

Mills To Receive Presidential Citizens Medal

PINE RIDGE (AP) — Pine Ridge native and Olympic gold medalist Billy Mills is preparing to become a medal winner again when he meets with President Obama this week.

The *Rapid City Journal* reports that Mills, who won a gold medal in track in the 1964 Olympics, will be in Washington, D.C., on Friday to receive the Presidential Citizens Medal. That's the nation's second highest civilian award.

Mills, who now lives in Fair Oaks, Calif., says he is humbled and honored that the president is recognizing him.

Since his Olympic win, Mills, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, co-founded and has become the national spokesman for the Running Strong for American Indian Youth organization, a nonprofit agency that works to strengthen Native American communities.

Neb. Woman Won't Have To Pay Lawsuit Costs

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A former day care operator won't have to pay the costs for her failed lawsuit against a pathologist who supported charges against the woman related to a baby's death.

The Lincoln Journal Star reports that Lancaster County District Judge Paul Merritt Jr. decided Carla McKinney won't have to pay the legal bills of Dr. Mathias Okoye even though he dismissed her lawsuit.

Carla Jean McKinney was charged with the 2007 death of a 4-month-old baby in her care, based on the autopsy Okoye performed.

Charges against McKinney were later dropped after two other pathologists cleared her of wrongdoing, and she sued Okoye and his corporation for nearly \$275,000.

After Okoye won the lawsuit, he asked Merritt to order McKinney to pay his legal bills. Merritt refused.

S.D. Committee To Consider Texting Bill

PIERRE (AP) — The Senate Transportation Committee is set to weigh a bill that would ban texting while driving across the state—a proposal that has been repeatedly rejected by the South Dakota Legislature.

It's one of several bills facing lawmakers this week when the legislative session reconvenes Tuesday.

Now that some cities have imposed their own bans on texting, some lawmakers hope a statewide ban could follow.

The measure would prohibit writing, sending or reading a text message while driving, but it would continue to allow drivers to make cell-phone calls and use hands-free electronic devices.

South Dakota GOP Elects Its New Leadership

SIoux FALLS (AP) — The South Dakota Republican Party has elected its new leadership team.

Former marketing and advertising executive Craig Lawrence will serve as chairman. He replaces state Sen. Tim Rave.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard's press secretary Tony Venhuizen made the announcement Saturday on his Twitter account.

Venhuizen says former state Rep. Kim Vanneman of Ideal will serve as vice chairwoman, Rapid City attorney Sara Frankenstein will serve as secretary and Pierre attorney Justin Bell will serve as treasurer.

S.D. Looks To Add More Dairy Cows

BY DIRK LAMMERS

Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — South Dakota is on the lookout for dairy cows.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard and state agriculture officials are traveling this week to the World Ag Expo in Tulare, Calif., with the goal of doubling the state's current herd of about 92,000 dairy cows.

State Agriculture Secretary Walt Bones said South Dakota's herd pales in comparison to California, where a single county might have nearly a half-million cows. The goal, he said, is growth.

"We have a lot of opportunity to grow the business here," Bones said.

A new cheese plant being built in Brookings needs the animals, as do other South Dakota plants aiming to expand dairy operations, said Marv Post, president of the South Dakota Dairy Producers.

In June, Chicago-based Bel Brands USA

broke ground on the \$100 million cheese plant in Brookings that will produce the company's wax-wrapped Mini Babybel line of semi-soft snack cheeses. It will employ about 200 people when it becomes fully operational in the summer of 2014, and the workforce could grow to 400 within three years.

The Bel Brands plant alone could use 30,000 dairy cows when running at full capacity, Post said.

Lake Norden Cheese Company, a division of Davisco Foods International, also wants to expand, and Valley Queen Cheese Factory in Milbank could use more milk, Post added.

Post, who owns a 60-cow dairy operation near Volga, said margins have been tight in the dairy industry since the crash of 2009. The following three years have been just OK.

He said the feed cost to produce 100 pounds of milk is about \$11. Additional input costs don't leave much room for profit.

"The margins in the dairy industry haven't

been there to justify that expansion, so that's why there's still expansion possible from within before even getting additional permits to produce that milk," Post said.

But everything in agriculture is cyclical, he said, and farmers in other parts of the country feeling pressures are looking to South Dakota, which has plenty of acres and no personal income or corporate taxes.

Bones said most of the growth potential in South Dakota is up and down the Interstate 29 corridor, but there are also opportunities in central South Dakota. State officials try to work with local communities that welcome the business but acknowledge that some simply don't want the business.

"We embrace local control here in South Dakota," he said. "Some don't want livestock development in their communities."

The World Ag Expo runs Tuesday through Thursday.

Nebraska

Lawmakers Push Traffic-Safety Measures

BY GRANT SCHULTE

Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Motorists and passengers who ride without a seat belt could face a \$100 fine in Nebraska, and might even see their insurance rates increase if a bill in the Legislature becomes law.

Nebraska lawmakers are peddling a series of traffic safety measures this year that would impose hefty fines on seat belt violators and make it easier for police to stop drivers.

The Legislature's Transportation and Telecommunications Committee will hear three measures Monday that are intended to reduce highway fatalities.

One bill by Sen. John Harms of Scottsbluff would give police the authority to stop motorists who aren't wearing a seat belt. Current state law treats seat belt violations as a secondary offense, which only allows of-

ficers to cite motorists if they're stopped for some other reason.

The bill would also impose a \$100 fine for seat belt violations, up from the current \$25, and add one point to a driver's record. Accumulating too many points can cause drivers to lose their license or see insurance rates increase.

The fine would apply to drivers and all passengers.

"It's all about safety," Harms said. "If you get seriously injured, and your insurance runs out, then the state may end up taking over the cost. That's one of my big concerns as well."

Harms has also introduced a bill that would make texting while driving a primary offense. Texting while driving is now a secondary offense, but some Nebraska law enforcement agencies have complained that it's difficult to enforce and prove. Lawmakers considered the measure in

2010, but made it a secondary offense after opponents argued that police could use it as an excuse to pull over minorities and young people.

Sen. Bob Krist of Omaha has introduced a bill that would require all vehicle passengers to wear a seat belt. Krist's measure would also treat seat belt violations as a primary offense. Nebraska law now imposes no seat belt requirements for back-seat passengers.

"It doesn't make a lot of sense," Krist said. "In a crash, whatever is unbuckled in the back seat is going to come forward into the front seat. It just seemed logical to me that everyone in the vehicle should be belted."

The proposals follow an upswing in traffic deaths in 2012, after several years of decline. Nebraska reported 211 people killed last year, up from 181 in 2011, according to the Depart-

ment of Roads. So far this year, the state has seen 29 traffic deaths.

Craig Bougher, of Papillion, said a crash involving his daughter convinced him Nebraska needs to strengthen its seat belt laws.

Bougher was at home on Dec. 5 when a Sarpy County sheriff's deputy called to tell him a pickup had slammed into his 16-year-old daughter's sports utility vehicle at a rural gravel intersection, about two miles from their home. His daughter, Mackenzie, would be OK, but she was headed to a hospital.

As he hurried to meet her, Craig Bougher drove past the crash scene and saw his daughter's Hummer totaled. The pickup had plowed her SUV into a utility pole. The pickup driver, 30-year-old Zachary Austin, was ejected from the truck. Austin, who died at the scene, was not wearing a seat belt.

OBITUARIES

Beverly Lowther

Beverly Ann Lowther, 81, of Vermillion, SD, passed away on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at Sanford Vermillion Care Center.

Bev was born in Wessington Springs South Dakota on December 12, 1931 to Carl and Floustine (Potts) Taylor.

Bev was united in marriage to Gaylord Lowther on March 20, 1954. They had seven children, Daron, David, Daniel and Dean Lowther all of Vermillion, SD, Doug and (Laurie) Lowther of Cheyenne, WY Regina Myhre, of St. Cloud, MN, and Don Lowther of Sioux Falls SD. She was very proud of her grandchildren; Peggy Lowther of Saint Cloud, MN, Anna and (Ryan) Beasley of Brookings SD, Douglas and (Heather), Lowther US Navy, Yokosuka'shi,kanadawa, Japan, Chris Myhre and Craig Myhre both of Saint Cloud, MN, Patricia Lowther and (Darren Wyr) of Cheyenne, Wyoming, Jessica and (Phil) Pascoe of Tea, SD, Josh Lowther of Newark, Delaware, Channele Muecke, and Monique Button both of Vermillion SD, Stormy Eckhoff of Brittan, SD, Stephanie Lowther of Tea, SD. Bev had eight great grandchildren, Hailee, Cameron, Ashton, Paige, Blake, Makinzie, Kylie and Carter.

In her free time she loved to visit friends, go for walks, collect elephants and spend time with her family.

She was preceded in death by, her parents, Carl & Floustine Taylor, her sisters, Betty Pagent and Dorothy Voecks; her brother, Arthur Taylor, her husband, Gaylord Lowther and her sister-in-law, Phyllis Johnson.

Memorial services for Bev will be held be at 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at Iverson-Siecke-Kober Funeral Home, 402 E. Main Street, Vermillion, SD 57069.

Please join us in honoring Bev at the Eagles Club, 114 W Main in Vermillion SD after the memorial service.

Condolences may be posted online to www.koberfuneral-home.com.

Iverson-Siecke-Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion, is in charge of arrangements.

Yankton Press & Dakotan

February 11, 2013

Herbert Raker

Funeral services for Herbert R. Raker of Scotland will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 12 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Scotland with Rev. David W. Ellis officiating. Organist will be Harriet Schaefer. Burial will follow in Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland with military graveside rites by the Paul Grosshuesch VFW Post #2966 of Scotland and the South Dakota Army National Guard Military Funeral Honor Guard.

The pallbearers will be Herb's grandchildren.

Visitation will be held on Monday from 3:00 p.m. until a 7:00 p.m. prayer service at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland.

Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Brigette Fisher

NORFOLK, Neb. — Brigette Maree Fisher, 27, of Norfolk, Neb., formerly of Vermillion, died Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013, at Mercy Medical Center, Sioux City, Iowa.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion.

Lugene Theel

Lugene Fae Theel, 54, of rural Lesterville, died Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013, at the Sanford USD Medical Center, Sioux Falls, surrounded by her family and friends.

Memorial services are at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13, at the Zion American Lutheran Church, Scotland, with Pastor Jonathan Vehar officiating. Burial of her cremated remains will be approximately 1 p.m. Wednesday afternoon at the Menno Cemetery, Menno.

Visitations begin at p.m. Tuesday at the Aisenbrey-Opsahl-Kos-



Herbert Raker

Herbert Henry Raker was born on Wednesday, May 11, 1921 at home in Plum, South Dakota to Gottlieb and Margaret (Poppe) Raker. At six years of age Herb entered the Beloit Orphanage School near Canton, South Dakota and stayed

through the 8th grade. After that, he moved to Scotland South Dakota where he worked various jobs until entering the Army Air Force at age twenty. He served in the South Pacific during World War II and his unit was awarded two Presidential Unit Citations, and six Campaign Citations. Herb was honorably discharged in October of 1945, at which time he moved back to Scotland, where he farmed and worked for Scotland Transfer. On August 28, 1949, Herb was united in marriage to Vada Sunderman and together they raised five children.

Herb lived a full and happy life. Herb was unavailable to friends and family between the hours of 10am to 11am, as he dedicated his time to Bob Barker and the Price is Right. He will be remembered for his humor, love

for gardening and the St. Louis Cardinals, and participation in the VFW. Herb was a great inspiration for his children and grandchildren for his hard work and dedication to family. He will be forever in our hearts and will never be forgotten. Herb passed away on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at the Royal C. Johnson Memorial Veteran's Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, having attained the age of 91 years, 8 months and 28 days.

He is survived by his wife Vada; his children: Neta (Turk) Peterka of Scotland, Mike Raker of Scotland, Cindy (Robert) Kvick of Sacramento California, Nancy (Jeff King) Ramsey of Riverside, Iowa, and Mark Raker (and friend Jinjer) of Scotland; ten grandchildren: Justin, Robert, Heidi, Heather, Niki, Erin, Kyle, Chelsea, Lindsey, Paige; a great-grand-

daughter, Savanna; a sister, Edith Anderson; and half-brothers Milo and Glen Hanson.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Gottlieb Raker and Margaret Raker Hanson; two brothers: his twin, Robert, and Donald; and three sisters: Ruth, Ethel, and Verna.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
February 11, 2013

Goglin Funeral Home

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tel Memorial Chapel, Menno, with a prayer service and memory sharing at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Daryl Bernard

Daryl Bernard, 89, died Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013, at Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton.

Funeral services are pending with the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton.

Norman Guenther

Norman A. Guenther, 78, of Crofton, Neb., died on Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013, at the Avera Heart Hospital, Sioux Falls.

Mass of Christian Burial is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 14, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Crofton, Neb., with the Rev. Michael Schmitz officiating. Burial will be at the St. Rose cemetery, Crofton.

Visitation is 4-9 p.m. Wednesday, with a vigil service at 7 p.m., all at the Wintz Funeral Home, Crofton. Visitation will continue on Thursday at church one hour prior to services.

Palmer Foss

Palmer Foss, 90, of Menno and formerly of Lesterville, died Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013, at the Menno-Olivet Care Center, Menno.

Memorial services are at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13, at the Salem Reformed Church, Menno, with the Rev. Michael Hecht officiating and the SDARNG Honor

Guard presenting the colors.

Visitations begin at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the church, with a prayer service at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

The Aisenbrey-Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Menno, is assisting with the service details.

Milford Folkers

Milford Folkers, 89, of Apple Valley, Minn., died Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013, at the Augustana Health Care Center in Apple Valley, Minn.

Gathering and prayer service

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HONORING THEIR MEMORY
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Our care and concern does not end with the funeral service. This week we remember with family and friends the anniversary of the deaths of:

Sharon J. Freng
who passed away on
February 15, 1012

Mason P. Vig
who passed away on
February 17, 2012

This remembrance is brought to you free of charge. If you have a loved one you would like remembered, contact us at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory. Guiding and serving families with compassion and trust.

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