

Iowa Man Pleads Guilty To S.D. Bank Robbery

SIoux FALLS (AP) — An Iowa man faces up to 20 years in prison after his guilty plea in federal court to robbing a bank in southeast South Dakota.

Twenty-nine-year-old Sean Cavanaugh of Conrad, Iowa changed his plea to guilty Monday in the Sept. 23 robbery of a Home Federal Bank in Colman. He'll be sentenced in July.

Cavanaugh admitted giving a note to a teller demanding money. An FBI affidavit said \$3,430 was taken and found in Cavanaugh's vehicle when he was arrested about 20 minutes later on Interstate 29 north of Sioux Falls.

Body Found In Omaha Lake Is Identified

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha police have released the name of a woman whose body was found floating in a private west Omaha lake.

Police on Monday identified her as 62-year-old Mary L. Lapuzza. The cause of death has not been determined, pending an autopsy.

The body was found early Monday near the shore of Lake Regency. The woman, who was wearing running clothes, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Mike Donahue told KETV-TV in Omaha that he was running on a trail around 6:20 a.m. when another jogger stopped him and asked for help. Donahue says the man told him that he thought he'd seen a body in the lake.

Police aren't calling Lapuzza's death a crime, but homicide investigators were on the scene.

USDA: Spring Planting In Nebraska Still Slow

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Cool temperatures and more rain are keeping spring planting at a slow pace in Nebraska.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says as of Sunday, corn planting was 15 percent complete. That compares to 44 percent a year ago. The average is 35 percent. Soybeans, which are just now being planted, are 1 percent complete. A year ago, it was 7 percent. The average is about 4 percent.

The USDA says field work picked up at the end of the week as strong winds dried the soil. Soil temperatures increased, but cool weather kept the corn from emerging.

About 81 percent of the oats are planted, behind the average of 90 percent. About 47 percent of the wheat crop is good or excellent, below the average of 63 percent.

Plan Eyes New Look For Downtown Huron

HURON (AP) — A plan to revitalize downtown Huron and draw people has been developed by a team of volunteers from different professions.

Members of Design: South Dakota spent three days in Huron to get public input, survey the city and then write a report complete with drawings.

The team suggested events that promote businesses downtown and attract people who are attending the State Fair or other events at the state fairgrounds.

Design: South Dakota was formed in 2006 to foster development in rural communities. Huron is the sixth community to draw its help.

The team includes specialists in architecture, landscape, planning, and economic development.

Team member Joe Bartmann of the Rural Learning Center told the *Plainsman* newspaper that it's up to the community to follow through on the recommendations.

Buffett, Welch: Bin Laden Death Wont End Terror

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Warren Buffett and Jack Welch, two respected business leaders, said Monday the death of Osama bin Laden won't end the threat of terrorism and might not boost markets.

The pair appeared together Monday on CNBC. Buffett's interview had been scheduled to discuss the economy and last weekend's Berkshire Hathaway shareholders meeting, but international relations became a prominent topic because of the bin Laden news. Buffett and other Berkshire officials later also did an interview on the Fox Business Network.

Buffett said he felt good when he heard of bin Laden's death, but he still worries about terrorist attacks.

"The desire to do us harm exists in too many people around the world," Buffett said.

But Buffett doesn't expect the bin Laden news to affect business much.

"I don't think this is a big market factor," Buffett said on the Fox Business Network. "The American people feel wonderful today — all of us — but in terms of earning power of American business, I don't think that factor should change dramatically because of this."

Buffett said the fact that the United States hasn't sustained another major terrorist attack since Sept. 11, 2001, shows that the government has likely done many things right. Buffett, whose company owns several major insurers, said he was expecting another attack in 2001.

"It's always been a mistake to bet against the United States since 1776," Buffett said on CNBC.

Welch said seeing the video of Americans united at Ground Zero reciting the Pledge of Allegiance gave him chills. He said he hopes the news will revive the American spirit.

"I hope it's the beginnings of the kindling wood starting to burn in the American spirit," Welch said.

Over the weekend, Buffett met with roughly 40,000 Berkshire shareholders and spend hours answering their questions.

Buffett and Welch both said Monday the economy is improving, but that rising gas and food prices could limit economic growth by hurting consumer spending on other things.

Buffett said the reports he gets from Berkshire's 80-odd businesses show the economy is still improving slowly except for businesses related to the U.S. housing market.

Welch says the increase in gas prices sucked \$100 billion out of the economy in the first quarter.

"There's no question that dollars have been sucked out of the economy," Welch said.

Buffett said an increase in gas prices affects the economy much like a tax increase except that the revenue goes to oil producing nations instead of the federal government.

BIN LADEN | SOUTH DAKOTA

Soldier's Family Reacts To News

BY CHET BROKAW
Associated Press

PIERRE — The mother of a South Dakota soldier killed nearly four years ago in Iraq said Monday she is pleased Osama bin Laden has been killed, but news of the terrorist's death also reminds her how much she misses her son.

Margie Roling of Sioux Falls said her son, Staff Sgt. Robb L. Roling, joined the U.S. Army because he was outraged by the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks planned by bin Laden.

"He probably would still be alive if that had not happened, so it's very emotional," Margie Roling said, crying softly. "It's bittersweet."

Robb Roling, 29, was working in Boston when four airplanes hijacked by al-Qaida terror-

"I know (my late son) is probably rejoicing somewhere, but it's still very hard."

MARGIE ROLFING

ists crashed into the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in Washington and a field in Pennsylvania.

"He said: 'I can't believe we could allow this to happen on our own soil, so I'm going in,'" his mother said.

She said it's fitting that U.S. special forces found and killed bin Laden in Pakistan because her son also was in special forces as a Green Beret.

"I know what they're doing all over the

world to protect us secretly that nobody ever knows or ever will know," said Margie Roling, who's married to Sioux Falls city commissioner Rex Roling.

Robb Roling was killed by small-arms fire in June 2007 while leading his unit into an insurgent compound in Iraq. His mother said she's proud of him and so many others who have died so Americans can live in freedom.

But she also said she hasn't been able to watch television or listen to the news of bin Laden's death, and she wishes her son "was just here to talk about it."

"I know he's probably rejoicing somewhere, but it's still very hard," she said of her son.

Thirty-three service members from South Dakota or with ties to the state have been killed in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to the state Military Department.

NEBRASKA

Bill To Finance UNL Program Stirs Debate

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Lawmakers advanced a proposed \$25 million investment in a University of Nebraska-Lincoln research campus Monday despite the objections of some legislators who asked why project officials needed the money right away.

The financing was part of a broader state budget bill for new and ongoing construction projects recommended by Gov. Dave Heineman. Heineman has identified the Innovation Campus as a key part of his proposed two-year budget, and said the need for the \$25 million was immediate.

Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek introduced an amendment Monday that would have stripped the proposed \$25 million out of the Innovation Campus, which is a public-private research effort developed by the university on the former site of the Nebraska State Fairgrounds in Lincoln.

But lawmakers rejected the amendment 37-5, and advanced the budget bill on a 40-2 vote through the first of three approvals required before it reaches Heineman's desk.

The Innovation Campus will include a life

sciences research center specializing in food, fuel and water, as well as a public-private office and lab building, a renovated 4-H building and a U.S. Department of Agriculture Research facility. The budget bill, LB 377, would allocate the \$25 million in two payments over the next two fiscal years.

Karpisek said he supports the campus, but questioned the timing in light of a tight state budget that has forced service cuts. He said the state should instead use the money to increase financing of K-12 education, or fill the state's cash reserve.

"I don't think now is the time to be putting \$25 million into Innovation Campus, no matter how good of an idea it is," Karpisek said.

University officials say the Innovation Campus will attract high-tech companies that will capitalize on the work of the school's researchers, and feature biotechnology and life-science research that could help Nebraska agriculture. Ron Withem, the university's associate vice president for University Affairs and Government Relations, called the campus "an important investment in the state's future."

Some lawmakers questioned what measurable benefit the campus would produce.

"Are we going to increase the tax base?"

Have more businesses here?" asked Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop. He later added: "I'd just like someone to tell me what the return on the investment is going to be, in dollars and cents."

Lincoln Sen. Tony Fulton said the campus would help fight Nebraska's brain drain.

"Other states are making egregious cuts to their university systems, because they did not plan appropriately," Fulton said. "We've planned, we've prepared. We find ourselves in a situation where we have an opportunity to jump out ahead of those states."

The research park will occupy the former home of the Nebraska State Fair, which moved last year to Grand Island after more than a century in Lincoln.

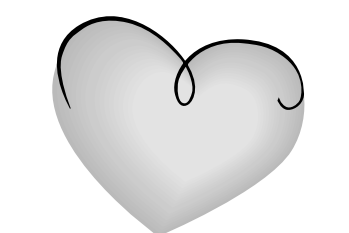
Construction begins later this year, with a target completion date of 2012. The Utah developer Woodbury Corp. has agreed to develop streets, sewer lines and other infrastructure at the site in exchange for 10 percent of the rent private companies agree to pay. University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chancellor Harvey Perlman has said the agreement will help the project because the area currently lacks infrastructure and leasable facilities.



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