

The Press & Dakotan

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Yankton Media, Inc., 319 Walnut St., Yankton, SD 57078

CONTACT US
PHONE:
(605) 665-7811
(800) 743-2968
NEWS FAX:
(605) 665-1721
ADVERTISING FAX:
(605) 665-0288
WEBSITE:
www.yankton.net

SUBSCRIPTIONS/ CIRCULATION
Extension 104
mike.hrycko@yankton.net
CLASSIFIED ADS
Extension 108
tera.schmidt@yankton.net
NEWS DEPT.
Extension 114
news@yankton.net
SPORTS DEPT.
Extension 106
sports@yankton.net
ADVERTISING DEPT.
Extension 122
sales@yankton.net
BUSINESS OFFICE
Extension 119
ar@yankton.net
NEW MEDIA:
Extension 136
beth.rye@yankton.net
COMPOSING DEPT.
Extension 129
kathy.larson@yankton.net

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OPINION OTHER VIEWS

Hoping Riley Will Flourish With Huskers

LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR (Dec. 7): The Husker football fans who wanted a head football coach to project a "Nebraska nice" image had their wish granted this week when University of Nebraska-Lincoln Athletic Director Shawn Eichorst selected Mike Riley. From all accounts Nebraskans won't have to worry about whether their head football coach will implode in a public venue. There's little doubt that in terms of personality, Riley is a good fit for Nebraska.

He's a small-town guy. Corvallis, Oregon, is about one-fifth the size of Lincoln. NU announcer and former football player Matt Davison remembered driving into Corvallis and noticing that the football stadium seemed to be the tallest building in town.

Riley's calm demeanor seems like a throwback to the glory days when Tom Osborne ran the football program. Riley even uses expressions like "Jiminy Christmas."

In fact, some of the coverage made Nebraska's new coach sound almost too good to be true. It came as somewhat of a relief when ESPN ran video footage showing Riley hopping mad on the sidelines of an Oregon State football game, slamming a sheaf of papers onto the turf. Riley does have a demonstrative side.

Make no mistake, what Eichorst said on Sunday when he announced that Bo Pelini was fired applies just as inevitably to Riley. To remain Nebraska's head football coach, Riley will need to win — and, especially, win the big games.

The corporate machine that big-time college football has become must be fed. The football program contributes significantly to the local economy, as well as providing a social structure for a good part of the year.

After initial surprise had subsided, there were signs that Nebraska fans were warming to Riley, judging from comments on the Journal Star website, social media and other sources online.

And maybe Nebraska football fans are becoming more acclimated to a faster cycle of coaching changes. The quote from the Roman philosopher Seneca that headed our editorial on the last football coaching change still applies: "Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end."

At an age of 61, Riley's stint as Husker football coach almost seems to begin with an expiration date. "At the stage of my career, it was an opportunity to try something one more time," Riley said at his initial press conference. "This opportunity is a great chance to do that at a great place."

The Journal Star editorial board no doubt voices the wishes of Husker fans worldwide when we say that we hope Riley winds up his career with a flourish. Welcome to Nebraska.

IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press
Today is Monday, Dec. 15, the 349th day of 2014. There are 16 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History: On Dec. 15, 1944, the U.S. Senate approved the promotions of Henry H. Arnold, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur and George C. Marshall to the five-star rank of General of the Army and the nominations of William D. Leahy, Ernest J. King and Chester W. Nimitz as Admirals of the Fleet. U.S. forces invaded Mindoro Island in the Philippines, encountering little resistance from the Japanese. A single-engine plane carrying bandleader Glenn Miller, a major in the U.S. Army Air Forces, disappeared over the English Channel while en route to Paris.

On this date: In 1791, the Bill of Rights went into effect following ratification by Virginia.

In 1814, the "Hartford Convention" began as New England Federalists opposed to the War of 1812 secretly gathered in the Connecticut capital. (America's victory in the Battle of New Orleans and the war's end effectively discredited the Convention.)

In 1864, the two-day Battle of Nashville began during the Civil War as Union forces commanded by Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas attacked Confederate troops led by Gen. John Bell Hood; the result was a resounding Northern victory.

In 1890, Sioux Indian Chief Sitting Bull and 11 other tribe members were killed in Grand River, South Dakota, during a confrontation with Indian police.

In 1938, groundbreaking for the Jefferson Memorial took place in Washington, D.C. with President Franklin D. Roosevelt taking part in the ceremony.

In 1939, the Civil War motion picture epic "Gone with the Wind," starring Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable, had its world premiere in Atlanta.

In 1964, Canada's House of Commons approved dropping the country's "Red Ensign" flag in favor of a new design, the "Maple Leaf" flag.

In 1965, two U.S. manned spacecraft, Gemini 6A and Gemini 7, maneuvered to within 10 feet of each other while in orbit.

In 1974, the horror spoof "Young Frankenstein," starring Gene Wilder and directed by Mel Brooks, was released by 20th Century Fox.

In 1989, a popular uprising began in Romania that resulted in the downfall of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

In 1991, an Egyptian-registered ferry, the Salem Express, hit a reef and sank in the Red Sea; at least 470 people died, although some estimates are much higher.

In 2001, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Italy, was reopened to the public after a \$27 million realignment that had dragged

on for over a decade.

Ten years ago: Time Warner Inc. agreed to pay over \$500 million to resolve federal securities fraud and accounting investigations of its America Online unit. American telecommunications giants Sprint Corp. and Nextel Communications Inc. announced they would merge in a \$35 billion deal. Pauline Gore, mother of former Vice President Al Gore, died in Carthage, Tennessee; she was 92. The boxing drama "Million Dollar Baby," starring Clint Eastwood (who also directed) and Hilary Swank, was put in limited release by Warner Bros.

Five years ago: World leaders formally opened a U.N. climate change conference in Copenhagen. The Washington, D.C. City Council voted to legalize same-sex marriage. Boeing's new 787 "Dreamliner" jet went on its long-delayed first test flight, lifting off from Paine Field in Everett, Washington. Evangelist Oral Roberts died in Newport Beach, California, at age 91.

One year ago: Nelson Mandela was laid to rest in his childhood hometown, ending a 10-day mourning period for South Africa's first black president. Michelle Bachelet easily won Chile's presidential runoff. Academy Award-winning actress Joan Fontaine, 96, died in Carmel, California. Harold Camping, 92, a California preacher who'd used his radio ministry and thousands of billboards to broadcast the end of the world and then gave up when his date-specific doomsdays did not come to pass, died in Oakland, California.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Tim Conway is 81. Singer Cindy Birdsong (The Supremes) is 75. Rock musician Dave Clark (The Dave Clark Five) is 72. Rock musician Carmine Appice (Vanilla Fudge) is 68. Actor Don Johnson is 65. Actress Melanie Chartoff is 64. Movie director Julie Taymor is 62. Movie director Alex Cox is 60. Actor Justin Ross is 60. Rock musician Paul Simonon (The Clash) is 59. Movie director John Lee Hancock (Film: "Saving Mr. Banks"; "The Blind Side") is 58. DNC Vice Chairwoman Donna Brazile is 55. Country singer Doug Phelps (Brother Phelps; Kentucky Headhunters) is 54. Movie producer-director Reginald Hudlin is 53. Actress Helen Slater is 51. Actress Molly Price is 49. Actor Michael Shanks is 44. Actor Stuart Townsend is 42. Figure skater Surya Bonaly is 41. "Crowd-hyper" Kito Trawick (Ghostown DJs) is 37. Actor Adam Brody is 35. Actress Michelle Dockery (TV: "Downton Abbey") is 33. Actor George O. Gore II is 32. Actress Camilla Luddington (TV: "Grey's Anatomy") is 31. Rock musician Alana Haim is 23. Actress Stefania Owen is 17.

Thought for Today: "Silence is more musical than any song." — Christina Rossetti, British poet (1830-1874).

FROM THE BIBLE

When [Barnabas] came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose. Acts 11:23. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sharing Generosity

Yankton SHARE
Yankton SHARE will be able to provide 38 Christmas dinner packages to families in both Yankton and Mitchell areas on Dec. 20, thanks to the generous giving of the following businesses and individuals:

Carol Myers, Veronica Trezona, Dorothy Davenport, Santa's Elf #9, George & Lisa Williams, Greg Anders Carpentry, LOV Chapters Yankton, LOV Chapters Mitchell, Deb Johnson, Mary Uhrich, Anonymous Donor, Deb Norris, Office group at DSS, Kinamon grandkids, Mitchell Days Inn, Mitchell Comfort Inn, Mitchell Special Friends, Wells Fargo Cedar Street, The Nutmegs Office Group, Yankton SHARE Volunteers and

2 individuals who purchased privately to deliver packages on their own. Each dinner package contains an 8 pound spiral sliced honey ham, potatoes, gravy, noodles, frozen broccoli, carrots, celery, apples, oranges and a cherry pie.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! ... on behalf of our recipients who would not otherwise have a great Christmas dinner. We will continue accepting donations to provide meals to families after the holidays are over, since the need will still remain.

If you or your business are interested in helping with a monthly or one-time gift, or you know of someone who could use a hand up, contact Fran Livingston 760-4712 or Trinity Clark 760-5857.



'BAD NEWS—ALL TRANSPORT'S BEEN DIVERTED TO HAUL CRUDE FROM THE NORTH DAKOTA OIL FIELDS...'

Capitol Notebook

Do You Have A Right To Spear A Fish?

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

FORT PIERRE — An argument about equal rights took place a few days ago during the meeting of the state Game, Fish and Parks Commission.

Equal rights, that is, for the opportunity to enjoy the natural resources of South Dakota.

And more specifically, equal rights in the opportunity to take fish, whether by spear, arrow or hook.

Or, as commissioner Paul Dennert of Columbia put it, spears and arrows have been around much longer than motor boats and electronic depth-finders.

It's an interesting fundamental question. The argument was whether to allow a general expansion of spearfishing for game fish in South Dakota.

The issue came before the commission because of another right — the right to ask. South Dakota law allows members of the public to petition state boards and commissions with rule requests.

Technically the right to petition applies to all state rule-making bodies in South Dakota. But the Game, Fish and Parks Commission might be the only one where it happens more often than a blue moon.

In this instance, a petition came from Bill Donovan of Harrisburg. He runs a diving business in Sioux Falls.

He wants spearfishing allowed in more waters of South Dakota, especially in lakes of the eastern counties.

It's never comfortable when someone brings a rule-change petition to the Game, Fish and Parks Commission.

The message implicit in a petition is unhappiness: That perhaps the commissioners haven't been doing their job well enough, or the GFP's administrators need to be trumped through a



Bob MERCER

direct appeal to the rule-makers. Nothing binds the commission to take action sought in a petition. The petition can simply be rejected.

Or the commission can take the intermediate step of deciding a proposal should be made, with a public hearing to follow, and then decide.

That's what happened. The commissioners voted 5-3 to look at a proposal from GFP staff. After taking public comments, the commissioners rejected the proposal 5-1 Thursday.

Commissioner Barry Jensen of White River had made the motion in November to look at a proposal. Then he made the motion to kill that proposal Thursday because it covered all inland waters.

Jensen said he hoped the proposal would have come in a different form with different wording.

"They're like a piece of legislation. They need to be very precise. They need to speak to specific things," Jensen said. "I don't believe that has happened here."

He said he doesn't think spearfishing and spearing and underwater spearfishing are the same activities but they currently are treated the same.

Jensen kept going, saying the commission owes sportsmen the opportunity to express themselves.

"I'm very happy to see all the comments. Man, that was overwhelming, almost," he said.

Jensen and Dennert are former legislators. Dennert said he didn't know much about spearfishing and the petition process allowed him to be educated.

"Something new to me," Dennert said. Jensen, Dennert and commissioner Cathy Peterson of Salem all said more areas should be opened to spearfishing.

Wildlife Division director Tony Leif said he would work on it.

If so, the petition succeeded.

A Look At The Cop-Killing Cult Of Larry Davis

BY MICHELLE MALKIN
Creators.com

In Manhattan's Union Square last week, a protester wielded a menacing sign. It didn't make the front page of any newspaper. You didn't see it on cable news. An appalled bystander sent me a photo of the marcher and his inciteful placard, but didn't want to be identified in any way.

You'll know why in a moment. "Justice Please," the top line of the poster read. "Before we see a lot of new Larry Davis[es]," the message threatened. "1986 6 cops killed," the banner ended ominously. It was underlined in red marker for bloody emphasis.

"Larry Davis" is quite the faddish battle cry among young minority agitators these days. Enraged tweets about the Ferguson and Eric Garner cases over the past several weeks have heralded Davis as a "street legend" and "hero." Chicago-based actor Demarco Monroe vowed on Twitter that if police "[c]ome at me on that gun pointing s-t, please believe the LARRY DAVIS gon (sic) come outta me."

Nova Sankofa, a Philadelphia-area "social activist" and "active philanthropist" advised his followers and fellow grievance-mongers: "You've got to be able to ride on the cops like Larry Davis."

For those outside of New York City who are not steeped in the social justice movement's racially charged vigilantism against the police, and for those who may have forgotten, let me tell you about this homicidal "hero."

Larry Davis, known as "Loco Larry" on the streets of the Bronx, had racked up a mile-long rap sheet by age 20. The black rapper-turned-drug dealer boasted arrests or convictions for petty larceny, resisting arrest, violating probation, possession of stolen property and burglary. He led violent turf wars against other crack kingpins. In the fall of 1986, police suspected him in the execution of four rivals.

When an NYPD unit descended on Davis's flat for questioning, the hoodlum came out with guns blazing. "I'll shoot them first. I want to die," he reportedly bragged to family members.

Davis shot six officers; two sustained grave injuries. Contrary to popular legend (echoed by the Union Square sign displayed last week), the officers all survived. Officer John O'Hara lost an eye. Emergency Service Unit cop Mary Buckley, 40, took shotgun blasts to the face. "Mary was a mess," her doctor recounted at the time. "Her face was mutilated. The pellets had knocked out her front teeth; her upper jaw was shot away. Your heart went out to her." After reconstructive surgery, she returned to duty as a police sniper.

Davis escaped out an unguarded window. He led police on a 17-day, five-city manhunt. Desper-

ate, he sought refuge in a Bronx housing project, where he took a mother and her two young children hostage as he conducted marathon negotiations with law enforcement. When he finally surrendered, many residents cheered him as the ultimate "symbol of resistance." His radical left-wing lawyers William Kunstler and convicted terror helper Lynne Stewart played a minority-dominated jury like a fiddle - stoking racial resentment and asserting police corruption without evidence.

The panel acquitted Davis on attempted murder of the officers, but he was convicted on weapons charges. He was ultimately imprisoned on separate murder charges involving another drug crime. In 2008, after reinventing himself as "Adam Abdul Hakeem," he was stabbed to death by another inmate at Shawangunk Correctional Facility in upstate New York.

Larry Davis used children as human shields. He talked a big game about martyrizing himself for The Cause, but turned yellow when push came to shove. Reversed by the post-Ferguson generation's wannabe revolutionary hipsters, this gutless wonder shot a female officer in the face.

Former Democratic New York City Mayor Ed Koch minced no words: "Those people are fools and they are giving heroic status to a criminal." This was no righteous crusader. "He was a killer, and he shot six cops," Koch said after Davis's death. "You shouldn't take pride in the execution of anybody illegally, but I believe that there is a special oil pot in hell for him."

Today, fear and political correctness reign on the streets. Few truth-tellers in public office will call out the cop-hating cultists seeking racially driven retribution. Social justice mobsters sucker punch cops in New York while "peaceniks" cheer. Police officers have been attacked with hatchets, knives, and bottles from the Big Apple and Canon City, Colorado. In Oakland, "F-k the pigs" has been a constant refrain. In St. Louis County: "Pigs in a blanket, fry 'em like bacon." And in Denver, dedicated police officer John Adsit remains in critical condition after being mowed down by a vehicle while escorting Ferguson protesters last week. Witnesses reportedly applauded and the ongoing investigation of the driver has been characterized as "complex."

President Obama this week condemned the "deeply rooted" racism of police officers. But what of the deeply rooted racism and violent hatred of those who glorify America's Mumia Abu Jamals, Christopher Dorners and Larry Davises? Silence is complicity.

Michelle Malkin is the author of "Culture of Corruption: Obama and his Team of Tax Cheats, Crooks and Cronies" (Regnery 2010). Her email address is malkinblog@gmail.com.