

# MIDWEST DIGEST

## Police Say Deputy Tripped Before Shooting

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha police say a Douglas County deputy involved in a deadly shooting while trying to arrest a man tripped and the man grabbed the gun.  
David Cermak, of Omaha, was shot to death last Wednesday. Two deputies were injured.  
According to KETV in Omaha, police on Monday say while serving an arrest warrant on Cermak, a deputy tripped. That's when, officials say, Cermak grabbed the deputy's gun and pointed it at the officers. A shot was fired, but it's unclear whether Cermak or deputies fired first.  
As many as five deputies were sent to arrest Cermak. Deputy Tom Flynn, who was shot in the torso, was released from the hospital over the weekend. The other deputy was bitten by a police dog trying to subdue Cermak.

## Man Given 60 Years For Manslaughter

HAYTI (AP) — A North Dakota man was sentenced Monday to 60 years in prison for manslaughter in a Hamlin County shooting last summer.  
Forty-three-year-old Steven Helm of Bismarck was initially charged with murder in the death of 33-year-old Jesse James Gisi of Watertown. He pleaded guilty to a lesser charge that carries the possibility of parole.  
Gisi's body was found Aug. 1 in a corn field near Estelline.  
KWAT radio reported that Helm told the judge that Gisi was a friend who wanted to die and asked to be killed.  
Judge Vince Foley said he doesn't dispute that Gisi asked Helm to kill him, but said by pulling the trigger Helm was talked into doing something "very stupid." He called the shooting "a complete disregard for the rules of society."

## Effort Seeks Public Vote On S.D. Health Laws

PIERRE (AP) — Two bills passed by the South Dakota Legislature to comply with the federal health care overhaul may be headed to a statewide public vote.  
Paperwork has been filed with the secretary of state's office to refer the two state measures to a public vote in November 2012.  
Secretary of State Jason Gant says those supporting the referral have until June 27 to collect the 15,855 signatures required to put the measure on the ballot.  
At the request of Gov. Dennis Daugaard's administration, the Legislature this year passed the two bills to comply with provisions in the federal health care overhaul passed last year.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

# N.D. Turns Flood Attention To Rural Areas

BY DAVE KOLPACK  
Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. — Residents in North Dakota's most populous county were finding new ways to get around Monday as floodwaters put two small towns "under siege" and closed more than 60 miles of county roads.  
The state's governor was caught in rural traffic detoured by flooded roads.  
The north-flowing Red River crested in Fargo and neighboring Moorhead, Minn., over the weekend at 38.75 feet, the fourth-highest flood on record. Officials said the levees were holding in the two cities and offered to help with unprecedented flooding in Cass County directly north of Fargo.  
The largely rural territory is dotted with small towns, many with just a few hundred residents, and National Weather Service meteorologist Greg Gust said record flows in the Sheyenne, Maple and Rush rivers have led to unparalleled overland flooding.  
"The area from Harwood to Argusville is under siege, more than it probably has been in history," North Dakota Gov. Jack Dalrymple said Monday.  
Road closures were making life difficult for county residents, including commuters who normally use Interstate 29 to get to work in Fargo. More than 30 miles of the

interstate remained shut down from north of Fargo to Hillsboro. State transportation officials said roads that have never flooded before are now under water.  
Dalrymple blamed his late arrival for a Monday morning flood briefing on a rare rural traffic jam. His home is 15 miles east of Fargo in Casselton, which was the turning point for an I-29 detour.  
"The traffic in Cass County is not moving at the normal pace this morning," the governor said.  
Valerie Verwest, who lives near Argusville and works in Fargo, took a county road into the city instead of her normal interstate route.  
"There was a lot more traffic going that way," she said. "But it really didn't take me any longer."  
A handful of people were rescued Sunday in Cass County, and county and Coast Guard air boats were on standby Monday, but no new evacuations were reported. Coast Guard officials said they suspended routine checks on flooded properties because of the fear the wave action could damage levees.  
Authorities moved two airboats into place for a possible rescue Monday near Grandin, but that was called off when they found out the family just wanted some items moved from the basement to the main floor. Firefighters helped the family move a freezer.

Melting snow also has rivers rising in other areas. In eastern South Dakota, owners of cabins and homes fought high water at Lake Kampeska at Watertown and at Lake Poinsett 25 miles to the south. Lake Kampeska appeared to have crested over the weekend 45.2 inches over full, while Poinsett was a record 73 inches over full.  
The weather service said the Big Sioux River and James River in South Dakota continued to flood farmland but had crested and were receding with no threat to towns or personal property.  
In North Dakota, Cass County engineer Keith Berndt said water was "dropping a bit" in Argusville and nearby Harwood, but flood levels will remain high for a long time. Work was being done Monday to reinforce levees in the Minnesota towns of Perley, Halstad and Hendrum. Authorities urged residents stranded by floodwaters to plan ahead if they need medical supplies or other help.  
"Please keep in mind it will take people a while to get to you," Cass County Commissioner Darrell Vanyo said. "One of the rescues we had was 5 miles one way with an airboat."  
It was less hectic in Fargo and Moorhead. Fargo was removing clay levees and opening bridges that cross drainage areas. Moorhead officials announced that its city golf courses would open Tuesday.

## Neb. Workers Exposed To Radiation

BROWNVILLE, Neb. (AP) — Federal inspectors are trying to find out why three maintenance workers were exposed to higher than expected radiation levels at Cooper Nuclear Station near Brownville in southeast Nebraska.  
The Nuclear Regulatory Commission says the workers were exposed to unplanned radiation on April 3 at the power plant run by the Nebraska Public Power District.  
The utility told regulators it doesn't believe the radiation exposure exceeded the commission's limits.  
NPPD officials didn't immediately respond to a message Monday.  
Regulators say the workers didn't follow the proper procedure for removing a long tube contaminated with radioactive material from the reactor because the tube was taken out of the bottom of the reactor vessel instead of the top.

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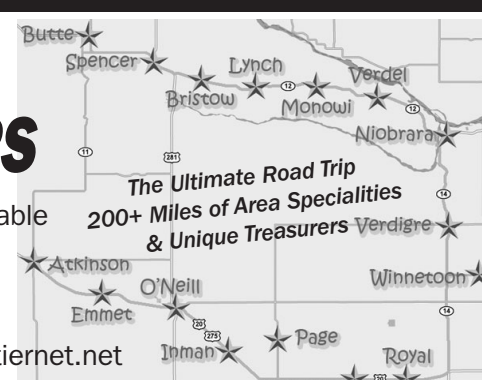
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**PRIME**

**\*Pronounced "PREE FEE"**  
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2 **SECOND COURSE** choose one entrée: **Cajun Chicken Linguine, 7oz Top Sirloin, Honey Pepper Pork Chop, Coriander Salmon, Chicken Oscar, Blackened Salmon Salad**

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