

**Mickelson Trail
Lawsuit Dismissed**

PIERRE (AP) — Attorney General Marty Jackley says a federal court has decided to dismiss a lawsuit from landowners who wanted to declare that parts of the Mickelson Trail in Fall River County are privately owned. Jackley says local landowners filed a lawsuit last April arguing some parts of the trail that was originally owned by Grand Island Railroad had passed into private ownership. The 109-mile trail in the Black Hills is on a former railroad line and stretches between Deadwood and Edgemont. The state argued the corridor was not abandoned but was instead subject to 1989 agreement that allowed the railroad right-of-way to be used as a recreational trail and be managed by the state. Jackley says the court agreed, confirming the state's right to manage the trail for recreational purposes.

**UNK Professors
Make Case For
Medicaid Bill**

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A study by two University of Nebraska at Kearney professors says the state would see economic benefits if Medicaid coverage was expanded to cover more low-income residents. The study by economics professor Allan Jenkins and management professor Ron Konecny says Nebraska would avoid at least \$1 billion in silent taxes, medical-related bankruptcies, unnecessary state spending and reduced consumer spending power over five years. The state would receive \$2.1 billion in federal funding over five years. Lawmakers are scheduled to debate a new Medicaid expansion bill on Wednesday. Two previous efforts to pass similar measures have failed, and it's likely to face resistance again this year. The report was commissioned by the Nebraska Hospital Association and AARP Nebraska, which support the bill (LB472).

**Sioux Falls Garbage
Hauler Owes \$255K**

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A Sioux Falls garbage hauler owes the city more than a quarter of a million dollars in unpaid landfill fees and finance charges. City officials issued delinquent notices to Dan's Garbage Service in September, November and December. Last month they filed a civil complaint against the company. Owner Dan Roach declined comment to the *Argus Leader*. City officials say Dan's Garbage Service owes \$255,000 in fees that have been piling up since April 2009. The business also has other problems — the company has an "F" rating from the Better Business Bureau based on three unanswered service complaints in the past year.

**Lower Brule Tribe
Chairman Dies In
Sioux Falls**

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — The vice chairman of the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe says he has assumed control of tribal government. Kevin Wright on Friday cited what he said was the tribe's constitution and by-laws in taking over leadership because Chairman Michael Jandreau was hospitalized. Later in the day, after Jandreau died at a Sioux Falls hospital, Wright told The Associated Press the family needs time to grieve and the federal government needs to know the tribe is functioning. But it's unclear how tribal government ultimately will operate without Jandreau. A copy of the tribe's constitution provided to the AP by its general counsel says the tribal council appoints someone to serve the remainder of a Jandreau's term. Wright was one of the council members who criticized Jandreau over reports of financial mismanagement.

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Regents Prepare For National Sexual Awareness Month

PIERRE — Attorney General Marty Jackley and the South Dakota Board of Regents announce that April is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month. To commemorate this month, a heightened awareness to combat sexual assaults on South Dakota campuses will be the focus. "Our colleges and universities work hard to ensure that our students live and study in safe environments. Law enforcement is joining with campuses across South Dakota to increase sexual assault awareness and to be proactive in prevention efforts," said Jackley. South Dakota's public universities also are taking a very proactive approach to eliminate acts of sexual violence and harassment. Through actions of the South Dakota Board of Regents, which governs the university system, this topic has been

given higher visibility on each campus. "We have worked diligently to improve awareness of this problem on behalf of our students, faculty, and staff," said Jack R. Warner, the Regents' Executive Director and CEO. "One of our most effective efforts has been 'bystander intervention' training, which informs people who witness an act of sexual violence or harassment about how they might respond." Warner said, "We have improved our processes to report sexual assault and violence as well, including creation of confidential reporting websites and phone systems. We also have conducted system-wide Title IX training, along with specialized training to ensure that personnel who investigate reports and adjudicate charges involving sexual violence understand how this trauma may affect victims." Law enforcement statewide works daily on

preventative measures including keeping sex offenders registered and in compliance. The compliance rate for registered sex offenders is 99.1 percent. Currently 3,350 sex offenders reside statewide with just 28 identified instances of non-compliance. State law requires those convicted of sex crimes to register as a sex offender within three business days of coming into any county to reside. Additional state law requires sex offenders to reregister every six month. South Dakota's Sex Offender Registry was the fourth state in the nation to become certified. To be certified the State must substantially implement the provision of Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA). To date, South Dakota is one of 20 states whose registries have met the national SORNA certification requirements.



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