

S.D. Reports First West Nile Case Of 2011

PIERRE (AP) — The South Dakota Department of Health reports the first case of West Nile virus in the state this year.

The health department said Friday that a Brown County resident in her 50s contracted the virus. Since the first case of the virus was reported in the state, 26 people have died and 1,757 people have been infected.

Officials say this year's floods could attract more mosquitoes and increase the risk of the virus spreading.

The health department says people older than 50, pregnant women, transplant patients and people with diabetes, high blood pressure or a history of alcohol abuse are especially at risk.

S.D. Man Acquitted Of Sexual Abuse Of Minor

RAPID CITY (AP) — A South Dakota man has been found not guilty of sexual abuse of a minor after a federal trial in Rapid City. Joseph Fool Head was accused of engaging in a sexual act with a child between the ages of 12 and 16, according to the office of U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson.

After a two-day trial, the jury deliberated for about two hours before acquitting Fool Head Thursday.

Fool Head is a resident of Kyle, on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Man Pleads Guilty To Sexual Contact Charges

RAPID CITY (AP) — A Mission man faces up to 30 years in prison for inappropriately touching two girls under the age of 13.

The *Rapid City Journal* reports that 26-year-old Richard Gunhammer admitted in court Friday to having contact with the two girls, ages 10 and 11. Both incidents took place in Pennington County.

In exchange for his plea, prosecutors dismissed first-degree rape charges against Gunhammer.

Gunhammer faces a minimum of 10 years for each of two felony charges. He will be sentenced Aug. 12.

Nebraska To Test Cameras In Federal Courts

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska is one of 13 states to take part in a pilot project that will test the use of cameras in federal courtrooms.

The *Lincoln Journal Star* is reporting that the project is expected to begin July 18 but that that could change because the cameras aren't in place yet in some Nebraska courtrooms.

Federal rules have prohibited the use of cameras in federal courtrooms since 1946.

The cameras will be tucked away and won't be visible. They will only be used for civil cases where both parties have given their consent.

Chief U.S. District Court Judge Joseph Bataillon says the project will look at how well the cameras work and how they are received by the public. He says hopefully the cameras will provide more transparency to the courts.

Cleanup From Winds Continues In Flandreau

FLANDREAU (AP) — Residents in Flandreau continue to pick up the debris from heavy winds that caused severe damage last week.

KELO-TV reports that hundreds of trees and homes were damaged in the town just north of Sioux Falls. Winds topped out at more than 70 miles per hour July 1.

Power was knocked out for four days.

Residents have left much of the debris at a large tree pile west of town. One resident tells the television station that the cleanup will likely have to go on for a few more weeks and professional crews will be needed.

Neb. Court Suspends Attorney For 2 Years

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska Supreme Court has suspended the license of an Omaha attorney for improper conduct.

The court ordered the 2-year suspension Friday for Julianne Dunn Herzog, on grounds that she failed to tell a Douglas County judge about court papers she had filed in a family legal dispute involving guardianship of her elderly mother.

In its opinion, the court said Herzog had faced discipline in the case twice before. A lower court judge appointed Herzog's brother as their mother's guardian, and concluded it was in her best interests to live at an assisted living facility in Minneapolis.

Herzog said Friday she was "sickened" by the court system, which she says has failed to protect her mother's money and health.

Woman Accused In Unusual Officer Assault

MITCHELL (AP) — A Mitchell woman is accused of striking a police officer in the face with a used feminine hygiene product.

Forty-one-year-old Ada Morales pleaded not guilty in May to two charges of aggravated assault against a law enforcement officer and other counts including resisting arrest and intentionally causing contact with bodily fluids. She is scheduled for trial in October.

The *Daily Republic* newspaper reports that Morales is accused of throwing a soiled feminine hygiene product in the face of a police officer who responded to a mental illness call. She also allegedly sprayed the officer with cleaning items and attacked another officer, knocking off his glasses and scratching him.

Ice Cream Social
Wednesday, July 13th
4:00-7:00pm
Serving Taverns, Cake, Pie & Ice Cream
St. John's Lutheran Church
1009 Jackson, Yankton
Proceeds going to Monetary Assistance to Christian Education.
Matched by Thrivent Insurance up to \$500.

Montana, Firm Split On Spill

BY MATTHEW BROWN
Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. — Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer has decided Exxon Mobil and the state don't make good roommates after nearly a week of working together in close quarters to clean up an estimated 42,000 gallons of crude oil released into the Yellowstone River.

State officials have moved out of a joint command post overseeing the response to the spill — a mess that has painted a fresh target for scorn on one of the world's largest energy companies.

Security guards working for Exxon Mobil Corp. have closely guarded access to the command post on the second floor of the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Billings, where the Environmental Protection Agency and other federal agencies also are stationed. Attempts by The Associated Press to talk to government officials there in the first days after the spill were denied.



Schweitzer

Schweitzer says the company and EPA have defied state open government laws by denying public access. So on Friday, he opened an alternate state-run Yellowstone River Oil Spill Information Center, underscoring mounting tensions over the pipeline rupture that has dirtied parts of the scenic waterway.

"Montana has a much higher standard than Exxon Mobil when it comes to transparency," Schweitzer said. "We won't be involved in secret meetings and secret documents."

The Democratic governor pointed out discrepancies in the company's reports of how long it took to shut down the pipeline after it ruptured July 1 and said company officials are downplaying the damage to wildlife.

With its multi-billion-dollar profits and the legacy of the 11-million-gallon Valdez oil tanker spill of 1989, Exxon Mobil offers an easy foil for a politician like Schweitzer.

Throw in the corporation's massive ground presence to deal with the spill — an estimated 500 contractors and employees as of Friday, plus its role providing security — and it's no wonder the governor's folksy yet combative style has resonated in a state proud of its natural attractions and clean environment.

"I just want to thank you for who you are and for your skepticism of Exxon," Susan Huntoon, 65, of Laurel, told the governor during a community meeting Friday at the state's new command post. "We all know they want to

spend as little as they can. We saw that with BP."

Keenly aware of the company's public image, Exxon Mobil executives have repeatedly apologized for the spill and have pledged to spend whatever it takes to restore the river.

But the company has made some glaring missteps on the public relations front, including the appearance that it was downplaying the extent of the contamination in the first days of the cleanup.

The company said then that the damage was concentrated within a five- to 10-mile stretch of river. That figure has been growing since, hitting 30 miles in recent days.

Teen Accused In The Rape, Death Of 4-Year-Old Freed

TEKAMAH, Neb. (AP) — All charges against a Tekamah teen accused in the rape and killing of his 4-year-old half sister have been dropped because prosecutors are investigating new information about two other possible suspects, the county attorney said Friday.

Burt County Attorney Daniel Smith dropped the arson, first-degree murder and sexual assault charges against the 15-year-old boy Thursday.

Smith said Friday the new information suggests two other men were at the house when the girl was assaulted and killed in May 2010. Previously, investigators believed the boy was the only male in the house at the time of the sexual assault.

The new information from a witness who came forward the day before the boy's trial was scheduled to begin last month appears credible, Smith said.

"We dismissed, so we can investigate this information," Smith said Friday.

The boy's attorney, Stuart Mills, told KMTV in Omaha that the boy had maintained his innocence

throughout. Mills did not immediately respond to a message from The Associated Press Friday morning.

Prosecutors had previously said the boy sexually assaulted his 4-year-old half sister, smothered her, then set a fire to the home on May 1, 2010. The boy escaped the flames with his stepmother and another sister.

The Associated Press isn't using the names of the boy or girl to protect their privacy.

Smith said the boy remains a suspect, but that these two other men also may be suspects. The prosecutor said he has no immediate plans to refile charges against the boy.

"We don't have enough evidence to arrest anybody," he said.

Smith said investigators plan to quickly learn as much as they can about the new suspects and whether they were in the house at the time of the girl's death, but there is no timeline for the investigation.

Smith declined to release any details about the new suspects or the evidence that places them at the home.

Jackley: No Decision On Next Step In Abortion Case

RAPID CITY (AP) — South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley says the state hasn't decided whether to appeal a judge's order keeping the state's new abortion law from going into effect.

Jackley tells KOTA-TV that he wants Gov. Dennis Daugaard, the legislature and his office to agree on a path forward after U.S. District Judge Karen Schreier's June 30 order.

The law passed earlier this year requires women seeking abortions to wait three days and undergo counseling to discourage them from the procedure. Schreier said in her June 30 order that the law violated women's constitutional rights to free speech.

Jackley, a Republican, says lawyers from his office will make a recommendation by July 18 either to pursue an appeal or settle the case out of court.

What's For Dinner?
Hy-Vee Kitchen Daily Specials **served 4-8pm**

MONDAY NIGHT
SENIOR NIGHT MEATLOAF
\$4.00 (Age 60+)

TUESDAY NIGHT
2-PIECE CHICKEN DINNER
\$4.00

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
HOT TURKEY SANDWICH
\$3.00

THURSDAY NIGHT
CHINESE EXPRESS 2 ENTREE MEAL
\$5.00

FRIDAY NIGHT
BIG BOB'S COD DINNER
\$5.00

SATURDAY NIGHT
GRAND BUFFET (DINE-IN ONLY)
\$8.00

SUNDAY NIGHT
1/2 LB. BURGER WITH FRIES
\$3.00

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— A great event for family & class reunions, business outings, picnics or any get together. —
Open Tuesday & Wednesday evenings
5:30 until Dark
For more details call Dave at 660-5402
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5 DAYS

On July 14th, the Internet as you know it will cease to exist.

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