the midwest

Man Accused Of Making Bomb Gets Jail

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A Lincoln man accused of making a bomb and keeping it in a bag at his mother's home has been given jail time.

The *Lincoln Journal Star* reports 32-year-old Aaron Finnell was sentenced Tuesday to 300 days in jail. He will serve about two weeks because of credit for good time and time he's already served since his February arrest.

Authorities say Finnell told his mother in February that he wanted to kill himself and anyone that came near him. His mother contacted police, and authorities confiscated a bag at the home that belonged to Finnell. It had a homemade bomb that an explosives technician had to render

Finnell pleaded no contest to possession of a destructive device. His attorney says his client made the bomb for fun.

Woman Given 3 Years For Taking Money

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — An Omaha woman has been sentenced to three years in federal prison for taking money from her employer.

U.S. Attorney Deb Gilg announced Tuesday that 54-yearold Toni Walker was sentenced her conviction for bank fraud and was also ordered to pay more than \$765,000 in

Prosecutors say Walker was the business manager for Royal Forwarding Inc. when she forged and deposited into her own bank account a total of 169 company checks from 2005 to 2012. Prosecutors say the checks ranged in amounts from about \$2,000 to about \$9,000.

Mitchell Resident Pleads Not Guilty

MITCHELL (AP) — A 54-year-old Mitchell resident accused of voting twice in last month's school board election has pleaded not guilty.

KORN radio reports that a trial date was set for the week

Craig Guymon was arrested on voter fraud charges a day after the June 4 election. Guymon is known in the South Dakota town for being a vocal critic of school officials.

Authorities said Guymon voted that morning at the Mitchell Career and Technical Education Academy and later returned an absentee ballot to the Davison Auditor's Office at the county courthouse.

The charge is a felony carrying a maximum penalty of two years in prison and a \$4,000 fine.

Guymon had previously run for the school board on multiple occasions but was not a candidate in the election.

Former SD Firefighter Killed In AZ Blaze

PIERRE (AP) — One of 19 elite firefighters killed while battling an Arizona wildfire previously worked in South

The South Dakota Division of Wildland Fire says 21-yearold Kevin Woyjeck previously served on the Bear Mountain Crew based in Rapid City and Custer State Park from November 2011 to August 2012. Woyjeck was among the firefighters killed at the Yarnell Fire in Arizona on Sunday.

Woyjeck served on many fire assignments in Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming during the 2012 fire season.

Dale Deuter, a retired Division of Wildland Fire Crew boss, called Woyjeck an "overachiever" in everything he did with firefighting. He says he was a friend to everyone on the crew and was well-liked.

Funeral and memorial service arrangements are still

Mitchell Considers Expanding Corn Palace

MITCHELL (AP) - A plan for a renovated and expanded Corn Palace includes color-changing domes, larger murals and a walk-out balcony above the marquee.

The Daily Republic reports that City Council President Jeff Smith is urging the council to take action on the \$7.2 million plan at its next meeting July 15. The Next Generation Corn Palace Committee presented its latest concept for a revamp of Mitchell's tourist attraction at the council's regular meeting on Monday night.

The first phase of the reworked plan is aimed at improving the current Corn Palace at a cost of about \$4.1 million. Plans include street-level tile on the west and south sides of the building, new wind turbines and a new south entrance.

Pipeline Foes Begin Local Focus

Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Frustrated with

state and federal officials, opponents of the Keystone XL pipeline are turning to low-level county commissions and zoning boards in a new attempt to slow a project that has become a focal point of national battle over climate change.

Landowners and other opponents of the pipeline, which could carry 830,000 barrels of oil per day from Canadian tar sands to refineries on the Texas Gulf coast, are asking county commissions along the route to pass resolutions formally opposing the project to show the federal government there is local opposition. They're also pushing for local zoning regulations — no matter how small — that could make it harder for the project to proceed.

"If enough counties have regulations real, meaningful regulations to protect the groundwater — then maybe it hits a point where it's not very economical to run this thing through Nebraska," said Brian Bedient, a farmer in eastern Nebraska, the state where the opposition effort is based.

The new local strategy comes as most state officials in Nebraska have dropped their opposition since Calgarybased pipeline owner TransCanada

"If enough counties have regulations — real, meaningful regulations to protect the groundwater — then maybe it hits a point where it's not very economical to run this thing through Nebraska."

BRIAN BEDIENT

agreed to move the proposed route away from an ecologically sensitive area. Federal agencies and other states on the route have not raised obstacles to the plan. President Obama, who has expressed some concerns about the impact on climate change, could make a decision later this year on whether to give final government approval.

National environmental groups charge that the United States should not cooperate with fossil fuel projects that would contribute to global warming. But project supporters argue that the U.S. is better off with more oil produced in friendly countries than hostile

The proposed pipeline route crosses 12 Nebraska counties, each with a local government commission. In April, Holt County became the first in Nebraska to pass a resolution opposing the project. Landowners in York County will ask the county board to approve a similar measure this month.

TransCanada company officials have met with all county commissions along the pipeline's proposed route. TransCanada spokesman Shawn Howard said the company has promised to build the \$7 billion pipeline to rigorous safety standards and carry \$200 million in insurance to cover any cleanup

'We work very hard to be seen as a good neighbor and to answer the questions that landowners, regulators or elected officials may have," Howard

The company says that pipeline opponents are resorting to delaying tactics after repeatedly failing to stop the project.

For the officials in rural, sparely populated counties, the pipeline presents a difficult balancing act between landowners' concerns about their private property rights and the potential exposure to company lawsuits.

Tribes Plan Large-Scale Wind Project

BY KRISTI EATON **Associated Press**

SIOUX FALLS — A group of Sioux tribes in South Dakota are hoping to pump some much-needed revenue into their economies with an ambitious wind project, but some wind industry experts question whether the tribes understand the hurdles they face with such a large-scale development.

Leaders from six Sioux tribes announced plans at last month's Clinton Global Initiative to develop a renewable energy project that would generate 1 to 2 gigawatts of power annually. Funding for the up to \$3 billion project would come from the sale of bonds by a new multi-tribal power authority as well as donations to a website.

"It gives Native tribes who aren't in populace areas and don't have casino revenue a chance to earn some real money that can then be used to reinvest into the community to diversify the economic base that exists," Clinton said at the event. The Sioux tribes are located in some of the poorest areas in the country.

But wind energy experts said the tribes face many obstacles in making the project a

"When I see plans for a thousand megawatts, I have to give a chuckle," said Steve Wegman, an analyst for the South Dakota Renewable Energy Association, who noted that the project is similar to one proposed years ago. "The

goal is good, but it's going to take them a long time to get

One of the biggest obstacles to the project is simply what to do with so much energy in a state that doesn't demand a lot. Wind energy demand in

South Dakota sits at less than 800 megawatts currently. Wegman said. Another 100 will be put on line in the next year. "After that it's going to be

slow going," he said. Ron Rebenitsch, executive director of the South Dakota Wind Energy Association, said all wind developers face three challenges: finding a buyer for the energy, transmitting it and

and regulatory requirements. Since South Dakota is a small state that doesn't re-

following the environmental

quire a lot of power, the multitribal power authority will need to look east to places such as Minneapolis and Chicago, Rebenitsch said. But then the challenge becomes getting it to those locations. New wind generation requires new lines, and a gigawatt or more would require several major lines, which cost about \$1 million per mile and take up to a year and a half to build.

The tribes recognize that there isn't much demand locally, which is why they're hoping to sell it to cities such as Anaheim, Calif., or Oklahoma City and connect with a company that already has a transmission system in place, said Paul Valandra, an economic development adviser with the Rosebud Sioux Tribe.

Firm Touts Neb. Oil Find But Still Exploring Area

Kid Scoop Puzzier

Rock, paper or scissors? Draw what should come next to

SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb. (AP) An Australian company is touting to investors the oil deposits it found in western Nebraska, but state officials said it's too soon to know how much oil might come from those wells.

Several companies are looking oil in western Nebraska, which is over part of the Niobrara Shale formation that also extends into part of Wyoming, Colorado and

in two minutes? Now

have a friend or parent

try. Who found the

most?

7

Kansas. The area has drawn interest from oil producers because of similarities to North Dakota's Bakken Shale that has turned into a major

But few Niobrara wells have been as productive as wells in the Bakken.

KNEB reports that officials at the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission say Blackstar Petroleum needs to do more exploration in Banner County.

Blackstar said last month in a presentation to investors that two wells it drilled might contain between 4.3 million barrels and 23.2 million barrels of oil.

Last year the entire state produced a little more than 2.5 million barrels total.

Bill Sydow, executive director of the state commission, said Blackstar appears to be promoting their efforts to the public and investors.

"They would be poten-

tially looking for partners to help fund the additional drilling of wells," Sydow said Sydow said Blackstar has

leased 40,000 acres in Nebraska, but it has done little oil exploration in the United States.

Sydow has expressed doubts that there will be a big oil find in the Nebraska portion of the Niobrara formation because of its geological composition.

Weekly Writing

Corner

The Talking

Rock

One day I was walking and I heard a voice

say, "Hey! Stop and lis-

ten!" I looked down and

saw that the voice came

The rock's name was

from a rock! ...

Jonny. We became

friends but one day I

dropped Jonny and he

scattered all over the

place. But I could still

are you, the rock re-

Now a talking rock is

a paper towel. I knew

just what to do. I took

and told them I had a

me at first but then I

showed them Bob and

now he will be on display and can talk to all

It told me that a witch cast a spell on him

and he was trapped in a

Ruby, 5th grade

the kids.

special rock that could

talk. They didn't believe

hear him talking. Lukas, 5th grade

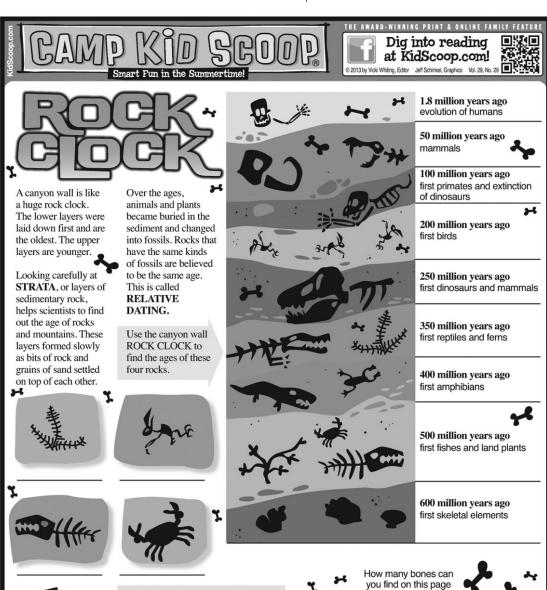
When I asked who

sponded by saying Bob.

just freaky! So I grabbed

Bob and wrapped him in

him to the kids' museum



A Dinosaur Named Sue

In the summer of 1990, Sue Hendrickson found the fossilized

bones of a T. rex when she was

a fossil hunter for the Black Hills

Institute of Geological Research

in Hill City, South Dakota. The

dinosaur she found is now

named Sue, too!

"I was pretty lucky," says Sue. "But it does take more than just luck,"

she admits. Sue knew the right kind

What do you get

when you mix

a dinosaur

with a lemon?

ANSWER: A dino-sour.

of rock to explore because she

EXITA!

STONE AGE

NEWS

Clip different

words from the

newspaper to create

headline. For

example:

FIRE IS TOP

SELLER AT INVENTION

FAIR

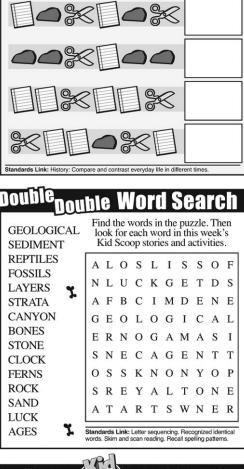
Can you make up a

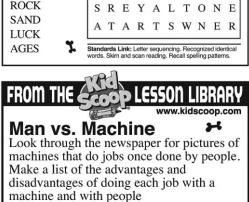
stone age" story to

go with your

headline?

'stone age'







Deadline: July 28 Published: Week of August 25
Please include your school and grade.

Standards Link: History: Compare and contrast everyday life in

rock. To break the spell somebody had to sing this, "Make the spell break away," five times. So I sang and I freed the person in the rock. Alan, 6th grade I picked it up and it said, "Put me down!" I dropped it and it said. "Oweee! That hurt!" I told the rock I was sorry and asked it where it came from. It said it came from the beach. So I returned the talking

rock to the beach and I

never saw a talking rock

Neal, 4th grade