

**Escaped S.D. Prison Inmate Captured**

PIERRE (AP) — Authorities say a South Dakota prison inmate who failed to return from a job search is back in custody. William Skidmore failed to report back to his minimum security unit in Sioux Falls Friday after he was allowed to leave through a work-release program. He was apprehended at a Sioux Falls residence Sunday afternoon. The 32-year-old Skidmore is serving a four year prison sentence for drug possession.

**Body Of Boy, 10, Is Retrieved From Creek**

RAPID CITY (AP) — Rapid City police say they have recovered the body of a 10-year-old boy who is believed to have drowned in Rapid Creek. Authorities say rescuers found the body of Trevor Whitehead about 7 a.m. Sunday. He was reported missing Saturday afternoon. Police say the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reduced the flow out of Pactola Reservoir to help with search and recovery efforts.

**Smoking Ban Blamed For Drop In Gaming**

SIoux FALLS (AP) — State officials say video lottery revenue has dropped more than 17 percent in the six months since smoking was banned in bars and casinos in South Dakota. The state reported its net income from video lottery between Nov. 10 and May 14 to be \$93 million, compared to about \$112 million in that time period the previous year. The state receives 50 percent of video lottery revenue. State officials say the casinos have been hurt worse than restaurants and bars that have video gaming.

**Heart Disease Leads S.D. Causes Of Death**

PIERRE (AP) — A state Health Department report concludes that heart disease is the leading cause of death in South Dakota. One in four deaths was caused by heart disease in 2009. Cancer was the second leading cause of death. One in five deaths was cancer related. The Health Department says in its 2009 Vital Statistics Report that respiratory disease such as emphysema was the third leading cause of death, followed by diseases such as stroke and then Alzheimer's. Just more than 6,900 South Dakotans died in 2009.

**Suspect In Killing Waives Extradition**

SCOTTsBLUFF, Neb. (AP) — A suspect in a fatal shooting in the Nebraska Panhandle has waived extradition from Wyoming. Twenty-six-year-old Daniel Morgan, of Scottsbluff, appeared Friday in Goshen County Circuit Court in Torrington, Wyo. He was arrested there a few hours after the May 13 shooting in Scottsbluff. Morgan is charged with first-degree murder and use of a weapon in the death of 33-year-old Dominic Marquez. Marquez was found in his truck, which had several bullet holes in the windshield and came to rest abutting his home. A police affidavit indicated the two men were involved in a custody dispute over a child Marquez had with Morgan's girlfriend.

MINNESOTA

**Long Gay Marriage Battle In Store**

BY PATRICK CONDON  
Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Minnesota has a long and potentially polarizing campaign in store after state lawmakers agreed to allow voters to decide whether to limit civil marriage to heterosexual couples — a prohibition that already exists in state law. The House voted 70-63 just before midnight Saturday after nearly six hours of emotional debate that raised many of the issues likely to resonate in the coming campaign. Critics of the amendment said it would divide families and neighbors and harm the dignity of gay people, while its supporters said the definition of marriage is important enough that voters alone — not judges or legislators — should decide how it's addressed in the constitution. The vote split mostly along party lines, with Republicans in support and Democrats opposed. Four Republicans crossed over to vote "no," and two Democrats voted "yes." The statewide vote itself is nearly a year and a half off, an unusually long lead time for both supporters and opponents to organize, raise money and try to sway Minnesotans. Both sides were already laying plans for

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JASON ADKINS

spective coalitions for and against the amendment, with supporters calling themselves "Minnesota for Marriage" and opponents gathering under the banner of a group called "Minnesotans United for All Families." Gay rights activists said they believe public opinion about gay relationships is quickly shifting in their favor and that the next 18 months would give them time to reach a lot of voters with a message that gay relationships don't threaten other families. "This isn't necessarily a case you can make to people in a sound bite," said Monica Meyer, executive director of the gay rights group OutFront Minnesota. "But if you have the chance to sit down with someone and explain to them that this hurts real families

and doesn't help anyone, that's how you win people over." Jason Adkins is executive director of the Minnesota Catholic Conference, which lobbied for the amendment at the Legislature. He said if opponents of the amendment think they can win over the public then they wouldn't have lobbied the Legislature so hard to reject it. "If they were so confident of winning the debate in the public square, I'm not sure why they were so afraid to put it on the ballot," Adkins said. He said the Minnesota for Marriage group would be a joint venture of Catholic and evangelical churches and other religious and secular groups. He said they'd try to mount "the largest and most intensive grassroots political campaign the state has ever seen." Adkins said their principle argument would be that "children thrive and are nurtured best when they are raised by a mother and a father." "Marriage under civil law is about attaching children to their parents, not just a relationship based on a consensual agreement between two adults who love each other," he said. Residents of 30 U.S. states have voted on

the definition of marriage; opponents of gay marriage have prevailed in every single one of those votes. But recent polls have shown growing support for gay marriage, particularly among young voters, including a recent Star Tribune Minnesota Poll that found a majority of respondents opposed to the constitutional ban. Few House Republicans spoke in favor of the ban in the Saturday night debate, a contrast to similar debates in past years. Democratic members showed no similar hesitation, and opposition was no longer limited to members from Minneapolis and St. Paul: Democrats from Bemidji, Brainerd, Hibbing, Duluth, Rochester, Mankato and the Twin Cities suburbs all took turns speaking against the amendment. A few Republicans joined them. Rep. John Kriesel, a freshman Republican from Cottage Grove and an Iraq war veteran who lost his legs in combat, delivered an impassioned speech against the amendment. "Happiness is so hard to find for people, so they find someone who makes them happy and we want to take that away?" Kriesel said. "We say you can be together but you can't marry them? That's wrong and I don't agree with it."

**1st Test Of Alcohol Use In Neb. Parks Set**

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska Game and Parks officials say a new law allowing alcohol in most state parks has yet to cause any major drunken disturbances. But, they told the Lincoln Journal Star, the first true test will come over Memorial Day weekend. The law approved last year ended a 15-year ban on drinking alcohol in state parks. It went into effect Jan. 1, allowing alcohol consumption in all state parks ex-

cept at Lake McConaughy in western Nebraska and state wildlife management areas. Game and Parks law enforcement administrator Ted Blume says there have been no major problems so far. He attributed that in part to a cool spring. State parks administrator Roger Kuhn says staff will be keeping an eye on alcohol consumption over the holiday but he doesn't expect major problems.

**Nobody Likes A Negative Campaign...**

Yes! For Kids wants you to be aware that confusing and distorted facts are aimed to mislead you and get you discouraged about voting YES! Don't fall for the mountain of misleading information and smear tactics that are coming your way.

**✓ VOTE YES May 24th**

Paid for by Yes! For Kids - Kyle Repp, Treasurer

**VOTE YES FOR KIDS**

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- Franklin D. Roosevelt

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**To the Citizens of the Yankton School District:**

**We are the teachers of your children and grandchildren.**

We teach them about Ben Franklin and Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

We teach them about algebra and algae.

We teach them about F. Scott Fitzgerald and Scott Joplin.

We teach them about Egyptian pyramids and food pyramids.

We teach them how to play the saxophone and how to install drywall.

We teach them how to dissect a worm and how to sing the National Anthem.

We come in early in the morning to help them with their English essays.

We stay after school to explain the mysteries of quadratic equations.

We spend weekends correcting grammar notebooks, grading geometry quizzes and preparing biology labs.

We spend Saturday mornings teaching them how to debate - how to make costumes - how to play volleyball.

We spend Sunday evenings writing college recommendations - and scholarship recommendations - and job recommendations for them.

**We are always there for your children and grandchildren.**

We greet them by name in the hallway.

We pat them on the back when they fail.

We shake their hands when they succeed.

**Now we are asking you to show your support for us.**

**Please vote YES on May 24th.**

Bob Beard	Angie Hejl	Cheri Loest	Cassi Pietz
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**Reading is Elementary**

Yankton's elementary students consistently score above the state's reading goals. How do they do it?

- 100% Highly Qualified Staff, as recognized by NCLB.
- Highly Successful Reading Recovery Program. Traditionally 82% of the students successfully complete the program.

**Keep them reading. Keep them growing.**

**Vote YES For Kids on May 24th**

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