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75¢



Debt Deal In Limbo

House GOP Floats A Counter To Senate's Solution

BY DAVID ESPO
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The divided government's increasingly urgent drive to prevent a Treasury default and end a 15-day partial government shutdown took a highly partisan turn Tuesday as House Republicans unveiled a proposal stocked with conservative priorities that the White House instantly rejected. It was unclear whether House Speaker

John Boehner and the GOP leadership had the votes to pass their measure, or whether it would even be brought to the House floor for a vote. Even so, the immediate result was to freeze Senate negotiations on a bipartisan compromise that had appeared ready to bear fruit.

The events prompted an outbreak of partisan rhetoric, mixed with urgent warnings that both the U.S. and global economies could suffer severe damage quickly unless Congress acted by Thursday.

Even something of an appeal for heavenly aid was thrown in, as Rep. Steve Southerland of Florida led House Republicans in a rendition of "Amazing Grace" at the beginning of a rank-and-file meeting called to discuss a way out of the impasse.

Describing his plan for reporters, Boehner said, "I have made clear for months and months that the idea of default is wrong and

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G.J. MCCARTHY/DALLAS MORNING NEWS/MCT
Sheila Helton joins a demonstration outside of the Dallas office of U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz on Tuesday protesting the federal budget standoff and government shutdown. In the background are Cruz supporters.



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

A dry start to autumn allowed area farmers to get a good jump on harvesting their crops, as this farmer near Yankton did earlier this month. This week's heavy, record rain will delay harvest a bit, but SDSU Extension officials don't believe it will keep farmers out of the fields for long.

Yankton Co. Denies NFAA Tax Abatements

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

By a 3-2 vote, the Yankton County Commission has denied tens of thousands of dollars worth of property-tax abatements to the National Field Archery Association (NFAA).

The commissioners took the action during Tuesday's regular meeting. At issue was whether to grant the abatement after the NFAA missed deadlines for completing the

process.

Commissioners Donna Freng, Garry Moore and Allen Sinclair voted against the motion for a property-tax abatement. Bruce Jensen and Mark Johnson voted for the measure.

The commissioners noted other entities had received abatements. However, at issue was NFAA's missed deadlines, they said.

"I have trouble with special treatment for one business," Freng said.

NFAA president Bruce Cull, who

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CLARIFICATION

A statement in Tuesday's *Press & Dakotan* story about first responders may have been unclear to some readers. Yankton EMS director Steve Hawkins believes that first responders are willing to answer the call at any hour, even at 3 a.m.

Harvest On Track Despite Setback From Record Rain

BY DEREK BARTOS
derek.bartos@yankton.net

While the abundant moisture received throughout the region this week will likely slow down this fall's harvest, it doesn't appear that farmers will be stuck in the mud for very long.

According to Paul Johnson, SDSU Extension agronomy crops field specialist, field work throughout southeast South Dakota should resume within a few days as long as the area doesn't see more rain.

"We were dry enough going into this that, in most cases, this rain is being absorbed fairly readily," he said. "There might be some low-lying areas that will take a little bit longer to dry up, but I'm guessing as soon as the crop is dry enough to be harvested again, we'll be able to get in the fields again and get going."

Yankton received a record amount of precipitation Monday, with its 3.16-inch total dwarfing the previous mark of .70 inches from 1954. According to the National Weather Service, other area rain totals for Monday included: Menno, 2.43; Centerville, 1.77; Vermillion, 1.24; Geddes, 1.25; Tyndall, 1.50; and Pickstown, 1.39.

Johnson said that although it shouldn't take long for the moisture to dry up, farmers should be careful not to rush back into the fields too soon.

"People should take their time and be safe out there," he said. "We don't need any more farm accidents. We've already have one or two serious ones in the state, and we

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COURTESY PHOTO

Wagner students cheer and welcome the visiting team and fans prior to a football game this fall, part of the positive atmosphere that the school has embraced through the "Rachel's Challenge" program.

Wagner School Takes On Challenge To Promote Positive Atmosphere

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

WAGNER — At the Wagner school, students and staff cheered, welcomed and held signs for the football team — from the opposing school.

It's all part of the district's acceptance of "Rachel's Challenge." The national program teaches principles modeled after Rachel Joy Scott, the first student killed in the Columbine High School shootings on April 20, 1999, in Colorado.

Rachel's Challenge — a K-12 program that

OUR TOWNS

Charles Mix County

replaces bullying and violence with positive words and actions — was started by the girl's father and stepmother, Darrell and Sandy Scott. The program draws upon Rachel's simple acts of kindness and words of encouragement that changed millions of lives.

At Wagner, the encouraging signs for visiting football teams has marked just one activ-

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For every Press & Dakotan employee that wears pink on Monday, October 21st, \$5 will be donated to the Yankton Area Cancer Survivorship Program. We invite all area businesses to join us in donating \$5 for every one of their employees that wears pink. For More Information Please Contact: Tonya Schild, 665-7811.

Paint Yankton Pink on Monday, October 21st

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

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