

## Funds Raised For Family Of Slain R.C. Woman

RAPID CITY (AP) — A fundraising event held by hair stylists has raised about \$500 to help the family of a Rapid City woman who was stabbed to death last month.

KOTA-TV reports that stylists from across Rapid City gathered at a shop Saturday night to give haircuts. They asked people getting haircuts for a minimum donation of \$10.

Donations from the event will go to help the children of 30-year-old Morgan Myers. Police say Myers was stabbed to death by a man in a Walmart parking lot in Rapid City.

Authorities say Myers had got a protection order against the man after a romantic involvement.

## Neb. Panhandle Blaze Scorches 3K Acres

MITCHELL, Neb. (AP) — A grass fire northeast of Mitchell has scorched about 3,000 acres.

Mitchell Fire Chief Jon Wurdeman told KNEB-AM that about 55 people from nine fire departments worked to contain Thursday afternoon's blaze. The fire burned 3,000 acres but was contained to one property.

Wurdeman says the official cause of the fire hasn't yet been determined but it may have been sparked by heat from catalytic converters on vehicles used by a fencing crew.

No injuries have been reported.

## South Dakota Science Scores Near The Top

PIERRE (AP) — South Dakota eighth-grade students are staying ahead of their peers when it comes to the latest science scores.

South Dakota Secretary of Education Melody Schopp says the scores as measured by the 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress are good, but virtually unchanged since 2009.

Just one state — North Dakota — scored statistically higher than South Dakota's average scale score of 162. Eight states scored statistically the same as South Dakota.

The national average is 151, a slight improvement from 149 in 2009. Scores are based on a 300-point scale.

Schopp says the students continue to perform well, but the state can't get complacent and rest on its laurels.

The gender gap both nationally and in South Dakota remains, with boys continuing to outperform their female counterparts in science.

## Costner Donates Bus To Baseball Program

DEADWOOD (AP) — Actor Kevin Costner has donated a bus to the Lead-Deadwood Baseball Association.

The *Black Hills Pioneer* reports that the 1995 15-passenger Chevy Blue Bird will be used to transport Little Leaguers, the high school team and the American Legion and VFW teams.

Original Deadwood Tour Manager Jan Van Tassel says the donation is appropriate for Costner, who's made movies about baseball and owns businesses in South Dakota.

Association vice president Bob Nelson Jr. says the actor's representative in Deadwood had heard the association needed a vehicle and contacted Costner. Costner, who owns a casino in Deadwood, then offered the bus.

Nelson tells the *Rapid City Journal* that the bus will be helpful, as the association travels often to tournaments on the eastern part of the state.

## Presidency Changing Hands At Chadron St.

CHADRON, Neb. (AP) — Leadership is changing hands this weekend at Chadron State College.

KNEB-AM reports Janie Park will retire Saturday as college president. On Sunday, Vice President Randy Rhine will become the interim president of the school, which has nearly 3,000 students. He'll serve until a new president has been hired and can begin work.

Park has led the Nebraska State College System campus since August 2005. She says she and her husband intend to return to their home in Red Lodge, Mont.

# S.D. Officials Vow To Save Child Car Seat Program

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard faces another challenge in fulfilling his pledge to reduce infant mortality in South Dakota after the federal government decided to stop funding a state program that provides car seats to needy families.

The National Traffic Safety Administration has notified the state it will no longer pay for the Project 8 Child Seat Program as of Sept. 30, the *Argus Leader* of Sioux Falls reported.

The state distributed 3,300 car seats and booster seats through the program last year.

However, Daugaard and state Social Services Secretary Kim Malsam-Rysdon said they will find money from private or public sources to continue distributing the child seats. They said they have commitments from organizations to continue a part of the program that teaches people how to install the seats properly, even without state support.

Toney Venhuizen, a spokesman for Daugaard, said the governor has already taken steps to make sure the program continues even without federal help.

"Any groups who are concerned can be reassured on this point, and I'm sure the details will all be finalized well in advance of the Sept. 30 date," Venhuizen said in an email to the newspaper.

Malsam-Rysdon said officials are committed to finding money to replace the roughly \$386,000 spent on the program each year.

Continuing the program for American Indian families is critical, said Maylynn Warne, program director for Northern Plains Health Promotion Programs.

"There is not enough access to car seats as it is," Warne said. "This program makes a huge impact on the (tribal) population and the safety of that population."

Kim Overby, director of Sanford Health's Child Services, said her office distributed 1,400 car seats in a 16-county area last year to families that showed proof of financial need, such as enrollment in Medicaid and other assistance programs.

Overby said it's difficult to measure the influence of the car-seat program, but some parents have called and said the car seats they received saved their children's lives.

## Nebraska

# Republican Senate Hopefuls Claim Most Conservative Status

BY MARGERY A. BECK

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Those battling for Nebraska's Republican nomination for U.S. Senate have turned the campaign into a contest of who is furthest to the right, with the top three contenders claiming prime tea party endorsements.

"It's a good strategy in the primary," said Paul Landow, a former Democratic consultant and political scientist at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Landow said the Nebraska GOP Senate field is following a trend among Republican office seekers to "drive themselves and their party further to the right."

And while that strategy could put Republicans in a difficult position with more centrist general election voters, Landow noted that it might not matter in Nebraska.

"The Nebraska electorate is generally fairly conservative, even if they're not Republicans," he said.

Seven people are vying for the GOP nomination in hopes of replacing U.S. Sen. Ben Nelson, a Democrat who opted not to seek a third term. The field includes Nebraska Attorney General Jon Bruning, state Treasurer Don Stenberg, state Sen. Deb Fischer and Schuyler businessman Pat Flynn. Two other candidates, Spencer Zimmerman and Sharyn Elander, have filed for the race but have raised no money.

Whoever emerges from the Republican primary election on Tuesday is all but certain to face Democrat Bob Kerrey in the general election. Kerrey, who held the Senate seat before Nelson for two terms, faces three others — Larry Marvin, Steve Lustgarten and Sherman Yates — but all are political unknowns who have raised little or no money.

The Republican candidates frequently note the goal of defeating Kerrey in November, but they now are focused on getting through Tuesday's primary election. They appear to have determined the best way to emerge victorious is to appeal to Nebraska's conservative base.

Bruning, Fischer and Stenberg in a recent debate declared their opposition to state-funded prenatal care for illegal immigrants, an issue that split the GOP-dominated Nebraska Legislature between those who want to crack down on illegal immigration and those who say the party's anti-abortion stance should trump immigration issues. Stenberg supports term limits



Decision '12

servative than the other. Most voters see the differences between the top Republican candidates as "shades of grey," said Kramer, who has been involved in state politics for 30 years.

"Frankly, I think it would be a very interesting strategy for someone to stand up and say, 'Look, the differences on the issues between the three of us are not that great. The question you ought to be asking yourself is: Which one of the three of us has the strongest chance to win in the fall?'" Kramer said.

But in the weeks leading up to the primary election, the disagreements among GOP candidates has only grown more pronounced. Outside groups, like the conservative Club for Growth, have for weeks run attack ads against Bruning. Now, the candidates themselves have launched ads sniping at each other, including one by Bruning attacking both Stenberg and Fischer — a sign some Republican insiders see as an indication that Fischer is closing what polls had indicated was a substantial lead by Bruning.

Polls earlier had shown Stenberg to be in second place behind Bruning.

Fischer has scored impressive endorsements in the week before the primary, including that of 2008 vice presidential candidate and tea party favorite Sarah Palin, as well as Nebraska Rep. Jeff Fortenberry.

But Stenberg claims endorsements from tea party leaders Sen. Jim DeMint of South Carolina and Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, as well as the Gun Owners of America Political Victory Fund. Bruning has the endorsement of the national Tea Party Express, former GOP presidential can-

didate and Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and, most recently, former GOP presidential candidate Rick Santorum.

While each of the candidates is proudly trumpeting those endorsements, most voters don't care, both Landow and Kramer said.

"What does Mike Huckabee get you? What does Rick Santorum get you?" Kramer asked.

"For all of these national figures lending endorsements in the state, I'd be surprised if they know folks as well as we know them."

What matters more, they both agreed, is money, and Bruning wins that contest.

Bruning came into the race in late 2010 — days after he had been re-elected as state attorney general — with a clear fundraising advantage, bringing more than \$600,000 left over from his short-lived 2008 U.S. Senate bid. Since then, Bruning has raised more than \$3.5 million overall for the race — five times as much as his nearest GOP rival, Don Stenberg, who raised \$700,000 for the race.

Fischer has raised nearly \$400,000.

"The fact that someone like Deb Fischer is getting seriously outspent makes it much less likely that she can win the nomination," Landow said. "You can't advertise. You can't do direct mail. You can't do any of the get-out-the-vote stuff that costs money. It's a serious handicap."

But money isn't everything, Kramer said. Bruning carries some political baggage, including continued questions about how he became a multimillionaire while serving in relatively low-paying public office positions. Opponents also note that in 2007, Bruning attempted to waive a \$1 million settlement with Lincoln-based student loan company Nelnet after the company was accused of improper business practices. A year later, Bruning entered a time-share agreement on a nearly \$700,000 vacation home with two Nelnet executives.

Bruning's campaign has said the home was properly disclosed, both in state campaign and federal tax forms, and an ethics complaint filed by the state Democratic Party over Bruning's ownership of the house was politically motivated.

"He's clearly the best debater. He's probably the strongest and most charming on his feet. He has the most money," Kramer said. "Why hasn't he run away with it? Because people have some concerns."

## South Dakota

# Dairy Farmers Wrestle Over Production Caps

BY PETER HARRIMAN

Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — After U.S. dairy farmers collectively lost about \$10 billion in income in 2009, safeguarding the industry from another precipitous drop became a priority in the new farm bill.

Milk prices in South Dakota fell as low as \$10 a hundredweight in 2009 from a high of about \$20 per hwt, according to Secretary of Agriculture Walt Bones. They since have rebounded to \$16 per hwt. But the specter of market volatility continues to hang over the industry.

"What is in existence now is what they call a safety net. My board basically says there is no safety and there is no net. Anything new is better than what they have," said Roger Scheibe, director of industry outreach for the Midwest Dairy Association.

Maybe better, but just barely. While a new dairy proposal in the farm bill would pay farmers when the margin between their feed cost and the selling price of milk grows too narrow and would also give farmers the option to buy federally subsidized risk management insurance, farmers have to agree to limit production when milk prices fall below a specified level.

The goal is to ensure an adequate milk supply but also to prevent price-dampening milk surpluses from developing.

In a state such as South Dakota, though, that is trying to build its

dairy industry to reclaim export share, even by recruiting existing dairies from out of state, the concept of production limits is troubling. Scheibe said producers in the Midwest Dairy Association reluctantly agreed to endorse the new farm bill proposals only because participation in the program is voluntary for farmers and because the safety net that exists now is so inadequate.

But Jon Davis, president and CEO of Davisco Food International that owns the Lake Norden Cheese Co., testified before a U.S. House Agriculture subcommittee April 26 and said the dairy title is anathema to processors such as Davisco who seek to expand.

"We're ready to double our investment in Lake Norden," Davis said. Other regional milk processors are similarly poised for growth, he claimed. But to accommodate that they need more cows producing more milk without the threat production will be slowed if milk prices dip too much.

"Supply controls are not good for dairy, and certainly not for a state like South Dakota. We've got 90,000 cows, and we want 200,000 in the next five to seven years. We're not going to do that if they put a cap on us," he said. South Dakota now has 320 dairy farms milking 92,000 cows, according to Scheibe.

Davis is so eager to see South Dakota get more dairy farms that he joined Gov. Dennis Daugaard, Bones and David Skaggs, the state's dairy development specialist, at a dairy in-

dustory show in February in Tulare, Calif.

Afterward, he paid to erect billboards in Tulare enticing California dairies to move to South Dakota because, unlike California, South Dakota has no production limits of its own. Davis noted that California has cut milk production by its dairy cooperatives 6 percent.

"We'd love that 6 percent in South Dakota," he said. But if national production controls are in place, the ability to entice California dairy farmers here is lost.

Marv Post is a dairy farmer near Volga and is president of the South Dakota Dairy Producers. The dairy industry was hit so hard in 2009 that preventing a similar calamity now colors the approach to new farm bill legislation for producers such as Post.

"It was devastating," he said of 2009. "I heard a lot of stories of 50 to 60 percent equity losses."

For farmers who are more heavily leveraged, many of them young farmers who have just gotten into the industry or those who have recently expanded, accepting production caps might be worthwhile to gain risk management protection.

"You realize you are not going to take the hit that many producers did

in 2009," Post said.

"The opposition by some dairies is they don't want any supply control in it. But the way I look at it if these producers don't have some risk management, some way to take the big hits out of there they may not be in production."

The state remains on the sidelines as the debate about the farm bill dairy provisions unfolds, Bones said. He notes the sharp opposition of people such as Davis and the support, if only tepid, of the Midwest Dairy Association.

"I'm not sure, honestly, if there is total agreement between the processing side and the producer side. Those things still need to be worked out," Bones said. "We haven't taken a position on it yet."

"We are there to support the industry, once the industry figures out what they want."

The Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee passed the 2012 farm bill April 26 by a 16-5 vote. Sen. John Thune voted for it and hailed the bill as a victory for South Dakota agriculture. Now the measure goes before the whole Senate.

Congress is under pressure to adopt a new farm bill; the current one expires in September.

## OBITUARIES

### David Cross

CREIGHTON, Neb. — David E. Cross, age 57 of Creighton, Neb., died Saturday, May 12, 2012, at Golden Living Center, Wausa.

Funeral services will be held at a later date.

Brockhaus Funeral Home, Creighton, is in charge of arrangements. To sign the guestbook or leave online condolences, visit [www.brockhausfuneralhome.com](http://www.brockhausfuneralhome.com).

### Shirley Roberts

VERDIGRE, Neb. — Shirley A. Roberts, 76 of Verdigre, Neb., formerly of Vermillion, died Sunday, May 13, 2012, at Alpine Village, Verdigre.

Funeral services are pending at Brockhaus Funeral Home, Verdigre.

**HONORING THEIR MEMORY!**  
*Our Thoughts And Prayers Are With Them*

Our care and concern does not end with the funeral service. This week we remember with family and friends the anniversary of the deaths of:

**Kenneth Peterka**  
*who passed away on*  
**May 20, 2011**

**Michael Larson**  
*who passed away on*  
**May 15, 2009**

**Richard Karolevitz**  
*who passed away on*  
**May 15, 2007**

This remembrance is brought to you free of charge. If you have a loved one you would like remembered, contact us at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory.

*Guiding and serving families with compassion and trust.*

**OPSAHL-KOSTEL**  
 FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY INC.

Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton  
 Memorial Resource Center, Tyndall  
 Memorial Chapels, Tyndall, Tabor & Menno

665-9679 • 1-800-495-9679  
[www.opsahlkostelfuneralhome.com](http://www.opsahlkostelfuneralhome.com)

COUPON

**Buy One Roast Beef Dinner**  
**Get 2nd one for**  
**1/2 Price\***

Not valid with any other offer. Expires 05/18/12

*Yesterday's Cafe*

23rd & Broadway • Yankton  
**665-4383**

**Unique...**  
 that was just who he was.

Shouldn't his memorial be just as special?

*Finest quality personalized memorials, as unique as the lives they honor.*

**Luken MEMORIALS**

Home Office & Carving Center  
 1609 Broadway • Yankton, SD • 605.665.3052

Visit us on-line at:  
[www.lukenmemorials.com](http://www.lukenmemorials.com)

**MTB** Member  
 Monument Builders of North America  
 THE MARK OF EXCELLENCE

*Please Join Us!*

**Solitaires**

A social group of widows/widowers of all ages that meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Hospitality Center on the grounds of Wintz & Ray Funeral Home.

**Wednesday, May 16th • 6pm**  
**Potluck Dinner • 6:45pm Speaker**  
**(Allison Spak, Yankton Children's Theatre)**

**Mark Your Calender For These Events**  
 • June 20 • July 18 • August 15  
 September 19 • October 17 • November 14

**WINTZ & RAY**  
 FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc.

2901 Douglas Ave.  
 Yankton, 605-665-3644  
[wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://wintzrayfuneralhome.com)  
*Garden of Memories Cemetery*