24, or 833.9 mph, according to preliminary data, and became the first man to reach supersonic speed without traveling in a jet or a spacecraft. He landed safely in the New Mexico desert after a descent of just more than nine minutes.

Yeager told reporters after his flight that he was unaware of the skydiver's feat.

Asked by a young girl if he was scared during Sunday's flight, Yeager joked, "Yeah, I was scared to death." But the legendary pilot said he continues to fly all the time and it was just another flight to him. Yeager flew the F-15 as it

took off and landed, said Airman Timothy Young, a Nellis spokesman. The plane was piloted by Capt. David Vincent of the 65th Aggressor Squadron at Nellis.

"It was a great honor to have him fly out of Nellis," Young said. "We pride ourselves on training fighter pilots and to have someone of his caliber here is such an honor."



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Read & Recycle!

ceeded only by lung cancer. The chance of a woman developing breast cancer at some point in her life is one in eight. If the disease is detected early, the five-year survival rate is 97 percent.

"Screening mammography is the best weapon against breast cancer," Eidsness said. When it comes to screenings and the treatment of breast cancer, he believes the Yankton Medical Clinic is a good resource for area omen.

"We can do anything that anybody would need right here," Eidsness stated.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage

.ancers

cer during the first weekend of the volleyball season, when the Lancers were in Mitchell.

raised is possibly going to my aunt, so it shows me that we're making a difference.

ing shirts around campus and later held its "Think Pink" match on Oct. 3 against Northwestern at Laddie E. Cimpl Arena. Prior to that match, each Mount Marty player chose one person to play in memory of or in honor of.

The team did not focus solely on breast cancer during its "Think Pink" event, but anyone stricken with any form of cancer, head coach Candice Climer said.

some way; we all are," Climer said. "Last year, I went through it with my uncle (who passed away in December 2011), so I know exactly what it's like to have that in the back of your mind."

that magnitude is sometimes easier

varsity set for 7 p.m. at YHS.

"Every year for about the last four years, the high school volleyball team has held a 'Dig Pink' night," said Amy Long, YHS freshman volleyball coach. "In volleyball there is a statistic called a 'dig'; hence the 'Dig Pink' night name. We use the fundraiser as a way to promote breast cancer prevention.

Long said that in previous years, speakers have come in to talk with members of the team about breast cancer awareness and prevention.

"The main focus of the night is raising funds for breast cancer," she said. "In years past, we've donated to Susan G. Komen South Dakota affiliates, with about \$1,000 a year donated. Girls on the team have also received pledges for a donation of a certain amount of money per statistic recorded."

This year and last, however, the team has held a bake sale to raise money for breast cancer.

This year the fundraiser takes on a special new meaning.

All of the proceeds the team raises on Oct. 16 will be donated to the teachers at YHS that are currently battling breast cancer. The donations will be used to help the teachers' med-

"It's all a matter of awareness," she said. 'We show these girls that we can all do some-

thing to help others." This year's event may be even more emotional because many of the girls on the team have either had these teachers in the past, or know them because they teach at YHS.

"We can show our support for the teachers by raising money," Long said. "The girls will be wearing their pink uniforms, which were donated to us several years ago."

She added that the girls get excited for the event and show a lot of enthusiasm for it each year.

"It's important that we show them that every little bit helps," Long said. "The event shows people they care and are working to help current and former teachers battling breast cancer."

Players and coaches are asking people attending the game to wear pink, donate baked goods to the bake sale (items can be dropped off outside the YHS gym starting at 3:15 p.m. Tuesday) and buy something from the sale.

You can follow Andrew Atwal on Twitter at twitter.com/andrewatwal

The team has raised \$2,300 in Climer's three years with the program, and she said in future years the Lancers may look for a new endeavor - something outside of shirts, despite the campus-wide interest.

"How many students we had wanting to give something just tells you a lot about our school," Climer said. "It's almost like a ritual now. They want to see what our shirts look like."

While she was in high school at Colman-Egan, Ross was a part of the volleyball team's "Dig Pink" efforts. The overall support was comparable to both fund-raisers, she said.

'I got lucky, because both towns gave what they could," Ross said. "I even had teachers, both then and even now, come up to me and ask questions about what we were doing; how they could help."

Ultimately, that was the goal, Rowbotham said: to help in anyone possible.

On the night of the "Think Pink" match, when she put down a name of someone to play for, the choice was obvious, Rowbotham said.

'It kind of hit me that I'm playing for her," she said. "I'm just so glad I got to be a part of this.

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck

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One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-15 **CRYPTOOUOTE**

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GOTACOHW

Saturday's Cryptoquote: THINK LEFT AND THINK RIGHT AND THINK LOW AND THINK HIGH. OH. THE THINKS YOU CAN THINK UP IF ONLY YOU TRY! — DR. SEUSS

From Page 1

"You never know, the money we

In all, the team raised \$800 by sell-

"Everyone has been affected in

Compartmentalizing something of said than done, Rowbotham said.

"I just make sure that we talk almost every day.' For Ross, a sophomore outside hitter, her involvement in "Think Pink"

not face to face with it.

took on a whole new dimension much later in the season, when Mount Marty was already well into its Great Plains Athletic Conference schedule.

"It was hard because I also had a

Rowbotham, who later had her appen-

dix removed last month. "It's been a

little easier to deal with because I'm

here in school and not at home. I'm

shoulder injury to deal with," said

Ross' aunt, Lori, was recently diagnosed with lymph node cancer.

"We know it's going to be a long, hard year in front of us," Ross said. "It brings everyone together. You can feel the energy for something like this."

Though she admits it was sometimes hard, Ross said her biggest goal during the team's fund-raising efforts was to keep her aunt in mind.

"Now when I see how much she has to go through, we're not so worried about cost," Ross said. "It's all about keeping her hopes high."

When it came down to the monetary impact, though, the Lancers not only sold specially-designed T-shirts around campus but also garnered donations from area towns. Climer said she was "astonished" when she received envelopes in the mail, including one from Sioux Falls.