

2 Arrested In Theft At Pierre Bank Branch

PIERRE (AP) — Authorities say two suspects are being held on federal larceny charges after a theft at a Pierre bank.
Pierre Police Capt. Elton Blemaster tells KCCR radio that there was a theft of an undisclosed amount of money but there was no robbery and no weapons involved.
The suspects, whose names were not released, were apprehended by the Campbell County Sheriff about 12:50 p.m. Monday.
KGFX radio reports that they were questioned in Mobridge and are now in federal custody.
Blemaster says the two walked into the bank and took the money.
The Federal Bureau of Investigation is working with the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation and the Pierre Police Department on the investigation.

Jackley Warns About Sandy Scammers

PIERRE (AP) — Attorney General Marty Jackley is warning South Dakotans to be on guard for scammers purporting to collect money to help victims in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy.
Jackley says such behavior is typical after a disaster, and one of the most common traits scammers will use is high-pressure sales tactics.
He suggests that residents verify the legitimacy of a nonprofit organization and its nonprofit status, and consider giving only to charitable organizations with a strong history of providing disaster relief.
Jackley says donors should not respond to unsolicited emails or text messages. Instead, they should go directly to recognized charities or aid organizations.
Those looking to donate should write checks instead of giving cash.

Student Pilot Dies In Nebraska Plane Crash

GOTHENBURG, Neb. (AP) — A 55-year-old student pilot has died in the crash of a small plane in western Nebraska.
North Platte television station KNOP reports that emergency crews were sent to the airport in Gothenburg around 10:30 a.m. Sunday.
Rescue workers found the two-seat plane upside down about 50 yards short of the grass runway.
Officials say James Ross was alone in the plane and had died at the scene.
An autopsy is planned. Federal authorities are investigating the crash.
North Platte Mayor Marc Kaschke says Ross was the city's director of information systems.

Central Neb. Man Accidentally Shoots Self

ST. LIBORY, Neb. (AP) — Authorities say a central Nebraska man who was trying to shoot a possum accidentally shot himself in a leg.
The *Grand Island Independent* reports that the accident occurred a little before 7 p.m. Sunday at a residence outside of St. Libory.
The man told rescue workers that he'd been using a .22-caliber weapon in trying to shoot the possum when he accidentally shot himself in a calf.

Traffic Stop Leads To Drug Bust In Nebraska

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Authorities say a traffic stop on Interstate 80 in central Nebraska led to two arrests and netted 40 pounds of marijuana.
The Nebraska State Patrol says the drugs were discovered on Saturday after a trooper stopped an SUV for failure to signal at the Giltner exit. A search of the vehicle turned up four duffel bags of pot in the cargo area.
Two men, one from California and the other from Mexico, were taken to the Hamilton County jail in Aurora. They face a charge of possession of marijuana with intent to deliver.

Decision 2012 | South Dakota

Here's An Overview Of Election Day

BY CHET BROKAW
Associated Press

PIERRE — In South Dakota, the U.S. House race has grabbed most of the attention, but voters also will choose members of the Legislature and make decisions on seven ballot measures.
Here are five things to consider heading into Tuesday's general election:

A CHEAT SHEET IS NOT A BAD IDEA

With seven constitutional amendments, initiated measures and referred laws on the ballot, voters could benefit — and shorten the time they're in the voting booth — by studying the issues in advance and writing down how they want to vote. A lot of attention has been given to a proposed sales tax increase to help schools and Medicaid providers and Gov. Dennis Daugaard's plan to give teachers merit pay and provide incentives to recruit more teachers into critical fields. But other ballot measures largely have remained under the radar. Those include constitutional amendments to revise provisions relating to corporations, increase mileage reim-

bursements for lawmakers' first and last trips to the Capitol during each legislative session, and revise the distribution of money from a trust fund created with the proceeds of the 2001 sales of the state cement plant.

THE GOVERNOR WILL GET A REPORT CARD

The top ballot issues in Tuesday's election amount to a referendum on some of Daugaard's key initiatives during his first two years in office. Voters will decide whether to raise the state sales tax to benefit schools and health care facilities, a proposal made in reaction to budget cuts instituted last year by the governor and the Republican-dominated Legislature. Also on the ballot are the Republican governor's plans for giving bonuses to top teachers, moving to a new incentive plan to attract large industrial projects and amending the South Dakota Constitution to clarify that the state budget must be balanced.

THE CONGRESSIONAL IMPLICATIONS

The congressional race between Republican Rep. Kristi Noem and Democratic challenger Matt Varilek will determine how South Dakota's

lone member of the U.S. House speaks and votes on taxes, spending, budget cuts and health care in the next two years. In a closely divided Congress, that could play a role in what happens to President Barack Obama's health care overhaul, what changes are made to Medicare and what provisions are included in the next farm bill.

THE LEGISLATURE WILL LOOK DIFFERENT

The makeup of the next Legislature will help determine state policy on budgets, education, economic development and other issues. But no matter which party prevails in the fight for House seats, it's likely a new face will be in at least one in every five chairs. Legislative turnover has been between 20 percent and 25 percent in recent elections.

PRESIDENTIAL FLYOVER COUNTRY

Republican presidential candidates nearly always carry South Dakota. No Democratic presidential candidate has won the state since 1964, when President Lyndon Johnson defeated Republican challenger Barry Goldwater.

Decision 2012 | Nebraska

Endorsements Emphasized In Senate Race

BY GRANT SCHULTE AND JOSH FUNK
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — In one of her final campaign events before Tuesday's election, GOP Senate candidate Deb Fischer will stand Monday night beside Dave Heineman, the popular Republican governor who has repeatedly assured voters in the last week they can trust the rancher and two-term legislator.
Fischer's campaign has been based on her solid conservative credentials and support for erasing the federal deficit solely with spending cuts. But as the election has neared and polls have shown a tighter race with Democrat Bob Kerrey, Fischer, 61, has relied more on support by Heineman, Republican U.S. Sen. Mike Johanns and the state's three GOP congressmen.
The outcome of the Senate race could have national repercussions as Republicans hope to take control of the Senate, though national polls have left Democrats optimistic they'll retain the majority. Nebraska voters also will decide Tuesday whether to re-elect the state's three Republican congressmen and will

consider four ballot measures.
Fischer campaign manager Aaron Trost said it's clear why she turned to Heineman, who was resoundingly re-elected in 2010. Recent polling by the *Omaha World-Herald* has shown that only 16 percent of Nebraska residents disapprove of his performance.
"Those are Nebraska leaders that are very well thought-of, and campaigning with them appeals to Republicans, Democrats and independents," Trost said.
For the past week, Fischer campaigned in five cities with Heineman, Johanns and at least one member of Nebraska's U.S. House delegation by her side. The last event on her final, full day of campaigning was scheduled in Omaha on Monday.
Heineman played down his role Monday as one of Fischer's chief advocates.

"The most important endorsement is that of Nebraska citizens," Heineman said during a conference call with reporters.
But Kerrey, 69, a former governor and two-term senator who returned to Nebraska to run again for U.S. Senate, has a few Republican endorsements up his sleeve.
Last week, Kerrey held a news conference with former Nebraska U.S. Sen. Chuck Hagel, a Republican. Hagel praised his former colleague, saying the nation needed his bipartisan approach. Kerrey also has been backed by former GOP Sens. Alan Simpson of Wyoming and Warren Rudman of New Hampshire, as well as Connecticut independent Sen. Joe Lieberman.
On Monday, Kerrey opted to surround himself with journalism students at the University of Nebraska at Omaha before holding a final

evening rally at his campaign office.
Kerrey said the flurry of endorsements only buttresses his message.
"The endorsements that I've gotten are from people who are not Democrats," Kerrey said. "It reinforces the promise I've been making all along, which is to cross party lines and to actually work with Republicans to solve problems."
Kerrey said his work on the 9/11 commission that investigated the Sept. 11 attacks is proof of his bipartisan record, because the Democrats on the commission were pressured to blame President George W. Bush, while the Republicans were pressured to blame President Bill Clinton.
"We did neither, and it had a big impact on making the country safer," Kerrey said.



South Dakota Issues

Political Campaigns



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