



Dakota Dispatch

KEEPING DAKOTANS FROM AROUND THE CONFERENCE INFORMED AND UP-TO-DATE

OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS®

OUR OSHKOSH EXPERIENCES - A PICTORIAL

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. The 2009 Courage to Stand Camporee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin impacted the lives of thousands of young people (73 from the Dakotas). After making some inquiries and requests, numerous Pathfinders, their leaders, siblings, and families responded. Here are their experiences. Their stories will be told in the Dakota Messenger and in Outlook Magazine this fall.



Charles O'Hare



Bonnie Schmid



Charles O'Hare



Taylor Temple



Nathan Roe



Valerie Haveman



Valerie Haveman



Valerie Haveman



Linda Purdy



Maddie Temple

The Dakota Dispatch is an electronic publication of the Dakota Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®. Have any news, photos, or information you would like to share? Email submissions to Heidi Shoemaker at heidi@fredandheidi.com.

DAKOTA ADVENTIST® ACADEMY

STUDENTS RECEIVE LEG UP ON GYM TEAM

RACHAEL BOYD, DAA DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



Acro-Lights in Action. Photo courtesy DAA

Attending class before school starts is generally something students shy away from. However, when students heard they could attend an Acro-Lights Gymnastics clinic and learn particular skills and conditioning routines to help them through tryouts, many students made an exception. Sixteen students came to learn gymnastics skills such as tumbling, stunting, tossing, and creating pyramids from AcroLights coaches, Chris and Kari Morrison and Jordan Vliet as well as special coaches, Susie Kahler and Tyler Davis. The students also designed two routines in groups, and performed them Friday morning in front of other students, parents, and teachers. Sara Altsman, an incoming sophomore, was new to gymnastics. She said, "Everyone was friendly and helped explain the moves to me. I feel more prepared for the real gymnastics team." Coach Morrison is looking forward to more growth this year in the gymnastics program and is planning on holding another clinic next summer. Be on the lookout for more information.

ACT SCORES

RACHAEL BOYD

Every year, Dakota Adventist Academy receives a college readiness letter concerning our students' scores on the ACT, a test designed to measure the skills needed in English, math, reading, and science for college. Nationally, only 23% of students from the Class of 2009 are ready for college in all four areas compared to 24% of North Dakota students. **At DAA, we are proud to announce 60% of our students this past year are prepared to tackle college in all four areas.** Congratulations to the Class of 2009!

WATERTOWN SENDS OFF STUDENTS WITH PRAYER

Deverne Rickard and Watertown pastor Abel Rios, with Jenna and Jill Donald, Austin Rickard, and Nathan Struckman. Together with the Watertown Adventist Church, they sent the students off to Dakota Adventist Academy with a special prayer the Sabbath of August 22nd. The first semester began at DAA on the 24th.

Photo courtesy Liz Eberbach



Odds & Ends from Around the Conference...

ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICE FEDERATION MEETINGS.

Sept 21	Aberdeen SDA Church	10 AM to 2 PM
Sept 22	Bismarck SDA Church	10 AM to 2 PM
Sept 23	Dickinson SDA Church	10 AM to 2 PM
Sept 24	Rapid City SDA Church	10 AM to 2 PM

Contact Phyllis Alexander at csalex@rushmore.com for details.

FREE TUITION. MONEY FOR HOUSING & BOOKS

Southwestern Adventist University now offering free tuition to veterans through the new, Post-9/11 GI Bill. Veterans also eligible for \$1,000 book stipend and monthly housing stipend up to \$1,200. Veteran education benefits are transferable to spouses and children of veterans. Visit www.gibill.va.gov for eligibility. Contact Keith Gray at 214.325.8732 or visit www.swau.edu for more information.

DEFENDING ADVENTIST TRUTH AGAINST INTERNET SLANDER

Whenever a friend or neighbor sees any of our evangelistic promotion or is invited to church we are at the mercy of getting Googled into rejection before they have had a chance to meet us or to know who we really are. We are being defined by anti-Adventist websites posted by people who dislike or despise Adventists.

A new website has been launched to respond to Adventist opposition with positive presentations of God's mercy and truth in our message and mission. Its content was provided by Mid-America Union Communication Director Martin Weber, and built with the help of Chris and Candice McConnell who proposed the site. Visit www.sdaforme.com for more information.