

Patrol Plans Increased Husker Coverage

LINCOLN, Neb. — An increased Nebraska State Patrol presence is planned for Husker home football games during the 2014 season.

Troopers and communications specialists with the Nebraska State Patrol Headquarters Troop-Lincoln and Troop A-Omaha will be working overtime hours during the first four Husker home games (Aug. 30, Sept. 6, 20, 27), thanks in part to a \$13,160 grant from the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety (NOHS).

The Nebraska State Patrol Aviation Support Division will also be in the air assisting troopers and providing traffic reports both before and after the games.

Traffic volume tends to increase during Husker home games. Fans traveling to and from Memorial Stadium can expect congestion and possible delays and are encouraged to give themselves plenty of time to reach their destination.

Motorists are also reminded voluntary compliance with all traffic safety laws will help to keep traffic moving smoothly. Drivers are encouraged to obey the posted speed limit, never drive impaired or distracted and make sure everyone in their vehicle is buckled up.

Nebraska's Advanced Traveler Information System, 511, can be utilized to keep up today with the latest weather and road conditions. Motorists can access the 511 Mobile Traveler Site at <http://www.ndortraveler.mobi> or www.511.nebraska.gov or by dialing 511 (00-906-9069) from any cellular phone when safe to do so.

Anyone who observes a reckless driver or anyone in need of non-emergency roadside assistance should call the Nebraska State Patrol Highway Helpline when safe to do so at *55 from their cellular phone or 1-800-525-5555 from any landline. Motorists should report emergencies to 911.

Lawmakers Explore Highway Funding

PIERRE (AP) — A committee of South Dakota lawmakers is exploring ways the state can generate more revenue for its state and local highways that are becoming costly to keep up.

The Highway Needs and Financing Committee met this week at the state Capitol. Committee members discussed ideas for potential legislation like increasing some user fees.

Republican Chairman Sen. Mike Vehle suggested lowering the gas tax from 22 cents to 20 cents but adding a 3 percent excise tax on fuel. The gas tax has been 22 cents since 1999.

Agricultural and business leaders say the state needs to focus on ways to get funding to rural roads that are in bad shape.

Secretary of Agriculture Lucas Lentsch says keeping farm-to-market roads in good condition is crucial.

SDSM&T Gets \$500,000 NASA Grant

RAPID CITY (AP) — The South Dakota Space Grant Consortium has been awarded \$500,000 by NASA.

The grant will be used by the consortium, located at the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, to increase engagement in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs at the Lake Area Technical Institute in Watertown. The two entities will also partner with South Dakota State University and NASA Johnson Space Center to execute a project called "A Sustainable Food Chain: Growing the Right Stuff!"

The Office of Education at NASA awarded 35 grants to community colleges and technical schools throughout the U.S. in an effort to increase NASA-related STEM engagement.

State Hears Arguments Against Income Criteria For Deaf Assistance

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Four South Dakotans spoke through American Sign Language at a public hearing Wednesday against state government's plans to set income criteria for deaf or hard of hearing people who want to receive devices and services.

The four — Patty Kuglitsch, Kevin Barber, Jeff Panek and Clarke Christianson, all from the Sioux Falls area — called for the state Department of Human Services to continue providing equipment and services for free to people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The comments came at a formal public hearing held by the department's office of rehabilitation services.

No one spoke in favor of setting income criteria. The proposed new rules result from a law passed by the Legislature last winter at the request of Gov. Dennis Daugaard, whose parents were deaf.

The testifiers Wednesday praised the opportunity for people to receive newer types of devices such as iPads and iPhones.

But they said they didn't expect income criteria. The proposed eligibility for the devices would be a household income of 300 percent or less of the federal poverty level.

The 300 percent would be about \$35,010 for one person and about \$47,190 for a two-person household, based on poverty-level information on the state website.

The original version of the governor's legislation didn't refer to eligibility criteria. That provision was added in a House committee as part of a broad set of amendments.

The legislation, HB 1166, won approval in its amended form in the House 61-8 and in the Senate 34-0.

"When I received the rules I was very surprised to see the financial limitations," Christianson testified.

The South Dakota Association of the Deaf doesn't support the eligibility criteria, according to a letter delivered by Kuglitsch, the group's president.

She said eliminating the

criteria would be "more advantageous" regardless whether a new device costs more than \$250.

The government previously provided teletypewriter equipment without financial criteria, Kuglitsch said. Modern cell phones and other new technology carry TTY capabilities.

"Individuals should not be discriminated against based on income. This was the premise for providing TTYs without regard to income guidelines," she testified.

"Approximately 70 percent of deaf and hard of hearing are unemployed or at least underemployed and they are experiencing financial hardships as a result," she said.

At the House committee's hearing on the bill, Kuglitsch testified in favor. She and Panek testified in favor at the Senate committee hearing on the amended bill.

The department's website provides the following information about the current version of the program prior to the proposed rule changes:

"Telecommunications equipment distribution program provides telecommunication devices such as TTYs, flashing light phone ring signalers, volume amplifiers, loud ringers, TTYs with Large Visual Displays or any other equipment which fits the individual's telecommunication needs.

"Who is eligible?"
"Any South Dakota resident who is Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf-Blind, Speech-disabled and have phone service in his/her home. Hearing or speech impairment must be verified by a doctor or audiologist."

South Dakota funds the equipment distribution program through a monthly 15-cent access fee on each local-exchange service telephone line, each cellular phone and each radio pager unit.

Kuglitsch and others said they opposed several other proposed changes. The department will make a decision at a later date on the rule proposals.

The department's decision will be subject to final clearance from the Legislature's rules review committee.

'Cops' Crew Member Killed In Omaha Shooting

BY MARGERY A. BECK
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Police officers who opened fire while disrupting a robbery at a fast-food restaurant in Omaha killed a crew member with the TV show "Cops" as well as the suspect, who was armed with a pellet gun that they thought was a real handgun, authorities said Wednesday.

The suspect fired from the pellet gun before officers returned fire, Police Chief Todd Schmaderer said at a news conference. He said witnesses and officers thought the robbery suspect's Airsoft handgun looked and sounded real, but discovered later that it fires only plastic pellets.

The suspect, whom police identified as 32-year-old Cortez Washington, was struck by the officers' gunfire, but fled outside of the restaurant before collapsing. Officers continued firing on the suspect as he exited the restaurant, and that was when the "Cops" crew member, 38-year-old Bryce Dion, was also struck, said Schmaderer.

Dion was wearing a bulletproof vest, but a single bullet that hit his arm "slipped into a gap in the vest" and went into his chest, Schmaderer said.

"My concern with my officers is that they are taking this very hard," Schmaderer said. "Bryce was their friend."

Schmaderer said video captured by

the cameraman who was with Dion shows the chaotic situation in the restaurant. Police released still shots from the video showing a hooded and masked person pointing what looks like a gun at police. Schmaderer said police would not release the full video, but that it will be part of the grand jury investigation into the shooting.

Schmaderer said Washington had a lengthy criminal record, including an accessory to robbery conviction from Missouri for which he was on parole. He moved to Nebraska in September 2013, and his parole was due to expire in June 2017.

Schmaderer said the incident began when one of the officers, on his way to another reported robbery, called to request backup for the robbery at the Wendy's. The "Cops" crew members were with two officers who responded to that request.

When police entered the restaurant and confronted the suspect, Dion, who was the sound operator, got separated from the cameraman, Schmaderer said.

"Cops" is a reality TV show that depicts law enforcement officers in action. According to its website, the show has been filmed in at least 140 U.S. cities and three foreign countries.

Executives with Langley Productions said this was the first time one of their crew members has been fatally shot while filming.

In 2010, a TV crew for the A&E reality

show "The First 48" recorded a Detroit police raid in which a 7-year-old girl was accidentally killed by an officer. That incident highlighted concerns about whether TV cameras influence police behavior, perhaps encouraging showboating.

Schmaderer on Wednesday bristled at a reporter's question about whether his officers overreacted knowing that cameras were recording them, calling the suggestion "absolutely ridiculous." He said the video of Tuesday's shooting shows the officers reacted properly.

Schmaderer said he accepted the invitation from "Cops" to film in Omaha in the name of transparency. But he also expressed regret at the outcome.

"Personally, I will live with this forever," Schmaderer said. "If I'd have known that this would happen, of course, I wouldn't have done it."

Key executives for Langley Productions, President John Langley and Executive Producer Morgan Langley, attended the police news conference in Omaha and agreed that police there had acted professionally.

John Langley said the crew had been filming all summer in Omaha and had only one week left when the deadly shooting happened.

"Bryce has been with us for seven years," said Morgan Langley, who hired Dion. "This is very hard for us."

Horse-Racing Measure Now In Neb. Court's Hands

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — A ballot measure that would allow electronic betting on previously run horse races in Nebraska now rests with the state Supreme Court, which heard arguments Wednesday on an effort to kill it before it reaches voters.

An attorney for Omaha anti-gambling activist Pat Loontjer asked the court to keep the measure off the November ballot, while a state lawyer defended it as constitutional. The seven-member

court will likely rule before Sept. 12, the deadline to certify it for the ballot.

The measure approved by lawmakers would let voters decide whether to approve wagering on old horse races shown on video screens at Nebraska's five licensed race tracks. It also says that tax revenue from both live and replayed horse races will go toward education, property tax relief and a compulsive gambling treatment program.

The machines allow players to view background information about the horses' records, such as the winning percentage of their trainers or jockeys. They're scrubbed of information that could identify a race, such as a date or location or the names of horses or jockeys.

Combining both issues — whether to allow the machines and how the money is spent — denies voters the opportunity to say yes to one and no to the other, said Loontjer's attorney, Steve Grasz. Opponents also contend that the measure's promise of property tax relief is misleading, because the

machines won't generate enough revenue to substantially lower anyone's tax bill.

Loontjer has said the property tax benefit would amount to only a few cents per person annually.

Supporters say the issue was vetted by the Legislature and still requires voter approval. Secretary of State John Gale reviewed and approved the language, saying the issues presented on the ballot were related and he therefore didn't vet the ballot language as unconstitutional. Gale still has to formally certify the measure.

Out On The Town

RESTAURANT Like us on f **\$6.95**
11am-2pm
Yesterday's Cafe
23rd & Broadway • Yankton • 665-4383

The Classes You've Been Waiting For!
Classes Begin Tuesday, Aug. 26
For information & registration contact Bill Sohl, 661-7077 williamsohl@hotmail.com
All proceeds go to Yankton's SAR K-9 Response Team

Overnight Trip To Royal River Casino at Flandreau, SD
Next Trips September 8th & 9th September 22nd & 23rd
\$50 (per person/dbl. occ.) \$60 (per person/single)
Includes: **FREE Evening Buffet, FREE Breakfast Buffet PLUS \$25 FREE PLAY!**
Hennen Tours
For Reservations Call **1-507-401-3465, 1-507-530-0587 or 1-402-394-1547**

Elks Patio Party
504 W. 27th St., Yankton
Saturday, August 30 6:00-8:00PM
Featuring...1/2 Beer Can Chicken, Potatoes & Sweet Corn
\$9.25 per person
Reservations requested 665-3333

GET READY FOR FOOTBALL!!
Czeckers Sports Bar & Grill
407 Walnut - Yankton 605.689.2244
FOOTBALL DEALS
Sunday - \$10 Bucket O' Beer
Monday - \$5 Cheeseburger & Fries (5-11pm)
Thursday - 50¢ Traditional Wings (5-11pm)
Host your fantasy football draft @ Czeckers and get \$5 Pitchers Domestic Beer!!

Don't Miss Our **All-You-Can-Eat Broasted Chicken & Pollock Buffet With Salad Bar**
Every Wednesday 5 to 9pm

Joe's Substation
Rural Lesterville 605-364-7414

VFW
Post 791 209 Cedar
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Wednesday & Sunday
5-7pm Cooks Choice

Thursday
5-7pm - Domestic Beers \$1.50
5-7pm - Hamburger/ Pizza Burger & Fries \$5.00

Friday
Swiss Steak
Serving 5:30-8:00

Saturday Entertainment
No Band
Regular Menu 5:30-8:00

Bingo Wed. at 7:00pm
Sunday at 6:30pm
Happy Hour M-F 4:30-7:30
Chislic Served Last Wednesday of Month

304 W. 3rd, Yankton
Rounding 3rd Bar & Casino

Food Specials
Monday: \$1 off Appetizers
Tuesday: \$1 off Burger Combo
Wednesday: 50¢ Wings (Dine In Only)
Thursday: \$2 off any Pizza
Aug. 30 - Go Figure
Sept. 6 - Jones & Co.

3rd Annual Cancer Benefit POKER RUN
Team HOPE
Support Cure Believe
Determination

"Dedicated to all those who've lost the fight and to those who won't quit."
Sat., Aug. 30th
Registration 12-1:00PM
at Kozy's (Hwy 50 W. of Yankton)

Route Continues to Joe's Substation, Tabor, Tyndall, Menno and ending at Trev's Corner in Lesterville
BBQ Meal 6:30-8PM
Street Dance to Follow - Open To The Public-

Proceeds will be used to fulfill the Team HOPE mission...
"To continue supporting area families affected by Cancer"
Donations can be made to the Team HOPE Fund set up at Services Center Credit Union, 609 W. 21st, Yankton, SD 57078 or to: Karen Edler, 3018 N. Francis St., Yankton OPErocks@yahoo.com

Yankton's New Music Venue
Starting Saturday, August 30th
Kings of Oblivion • 8-11pm
• Champagne Brunch Every Saturday and Sunday 11am - 3pm
• Prime Rib Fridays and Saturdays
• New Beer Garden
• Comfortable Pub Seating
TUCKER'S TAVERN
at the Old Lighthouse, 2901 Broadway
OPEN AT 4PM
TUESDAY-FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY 11AM, CLOSED MONDAY