

MIDWEST DIGEST

Base In Talks To Return Oglala Sioux Land

RAPID CITY (AP) — Officials at Ellsworth Air Force Base are in talks with the Oglala Sioux Tribe about the return a 4-square-mile parcel of land.
The land is the last of several parcels that previously belonged to the tribe but were used by the Air Force for bombings from the 1940s to 1970s. It's currently being scoured for any remaining weapons.
A date for the transfer has not been set.

Nebraska Flag Law Headed To Court

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — An attorney for Shirley Phelps-Roper is appealing a federal judge's dismissal of claims questioning the constitutionality of Nebraska's flag-mutilation law.
A notice of appeal to the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals was filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court.
In it, attorney Margie Phelps says the judge was wrong to decide Phelps-Roper can raise questions about the flag-mutilation law during her criminal case in state court, so there's no need to hear them in federal court.
Phelps-Roper is a member of the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kan., whose members believe U.S. troop deaths are punishment for the nation's tolerance of homosexuality.
She has sued state and local officials, arguing Nebraska's flag and funeral protest laws are unconstitutional.

Neb., Dakotas Better National Census Rate

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Preliminary figures show Nebraska and the Dakotas bettered the national rate for mailing back 2010 Census forms.
The U.S. Census said Wednesday that about 72 percent of households across the country believed to be occupied mailed back their census forms, the same rate that was achieved in 2000.
Nebraska's return rate was 76 percent. South Dakota's was 75 percent, and North Dakota's 73 percent.
In the fall, the Census Bureau will release final mail-return rates after census workers double-check the occupancy status of all households that didn't return a census form.
Census officials say they're were happy with the overall return rate because a decade-long trend shows declining survey participation, among other factors.

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S.D. GOVERNOR RACE

Knudson Blasts Daugaard On Budget

PIERRE (AP) — Senate Republican Leader Dave Knudson turned up the heat in the Republican gubernatorial primary race Wednesday, saying Lt. Gov. Dennis Daugaard is wrong to argue that South Dakota has no budget crisis.
Knudson took issue with an April 14 fundraising letter in which Daugaard noted the governor and Republican legislative leaders balanced the budget for next year without raising taxes or using reserve funds. He wrote "there is NO 'budget crisis' in South Dakota."
"I was proud to help craft this balanced-budget compromise," Daugaard wrote.
Knudson said Daugaard is wrong: There is a crisis and Daugaard did not help put together the budget-balancing plan approved by the South Dakota Legislature last month.
"I'm not hiding my head in the sand pretending that crisis doesn't exist," Knudson said in a telephone call with reporters. "We do have a budget crisis. It's one we can surmount with strong leadership, experienced leadership and leadership that's committed to solving the

problem and not ignoring it or pretending it doesn't exist."
Knudson said the Legislature had to fix a \$40 million budget gap in the recently passed budget for next year and the state is likely to face an additional \$60 million shortfall in the following budget year. Those numbers add up to a budget crisis, he said.
Daugaard and Knudson are among five men seeking the Republican nomination to run for governor in the June 8 primary. The sole Democratic candidate, state Sen. Scott Heidepriem of Sioux Falls, also criticized Daugaard last week for claiming there is no budget crisis.
Tony Venhuizen, Daugaard's campaign manager, said the lieutenant governor was not immediately available to respond to Knudson's criticisms Wednesday.
"Dennis isn't the kind of guy to panic in the face of a challenge. The thing to do is roll up your sleeves and deal with the problem like they did this year. Trying to incite panic by calling it a crisis isn't helpful. You need to solve

the problem," Venhuizen said.
He also said Daugaard was one of eight people who negotiated the budget deal last month.
Knudson said, "My impression is Dennis was sitting at the table watching."
Republican Gov. Mike Rounds, who is term-limited, is supporting Daugaard in the GOP primary contest.
Joe Kafka, the governor's press secretary, said the governor's office does not make a habit of responding to campaign rhetoric, but he confirmed those people were at the budget meeting.
Republicans had proposed a detailed plan to cut spending late in the legislative session, but Rounds objected to a part of the plan that would have cut spending across the board in part of state government.
The final budget plan cut spending in some state programs and saved money by reducing the size of tax refunds given as incentives to large construction projects. Knudson said it closely followed plans from GOP legislative leaders.

Rounds Praises S.D. Underground Science Lab

PIERRE (AP) — An underground science lab being developed thousands of feet underground in an abandoned gold mine in South Dakota's Black Hills aims to boost research and education worldwide, Gov. Mike Rounds said Wednesday.
Rounds spoke in a video link to the Internet2 conference in Virginia dealing with improving the capacity and technology of the Internet. Scientists nearly a

mile underground in the former Homestake gold mine also described how it is being converted into laboratories that will conduct research into physics, biology, geology and other subjects.
South Dakota already has spent \$65 million to convert the mine into an underground science lab where experiments have already started at a level 4,850 feet underground. The state hopes the National Science

Foundation will take over funding next year to turn the mine into a national underground physics lab with experiments possible nearly 8,000 feet below the surface.
The foundation has picked the site as the preferred location for a Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory, but more remains to be done to get final approval for the project and funding from Congress.
Scientists want to conduct

research into dark matter, neutrinos and other particles at the mine because the rock shields the experiments from cosmic radiation.
Rounds and other state officials said South Dakota has already connected the lab site, state universities and other locations to a high-capacity Internet system that will be able to carry the huge amount of data generated by the experiments.



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Thursday
4-7pm - Hamburger/Pizzaburger & Fries \$5.00
6-7pm - Domestic Beers \$1.00
Friday
Chicken Alfredo or Menu
Serving 5:30-8:00
Saturday Entertainment
Loyalty Day Potluck 7pm
Bingo Wed. at 7:00pm
Sunday at 6:30pm
Happy Hour M-F 4:30-6:00
Chislic Served Last Wednesday of Each Month

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