Ex-Neb. Police Officer Convicted Of Child Porn

SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb. (AP) — A jury has convicted a former Scotts-bluff police officer in a child pornography case.

Twenty-seven-year-old Tyler Reinpold, of Scottsbluff, was found guilty of 10 counts of possessing child pornography on Wednesday in Scotts Bluff County District Court. The jury deliberated for about five hours before returning the verdict.

Reinpold faces up to 20 years in prison. Sentencing is March 9. Defense attorney Sterling Huff claimed the images were part of an investigation Reinpold was conducting. County Attorney Doug Warner said there was no evidence that the images were part of any ongoing

The Nebraska State Patrol began investigating Reinpold in August 2010. Reinpold was a Scottsbluff police officer for about three years before leaving in January 2011.

Humboldt Woman Killed In I-90 Accident

ALEXANDRIA (AP) — A Humboldt woman has died after a four-vehicle collision along Interstate 90 in eastern South Dakota.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says 37-year-old Krista Lynn Serrao was killed in the multi-car collision Wednesday morning four miles east of Alexandria.

None of the occupants in the vehicles was injured. All the drivers were wearing seatbelts.

The Highway Patrol says poor visibility, icy roads, speed and following too closely are considered to be contributing factors in the

1989 Neb. Homicide Suspect Arrested

RANDOLPH, Mo. (AP) — A 45-year-old Missouri man charged in the murder of a Nebraska woman more than 20 years ago has agreed to return to Nebraska.

John R. Oldson, of Randolph, is charged with first-degree murder in the 1989 death of Catherine Beard, a 31-year-old waitress from Ord, Neb. Beard disappeared in 1989, and her remains were found outside

Oldson was arrested Tuesday at his home and was being held in the Clay County detention center on \$1 million bond. Valley County, Neb., Sheriff Casey Hurlburt said Wednesday that Oldson has agreed to waive extradition and will be taken back to Nebraska "within the

He said Oldson's first court hearing is Feb. 6 in Valley County in Nebraska.

Online court records do not list a lawyer for Oldson.

Neb. Historic Racing Bill Put Through Its Paces

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Allowing bettors to wager on horse races that have already happened is needed to save the horse racing industry in Nebraska, a state senator says.

Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh of Omaha says instant racing terminals should be allowed at licensed horseracing tracks as a way to boost revenue for the industry and the state. He says it also could create

Opponents say adding the machines merely expands gambling and

does nothing to help Nebraskans.

The Judiciary Committee on Wednesday heard more than an hour and a half of testimony on Legislative Bill 806, which would allow betting at gambling machines that show races from a library of tens of thousands of old races.

Neb. Lawmakers Scrutinize Occupation Tax Bill

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska cities would need voter approval to impose special taxes on hotels, car rental companies, restaurants and bars under a bill pitched to a legislative panel.

Valentine Sen. Deb Fischer argued Wednesday that her proposal was needed to protect Nebraskans from so-called occupation taxes, unless a majority of voters support the idea.

The bill (LB745) would require cities to secure voter approval for a new occupation tax or a rate change for one that already exists. The ballot question would have to name a specific use for the money and in-

Officials from several Nebraska cities say the bill strips them of a power they've held since the late 1800s. They argue that local officials will be held accountable if they enact a tax voters don't like

Panel Passes Reservation Nursing Home Bill

PIERRE (AP) — A bill that removes a two-year time limit for building American Indian nursing homes receiving Medicaid dollars has passed a

Senate Bill 69 now heads to the full Senate.

In 2010, lawmakers lifted a moratorium on receiving the state's Medicaid dollars to cover care at these nursing facilities, but construction was limited to a two-year period. Senate Bill 69 removes the time limit.

Sen. James Bradford is one of the sponsors of the bill. He says the state does not cover construction costs, so fundraising for building fees remains a challenge given "hard times" in this

Fremont Immigration Law Trial Delayed

FREMONT, Neb. (AP) — Trial has been delayed in a lawsuit over Fremont's ordinance that bans hiring or renting to illegal immigrants. A combined lawsuit led by the American Civil Liberties Union and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund is challenging the voter-approved ban as discriminatory.

The case had been scheduled to be heard in federal court on April 10. A U.S. magistrate on Monday granted a joint motion moving the trial to May 15. A pretrial conference is set for April 30.



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S.D. House Urges Academic **Study Of Bible In Schools**

BY CHET BROKAW

Associated Press

PIERRE — The South Dakota House voted overwhelmingly Wednesday to recommend that school districts provide academic instruction on the Bible, brushing off concerns by some critics that the nonbinding resolution seeks to promote religious beliefs.

After a brief debate in which no one spoke against it, the House voted 55-15 to pass the resolution, which has no force of law. It next goes to the Senate.

The measure's main sponsors, Rep. Steve Hickey, R-Sioux Falls, who is also a pastor, said students should be taught about the Bible because it has had a huge influence on Western civilization.

"It permeates all culture, law and philosophy," Hickey said.

The measure encourages school districts to provide instruction that makes students familiar with the content, characters and narratives of the Bible. It says the instruction also should make students aware of the role the Bible has played in the development of literature, art, culture and public discourse.

In addition, the measure says the state Board of Education should include support of instruction about the Bible in its curriculum planning and identify textbooks and other sources that outline how to teach about the Bible without violating the First Amendment guarantee of separation of church and state.

The resolution says national education groups, including the National School Boards Association, have agreed that the Bible can be taught in public schools as long as the teaching is academic, does not press students to accept religion, does not ask students to conform to any religious belief and does not encourage or discourage any religious views.

Rep. Jim Bolin, R-Canton, said such instruction is appropriate because many English language phrases, such as "Old as Methuselah," come from the Bible.

But Rep. Marc Feinstein, D-Sioux Falls, said after the debate that the U.S. Supreme Court has made it clear that religion should not be taught in public schools. An academic discussion of the Bible could easily turn into a promotion of religious beliefs, he said.

"If they're talking about the Bible, It's hard to imagine an instructor won't take it to the next step and preach about religion," said Feinstein, who is Jewish.

In addition, the Legislature should leave it up to education officials to set curriculum for public schools, Feinstein said.

TCF Financial Corp. Expanding Presence In Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — TCF Financial Corp. is expanding its presence in South Dakota's largest city with a call center that will employ 200 people.

The Minnesota-based national bank holding company says the 43,000-square-foot facility in Sioux Falls will be operational by late July. TCF also has a retail bank in the city.

The expansion follows other recent announcements of large hires in the financial sector, which was hit hard during the recent recession.

Premier Bankcard hired more than 100 workers in Sioux Falls, Watertown and Dakota Dunes, and plans to continue hiring early this year. Citibank in Sioux Falls plans to add 200 workers by the end of March. Wells Fargo will hire 77 workers, and Capital One Financial is buying HSBC's domestic credit card business and adding 400 jobs in Sioux Falls.

"These are huge job announce-ments," said Mary Medema, director of work force development for the Sioux Falls Development Foundation. 'They're big for Sioux Falls, but they're big for much larger areas. You just don't see them every day like

was the case in the mid-2000s.



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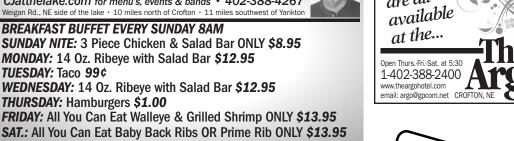
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Cart Storage	\$333.31
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