The witness said he heard the gun click, then saw McCahren take a shotgun shell out of a

drawer, load the gun and point it at him again.

The witness told police he was trying to leave the house through a sliding glass door when Williams stepped between him and McC-

ahren. He said the gun fired, and Williams was

the argument and the wrestling occurred be-

tween the witness and McCahren.

pretty deeply," Grandpre said.

other students, Glodt said.

Pierre Police Chief Bob Grandpre confirmed

Grandpre said the department had an extra

officer at Riggs High School on Wednesday and

Thursday, more to answer students' and teach-

ers' questions than to provide extra security. Some officers know the teenagers involved because the boys were involved in anti-drug programs run by the department, Grandpre said.

It's a real close-knit community. It's a

Pierre School Superintendent Kelly Glodt

said school counselors and others were available to talk with students, but classes went sur-

prisingly well Wednesday and Thursday. School

officials appeared to succeed in keeping school

However, students who were close to the three boys involved in the shooting are having a

"This is not something that's going to go

away immediately. We're going to be dealing with it for quite some time," the superintendent

activities as normal as possible, he said.

tougher time dealing with the incident than

smaller community, so we feel these things

The teen said he then heard another click.

BY CHET BROKAW

Associated Press

ON THE WEB: www.yankton.net **NEWS DEPARTMENT:** news@yankton.net

Friday, 12.21.12

Blizzard Blamed For 2 Fatal Nebraska Crashes LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — At least two people in Nebraska have died in

Investigators say 63-year-old Michael Hughes, of New Hope, Minn., was killed just before 1 p.m. Wednesday on Interstate 80, near the vil-

A dispatcher for the Nebraska State Patrol in North Platte says 60-year-old Janet M. Hughes, was treated at a local hospital and re-

leased.

struck by a semi tractor-trailer on Highway 34 after he lost control of his car. He was pronounced dead at a local hospital. Authorities say both crashes were weather-related.

SD Man Gets 25 Years For Death Of Refugee

Thursday for the death of Geu Ayuel. Ree will be eligible for parole

Ree was 17 at the time of the 2011 death but was charged as an

after a night of drinking.

Woman Sentenced In Embezzlement Case

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A Sioux Falls woman who pleaded guilty to embezzling from a bank has been sentenced to five years of super-

vised release and ordered to pay thousands of dollars in restitution.
U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson announced Thursday that 62-yearold Lona Mahon was sentenced to one day of time served and five years of supervised released for embezzling approximately \$23,000

Heineman Requests Silent Moment For Victims

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Gov. Dave Heineman is asking Nebraskans to observe a moment of silence to honor the victims of the Connecticut school shooting.

The national moment of silence is set for Friday at 9:30 a.m. Connecticut Gov. Daniel Malloy is also asking schools, churches and other facilities with bells to ring them 26 times to acknowledge each life lost.

The shooting last week at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., killed 20 students and six staff members.

Man Pleads Not Guilty To Robo-Call Charges

MADISON (AP) — A Sioux Falls Republican political activist has essary identifying disclaimers.

State prosecutors allege that 31-year-old Daniel Willard violated four counts of a state election law governing the production of cam-

The misdemeanor charges carry maximum penalties of a year be-

Rush To Cash Checks Collapses SD Bank Floor

 $LOWER\ BRULE\ (AP) \ -- \ The\ floor\ of\ a\ bank\ on\ the\ Lower\ Brule\ Indian\ Reservation\ in\ central\ South\ Dakota\ collapsed\ after\ tribal\ members$ bers rushed to business to cash trust settlement checks, officials said.

day. No one was injured but the bank is closed indefinitely. The Lower Brule Tribe began issuing \$750 checks to about 3,800 members on Tuesday as part of a settlement with the federal govern-

The Crow Creek Tribe in nearby Fort Thompson started issuing

Lower Brule Bureau of İndian Affairs Superintendent James Two

Too many people standing in one place," Two Bulls said.

'I'm in my chair, and I start to panic. All of a sudden the whole floor

Peace, Joy,
Hope and Happiness
Be with You and Your Family

During this Holiday Season

And Throughout the Year

slumberland

furniture that lives the way you do

crashes that were blamed on poor driving conditions during the snow-

Hughes was a passenger in a vehicle that rear-ended a semi. His wife,

The second accident was reported at 3:20 p.m. Wednesday in Grand Island. Authorities say 34-year-old Hussein Ahmed of Grand Island was

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A 19-year-old man who killed a Sudanese refugee with rocks after a night of drinking has been sentenced to 25 years in prison for manslaughter, with 20 more years suspended.

The Argus Leader reports that Dwight Dauson Ree was sentenced

Ree and another man, 23-year-old Jerome Ewing, pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the death of Ayuel. Authorities say the two men hit Ayuel with their fists, feet and rocks and then tried to burn the body

over a two-year period from a bank.

Mahon must serve the first four months of her released confined at home. She must also pay \$14,400 in restitution. She has already paid

pleaded not guilty to orchestrating a robo-call campaign during election season that criticized GOP legislative leaders but lacked the nec-

paign ads and communications in the run-up to an election.
Attorney R. Shawn Tornow entered the plea Thursday morning in

Tornow says there was no violation and Willard is confident he'll be exonerated. The attorney says state law is unclear on what constitutes a communication and what is required.

hind bars and a \$2,000 fine.
A preliminary hearing is scheduled for Feb. 14.

The Daily Republic reports the floor of bank dropped 2 feet Tues-

ment over the abuse and mishandling of tribal assets.

\$800 checks to about 4,000 tribal members on Monday.

That's more than \$6 million in checks, and people were in a hurry to cash them. Many members of both tribes used the Lower Brule bank before the floor collapsed.

Bulls said the floor just gave way.

Marcia Surdez, 50, of Lower Brule, was trapped inside the small building after the floor collapsed. Surdez, who is in a wheelchair after losing both her lower legs to a staph infection, said she was waiting in line for one of the two tellers, when the floor began to rumble.

went down," she said. "The floor just dropped."

seems like they're able to pick each other up,' said Urbach, who will preside at the funeral.

how the lives of three families were torn apart when a 16-year-old boy was fatally shot by a classmate, the community's first homicide in killed 20 children and six educators. more than a year. Braiden McCahren made his first court apheart, the pastor said.

pearance Thursday after being charged as an adult with first-degree murder. Authorities allege he shot his friend, Dalton Williams, with a semiautomatic shotgun on Tuesday after an apparent argument that involved a third boy at McCahren's home. All three boys were 16.

PIERRE — Residents of South Dakota's small

capital city struggled Thursday to comprehend

About two dozen people sat in the courtroom as McCahren, the son of a well-known local attorney, appeared through a video link from the county jail. Circuit Judge John Brown told the teen his rights and explained the charge

against him. His attorney did not ask for bond.

The judge told him he could try to move the case to juvenile court. McCahren's lawyer, Brad Schreiber, said it was too early to say whether

he would make the request. McCahren would face a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole if convicted of first-degree murder in adult court. If the case is moved to juvenile court, the state could only

hold him until he turns 21. He will enter a formal plea at a later hearing. Williams' funeral is scheduled for Saturday at Faith Lutheran Church, where the Rev. Brad Urbach said Williams' family was devastated and

not ready to talk publicly about the shooting. "They're leaning on each other, trying to de-

season crawled across the Mid-

fatal 25-vehicle pileup in Iowa.

before moving into Canada.

compared to past big storms,

On the southern edge of the

trucks and blew down oak trees

In Iowa, drivers were blinded by blowing snow and didn't see ve-

hicles that had slowed or stopped

north of Des Moines, state police

said. A chain reaction of crashes

involving semitrailers and passen-

ger cars closed down a section of

ple were killed and seven injured.

and get off the road," said lowa

State Patrol Col. David Garrison.

Thomas Shubert, a clerk at a

store in Gretna near Omaha, Neb.,

said his brother drove him to work

in his truck, but some of his neigh-

borhood trying to get out. They made it a few feet, and that was

cident in Iowa, the storm was

blamed for traffic deaths in Ne-

braska, Kansas and Wisconsin. In

southeastern Utah, a woman who

tried to walk for help after her car

became stuck in snow died Tues-

The heavy, wet snow made

Moines nearly impossible to navigate in anything other than a fourwheel drive vehicle. Even streets that had been plowed were snow-

some unplowed streets in Des

packed and slippery.

"I saw some people in my neigh-

Along with Thursday's fatal ac-

bors weren't so fortunate.

about it," Shubert said.

day night.

the highway. Officials said two peo-

"It's time to listen to warnings

on Interstate 35 about 60 miles

and limbs Alabama.

The storm, which dumped a

rive strength from one another. When one of them is having a time of being really down, it

Pierre Reels From Shooting

Area residents have heavy hearts, he said, particularly since the shooting happened in the week before Christmas and so soon after the Connecticut elementary school shooting that

The slain boy's family said he had a big

"Dalton, by everything I'm hearing from others and the family, was a very caring and loving son, very respectful, a good brother and a good grandson," Urbach said.

Slayings are rare in South Dakota — just 21 murders and non-negligent homicides were reported in 2011 by the FBI — and rarer still in Pierre. The city of 13,860 last had a slaying in 2010, when a woman shot her husband and later pleaded guilty to manslaughter.

"Here in the small city of Pierre, I'm a little surprised it happened," said longtime Pierre resident Rosanne Summerside, who lives near two of the boys' families.

"I know the whole community and the kids are of mixed emotions, confused about what they should be feeling and doing," said Summerside, who has a 17-year-old son. "Everybody I talk to is just stunned it happened."

The third teen, described by police as a witness, told detectives that he and McCahren began to wrestle around jokingly after arguing about a paintball game. He said McCahren then got a semi-automatic shotgun, walked into the kitchen area and pointed it at him, according to the arrest affidavit filed by a detective.



DAVID EULITT/KANSAS CITY STAR/MCT

bandale, Kristin Isenhart, 38, said

were asking about going outside to

play after school was canceled for

her three kids, ages 9, 5 and 3,

"They are thrilled that it

Kansas City (Mo.) city workers examine a fallen tree that landed on a telephone wire during snow and windstorm

flight Thursday morning out of Milwaukee's General Mitchell International Airport was canceled. Neither cared about a white Christmas, and were hoping to get on another flight later in the day.

"It would be cool I guess, but I'd rather be there than stuck without family with a white Christmas," La-

timer said. Added Tinsley, "Wisconsin is full of snow, you see it all the

In Chicago, commuters began Thursday with heavy fog and cold, driving rain, and forecasters said snow would hit by mid-afternoon.

Airlines delayed and canceled hundreds of flights out of Chicago's O'Hare and Midway international airports. Southwest Airlines canceled all of its flights at its Midway hub that were scheduled for after 4:30 p.m., and American Airlines said it was shutting down its O'Hare operations after 8

Airlines were waiving fees for customers impacted by the storm who wanted to change their flights. They were monitoring the storm throughout the night to determine if more cancellations would be necessary on Friday.

The cancellations were getting a lot of attention because the storm came just a few days before Christmas. But Daniel Baker, CEO of flight tracking service FlightAware.com called it "a relatively minor event in the overall scheme of things."

By comparison, airlines canceled more than 13,000 flights over a two-day period during a February 2011 snowstorm that hit the Midwest. And more than 20,000 flights were canceled during Superstorm Sandy.

Before the storm, several cities in the Midwest had broken records for the number of consecutive days without measurable snow. In the Des Moines suburb of Ursnowed," she said. "They've asked several times to go outside, and I might bundle them up and let them As far as the region's drought, meteorologists said the storm wouldn't make much of a dent. It

takes a foot or more of snow to equal an inch of water, said Brian Fuchs, a climatologist at the National Drought Mitigation Center.



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The storm made travel difficult from Kansas to Wisconsin, forcing road closures, including a 120-mile stretch of Interstate 35 from Ames, Iowa through Albert Lea, Minn. Sections of Interstate 80 in Nebraska and Interstate 29 in Missouri that had been closed were reopened Thursday afternoon. Iowa and Wisconsin activated National Guard troops to help rescue stranded drivers.

Those who planned to fly before the Christmas holiday didn't fare much better.

Shanna Tinsley, 17, and Nicole Latimer, 20, were both headed to the Kansas City area to see their families for the holiday when their



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